

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

September 2019



Remember to Save in September!

As fall harvests start to come in, be sure to gather some savings as well! This time of year is a great time to assess insulation and cold storage needs on your farm.

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](#)



Ground mounted solar array at Ivory Silo Farm in Westport. Keep reading below for more details about this renewable energy project!

News & Events

MFEP REAP Grant Webinar Recording

If you weren't able to attend the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program's informational webinar on applying to REAP for the fall round, [you can watch a recording of it here](#). If you would like a copy of the slides from this presentation, email megan.denardo@cetonline.org.

CISA Event Calendar

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) has information about a plethora of exciting events and workshops happening in September and October on their website, including a Flavors of Fall market and a farm business planning course. For the full list and more details, [visit the CISA Events Calendar](#).

Call for Spotlights

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

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.

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.

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: Ivory Silo Farm



Ground mounted solar electric array at Ivory Silo Farm in Westport.

[Ivory Silo Farm](#) in Westport is a diversified fruit, vegetable, herb, and flower farm that is environmentally minded. With the help of the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program (MFEP), Ivory Silo Farm was able to install a 10,500 kWh solar electric array to help offset their energy use. Each year, this array saves the farm more than \$2,100, and prevents over 7 tons of CO₂ from going into the atmosphere.

With grant writing assistance from the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program, Ivory Silo Farm applied for and was awarded both the MDAR Ag Energy Grant and the USDA REAP grant. Together, this funding covered over 60% of the total project cost. The farm also utilized MFEP's audit funding to have a comprehensive audit done on their business to help them maximize energy efficiency.

If you are interested in installing solar, applying for a grant, or having an audit, 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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