



## STATE OF MAINE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING RESOURCE PACKAGE Spring 2026

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**We have moved most online comprehensive planning data to a new website: [Maine Comprehensive Plan Data Portal and Mapping Services](#). Items not found there can be found in this zip file.**

### **Welcome to the comprehensive planning process!**

Whether you are working on your community's first comprehensive plan or are updating an existing plan, Maine's state agencies and regional planning organizations wish to provide as much assistance as possible to help your planning committee be efficient and productive.

Though locally-sourced information is indispensable, our resource packages are designed to provide most of the data needed to answer the analysis questions found in the Comprehensive Plan Review Criteria Rule. In this way, we hope to reduce the time and effort that your committee needs to spend on data collection, so that it can concentrate more on planning for your community's future.

The state is required by rule (08 002 chapter 1, sec 2.5.c) to provide a minimum amount of data within 8 months of a community requesting it. The Municipal Planning Assistance Program solicits requests for this data from communities then coordinates with state agencies to compile it before sending it on to the individual communities.

### **Other Resources**

#### **Comprehensive Plan Review Criteria Rule**

This Rule is designed to streamline the State review process and clarify the criteria that the Maine Office of Community Affairs will use to determine a comprehensive plan's consistency with the Growth Management Act. The Rule and associated material can be found on the Municipal Planning Assistance Program web page at: [www.maine.gov/sos/sites/maine.gov.sos/files/inline-files/002c001%20%28see%20PL%202025%2C%20c.%20388%29.docx](http://www.maine.gov/sos/sites/maine.gov.sos/files/inline-files/002c001%20%28see%20PL%202025%2C%20c.%20388%29.docx)

#### **Assistance from your Regional Planning Organization**

Your regional planning commission or council of governments has extensive experience with the comprehensive planning process, including conducting visioning exercises, organizing effective public outreach efforts, garnering public input, analyzing data, and writing plans. Regional planning organizations work with multiple towns and so can provide examples of various approaches different planning committees have taken to address the issues that confront their towns. A map of Maine's planning regions and contact information for the Regional Planning Organization can be found at: [www.maine.gov/moca/programs/municipal-planning-assistance-program/technical/regional\\_council](http://www.maine.gov/moca/programs/municipal-planning-assistance-program/technical/regional_council).

#### **Natural Resource Data**

The Beginning with Habitat program will now be posting the data relevant to the communities that specifically requested data as part of this round. This town specific data can now be found at:  
[www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/beginning-with-habitat/](http://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/beginning-with-habitat/)

## Credits and Contacts

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