

YOUR VOICE IS NOW NEEDED.
HELP US DETERMINE THE PRIORITIES
FOR THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN.

STEP 1: READ THE CLIMATE STRATEGIES

Six working groups – joined by an expert Scientific and Technical Subcommittee – have issued recommended strategies for the Council for achieving Maine's climate goals.

STEP 2: DISCUSS THEM WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Using our general questions about climate change in Maine as a prompt, consider the strategies of each working group and discuss what you think the priorities are for Maine.

STEP 3: SHARE YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE MAINE CLIMATE COUNCIL

Note down answers or suggestions and send them to the Climate Council via survey, email or mail.

climatecouncil.maine.gov



About Transportation

- Transportation is responsible for 54 percent of Maine's greenhouse gas emissions -- the most of any sector. As emissions in other areas declined in recent decades, transportation-related emissions increased, up from 44 percent in 1990. When broken down by type of vehicle, Maine's transportation-related emissions are:
 - 59 percent from light-duty passenger cars and trucks
 - 27 percent from medium and heavy-duty trucks
 - 14 percent from rail, marine, aviation and utility equipment.
- Maine's rural character and moderate emissions from other sectors also makes our transportation emissions disproportionately high compared to other states. The average Maine vehicle travels approximately 12,000 miles per year. An analysis of "Vehicle Miles Driven" in Maine has found that 65 percent of our driving occurs in rural areas, with 35 percent in urban and suburban regions.
- In addition to the emissions from Maine vehicles, Maine's transportation emissions also those from 37 million visitors per year (in 2018).
- A typical gasoline vehicle emits more than 5 tons of carbon dioxide per year. That is more than four times the amount of carbon emissions as an EV that is powered by the production of electricity from the New England electrical grid.
- Increased flooding and storms from climate change cause damage to roadways and other transportation infrastructure, which are often located along the coast and near rivers.



Transportation Strategies

Increase electric vehicle (EV) use: EVs emit significantly less greenhouse gas emissions per mile compared to gas or diesel vehicles, but less than half of 1 percent of vehicles in Maine are electric. EVs have lower operating and maintenance costs, which is a consumer benefit. Charging infrastructure must expand, and incentives to support EV purchases, especially for lower-income and rural residents, must be provided.

Reduce emissions from gas and diesel engines: Expand the use of alternative fuels such as renewable biofuels made from wood biomass and biodiesels (ideally from Maine) from used vegetable oils. Encourage freight companies to participate in the EPA SmartWay program, which helps improve freight efficiency and save money with new technologies such as aerodynamic design, low resistance tires, and reduced idling.

Decrease the number of miles Mainers must drive: Expand broadband Internet access to support remote work, medicine, education, etc.

Enhance public transportation and shared transportation options: Expand public transportation and ride-sharing programs, including creative public transportation options in rural areas.

Reduce commuting: Develop innovative land use development approaches and incentives that allow more Mainers to live, work, shop, and go to school in areas that don't require long commuting distances.

Adapt critical transportation infrastructure for climate change impacts: Rising sea levels, flooding increases and extreme storms are affecting Maine, leaving infrastructure like roads, bridges, ports, airports vulnerable. Strengthen and adapt infrastructure to withstand these challenges.



Transportation: Discussion Questions

How would each of these strategies fit your community? (Great, good, neutral or not at all)

- Increase electric vehicle (EV) use
- Reduce emissions from gas and diesel engines
- Decrease the number of miles Mainers must drive
- Enhance public transportation and shared transportation options
- Reduce commuting
- Adapt critical transportation infrastructure for climate change

Are there other ideas about transportation in Maine to share with the Council?

After reading these strategies, are there actions that you personally would like to be able to take?



Transportation: Responses & Notes

The council works for all of Maine.
All of Maine has a voice in our recommendations.

Share Your Thoughts:



Ways to share:

1. Answer the WG strategy surveys at <https://climatecouncil.maine.gov/surveys>
2. Email answers to mainedclimatecouncil@maine.gov
3. Mail your thoughts to us by August 21, 2020 at:

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Governor's Office of
Policy Innovation + the Future
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Augusta, Maine 04333-0181

Please let us know your zip code and email address so we can keep in touch!

climatecouncil.maine.gov

Thank You!