

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

January 2020



New Year, New Energy Usage!

Make it your New Year's resolution to improve the energy use on your farm!

Read on to learn about the opening of a new grant opportunity.

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](#)



Some friendly cows at Catlin Farmstead in Winchendon.

News & Events

[CISA Event Calendar](#)

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) has information about a plethora of exciting events and workshops happening in February and March on their website, including the 2020 New England Campus Farmer Summit and a session on improving your farm's employee policies. 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 **March 31, 2020**. 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 next application period for MDAR's [Agricultural Climate Resiliency & Efficiencies \(ACRE\)](#) Program will open in spring 2020. If you are interested in applying for this grant, watch this space for more information, or [email MFEP](#) to be put on a notification list.

Grant Application Assistance

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

Spotlight On: Agricultural Energy Grant Program



Zero Net Energy Maple Kitchen at Justamere Tree Farm in Worthington.

Announcing the Agricultural Energy Grant Program (ENER), a competitive grant program that funds agricultural energy projects in an effort to improve energy efficiency and the adoption of alternative energy by Massachusetts farms.

This grant is only for the following types of projects: Heat Recovery for Anaerobic Digesters, New High Efficiency Single or Multi Temperature Walk-In Coolers, Agricultural Solar Tariff Generation Unit (ASTGU) Research Projects, Zero Net Energy Greenhouses, Zero Net Energy New or Renovated Building Construction, or Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Projects Utilizing Eligible Technologies.

For a complete list of the goals of this grant, and to see the funding amounts available for each project type, [click here](#). You can also download the application at that same link.

Applications must be received, via mail or email, **by Friday, February 28th, 2020 by 4:00 P.M.**

If you are interested in applying and have questions, or would like assistance with the application, 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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