



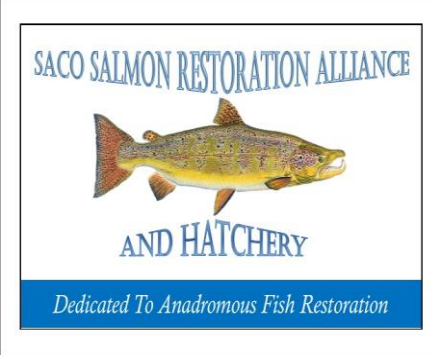


Falmouth Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee (REAC)

“Energy News You Can Use” Volume 5, Issue 9, September, 2017 – Falmouth, Maine

- It’s still nice and warm out during the day, but the morning and evenings are starting to feel a bit chilly. What do you do as the days begin to cool off, to prepare your home for the colder months to come?
- Any ideas or suggestions on how Falmouth can be greener? More sustainable? Use less energy? We’d love to hear your thoughts, and ways in which *you* live sustainably. Give your Energy and Sustainability Coordinator a shout at kdarling@falmouthme.org with your suggestions!
- Have a question about home energy, or waste diversion? We’re happy to help find you answers.

Calendar of Local Green Events-September, 2017

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date/Time/Location</i>	<i>Description</i>
<p>Regional and State Energy Policy Update</p> 	<p>September 7 7:15am-12:00pm USM Portland, Abromson Center—Hannaford Lecture Hall, 88 Bedford St., Portland</p>	<p>This forum will highlight both regional and state energy policy updates. From the regional perspective, attendees will learn about Clean Energy Procurement, the role of the Department of Energy (DOE), and Regional Energy Impacts on Maine. A more local focus will be an overview on energy and environmental bills related to renewable standards, solar energy, wind permitting, recycling, mining regulations and many other topics in a 128th Legislative update. Speakers for this event will be announced soon, follow this link and stay tuned!</p>
	<p>September 9 10:00am-4:00pm Monument Sq., Portland</p>	<p>Come check out Southern Maine’s 4th annual premiere eco-event in Portland on Saturday, September 9. All free, rain or shine—most activities are under tents. Organizers showcase 50 exhibitors, highlighting renewable energy, local foods, electric cars, clean water, wildlife, green products for your home and businesses, ways to get involved in your community, and lots more. There are fun, interactive activities for all ages, and music all day long.</p> <p>For more information, visit the GreenFEST page by clicking here.</p>

<p>Saco River Trash Drive</p> 	<p>September 10 9:00am-4:00pm The Saco River</p>	<p>The Saco Salmon Restoration Alliance, a local volunteer-run non-profit, is hosting its 3rd annual Saco River Trash Drive on September 10. The event will be held in conjunction with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Landowner Appreciation Day. Organizers say they are in need in folks to clean by canoe, motorboat and on foot as well as support staff to off load debris from boats, help people sign in/out, distribute maps, lunches and trash bags, shuttle canoers, etc. The Alliance asks that volunteers sign up as soon as possible so the group can better plan for the event. To register for the event, click here or contact the Saco Salmon Restoration Alliance on its Facebook Page.</p>
<p>Portland Greendrinks</p> 	<p>September 12 5:30pm</p> <p>Visit the Greendrinks website to check out where their September location will be!</p>	<p>Portland Greendrinks is part of the international Greendrinks network—an informal, volunteer-managed social networking group built around a common interest in the natural environment. It occurs on the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 5:30pm. The goal of Greendrinks is simple: good times shared among people working in, or interested in, environmental and sustainability issues.</p>
<p>Falmouth/Cumberland Community Build</p> 	<p>September 15-18 Mason-Motz Activity Center 190 Middle Rd., Falmouth <i>Contact Kimberly for event times</i></p>	<p>WindowDressers is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization dedicated to helping Maine residents reduce heating costs, fossil fuel consumption, and CO2 emissions by lowering the amount of heat loss through windows. Falmouth has partnered with the Town of Cumberland to host a Community Build this year in mid-September. Although the deadline has passed to order inserts, we are looking for volunteers to help at the build. These builds are a great way to give back to the community and are a lot of fun! If you cannot donate your time, there are opportunities to bring snacks and refreshments, too!</p> <p>Please reach out to Kimberly Darling through email kdarling@falmouthme.org, or call her at (207)699-5337 and she'll assist you with more information on volunteering.</p>

3rd Sierra Club Maine's Climate Action Conference



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

September 16
8:00am-4:00pm
USM Lewiston Campus
51 Westminster St., Lewiston

If you want to be inspired to take action and find sustainable solutions to climate change, put this even on your calendar. This conference will bring together activists and leaders from around the state and out-of-state to build upon a movement of local actions and local solutions to fight climate disruption. Workshops and presentations will focus on: starting a local climate action team, alternative energy models, municipal and business sustainability programs, involving the youth, local food and community, transportation alternatives, and so much more. For more information and to register for this event, [follow this link](#).

Maine Outdoor Film Festival



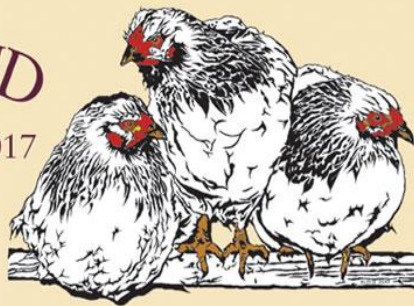
September 16
8:00-9:30pm
L.L. Bean
95 Main St., Freeport

The Maine Outdoor Film Festival organizers are partnering with L.L. Bean and Teens To Trails for an evening of "Outdoor Films, Shown Outdoors." The films will be shown at L.L. Bean's Discovery Park in Freeport. The evening's selection of short films will feature conservation and outdoor adventure shorts. There is no cost to attend, but a suggested donation of \$3-5 will go directly to Teens To Trails. Visit the event's [Facebook Page](#) for more information.,

COMMON GROUND COUNTRY FAIR

September 22, 23 & 24, 2017
Unity, Maine


CELEBRATE RURAL LIVING WITH MOFGA



294 Crosby Brook Rd., Unity

If you've ever been to the fair, you know—and if you haven't, anyone who has will tell you—it's an event like no other, that brings together so many people from so many walks of life, all in the spirit of celebrating the rural and agricultural traditions of Maine. For the full event page, visit their website by [following this link](#).



<p>Annual Open House at ecomaine</p> 	<p>September 30 8:00-11:00am 62 Blueberry Rd., Portland</p>	<p>Gather your friends and family for the free and festive Annual Open House, Saturday September 30th at ecomaine! In addition to taking a tour you can also expect to receive: free e-waste collection, free breakfast, free 22-gallon ecomaine recycling bins (while supplies last), a wide range of children’s activities, numerous raffles for bins that will help you separate your food waste from your garbage, and more. For more information on this exciting event, follow this link.</p>
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Energy News

\$8M Federal Grant to Help Restore 22 Maine Rail Bridges—coming from the U.S. Department of Transportation, this money will help pay for improving or replacing 22 state-owned rail bridges in northeastern Maine. Maine DOT says the plan is to get the bridges up to the 286,000-pound limit—an important factor for a rail company and anyone shipping. DOT Commissioner stated, “it cuts costs for the shipper, for the railroad company, gets product quicker to whatever its destination, allows more trucks to get off the road”. [Click here for more information](#).

Gigantic Batteries Help Grow Maine Renewable Energy in Maine, New England—for more than half a century, a massive, oil-fired plant has been churning out electricity from Cousins Island in Casco Bay. The old generator is expensive to run and dirtier than new technologies and only comes on a few times a year. NextEra, a national electricity company that focuses on renewable energy is now changing that. [Click here for the full story](#).

Pipeline Could Bring 100,000 Barrels of Canadian Crude Oil to South Portland Daily, Company Tells Court—the city’s attorneys challenge Portland Pipe Line Corp.’s testimony in a federal lawsuit, but Judge John Woodcock Jr. allows it. [Follow this link](#) to read more. For a more current article on this subject, [click here](#).

Isle au Haut Moving to Solar Power—the member-owned for-profit cooperative, The Isle au Haut Electric Power Company, serves 140 year-round and seasonal customers, and for decades, electricity has arrived through an underwater cable from Stonington. This is a two-phase project which involves battery storage and heat pumps, and is a way for the Isle au Haut to buy all its electricity locally. For more on this story, [click here](#).

Heating Camden’s New Middle School from Town’s Sewer Plant: What’s the Cost, and Can it be Done? —the technology is a fairly common in China and Europe, and would involve installing a heat exchanger in the plant’s aeration tank. But the heat exchanger and piping for this renewable heating system is not in the budget of the \$26 million project. [Follow this link](#) for the full story.

In Other News...

Portland Council Committee Considers Pesticide Alternatives—the committee has recommended an ordinance based on “integrated pest management,” an approach that requires efforts to eliminate infestations without using pesticides and documenting the attempts and nature of infestations before seeking a waiver to use pesticides. For the full story, [follow this link](#).

Design Report on a New Brunswick-Topsham Bridge Emphasizes Multiple Uses—a committee that has been meeting for more than a year recommends that the bridge be accessible to foot, bike and vehicle traffic, and capitalizes on the view. The report emphasizes that the design such as lighting and railings will make the new bridge comfortable for pedestrians and bicyclists, and can “make the difference between whether the bridge feels like a pedestrian-friendly space or a highway overpass. For the full article, [click here](#).

Green Consumer Tips & How-To's

The Energy Saver Do-It-Yourself Savings Projects, thorough the U.S. Department of Energy, offer easy, step-by-step instructions to home energy efficiency improvements that will save you energy and money
Some examples include:

- [Insulate Your Water Heater Tank](#)
- [How to Weather-strip Double-Hung \(or Sash\) Windows](#)
- [Insulate and Air Seal Floors Over Unconditioned Garages](#)

For the full list of their DIY projects, [follow this link](#).

Did you know...?

...that in the past 2 years, **5.5 tons of trash** have been removed from the 20 mile stretch of the Saco River? According to a report on the 2016 trash drive published by the alliance, items found at last year's trash drive include a window frame, dog crate, weed whacker, lobster pot, construction site signs, and three safes. Let's pitch in and do our part to **Keep Maine Green!**

...that close to 8,000 people visited ecomaine in 2016? That's an uptick from roughly 7,700 people in 2015 and 6,500 in 2014.

...that ecomaine has a RECYCLOPEDIA where you can ask questions on what can and cannot be recycled? Visit ecomaine's website or [click this link](#) . A link can be found on REAC's website as well. There is also an app available! Just search “ecomaine recylopedia” on Google Play or the Apple Store!

...a typical family spends nearly \$2,000 per year on their home energy bills? However, much of that money is wasted through leaky windows or ducts, old appliances, or inefficient heating and cooling systems.

REAC'S Mission: The Town of Falmouth Energy and Recycling Advisory Committee advises the Falmouth Town Council on matters relating to the town's solid waste recycling program, energy efficiency and other related matters deemed appropriate by the Council. Duties shall include but not be limited to the following: (1) Endeavor to save local taxpayer dollars through increased energy-efficiency of municipal facilities and operations; (2) Prioritize the ad hoc Falmouth Green Ribbon Committee's 2010 recommendations that the Council wants to pursue; (3) Educate Falmouth residents and businesses about energy-efficient, waste-reducing, clean energy opportunities and choices; (4) Enhance and promote the town's recycling program; (5) Promote the use of clean, renewable energy sources in Falmouth's public and private facilities through education and outreach; (6) Work with surrounding communities on potential regional energy efficiency and clean energy strategies; (7) Monitor new developments and options in the fields of energy and waste management as technologies evolve and change; educate the public and advise the Council on same; (8) Research and report policies to accomplish the above goals and/or other related goals deemed appropriate by the Town Council.