

# Farm Energy Partners Network Guide

## Harvesting Clean Energy Maine Rural Partners

[cleanenergy@mainerural.org](mailto:cleanenergy@mainerural.org)

207.873.2108

[www.mainerural.org](http://www.mainerural.org)

### AgMatters

[ltitus1@verizon.net](mailto:ltitus1@verizon.net)

[cleanenergy@mainerural.org](mailto:cleanenergy@mainerural.org)

1063 Main Street,  
Vassalboro, ME 04989  
Phone: 207 873-2108

Contacts: *Lauchlin W. Titus, CPAg, CCA (Certified Professional Agronomist, Certified Crop Advisor), Jeremiah Titus, Crop Technician and Linda Titus, Administrator*

AgMatters' (AM) mission is to provide information and services for Maine farmers to help them increase the productivity, quality, and profitability of their farm operations. By helping to improve farm operations, we will enhance the quality of life for farm families, the communities in which they operate, and the environment of the State of Maine--and we have fun doing it!

AM's intent is to acquire the necessary training to assist Maine farmers with energy audits to advance their on farm initiatives and projects. AM has experience in assisting farmers with permit applications in other aspects of Maine agriculture.

AgMatters also serves as the coordinator for the Farm Energy Partners Network.

### Coastal Enterprises Inc.

[www.ceimaine.org](http://www.ceimaine.org)

[cei@ceimaine.org](mailto:cei@ceimaine.org)

P.O. Box 268  
Physical Address: 36 Water Street  
Wiscasset, ME 04578

Contact: *Kerri Sands*

Coastal Enterprises Incorporated (CEI) is a private, non-profit Community Development Corporation and Community Development Financial Institution.

CEI provides financing and support in the development of job-creating small businesses, natural resources industries, community facilities, and affordable housing.

CEI administers the "Farms for the Future", a program of the Maine Department of Agriculture, that is a two-phase business assistance program that helps Maine farmers plan for the future of their agricultural enterprise.

### Community Energy Partners

<http://www.communityenergypartners.com/>

[renewable@suscom-maine.net](mailto:renewable@suscom-maine.net)

Sue Jones, President  
Freeport, ME 04032  
Phone: 207-221-5631

As a renewable energy and efficiency consulting company serving businesses, agricultural producers, and municipalities, mission is simple: to bring locally-owned renewable energy and energy efficiency projects to communities throughout the Northeast. We want to power communities by communities, houses by houses and farms by farms, drawing from the clean, renewable resources found right in our backyards. We have a special interest in wind projects.

Comm En provides business consulting, strategic planning, government and media relations, policy, and grant writing.



Laughing Stock Farm's waste restaurant oil burner heats the farm's winter greenhouse.

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# Harvesting Clean Energy:

## Guide to Maine Farm Energy Partners Network

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### Efficiency Maine

<http://www.energymaine.com/index.php>  
[energymaine@maine.gov](mailto:energymaine@maine.gov)

Efficiency Maine, Public Utilities Commission  
18 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0018  
Physical Address: 242 State Street, Augusta  
Phone: 1-866-376-2463

Programs: Small business energy audit program. Small business low interest loan program. Contact Shirley Bartlett at [shirley.bartlett@maine.gov](mailto:shirley.bartlett@maine.gov) or 287-3318.

Web site includes list of certified solar thermal installers, certified residential energy auditors, NABCEP certified solar electric installers; publications about home energy; "new energy tax credits"; "small wind electric systems: Maine consumer's guide"; and Maine solar primer. Includes information about cash incentives for energy upgrades. Includes periodic announcements about grant programs.

### Farm Credit of Maine, ACA

[www.farmcreditmaine.com](http://www.farmcreditmaine.com)  
[mss@farmcreditmaine.com](mailto:mss@farmcreditmaine.com)

615 Minot Ave.  
Auburn, ME 04210  
Phone: 207-784-0193

Contact: *Matthew Senter*

Farm Credit of Maine provides short-term and long-term financing and leasing products for agricultural, aquatic, and forest products businesses in Maine.

### Farm Service Agency

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

21 Enterprise Dr. Suite 1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 207-622-7847

Contact: *Brenda Wells, Farm Loan Officer*

The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) mission is to provide financing to agricultural producers.

Funding is available for farm-based energy projects.

### Kennebec County Soil Water Conservation District

<http://www.kcswcd.org>  
[info@kcswcd.org](mailto:info@kcswcd.org)

21 Enterprise Drive. Suite #1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 207-622-7847 Ext. 3 Fax: 207-626-8196

Kennebec County Soil and Water Conservation District (KCSWCD)'s mission is to protect and enhance Maine's soil and water resources.

KCSWCD provides educational programs, conservation information and technical assistance to municipalities, schools, landowners and residents of Kennebec County.

### Laughing Stock Farm

<http://www.laughingstockfarm.com/>  
[ralph@rtturner.com](mailto:ralph@rtturner.com)

79 Wardtown Road  
Freeport, ME 04032  
Phone: 207-865-3743

Laughing Stock Farm (LSF) is a four-season, certified organic farm located in Freeport, Maine serving the restaurant, retail, and consumer markets from Portland to Brunswick. Farming in our 17,000 square foot greenhouse allows us to provide fresh, local produce to restaurants and retailers all winter, while its eight outside acres are cultivated in the warmer months.

LSF currently burns used cooking oil from local restaurants in commercially-available waste oil burners to heat their greenhouse. In 2005, LSF used 5,500 gallons of used cooking oil for this purpose.

### Maine Association of Conservation Districts

<http://maineswcds.org>  
[info@maineswcds.org](mailto:info@maineswcds.org)

P.O. Box 152  
Hallowell, ME 04374  
Phone: 207-622-4443

The Maine Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) consists of 16 local offices across Maine. Go to: <http://maineswcds.org/locations.htm> to find one near you.

By working with landowners, organizations, and government the districts have helped to protect soil, water, forestry, wildlife and other natural resources for over 60 years.

Local Conservation Districts provide technical assistance and educational programs on conservation issues including water quality, erosion, and agriculture.

### Maine Clean Communities

[http://www.gpcog.org/Transportation\\_and\\_Land\\_Use/Maine\\_Clean\\_Communities.php](http://www.gpcog.org/Transportation_and_Land_Use/Maine_Clean_Communities.php)

Greater Portland Council of Governments  
68 Marginal Way  
Portland, ME 04101  
Phone: 207-774-9891

Contact: *Steve Linnell* [slinnell@gpcog.org](mailto:slinnell@gpcog.org)

Maine Clean Communities (MCC) is a locally based government/industry partnership, coordinated by the US Department of Energy (DOE) and administered by the Greater Portland Council of Governments to expand the use of alternatives to gasoline and diesel fuel, and reduce the use of petroleum for transportation.

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MCC provides information on incentives for alternative fuels (including biofuels) vehicles, and infrastructure.

## Maine Department of Agriculture

[www.maine.gov/agriculture](http://www.maine.gov/agriculture)  
[e.harker@maine.gov](mailto:e.harker@maine.gov)

28 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Phone: 207-287-3491

Maine Department of Agriculture (Department) strives to be a resource to the people of Maine on agricultural issues.

The Department provides low-interest loans for capital improvements through its Agricultural Marketing Loan Fund. It also provides grants to groups of farmers interested in doing a collective project for energy efficiencies, or want to test new technologies that will help multiple farmers through its Agricultural Development Grant Program.

## Maine Farm Bureau

<http://www.mainefarmbureau.com/>  
[jolson@mainefarmbureau.com](mailto:jolson@mainefarmbureau.com)

Jon Olson, Executive Secretary  
4 Gabriel Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 1-800-639-2126

Maine Farm Bureau is a non-governmental, non-profit voluntary organization that lobbies for issues important to agriculture, landowners and the rural way of life.

Farm Bureau was formed to analyze problems and implement solutions important to Maine's rural families. Farm families across the state unite in board-rooms, at kitchen tables, grange halls, or members' farms to discuss ways to preserve agriculture as a way of life and as an industry in Maine.

## Maine Farmland Trust

<http://www.maineFarmlandtrust.org/>  
[info@mainefarmlandtrust.org](mailto:info@mainefarmlandtrust.org)

John Piotti, Executive Director  
97 Main Street  
Belfast, Maine 04915  
Phone: 207-338-6575 Fax: 207-338-6024

Maine Farmland Trust (MFT) is Maine's only statewide land trust focused exclusively on farmland. Its mission is to protect and preserve Maine's farmland, keep agricultural lands working and support the future of farming in Maine.

MFT works with landowners, land trusts, farm groups, towns and state agencies, to identify and preserve valuable agricultural land, so that it will forever remain available for agriculture.

## Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association

[www.mofga.org](http://www.mofga.org)  
[mofga@mofga.org](mailto:mofga@mofga.org)

P.O. Box 170  
294 Crosby Brook Road  
Unity, ME 04988  
Phone: 207-568-4142 Fax: 207-568-4141

The purpose of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) is to help farmers and gardeners grow organic food, protect the environment, recycle natural resources, increase local food production, support rural communities, and illuminate for consumers the connection between healthful food and environmentally sound growing practices.

MOFGA provides technical and marketing assistance as well as informational resources on organic gardening and farming, holds educational seminars and promotes community agriculture. MOFGA holds its annual Common Ground Fair where 50,000 fair-goers a year join to share knowledge about sustainable living.

## Maine Organic Milk Producers

[mmorrison@midmaine.com](mailto:mmorrison@midmaine.com)

Mia Morrison, Executive Director  
159 Atkinson Road  
Charleston, ME 04422  
Phone: 207-564-3635

Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP) collaborates with the University of Maine and its membership to conduct on-farm research on growing energy and protein grain crops. This information is shared in newsletters, emails and through forage and grain conferences held in the spring and fall of each year. MOMP also helps to host field days during the growing season.

This past year, MOMP's research focused on growing small grains (winter and summer) along with some test plots of sunflowers for oil and protein meal for livestock feed. MOMP has also developed a non-profit cooperative to facilitate group purchases.

## Maine Rural Partners

<http://www.mainerural.org/>

Contacts: Mary Ann Hayes, Executive Director  
[maryann@mainerural.org](mailto:maryann@mainerural.org), 207-581-4521

AgMatters, Farm Energy Partners Network Coordinators  
[cleanenergy@mainerural.org](mailto:cleanenergy@mainerural.org) 207-873-2108

Main Office:  
4 York Village  
University of Maine  
Orono, ME 04469-5784  
Phone: 207-581-4520 Fax: 207-581-1266

# Harvesting Clean Energy: Guide to Maine Farm Energy Partners Network

Maine Rural Partner's (MRP) mission is to strengthen the capacity of rural communities to secure a sustainable high quality of life. As Maine's federally recognized state rural development council, MRP specializes in building collaborative, integrated approaches to address identified needs at the state, regional and grassroots levels. MRP listens to what's needed, connects the right players and creates innovative, value-added solutions.

As a response to both need and opportunity, MRP convened and facilitates the Farm Energy Partners Network (FEPN). The FEPN coordinates the programs of agricultural, energy, environmental and business support interests to leverage our collective ability to achieve energy efficiencies and pursue on-farm renewable energy technologies. With support of the USDA Risk Management Agency, the FEPN is strengthening its capacity to serve the farm community. To request a "Harvesting Clean Energy" farm energy audit, renewable energy assessment or resource materials, contact AgMatters, Network Coordinators at 873-2108 or [cleanenergy@mainerural.org](mailto:cleanenergy@mainerural.org).

## Maine Small Business Development Centers

[www.mainesbdc.org](http://www.mainesbdc.org)  
[mainesbdc@usm.maine.edu](mailto:mainesbdc@usm.maine.edu)

96 Falmouth Street  
Portland, ME 04104  
Physical Address: 68 High Street  
Phone: 207-780-4420

The mission of the Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) and its technology-focused group, the Maine Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBTDC), is to assist in the creation and maintenance of viable micro, small and technology-based businesses and the jobs these businesses provide.

Maine SBDC and Maine SBTDC provides comprehensive business management assistance, training, resource and information services to Maine's micro, small, and technology-based business communities.

## Northeast States Association for Ag Stewardship

[www.csgeast.org/agriculture.asp](http://www.csgeast.org/agriculture.asp)  
[kilkelly@hughes.net](mailto:kilkelly@hughes.net)

5 McCobb Rd.  
Dresden, Maine 04342  
Phone: 207-737-4717 Fax 207-737-2280

Contact: *Marge Kilkelly, Director*

The Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship (NSAAS) was created in 1999 to provide a unified voice for northeast agriculture in the development of the 2002 Farm Bill. The Executive Committee is composed of the chairs, vice chairs and ranking members of the state legislative committees responsible for agriculture policy.

NSAAS, through publications, conferences and staff serves as a clearinghouse and resource for legislators and advocates as they develop innovative agricultural policies dedicated to promoting and assisting agricultural and rural development in the northeast.

NSAAS shares information about public policy and programs in the 10 northeast states, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and 6 eastern Canadian provinces.

NSAAS provides a free weekly e-newsletter which includes news clips, events, federal updates and more. Contact [mkilkelly@csg.org](mailto:mkilkelly@csg.org) to be included.

## St. John—Aroostook County Resource Conservation Development Area

[skip.babineau@nracs.me.gov](mailto:skip.babineau@nracs.me.gov)

735 Main St., Suite #3  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
Phone: 207-764-4126 Ext. 5 Fax: 207-768-3407

Contact: *Skip Babineau, Coordinator*

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) is a unique program that helps people care for and protect their natural resources in a way that will improve the area's economy, environment and living standards. It provides a way for people to work together to plan and carry out activities that will make their area a better place to live. It improves the capability of State, tribal and local units of government and non-profit organizations in rural areas to plan, develop and carry out programs for resource conservation and development.

## Threshold To Maine RC&D Area

[www.thresholdtomaine.org](http://www.thresholdtomaine.org)  
[threshold@gwi.net](mailto:threshold@gwi.net)

67 Shaker Road, Suite #9  
Gray, ME 04039-9640  
Phone: 207 657-3131

Contact: *Mark Hews, Coordinator*

Threshold to Maine's mission is to position natural resource based industries as key economic development centers for southern and western Maine communities, expanding the number of small natural resource based businesses contributing to local, regional, state, national, and international economies.

Threshold to Maine provides project consultation and coordination assistance, along with facilitation services. Other technical assistance services include meeting coordination and facilitation, project and strategic planning, and media development.

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## Time and Tide—Resource Conservation Development Area

<http://www.timeandtide.org/>

21 Enterprise Drive, Suite #1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 207-622-7847, Ext. 4 Fax: 207-626-8196

Contact: *Ron Desrosiers, Coordinator*

The Time & Tide RC&D Council's (Council) mission is to help people develop, care for, and appreciate their natural resources in a manner that will enrich their community and better their lives.

The Council's purpose is to provide local leadership in activities fostering the orderly conservation, improvement, development, and wise use of the natural resources within the Time & Tide RC&D Area, thereby improving the economic opportunities within the Six-County Area.

The Council provides assistance and technical guidance on grant writing and preparation.

## University of Maine Cooperative Extension

[www.umext.maine.edu](http://www.umext.maine.edu)

University of Maine Cooperative Extension (UMaine Extension) has 16 offices across Maine. Go to: <http://www.umext.maine.edu/counties/county.htm> to find an office near you.

UMaine Extension provides Maine people with research-based educational programs to help them live fuller, more productive lives.

Contacts:

For information on commercial cultivation of canola as a rotation and/or energy crop and infrastructure to establish canola processing facilities for biodiesel and other uses, contact: *Peter Sexton*, 800-287-1462, [psexton@umext.maine.edu](mailto:psexton@umext.maine.edu)

For information on organic dairy and grain production, contact: *Rick Kersbergen*, 800-287-1426, [richardk@umext.maine.edu](mailto:richardk@umext.maine.edu)

For information on alternative energy, including methane digesters, contact: *Caragh Fitzgerald*, 800-287-1481, [cfitzgerald@umext.maine.edu](mailto:cfitzgerald@umext.maine.edu)

UMaine Extension provides individual farm consultations, holds conferences and has a number of fact sheets available on their web site, and provides other forms of farm-based outreach.

## U. S. Small Business Administration

[www.sba.gov/me](http://www.sba.gov/me)

Maine District Office  
Edmund S. Muskie Federal Building  
68 Sewall Street, Room 512  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 207-622-8274

The Small Business Administration's (SBA) mission is to help entrepreneurs realize their own potential. Each successful business in Maine makes a contribution to our economy, not only for the owners and employees, but for the community as a whole.

The SBA guarantees other financial institutions' loans.

The SBA offers a free annual Maine Small Business Resource Guide and connects individuals with SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives), retired volunteers that offer free financial counseling at seven chapters throughout Maine.

## Western Mountains Alliance

<http://www.westernmountainsalliance.org/>  
[info@westernmountainsalliance.org](mailto:info@westernmountainsalliance.org)

109A Church Street  
Church Street Commons  
P.O. Box 29  
Farmington, ME 04938  
Phone: 207-778-3385

The Western Mountains Alliance (WMA) strives to improve the quality of life and to strengthen the regional identity of the western mountains region of Maine, while honoring rural values and the environment, and supporting sustainable community development.

WMA's Eat Smart Eat Local initiative produces directories of farms, farm stands and farmer's markets in western Maine. WMA also works to support farm to school connections and organizes a winter workshop series on topics of interest to local farmers.

## Women's Agricultural Network

[http://www.umaine.edu/umext/wagn/  
tjackson@umext.maine.edu](http://www.umaine.edu/umext/wagn/tjackson@umext.maine.edu)

University of Maine Cooperative Extension  
P.O. Box 179  
Monmouth, ME 04259  
Phone: 207-933-2100 x103  
1-800-924-5258 (Maine only)

The Women's Agricultural Network (WaGN) enables women and other underserved people to successfully own, operate and support agriculturally-related enterprises.

WaGN connects women and underserved farmers with appropriate resources including agricultural workshops, programs, and informal gatherings for farmers to learn from each other's experiences.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE  
USDA RISK MANAGEMENT  
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THIS PROJECT

