

Community Resilience Partnership

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MAINE OFFICE OF

**Community
Affairs**

March 18, 2026

*SPG2026-7 Community Action Grant
Informational Webinar*

Today's Agenda

1. Maine's Climate Goals
2. Community Resilience Partnership overview
3. Service Provider Grant overview
4. Questions



CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



12.01.24

Updated Climate Action
Plan Due



Achieve State Carbon
Neutrality by
2045

REDUCE MAINE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY
TARGETS OUTLINED IN STATE LAW

45%

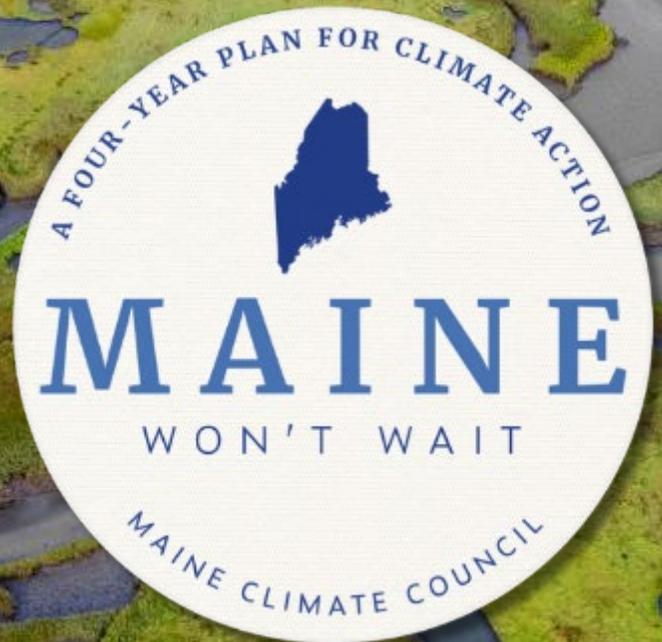
BELOW 1990 LEVELS
BY 2030

80%

BELOW 1990 LEVELS
BY 2050



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES ARE RESILIENT
TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.



Maine Won't Wait Goals:



1. Reduce Maine's **greenhouse gas emissions**
2. Strengthen **resilience** to climate impacts
3. Create **jobs** and **economic prosperity**
4. Bring climate action to **all Maine people**

March 18, 2026



Maine Won't Wait Strategies:



A

Embrace the future of transportation in Maine



E

Protect the environment and natural and working lands and waters in Maine



B

Modernize Maine's buildings: energy-efficient, smart, and cost-effective homes and businesses



F

Build healthy and resilient communities



C

Transition to clean energy



G

Engage with Maine people on climate action



D

Create jobs and grow Maine's economy through climate action

March 18, 2026



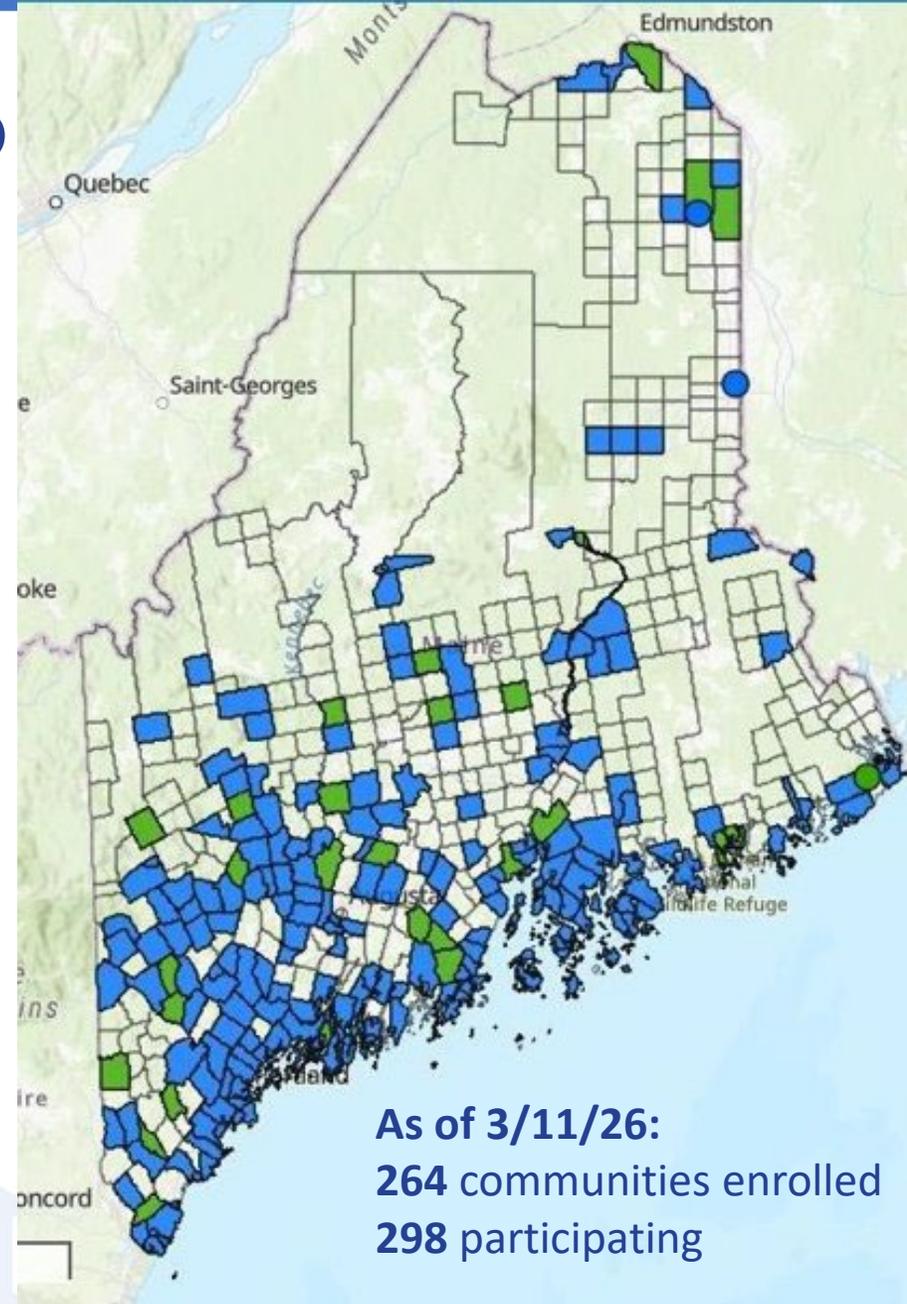
Community Resilience Partnership

www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

Purpose

Through **grants and technical assistance**, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to:

- **reduce carbon emissions,**
- **transition to clean energy,** and
- **become more resilient** to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.



Community Action and Service Provider Grant Funding Allocation

- **Grants to communities** for planning and implementation
 - \$4.6 million available for award this round; anticipating 55-65 awards
- **Grants to service provider organizations** to help communities get started and to complete vulnerability assessments
 - \$600,000 available for award this round
- For both Track 1 and Track 2, applicants may request up to \$15,000 per community in the group

Service Provider Grant Overview

Service Provider Grants support organizations to assist communities with climate action, energy and resilience planning.

There are two Service Provider Grant Tracks:

- **Track 1** Community Enrollment Service Provider Grants
 - **Track 2** Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants
-
- New: 4 Submission deadlines (cycles) for Round 7 Service Provider Grants
 - An organization may submit applications for both tracks in this grant round but may submit only one (1) application per track per cycle.
 - A Community may participate in applications for both tracks in this grant round but may only participate in one (1) application per track per cycle.

Track Service Provider Grant

Track 1: Community Enrollment Service Provider Grants

Intended outcomes:

- Work with up to 5 communities to enroll in the Partnership
- New enrollments by each of the communities.
- Lists of each community's priority projects and cooperative priorities.
- Assistance to communities in applying for Community Action Grants.

Enrolling in the Partnership

1. **Complete two self-assessments**
 - List of Community Actions (updated Feb. 2026)
 - Community Resilience Self-evaluation

2. **Hold a community workshop** and set priority action items

3. **Pass a municipal resolution or obtain a letter from a tribal chief or UT supervisor committing to participate**
 - Model language provided

4. **Submit enrollment materials through the online form**
Community enrollment is accepted on a rolling basis.

Community Resilience Partnership Program Contact: Brian Ambrette
brian.ambrette@maine.gov
[Community Resilience Partnership | Office of Policy Innovation & Future \(maine.gov\)](https://www.maine.gov/policy/innovation/future/)

Community Resilience Self-Evaluation

Instructions: This tool is intended to help organize your community's approach to increasing resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts. Answer the questions to the best of your knowledge and seek information from your colleagues in municipal and county government and organizations in your community. Provide any relevant information in the explanation field. If it is difficult to give a clear yes or no response to a question, use the explanation field to explain why. **There are no wrong answers and the responses here will not affect your community's eligibility to receive grants.** Where the response to a question is no, that may indicate an area of opportunity to address through a Community Action Grant.

Community name:	
Self-Evaluation responses provided by: Please include contact info	
Date:	
Was this evaluation discussed during a community workshop? Include the date of the workshop.	

Once the questions on the following pages are complete, use these prompts to identify potential next steps for your community.

Community Resilience Partnership List of Community Actions Revised June 2025							
What doing	For Community Enrollment, see instructions on Introduction and Example tabs.			Community Enrollment Notes	Community Action Grant Eligibility and Funding Notes	Community Action Grant Additional Notes	
What improve	Complete	In Progress	No Progress	Strategy Areas & Actions (mark Columns A, B, C as complete, in progress, or no progress)			
				Strategy A: Embrace the Future of Transportation			
				Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)			
What to add				A1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maximum of \$7,500 in grant funds may be applied to each vehicle or piece of equipment. •Where applicable, Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle rebate must be included in the applicant's project budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A strong proposal will include a scrappage plan for fossil-fuel powered vehicles that are being replaced. •Federal Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit information: https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/commercial-clean-vehicle-credit
What priority				A2			
				A3		Where applicable, Efficiency Maine's EV charging rebate or grant funding must be included in the applicant's project budget.	Federal Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit Information
				A4			
				A5			
Revised				A6			Learn more about the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
				A7			
				A8			
				A9			This could include bike or e-bike lending programs, land use and development policies that reduce the need for driving, or

Track 2 Service Provider Grant

Track 2: Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants

Vulnerability Assessment: A community-informed process that identifies priority climate risks and vulnerable assets and produces a prioritized, actionable set of recommendations to guide future community resilience planning and investment.

Goal: To help communities understand where climate-related risks intersect with valued community assets, prioritize areas of concern, and identify actionable strategies and resource needs to increase resilience.

Track 2 Service Provider Grant

Track 2: Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants

Intended outcomes:

- Work with up to 5 enrolled or enrolling communities
- Completion of a community vulnerability assessment that meets program requirements (see Program Statement).
- Develop a prioritized set of actionable recommendations
- Assistance to communities in seeking a Community Action Grant or other funding for priority projects.

Community Action Grant Assistance

Grants to communities for priority projects that reduce energy use and costs and/or make their community more resilient to climate change effects, such as flooding, extreme weather, drought, and public health impacts.

Intended outcomes:

- Emissions reductions and improved community resilience
- Leveraging federal and other funds for larger projects

Eligibility

- **Municipalities, Tribal Organizations, Townships, Plantations, and Unorganized Territories**
 - Collaborative multi-community applications are encouraged
- **Currently enrolled or submitting an enrollment** form with Community Action Grant application
- **Regional planning organizations** (RPOs, COGs, EDOs, and EMAs) may apply **on behalf of enrolled communities** with letters of commitment
- Communities that already have an active Community Action Grant from a previous round are eligible to apply in this round but may not apply for new funds to support a previous scope of work.

Service Provider Grant Eligibility

Eligibility

- Regional planning organizations, councils of governments, regional economic development organizations, county governments (including EMAs and soil conservation districts)
- Nonprofits
- Academic institutions and cooperative extension programs
- For-profit enterprises
- In special cases, a municipality that demonstrates robust in-house capacity that will be provided to smaller communities in the region

Service Provider Grant Awards

Awards: Applicants may request up to \$15,000 per community in the group.
15% cost share (in-kind allowed)

- Additional points in scoring criteria allocated for communities with population below 4,000 or in the highest social vulnerability category
- Track 1 is expected to be completed within 12 months, and Track 2 within 18 months. All program tracks must be fully completed within a maximum period of 24 months.



New: Quarterly Submission Process

Applications submitted by the deadlines listed below will be considered in the corresponding review cycle. Applications submitted after a deadline will be reviewed in the next scheduled cycle.

- May 15th at 5:00 P.M.**
- August 14th at 5:00 P.M.**
- November 13th at 5:00 P.M.**
- March 15th at 5:00 P.M.**

Awards are made as funding is available and are subject to the annual program funding limit.

The CRP will close the Service Provider Grant round when the funding limit has been reached.

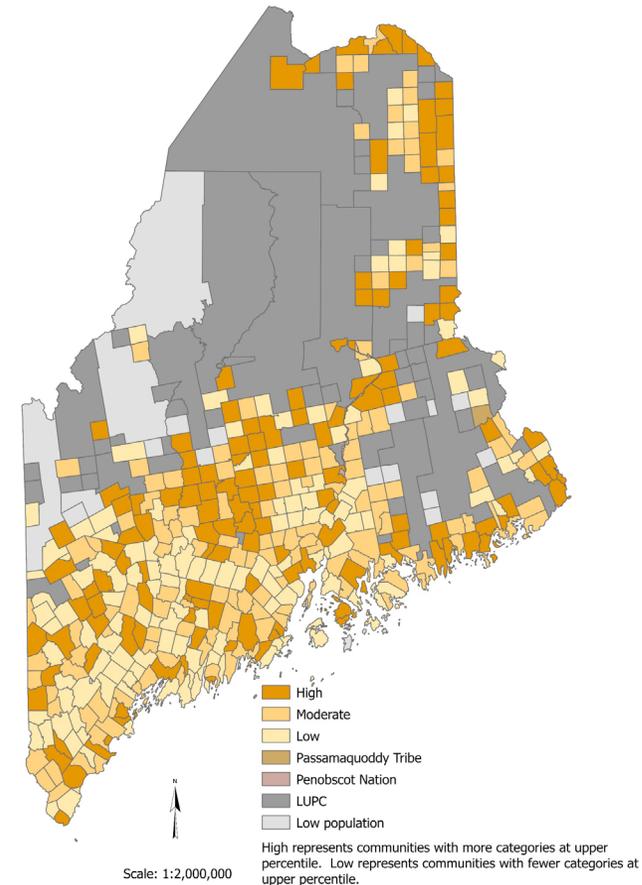
Service Provider Grant Tasks

Tasks

- As part of the grant application, **recruit a group of up to 5 communities** and provide letters of support from each (strongly encouraged to seek letters from municipal officials and town councils or selectboards)
- Once grant is awarded, assist the communities in the group with **completing the program deliverables**
- Assist communities in the group with **applying for Community Action Grants** or other funding options for priority actions
- Provide to MOCA **quarterly reports and a final case study** on lessons learned
 - Late or missing reports can disqualify Service Providers from participating in future grant rounds

Maine Social Vulnerability Index

- The MSVI is used by this grant program to understand socio-economic vulnerabilities that may be unique to a community.
- Applicants should reference the MSVI (updated 2024), linked in the Program Statement, to determine the current community vulnerability categorization.



Recap: Information for this grant round

- \$600,000 available for awards in this round
- Request up to \$15,000 per community in the Group
- Quarterly Submission Deadlines for both Tracks
- No minimum # of communities for either Track
- Track 1 is expected to be completed within 12 months, and Track 2 within 18 months.
- List of Community Actions with 95 eligible no-match grant action

Considerations for applicants

- Strong applications will demonstrate the strength of service provider (and partners, if desired) to complete the track objectives.
- Clearly communicate to community leaders and staff about the program requirements and their roles in the process.
- Describe actionable steps that will be taken to include community stakeholders in the program process, and how community benefit
- Service Provider are expected to design and implement engagement approaches that are inclusive, accessible, and responsive to community needs, and that meaningfully support participation by underrepresented and at-risk populations throughout workshops, public meetings, and assessment activities.

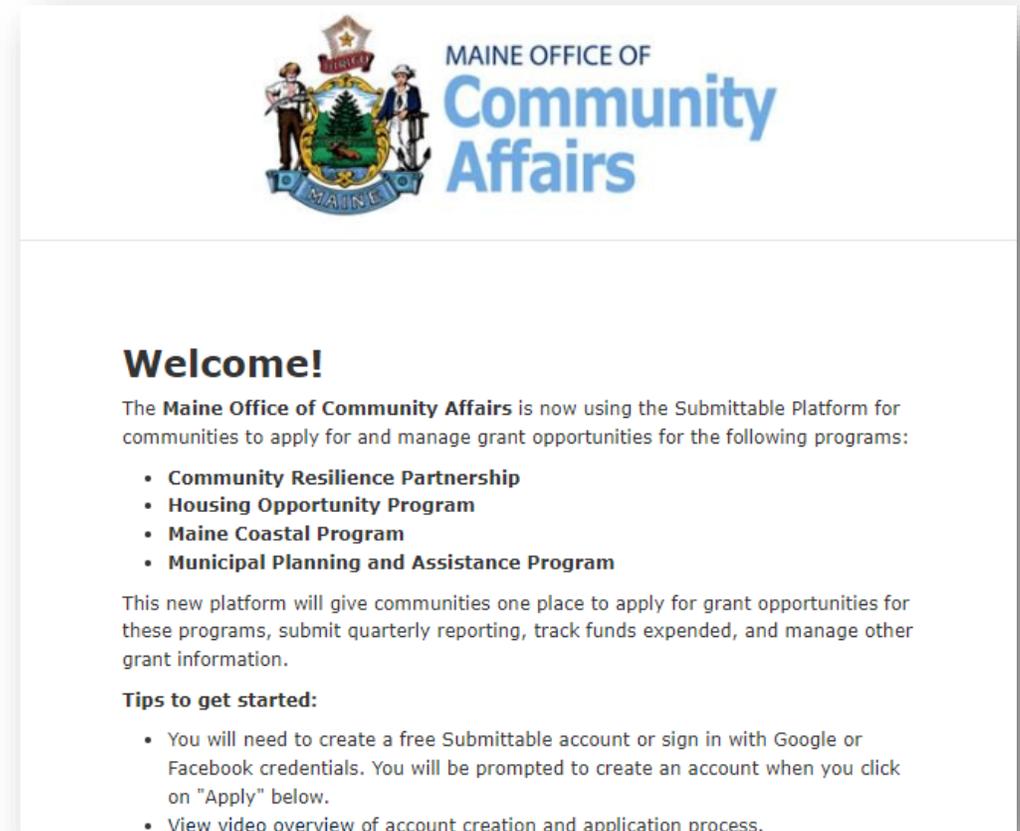
Applying to the Service Provider Grant

- **Next application deadline: May 15th, 2026**
- Questions can be submitted to Marina Tomer (marina.tomer@maine.gov)
 - Responses will be posted to the Partnership website on a rolling basis
- Program Statement available at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>
- **Proposals must be submitted via the MOCA grant portal:** <https://maineofficeofcommunityaffairs.submittable.com/submit>.
 - Application form and any letters of support must be submitted as a package via the instructions in the Program Statement.
 - Be sure that letters of support from each community are signed, dated, and on community letterhead.
- Award notifications anticipated end of June 2026

MOCA Grant Portal

<https://maineofficeofcommunityaffairs.submittable.com/submit>

- One grant portal for communities to use for MOCA funding opportunities, including the:
 - CRP
 - Housing Opportunity Program
 - Maine Coastal Program
 - and Municipal Planning and Assistance Program
- Grant portal uses the Submittable Platform

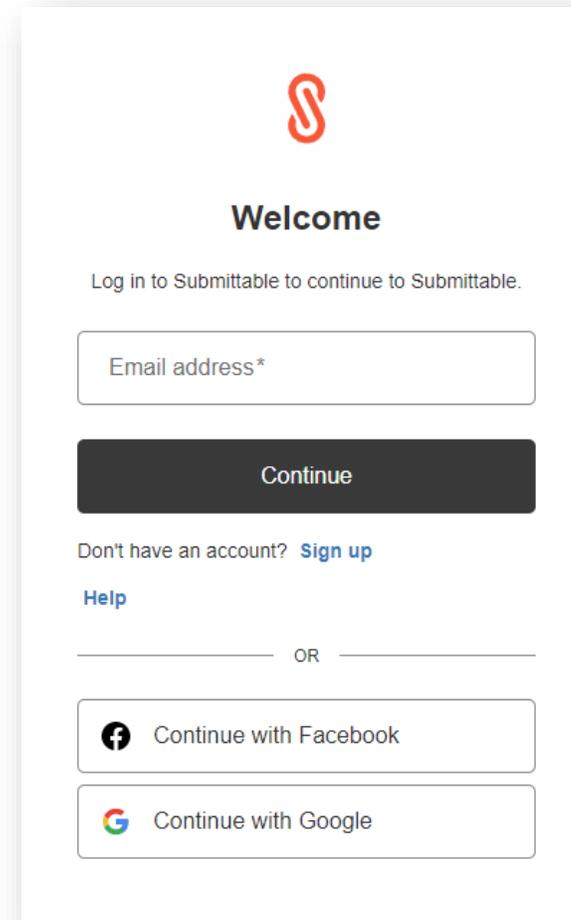


The screenshot shows the welcome page of the MOCA Grant Portal. At the top left is the Maine state seal, and to its right is the text "MAINE OFFICE OF Community Affairs". Below this is a "Welcome!" section. The text states that the Maine Office of Community Affairs is now using the Submittable Platform for grant opportunities. A list of programs is provided: Community Resilience Partnership, Housing Opportunity Program, Maine Coastal Program, and Municipal Planning and Assistance Program. A paragraph explains that this platform allows communities to apply for grants, submit reports, and track funds. A "Tips to get started:" section follows, with two bullet points: one about creating a free Submittable account or signing in with Google or Facebook, and another about viewing a video overview of the account creation and application process.

MOCA Grant Portal

<https://maineofficeofcommunityaffairs.submittable.com/submit>

- To get started, hit the Community Action Grant “apply” button on the homepage and create an account log in
- A full video tutorial on how to get started, draft, and submit an application can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/24f75xr7>

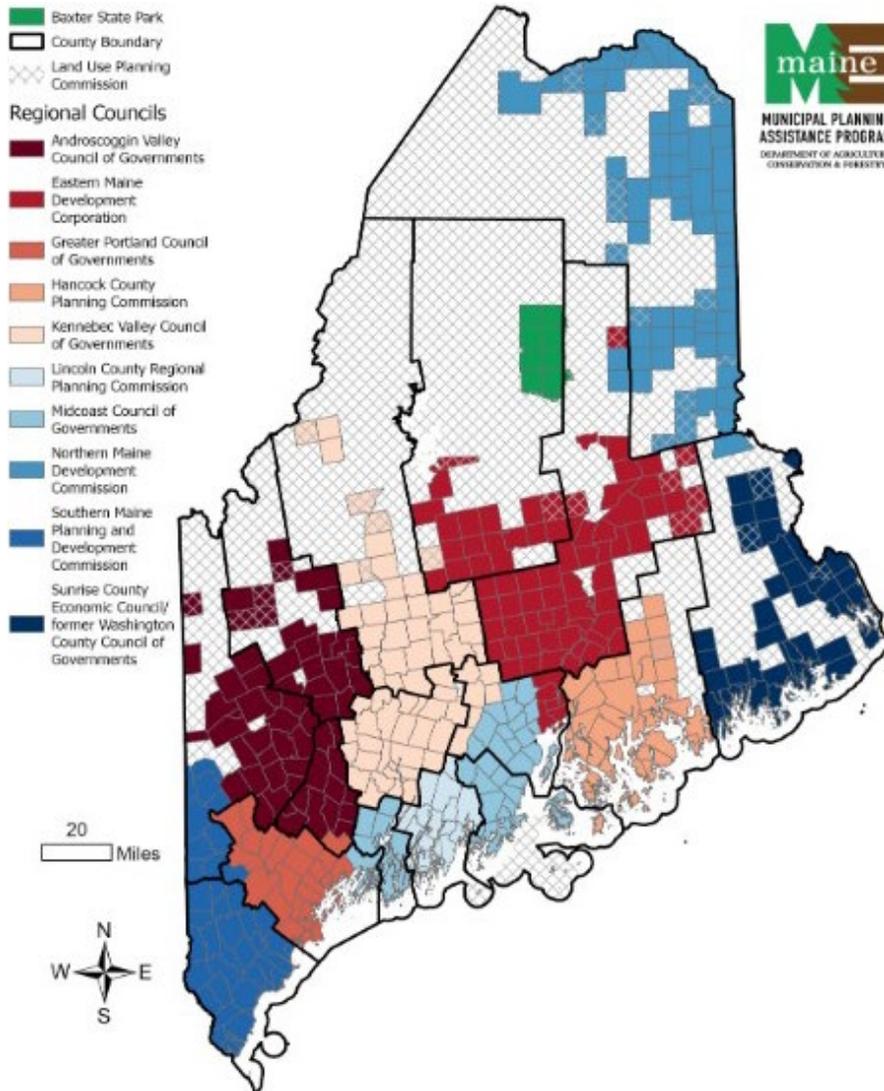


The screenshot shows the Submittable login interface. At the top is the Submittable logo, a red stylized 'S'. Below it is the heading 'Welcome'. The text 'Log in to Submittable to continue to Submittable.' is displayed. There is a text input field labeled 'Email address*'. Below the field is a dark grey button with the text 'Continue'. Underneath the button, there is a link 'Don't have an account? Sign up' and a link 'Help'. A horizontal line with 'OR' in the center separates the email login from social login options. There are two buttons for social login: 'Continue with Facebook' and 'Continue with Google', each featuring the respective platform's logo.

Future Community Action Grant Round

The next Community Action Grant round is anticipated to have a deadline in May 2027, subject to change with availability of funding.

Expanded Regional Coordinator Program



Aroostook County	Northern Maine Development Corporation Contact: Jared Tapley; jtapley@nmdc.org
Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties	Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments Contact: Catherine Mardosa; cmardosa@avcog.org
Cumberland County	Greater Portland Council of Governments Contact: Gretchen Anderson, ganderson@gpcog.org
Hancock County	Hancock County Planning Commission Contact: Janna Richards; jrichards@hcpcme.org
Kennebec, Somerset, and western Waldo Counties	Kennebec Valley Council of Governments Contact: Grainne Shaw; gshaw@kvcog.org
Knox, Sagadahoc, and eastern Waldo Counties	Midcoast Council of Governments Contact: Meg Rasmussen; mrasmussen@midcoastcog.com
Lincoln County	Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission Contacts: Laura Graziano (lgraziano@lcrpc.org); Curtis Brown (cbrown@lcrpc.org)
Piscataquis and Penobscot Counties	Eastern Maine Development Corporation Contact: Kristen Settele; ksettele@emdc.org
Washington County	Sunrise County Economic Council Contact: Tanya Rucosky; trucosky@sunrisecounty.org
York County	Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission Contact: Melanie Nash, mnash@smpdc.org

Website and Contacts

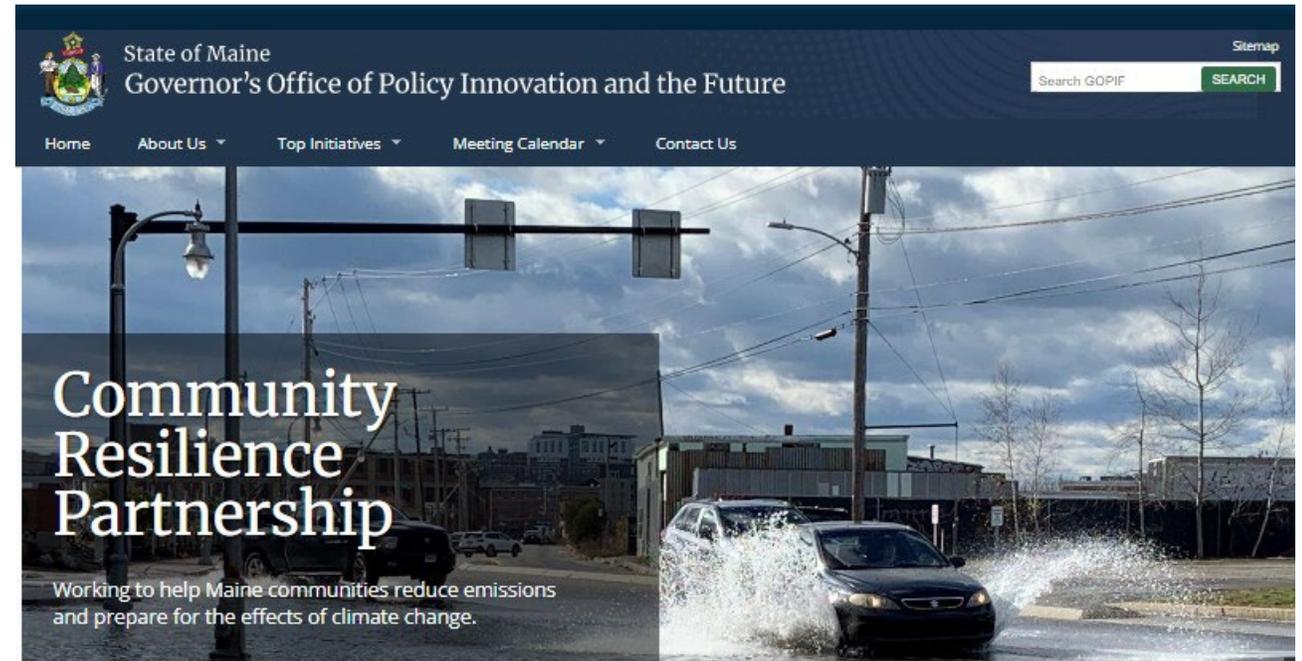
- Joining the Partnership
- Links to the grant applications
- Frequently Asked Questions

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Ashley Krulik

Community Resilience Partnership Program Manager
ashley.krulik@maine.gov



SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES



Communities in Maine can join the Partnership individually, or through a regional group, after completing three simple steps.

GRANT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



Grants are available for communities to pursue climate action and for regional service providers to assist groups of communities to join the Partnership.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



For more about community resilience and details of the Partnership, please visit our FAQs.

www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

CRP Lunch and Learn Series Schedule

- March 25: Mobilizing Volunteers for Resilience Projects
- April 1: Waste Diversion & Circular Economy
- April 15: Flood Resilience & Vulnerability Assessments
- April 29: Powering Resilient Communities

Visit the CRP Website to Register!



Questions

Please put questions into the chat

Thank You

www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership

