

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

July 2016



Fireworks Have Fizzled, but Funding is Still Sizzling!

The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program has funds to help farms cover audits, energy efficient projects, and select renewable energy projects.

Contact us now for more information!

Phone: 413-727-3090 • E-mail: info@massfarmenergy.com

or

Visit our website: www.massfarmenergy.com, submit a Request Form, and we will contact you!



'Tis the season... for farmers markets!

News & Events

Photo Call

Would you like to see your farm featured in our newsletter? Send us your pictures, especially of any projects you've done or actions you've taken to increase energy efficiency, and you could see them here!

Pictures can be sent to Megan at megan.denardo@cetonline.org. Show other farmers across Massachusetts what you're doing to save energy, and maybe inspire others to do the same!

CISA Events

CISA is hosting a plethora of exciting events and workshops this summer, including Essential Oil Distillation, Beekeeping, and Building Long-Term Fertility with Biochar. For the full list and more details, [visit their events page](#).

Grant Information & Deadlines

MDAR Special Projects Grant Deadline Extension

The deadline for the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture's Special Projects Grant has been extended to July 22nd. The application is available on [MDAR's website](#), and in order to be eligible the farming operation must have received an energy audit/energy assessment, or demonstrate the initiation of such.

If you are interested in applying and need help funding your audit, the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program has funding to cover up to 75% of the cost! Contact us at 413-717-3090 or info@massfarmenergy.com to get started.

Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)

The next REAP deadline for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency grants and loan guarantees is November 2, 2016 for grants of **\$20,000 or less only**. For more information on applying, [click here](#).

REAP Application Assistance

Need help preparing your REAP application? The [Massachusetts Farm Energy Program](#) is able to assist! Our program is able to help farms prepare their REAP applications at no cost. But don't wait until the deadline approaches; REAP applications can be submitted any time, so [contact us now](#)!

Keep Cool as the Weather Heats Up!



Efficient cold storage at Plainville Farm in Hadley

Keep your products fresh and save money with energy efficient refrigeration! High efficiency refrigeration saves 20%-35% on energy costs, and often has a short payback. This is achieved via:

1. Energy efficient lighting, that does not give off heat like traditional incandescent bulbs. LEDs are often used in cold storage due to their low heat output and long life.
2. New fan motors, which remove heat from the compressor more efficiently than older technology.
3. Improved insulation and heat loss design, including gaskets on doors and openings, and wall & ceiling insulation.
4. Heat recovery condensation controls, which utilize heat recovered from refrigerant gas to prevent sweating.
5. Outside air economizers, which use winter temperatures to refrigerate the air.



Outside air economizer at Mapleline Farm in Hadley

Take Steps Today to Save Energy and Money! Here's how:

1. Learn about what's most applicable to your operation. Check out our [Best Management Practices](#) online.
2. Have an energy audit to determine the best, most cost-effective measures for your farm. An energy audit helps determine potential savings and worthwhile investments.
3. Install recommended efficient, cost effective measures. Begin with low and no-cost measures, and don't forget annual maintenance.
4. Get funding. Before you install measures, be sure to get information about grants and financial incentives available to help with cost effective improvements, including renewable energy.
5. Enjoy your savings!

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