

1ST ANNUAL MAINE PROPERTY TAX ACADEMY

Virtual Program presented by
The Property Tax Division of Maine Revenue Services

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
8:30 am - 4:15 pm

REGISTRATION PACKET

December 11, 2024 - Online - Cost: \$ 25

Education Credits

7.25 hours of continuing education hours for Certified Maine Assessors

The Racial & Social Equity in Assessments session satisfies the **ethics requirement** for Certified Maine Assessors.

Agenda

8:30-8:35 am	Introduction Michael Fortin, Division Director, MRS Compliance Division
8:35-10:25 am	FEMA Fifty Percent Rule (2 CE) David G Sawyer, CMA, Certified General Appraiser, Certified Instructor, Sawyer Educational Services
10:25-10:35 am	Break
10:35-11:00 am	Property Tax Updates (0.5 CE) Peter Lacy, Director, MRS Property Tax Division
11:00 am-12:00 pm	PFAS (1 CE) Meagan Hennessey, Director, PFAS Response Program
12:00-12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30-1:20 pm	Data Cleaning: How to Evaluate Data Quality & Its Importance (1 CE) Dr. Matt Dube, Associate Professor in Data Science, Computer Information Systems, and Applied Mathematics, University of Maine
1:20-2:20 pm	Basic Introduction to Geospatial Thinking (1 CE) Dr. Matt Dube, Associate Professor in Data Science, Computer Information Systems, and Applied Mathematics, University of Maine
2:20-2:30 pm	Break
2:30-4:15 pm	Racial & Social Equity in Assessments (1.75 CE) <i>NOTE: This session satisfies the CMA ethics requirement.</i> Kevin Keene, Professional Mass Appraiser & Property Tax Consultant, Keene Mass Appraisal Consulting

Attendees do not need to attend the entire day. Attendees will earn CE hours for each completed session of the program. To qualify, each attendee must be logged in and respond to all applicable poll questions for that session.

Meet Our Presenters



MICHAEL FORTIN

Michael Fortin has worked at Maine Revenue Services for 23 years. He has worked in various leadership roles within the Compliance Division, including Division Director of the Tax Compliance Unit and Criminal Investigation Unit. Michael is the Director of Promotion for the Maine Tax Portal and serves as emcee and organizer for the annual State Tax Symposium. He is a graduate of Thomas College.

DAVID SAWYER

David Sawyer is a Certified General Real Estate Appraiser, as well as a Certified Maine Assessor. He began his assessing career with the Town of New Gloucester, Maine in 1983, and spent more than thirty years as an assessor for multiple municipalities, as well as ten years as the Geographic Information System (GIS) coordinator for the Town of Windham, before becoming an appraiser in 2017. He currently works as an appraiser for Northstar Appraisal in Portland, Maine, and is the owner of Sawyer Education Services. David has taught courses for Maine Revenue Services, the University of Southern Maine, the Appraisal Foundation, the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), and Sawyer Educational Services. He holds a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from the University of Connecticut and is a candidate for a master's in education from Capella University.

PETER LACY

Peter Lacy started with Maine Revenue Services (MRS) in 2008 as an auditor in the Sales, Fuel & Special Tax Division. He currently serves as Director of the Property Tax Division of Maine Revenue Services. During his time at MRS, Peter has also served as the Assistant General Counsel in the Office of General Counsel, and Deputy Director in the Sales, Fuel & Special Tax Division. Peter holds a bachelor's degree in economics and a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law. He is also a Certified Maine Assessor.

Meet Our Presenters (cont.)



MEAGAN HENNESSEY

Meagan Hennessey is the Director of the PFAS Response Program at the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, where she has been since the program's inception in 2022. The Program is responsible for technical and financial support for PFAS-impacted commercial agricultural operations, providing individual recommendations to maintain farm viability. Previously, she managed the Municipal Services section of the Property Tax Division at Maine Revenue Services and maintains her Certified Maine Assessor Level 3 credential. Meagan has a BA in Environmental Science and Honors Economics from Colby College.

MATT DUBE

Dr. Matt Dube is Associate Professor of Data Science, Computer Information Systems, and Applied Mathematics at the University of Maine at Augusta and the current Chair of the Maine GIS User Group. Dr. Dube's academic background is in geospatial and temporal data, ranging from intuitive human spatiotemporal query systems to applications of spatial analysis to critical social problems surrounding rural housing insecurity, redistricting, and rural incarceration. Dr. Dube teaches courses in data science, geography, public administration, and emergency management at UMA during his day-to-day functions.

KEVIN KEENE

Kevin Keene served the City of Philadelphia for over 30 years as a Real Property Evaluator; Mass Appraisal Analyst; Real Property Supervisor; Appeals, Customer Service and Exemptions Administrator; GIS Manager; Residential Administrator; Modeling Director and Director of Mass Appraisal and Analysis. He has personally designed and directed over sixteen major revaluation projects. He has trained appraisers, modelers and analysts, and has been a frequent presenter and facilitator at the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) and Urban and Regional Information Systems (URISA) conferences.

In semi-retirement he is the principal at Keene Mass Appraisal Consulting (keenemac.com), offering a variety of mass appraisal and educational services to clients around the world.

Frequently Asked Questions

I cannot attend the entire day. Can I receive partial credit?

Yes. Credits will be earned for each individual session that was completed, dependent on your responses to poll questions. Credits will not be issued if you log out before a session is complete, which includes entering responses to the poll questions. In the event of technical difficulties with your device, please note that short unforeseen technical difficulties will not impact your credits in most cases. After the event has concluded, if you do not receive a certificate within 30 days, or have questions about your credits, you may email us at cma.mrs@maine.gov and we will assist you.

When will I receive my Certificate of Completion?

After MRS has verified attendance and confirmed attendee responses to poll questions, attendees will receive a Certificate of Completion via email within 30 days, which will reflect the credit earned based on the sessions completed.

IMPORTANT: Please enter your complete and accurate first and last name and email address in Zoom, as this will be used to verify your attendance and issue credits. If you are a regular Zoom user, you may not be prompted to enter your name. Please confirm your name in Zoom by clicking on the “Participants” button at the top of the Zoom window. Next, locate your name and confirm your first and last name have been entered correctly. If you need to change it, hover your mouse over your name in the participants list on the right side of the Zoom window, then click on “Rename” to make corrections and click “OK.”

How do I access the event from my device?

After your registration has been processed, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the Property Tax Academy. Please save this email. Do not share your link with anyone, as it is specific to each attendee. Sharing the link will invalidate your credits. Upon entering the webinar, you will be asked to enter (or confirm) your name.

IMPORTANT: Please enter your complete and accurate first and last name in Zoom, as this will be used to verify your attendance for continuing education hours.

May I ask questions during the sessions?

Yes. During the Academy, attendees may type questions to the presenters by using the Q/A tab at the bottom of the Zoom page. If there is time, the presenter will field as many questions as possible. The “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom will not be utilized at the Property Tax Academy.

Does this event require any prerequisites or advanced preparation?

No.

What happens if the poll question does not show on my screen?

During the event, attendees will be asked to respond to random poll questions several times each hour, throughout the entire day. Zoom users who are using an outdated web browser or have the pop-up blocker in their web browser turned on may not see the poll question. Prior to the event, check your web browser application to make sure it has been updated with the latest version and that the pop-up blocker feature has been turned off. Infrequently, some users reported that keeping the Question-and-Answer Window (Q/A window) open throughout the event can affect the polling question; therefore, please keep the Q/A window closed, unless you are asking the panelist a question. You may also try using a different web browser if you cannot see the poll question. For example, if you normally use Chrome, try switching your browser to Edge or vice versa. If you inadvertently miss one question due to a technical difficulty, this will not impact your Certificate of Completion.

Can I call into the Property Tax Academy from my analog phone?

No. Attendees must use an internet-enabled device with sound, such as a tablet, smart phone, or computer to participate in the Property Tax Academy. Attendees do not need a microphone or camera to attend. Attendees are required to use the Zoom app to respond to poll questions throughout the training.

What happens if my device is having a technical issue, or I lose Internet - will I still get credit?

If you have any technical difficulties, please reboot your device and try to re-establish a connection as soon as possible. If you change devices or reboot, make sure you log in using the same link, and confirm you are using your correct full name and email address. A short interruption with your device will not impact your Certificate of Completion. Please note that MRS is unable to provide technical support; however, we can help with registration questions - call 207-624-5601 for assistance.

What are some helpful hints to prepare in advance for the event?

- Confirm your web browser and Zoom software has been updated to the latest version.
- Reboot your device if you have not done so recently.
- Test your speakers to ensure your audio works properly and the volume level is set to a comfortable level.
- Locate the brochure and agenda at:
www.maine.gov/revenue/taxes/property-tax/training-certification
- Locate the confirmation email with your zoom link. Do not share this link, as it is specific to each attendee, and sharing the link with another attendee will invalidate your credits.
- Although MRS is unable to provide technical support for your device, if the event link isn't working, email cma.mrs@maine.gov.



Maine Property Tax Academy 2024

December 11, 2024 - 8:30 am - 4:15 pm

Name: _____ CMA #: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Municipality/Business Affiliation: _____

Course Registration:	\$ 25.00
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☐ Payment will be submitted by check. *Note: If paying by check, please email a copy of your registration to cma.mrs@maine.gov in addition to mailing a copy of your registration form with the check to MRS Property Tax Division, P.O. Box 9106, Augusta, ME 04332-9106. Make the check payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine, and note the payment is for the 2024 Maine Property Tax Academy*

Credit Card Payment:

<p>If paying by credit card, complete the lines below and email this form to cma.mrs@maine.gov. <i>Note: After processing, Maine Revenue Services will redact credit card information & no data will be stored.</i></p>
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Name on card: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____

Card number: _____ ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover
American Express not accepted.

Billing address: _____

Email (for receipt): _____ Phone: _____

Return completed registration form with check (payable to Treasurer, State of Maine) or credit card information, to cma.mrs.gov or mail to: Maine Revenue Services

Property Tax Division
Attn: Chief of Training and Certification
P.O. Box 9106
Augusta, ME 04332

Print

Clear Form



Questions? Call 207-624-5601 or email cma.mrs@maine.gov