

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

July 2019



Have a Savings Blast This July

Keep your wallet cool as the weather heats up! Whether you're looking to take advantage of the summer sun with a solar array, or investigating efficient cooling for your farm, MFEP has you covered.

The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program (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](#)



Roof mounted solar array at Sawyer Farm in Worthington. Keep reading for more information on this project!

News & Events

CISA Event Calendar

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) has information about a plethora of exciting events and workshops happening in July and August on their website, including a blueberry festival and a seed saving workshop. For the full list and more details, [visit the CISA Events Calendar](#).

Photo Call

If you would like to see your farm featured in our newsletter, send us your pictures! We are especially interested in any projects you've done or actions you've taken to increase energy efficiency. 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

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Grants

The application period for [MDAR's Agricultural Climate Resiliency & Efficiencies \(ACRE\)](#) Program is now closed. If you are interested in applying for this grant in 2020, watch this space for more information.

Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)

The next REAP deadline for renewable energy & energy efficiency grants and loan guarantees is **October 31, 2019**. This round is restricted to projects costing \$80,000 or less. For more information on applying, [click here](#). If you have questions about the REAP grant, email the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program at info@massfarmenergy.com.

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: Sawyer Farm



Roof mounted solar electric array at Sawyer Farm in Worthington.

[Sawyer Farm](#) in Worthington is an organic, horse-powered family farm that grows a variety of produce. With the help of the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program (MFEP), Sawyer Farm was able to install an 11,000 kWh solar electric array on the top of a new shed to help offset their energy use. This array saves the farm more than \$2,300, and prevents over 7 tons of CO₂ from going into the atmosphere, annually.

With grant writing assistance from the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program, Sawyer Farm applied for and was awarded both the MDAR Ag Energy Grant and the USDA's REAP grant. Together, this funding covered about 60% of the total project cost.

If you are interested in installing solar, or applying for a grant, contact the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program at 413-727-3090, or info@massfarmenergy.com. We are happy to help!

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 the 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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