



Energy Resilience Committee Newsletter

WINDOW DRESSERS COMMUNITY BUILD

The Community Build Season is underway! If you missed previous announcements, WindowDressers is an organization that provides people with low-cost insulating window inserts through community action and a wide network of volunteers. Thanks to a generous gift from Lee Auto Mall, Penobscot Citizens will be receiving inserts free of charge!

While it is unfortunately too late to sign up for your own inserts, it's not too late to get involved as a volunteer. If you would like to participate in the Orono Build by donating to the organization, providing a hot meal, or lending some of your time, follow the volunteer link below!

Volunteer Sign up:



The Orono Community Build is scheduled for 10/15/26-10/21/26 at the Keith Anderson Community Center, 19 Bennoch Road, Orono, ME 04473. Each day consists of two four hour shifts starting at 8:30am with a half hour for lunch and shift change.

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1152250350091/true#/invitation>

For more information about the build, contact Sara Morrey at saramindowdressers@gmail.com or the Window Dressers service team at info@windowdressers.org.



**Window
Dressers**

INSULATING WINDOW INSERTS



\$500 HEAT PUMP BONUS OFFER FROM EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST

Efficiency Maine offers rebates and incentives for a variety of home efficiency upgrades, including a new limited-time \$500 whole-home heat pump bonus. This combines with current rebates ranging from \$3000-\$9000. If this sounds appealing to you, you will have to act quickly! This program is only available for upgrades with rebates emailed or postmarked before December 31st 2026. Check the Efficiency Maine website for a list of qualified installers.

EMT Bonus Offer Details:



<https://www.efficiencymaine.com/whole-home-heat-pump-rebates/>

RESOURCE HUB

WINTER HEATING RESOURCE HUB



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF Energy Resources

The Maine Department of Energy Resources provides tips for getting the most out of your home heating systems!

<https://www.maine.gov/energy/winter-heating-resources>

EMERGENCY PREP



The Maine Emergency Management Agency hosts a preparedness guide. From hurricanes to blizzards, knowing what to do can save lives.

<https://www.maine.gov/mema/maine-prepares>

MAINE DOT SNOW AND ICE GUIDE



MaineDOT

The Maine Department of Transportation hosts a number of guides and toolkits, including their 2018 Snow and Ice flyer.

<https://www.maine.gov/dot/node/294>

BRING SUSTAINABILITY TO THE HOLIDAYS



Try to avoid single use plastic when buying candy and stocking stuffers. Also, consider wrapping gifts with fabric, or look for Forest Stewardship Council-certified (FSC) and recycled materials. Finally, look for reusable tablecloths and napkins to set the holiday table!

DECOR CAN HELP KEEP WARM



Did you know that area rugs are a great way to insulate a room? They keep your feet warm and trap heat. Drapes and shades are another great tool! Open them when the sun is shining to let heat in, and close them at dusk to keep out the cold.

SEAL YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS



Leaky windows and doors can cost a lot, and reduce comfort! Check your casings for cracks and apply sealant as necessary. Shrink wrap on the inside or outside of windows can keep out leaks. Draft stoppers are great for doors, we recommend one filled with lavender or fir.

MAINE DEP SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE



The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has a sustainability hub with toolkits, FAQs, and best practice guides.

<https://www.maine.gov/dep/sustainability/index.html>

THE MITCHELL CENTER



The UMaine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions hosts a portal with a number of toolkits and resources available.

<https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/educateengage/tools-resources/>

EXTREME TEMPERATURE RESPONSE GUIDE



The Maine CDC and DHHS have put together an extreme temperature guidebook.

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/sites/maine.gov.dhhs.mecdc/files/Guidebook_ME_6.18.2026.pdf

RESILIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

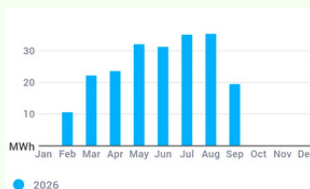
WABANAKI HEAT PUMP TECHNICIAN TRAINING

Thank you to everyone who applied for this years training program! A cohort of 15 Citizens across the Wabanaki Nations have been selected from the pool of applicants, and by now have already completed the online portion of their training. Trainees will be headed to Newport for three days of in-person learning the 13th - 15th of October.



If you or someone you know is interested in participating in future cohorts, please reach out to Kelsey Flores to add yourself to the wait list for next year.

COMMUNITY CENTER ROOFTOP PV SYSTEM



Lifetime Environmental Benefits



139k
Kg of CO₂ Emission
Saved



2.43k
Equivalent Tree Planting

As of the publishing of this newsletter, the PV system on the roof of the community center has been producing electricity for nearly a year. Not only that, but Versant recently finalized necessary infrastructure upgrades

that will enable the interconnection of the PV on the Health Services Building. These two systems represent a massive step forward for the Nation and the future of energy sovereignty.



INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR VOICE HEARD ABOUT RESILIENCE?

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. If you are looking to get more involved in resilience practices or you want to learn more about renewable technologies or energy efficiency measures, the sustainable energy team wants to hear from you!



The Department of Natural Resources is looking to restart the Energy Resilience Committee. This committee would meet regularly with the Sustainable Energy Coordinators to guide community-led initiatives, provide feedback on priority projects, and stay informed on upcoming opportunities and resources.

ERC Survey:



<https://forms.gle/cVEu6qmo9K6mfLHw5>

This initiative is currently in its infancy, and we are looking to gauge community interest and what ways we can best serve the Penobscot Nation.

Feel free to contact Jack Clark or Kelsey Flores with any questions or concerns 3
Jack Clark: Jack.Clark@penobscotnation.org
Kelsey Flores: Kelsey.Flores@penobscotnation.org