

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

November 2018



Time for Turkey and Thermal Savings!

Winter is fast approaching, which means it's a great time to evaluate water and space heating on your farm. The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program can help you with this, or any other energy projects that come up.

MFEP provides grant application guidance, and has funds to help farms cover audits and energy projects. Contact us for more information, or to get started now!

413-727-3090 • info@massfarmenergy.com

or

Visit our website: www.massfarmenergy.com and submit a [Request Form](#)



Solar hot water array on the roof of a building in Cambridge. Click the video above to watch a brief case study about solar hot water, and learn about some of the applications and available incentives for this technology!

News & Events

[CISA Event Calendar](#)

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) has information about a plethora of exciting events and workshops happening in November and December on their website, including a workshop about using Quickbooks and the Quabbin Food Alliance Winter Gathering. For the full list and more details, [visit the CISA Events Calendar](#).

[Solar Hot Water Funding](#)

Does your farm use hot water year-round? Would you like to reduce your hot water heating costs? Solar hot water could be the answer! The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center currently has funding to cover a percentage of the cost of solar hot water installations, and federal tax credits for this type of project will decrease soon. This funding can be combined with other farm energy grants, so call the Mass Farm Energy Program at 413-727-3090 or [visit our solar hot water page](#) for more information.

[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.denardo@cetonline.org. Show other farmers across Massachusetts what you're doing to save energy, and help inspire others to do the same.

Grant Information & Deadlines

Grant Announcement: Stewardship Assistance and Restoration on APRs (SARA)

MDAR invites Massachusetts farmers who own or operate farm land under an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) to participate in the Stewardship Assistance and Restoration on APRs Program. The purpose of this program is to address stewardship or restoration issues on farmland resources in order to maximize productive agricultural use of the protected resource.

Funding of up to \$25,000, with a 15% match, may be available for identified improvements that will help restore or enhance the protected land resources on an APR farm property. For more information, or to apply, please [visit this page](#). The deadline for this grant is December 7, 2018.

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Grants

The MDAR grant period will re-open in February of 2019

Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)

The next REAP deadline for renewable energy & energy efficiency grants and loan guarantees is **April 1, 2019**. This round is unrestricted, and open to projects of all sizes. For more information on applying, [click here](#). If you have questions about whether or not REAP is a good fit for your project, email the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program at info@massfarmenergy.com for more details.

REAP Application Assistance

Need help with your REAP application? The [Massachusetts Farm Energy Program](#) is able to help farms prepare their REAP applications at no cost. REAP applications can be submitted any time, so [contact us now!](#)

Spotlight On: The Carrot Project



One of The Carrot Project's clients, Ashley Loehr of Sparrowbush Farm

For over ten years [The Carrot Project](#) has worked with farms and food businesses in New England and the Hudson Valley, supporting their successes by helping them build financial management skills to help their businesses thrive. The Carrot Project has developed expertise in farm business management, and especially works with small and midsize farms.

Some of the services offered by The Carrot Project include [one-on-one business advising](#), information about [loan programs](#), and [educational opportunities](#) for farmers and food entrepreneurs.

If you are interested in learning more about The Carrot Project, visit www.thecarrotproject.org, or contact the Mass Farm Energy Program at 413-727-3090, or info@massfarmenergy.com. We are happy to help, and can connect you with the right people.

THE | carrot
PROJECT

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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You are receiving this e-mail because you have requested more information about or are interested in energy efficiency and renewable energy on Massachusetts farms.

Our mailing address is:

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