

# Maine Partners for Cool Communities

*Solutions and services for solving global warming one Maine community at a time.*

2007 Report

# COOL COMMUNITIES

*44 and counting!*



**Cool Communities: 44 and Counting!**

**Maine Cool Communities 2007 Report**

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Maine Partners for Cool Communities is a collaboration between

American Lung Association of Maine

Maine Council of Churches

Physicians for Social Responsibility of Maine

Sierra Club Maine

Maine Energy Investment Corporation

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The authors wish to thank all of the Cool Teams for providing information for this report and for their thoughtful review of the report.

For more information about Maine Partners for Cool Communities or for additional copies of this report, please visit [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org)

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Physicians for Social  
Responsibility/Maine Chapter



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Maine Partners for Cool Communities bear responsibility for any factual errors.

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**Clean Air Zone**

Please support the Freeport Clean Air Project

**NO IDLING** Breathe Easier, Save Money, and Protect our Climate and our Air!



We need volunteers to help spread the word;  
FMI call 865-3648 or 761-5616



# INTRODUCTION

Maine Partners for Cool Communities has a history of collaboration with one another on programs to improve the environment and health of Maine and its people. For the past few years Sierra Club-Maine (SC), Maine Council of Churches (MCC), American Lung Association of Maine (ALAME) and Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have worked together to implement successful vehicle no-idling campaigns in several Maine communities. ALAME and Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR), MCC and Maine Energy Investment Corp. (MEIC) joined together on an outreach project to make the connection between healthy lungs and clean electricity. MCC and SC continue to assist congregations and SC members in many communities to host thought-provoking film-and-speaker series in preparation for local community action. PSR and SC are coordinating efforts to educate the public about nuclear weapons and nuclear power proliferation and its consequences, while PSR and ALAME are approaching community hospital staff about “healthcare without harm.”

Recognizing the effectiveness of collaborative efforts at the grassroots level to develop and implement solutions to big-picture problems such as global warming, clean air and smart energy, in 2005 Sierra Club-Maine formed a partnership with the four health, energy and faith organizations who had been working together on various initiatives described above.

These five organizations, calling their collaboration Maine Partners for Cool Communities (MPCC), have responded to requests from volunteers and municipalities across the state to help lay the foundation for local climate action plans and identify cost-effective energy savings community by community.

Across the country the Sierra Club’s Cool Cities campaign is creating a national mandate for local solutions to global warming, empowering communities and their citizens to take actions that will not just address global warming but will build the clean energy economy required for US communities and businesses to be competitive in an era of globalization. This smart energy economy will create jobs, improve public health, reduce energy costs, relieve strained municipal budgets, and result in environmentally sustainable local communities. It’s a positive vision for the future that has attracted local leaders in Maine and across the country and holds promise for communities of all size.

The Maine campaign uses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as an organizing centerpiece around which local community-based solutions are built.

It is the intent of this report is to showcase the 18 current Cool Cities/Communities in Maine who have signed onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, while sharing the achievements and successes of the Cool Communities and nearly 30 other Maine



*Barbara DiBiase,  
Falmouth  
Sustainability  
Coordinator*

“  
Maine Partners for Cool Communities has a history of collaboration with one another on programs to improve the environment and health of Maine and its people.”



*Left to right: Waterville Farmers Market, Bath Heritage Days Parade, Falmouth Town Council signs the Mayors Agreement*

communities that are currently in the process of becoming Cool while implementing smart energy solutions. We hope this report will encourage other communities in Maine to take the lead in reducing the cost of government while solving global warming and improving the environmental health one Cool Maine Community at a time.

Maine Partners would like to thank the many Cool Team members who have worked tirelessly in their communities to achieve the noteworthy milestones on the journey to becoming Cool. We also are grateful to the Sierra Club's Smart Energy Solutions Committee and the Maine Chapter for providing funds to publish this document.

## Maine Partners

Healthy indoor and outdoor air for all Maine people is the **American Lung Association of Maine's** top advocacy priority. Pollution from our energy and transportation systems is the predominant contributor to unhealthy outdoor air, as well as to global warming. Furthermore, as the state's oldest voluntary public health association, we see the establishment of sustainable, collaborative, community-based health systems as the underpinnings of efforts to advance public health in Maine. Consequently, the Lung Association sees the vital connection between Cool Communities and other community health promotion efforts as

a key means to improve air quality and prevent dangerous climate change.

Since 1892, the **Sierra Club** has been working to protect communities, wild places and the planet. It is the oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization. Members and supporters number more than 1.3 million including the nearly 4,500 in Maine. Our grassroots efforts in Maine along with our partners, enable us to help curb global warming one Maine community at a time.

**Maine Energy Investment Corporation (MEIC)**'s mission is to "mainstream" renewable energy, making cleaner, healthier and homegrown fuel and electricity available to all Mainers. MEIC works as an advisor to the partners, recommending appropriate renewable energy alternatives and other smart energy solutions for communities.

Now in its 70th year, the **Maine Council of Churches** is a statewide leader in the effort to create an economically and environmentally just and sustainable society. The Council's guidance on questions of ethics and public morality is sought by state legislators and the Congressional delegation. MCC's Environmental Justice Program has engaged diverse congregations and their members in energy and local foods initiatives to meet the challenges of global climate change at home and around the world.

// We are happy to support MPCC, which is a great partner for getting the word out about Efficiency Maine's incentives for residents and businesses, as well as our Carbon Free Homes challenge."

—Chris Simpson,  
Director of State Energy  
Programs for the Maine  
Public Utilities  
Commission

Founded in 1961, **Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)** is the medical and public health voice calling for the elimination of the gravest threats to humanity: nuclear weapons, global warming, and toxic chemicals. Both nationally and in Maine, PSR's greatest strength is in mobilizing concerned medical professionals around these urgent societal issues. Through efforts such as its Death by Degrees campaign, PSR has brought global climate change to the local level, with state-specific reports and report updates detailing health threats and supporting local efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

## Advisors

Harry Brown, Maine Interfaith Power & Light

Lynn Cayting, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Quality

Dudley Greeley, Environmental and Economic Sustainability Office, University of Southern Maine

Fred Wilson Horch - F W Horch Sustainable Goods and Supplies

Rick Karg, R. J. Karg Associates, Senior Technical Advisor, Maine Home Performance

Steve Linnell, Clean Communities Director, Greater Portland Council of Governments

Andrew Meyer, Vice President-Sustainability, Safe Handling, Inc.

Kathy Poulin, Maine State Housing Authority

Tim Vrabel, Efficiency Maine

James Wellehan, President, Lamey-Wellehan



*Deborah Erickson-Irons, of York Hospital, highlights the healthcare center's "cool" initiatives to save energy*

**For more information about how to organize or get involved in a Cool Communities / Cities campaign in your community, call the Maine Chapter-Sierra Club office at 207.761.5616. Visit the web at [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org) and [www.coolcities.us](http://www.coolcities.us).**

# ROADMAP TO SMART ENERGY SOLUTION SUCCESSSES



*Mayor  
Wallace Nutting,  
City of Biddeford,  
signing the US  
Mayors Climate  
Protection  
Agreement,  
September 19,  
2006*

Cool Communities in Maine are moving forward to accomplish the goals outlined in the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, striving to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions that ultimately save taxpayer money while reducing energy use. Each community may implement the recommended steps in its own unique fashion ... not necessarily sequentially, following the roadmap below.

- Sign Agreement (18 Maine communities have accomplished this)
- Form an Energy Committee
- Complete Baseline Inventory/Climate Action Plan
- Implement Solutions
- Celebrate Successes

For this report MPCC is highlighting different strategies and achievements that several towns across Maine have implemented under each step. Towns that are working in many areas to reduce emissions and save energy may be written up under just one or two steps. A complete profile of the 44 towns presently working with MPCC and the solutions and strategies they are implementing can be found in the section of this report entitled: “Notes from the Grass-roots.”

## 1. Inventory global warming emissions, set reduction target and develop an Action Plan.

### **Biddeford**

hired a Performance Contractor or ESCO (Energy Service Company) to develop and implement a comprehensive energy efficiency management and mechanical program. This has served as the framework for accurately documenting the beneficial impact on dollar savings and emissions reductions.

### **Kennebunk**

created a 1990 carbon footprint, using the 1990 town annual report as a starting point, in order to make sure that it was feasible to hit the 7% below 1990 level.

### **Portland/Waterville/Falmouth/Belfast**

These four cities have joined ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives), which provides a software program and technical assistance necessary to do a greenhouse gas emissions inventory. The software is user-friendly and provides future and past emissions projections based on most recently available data. To obtain the software and technical assistance, communities join ICLEI. Membership price is based on population and



a sliding scale...for most Maine communities ICLEI membership would be from \$600 to \$1200. MPCC partner, the Sierra Club, has joined nationally with ICLEI to promote the software in the Cool Cities Program.

### Belfast

In Belfast, professional energy specialist Jon Rocheleau did a municipal energy audit on a voluntary basis and completed a 43-page report with recommendations for action. Those recommendations include more efficient lighting in the fire station, highway garage and transfer station; programmable thermostats for the police station, highway garage, and transfer station; contracting with an HVAC specialist to improve heating, ventilation, and air conditioning efficiency (a large portion of the city's electricity costs are related to these systems); and replacing vending machines and refrigerators with energy-efficient appliances. The City is writing a grant for funds to hire an intern to conduct an emissions inventory estimated to involve 150 to 200 hours of research and reporting. The city has budgeted \$20,000 for energy efficiency upgrades recommended in the energy audit.

### Bangor

On January 30, 2008, the council voted unanimously to approve a resolve to adopt a local version of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The Council also approved an energy policy to cut energy costs and reduce the city's carbon footprint by maximizing energy efficiency and using renewable energy sources when available and affordable.

### Eliot

invited the State Energy Program/Efficiency Maine to conduct an energy audit in February 2007, which provided a report with suggested energy-saving solutions for each municipal building. The Eliot Energy Commission has been conducting a cost/benefit analysis on each recommendation and will ask voters for funds to implement changes once the best pay-back projects are identified.

## 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space and establish a goal of creating more compact, walkable communities.

### Bowdoinham

The Bowdoinham Select Board has appointed a Land Use Revision Group (LURG) that is in the process of making recommendations to preserve open space as well as control growth and reduce sprawl. LURG proposed an amended Subdivision Ordinance passed by voters at the June 2007 Town Meeting. The ordinance requires all new subdivisions to designate common open space for at least 25% of the "usable" land.

The town's Biking, Walking & Paddling Group, another committee appointed by the Select Board, is working with a planner to write a transportation vision statement that, among other things, promotes trails and improved "walkability" in the village area.

### Waterville

The City is working with developer Paul Boghossian to revamp the historic Hathaway shirt factory into a new urban community center that will increase downtown population density. Waterville Main Street and others have installed new street lighting in the downtown to help make it more walkable at all times of day.

## 3. Promote transportation alternatives such as incentives for using public transportation and carpooling, more bicycle trails, cleaner fuel use and commute trip reduction programs.

The reintroduction of passenger train service to Boston, the Ocean Gateway marine passenger terminal and the METRO's improved local bus transit are indications of Portland's commitment to inter-modal transportation. Currently, plans for expanding bus service to outlying towns and a commitment to establish



*Portland's CNG (Condensed Natural Gas) buses are part of a regional strategy to promote public intermodal transportation.*



## PORTLAND GREEN STREETS

*The last Friday of every month, Green Streeters leave their cars at home and:*

- *Wear Green*
- *Get Around Green (walk, bike, bus, carpool, etc.)*
- *Celebrate! (with free coffee, discounts, and raffle*

bicycle routes and new bike racks to encourage human-powered transportation are signs of progress.

### Portland

Portland Green Streets is a grassroots initiative comprised of people who commute through, live, work, study, or send children to school in Greater Portland. For environmental, health, safety, transportation efficiency, and community-building reasons, the organizers created Green Streets Day, which occurs on the last Friday of every month. On these days, they encourage people throughout Greater Portland to “Wear Green and Commute Green” (walk, bike, bus, carpool, telecommute). (For more information, check out the Cool Kit at [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org) or visit [www.portlandgreenstreets.org](http://www.portlandgreenstreets.org).)

### Lewiston-Auburn

In the Lewiston-Auburn area participating retailers will pay a customer’s way home when he or she rides citylink and uses “Bus ‘n Buy.” It’s easy to do. A cashier or customer service agent at any participating business can validate a bus transfer ticket. When the passenger returns home by bus, the validated ticket is good for a free ride.

### Kittery to South Portland

A Coastal Trail between Kittery and South Portland, known as the Eastern Trail, is under development by the Saco-based Eastern Trail Alliance group. The eastern end of the route, which runs from Kittery to South Portland, is 55 miles long. A total of 42 miles of the route between South Berwick and South Portland will include an abandoned railroad bed.

### Waterville

In Waterville Colby College students are collaborating with Waterville Main Street to make free bikes available for use by students and to increase the number of bike racks on campus and at multiple sites downtown. In this community the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program runs a shuttle bus Monday

through Friday, 52 weeks a year, to promote public transportation use.

## 4. Increase use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, introducing solar and wind power and investing in “green tags.”

### Saco

has installed a 100-foot wind turbine which will power the new Downeaster train station the city is building to green LEED standards. This mid-sized turbine is expected to generate 90 kWh/year. The city expects to install a similar turbine at the Middle School in the near future. Saco installed its first wind generator and solar panels to provide power to the wastewater treatment plant.

### Kittery’s Town Council

approved the purchase of a wind turbine that would be sited at the transfer station and generate between 80,000 and 100,000 kWh annually.

### Yarmouth

has installed solar panels on its high school, thanks to a grant written by some students.

### Kennebunk/Kennebunkport

The Middle School of the Kennebunks unveiled its new photovoltaic solar panels in 2007. The 33 panels, more for demonstration and education, can produce about 10 kilowatts a day. Students, teachers and community members can visit the school’s web site, [www.msk.msad71.net](http://www.msk.msad71.net), and click on the “MSK Solar” link to view data showing energy production and carbon-dioxide reduction. The school received a grant from the state Public Utilities Commission for \$37,000 and raised \$10,000 locally for the project.

### Eliot

Eliot has developed ordinances for solar and small wind power projects that set clear guide-

lines for town officers to follow as residents propose to install these sources of alternative power on their property.

## 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting, building code improvements and urging employees to conserve energy and save money.

### Yarmouth

schools saved \$60,000 by adopting recommendations made by consultants a year ago to upgrade the energy efficiency of light fixtures, boilers, room sensors, unit ventilators, and heating systems. For example, in the Middle School all older light fixtures were replaced and sensors were added to ensure lights are turned off when rooms aren't occupied.

### Rockland

has begun to upgrade building efficiency, installing more energy efficient lighting throughout its municipal buildings.

### Waterville

Several energy efficiency measures have been taken in Waterville including, but not limited to: traffic signals all upgraded to LED's; insulated doors and windows on a few municipal buildings such as the public works building; lighting upgrades in the public works building and town hall; and T-8, electronic ballasts, and T5 high output fluorescents with motion sensors installed in school buildings.

### Lewiston

installed a new boiler at the Dingley administration building. School vending machines are now controlled by "energy misers," which turn off the lights in the machines when no one is in the buildings.

### Freeport

In Freeport a municipal energy-savings policy directs employees to turn off lights when leaving rooms, program thermostats to control heat use, etc.

## 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for the Community.

### Saco

replaced all refrigerators in municipal buildings with Energy Star rated appliances from local vendors. Payback time is expected to be 3.5 years.

### Waterville

is currently in the process of drafting a comprehensive municipal building energy policy, which includes the purchase of only Energy Star equipment and appliances.

### Falmouth

currently has Energy Star appliances used by all departments.

## 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program or a similar system.

### Portland

Portland's East End Community School was awarded a "Silver" LEED rating by the U.S. Green Building Council. The school has the first "green roof" in Maine, composed of a soil medium and alpine plants which absorb and filter rainwater, provide insulation to the building, and extend the life of the roof beneath. The classrooms employ state-of-the-art day lighting techniques coupled with lighting controls to save energy. The building's high level of energy efficiency earned a maximum (\$120,000) grant from Maine's "High Performance Schools" Program.



*Exhibitors filled the gymnasium with examples of renewable energy products and services available to homeowners at the recent Kennebunk-Kennebunkport EXPO*



*Hannah Mitchell and Bridget Rhinehart, who are from York High School and are part of the Green Gang, which started the Green Building ballot item*

## Biddeford

Biddeford's (LEED Certification) Middle School, designed as a modern educational facility, is orientated on the 50-acre site to provide an abundance of natural light, reducing the need for artificial light in many spaces. The TPO roof membrane is energy efficient. Its light surface reflects the sunlight, reducing building cooling costs in the future.

## York

York Selectmen unanimously approved updated language for a new construction building code, which would require all new structures over 5000 square feet to be built to Silver LEED certification. The Green Building Code will go to a public hearing in late February and, if passed, then be placed on a ballot for town approval. A new town hall is currently on the drawing boards and its design/construction would be impacted by this new code if enacted.

**8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to biodiesel.**

## Saco

Saco City Council voted to purchase the Zenn (zero emissions, no noise) electric car from Maine Electric Vehicles in Falmouth for \$10,700, a discount of almost 20 percent from the list price. The rechargeable two-seater now in use by the Saco building inspection office for in-town travel is completely battery-powered and nearly silent. It has a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour and is well suited for start-and-go driving within the city. The car has a range of 50 miles between charges. The car will replace one of the retired police cruisers that the city's building inspectors previously used for local travel.

## Freeport

Freeport has been a leader in reducing vehicle emissions from the Freeport School Department school buses and promoting no-idling in the school yards. Freeport's Clean Air Project campaign was the first community-based social marketing program in Maine to raise public awareness of the health and adverse air quality impacts from idling vehicles. The goal of the Clean Air Project was to foster stewardship (no-idling) behaviors throughout the community, beginning in the schoolyard. Freeport's success has led to a collaborative effort between the Maine DOT, DEP, the Turnpike Authority, and Maine Partners for the placement of no-idling signs and educational materials at Maine State Ferry terminals and Park and Ride lots statewide.

## Waterville

Waterville School buses currently run on a 30% biodiesel mix. The City is in the process of considering a switch to a biodiesel mix for public works, fire, and Parks and Recreation vehicles that currently run on petroleum diesel.

## Lewiston

Lewiston's new citywide bus transportation for high school students reduces the number of vehicles and carbon emissions outside the school.

## Rockland

Rockland has put some of its police officers on bicycles and purchased motorcycles for others to patrol the city in warmer seasons.

## Portland

In May 2006, Greater Portland METRO opened Maine's first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling infrastructure and introduced its 13 new CNG transit buses and three school buses operated by the Portland School District. This \$6.5 million project was partially funded through the US. Department of Energy and with state and local matches. State legislation has been enacted to provide incentives for the purchase and operation of Clean Fuel Vehicles.



Businesses, municipalities, and individuals can now save money when adding clean, alternative fuel vehicles to their fleet.

## 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production.

### Bath

Bath replaced valves variable frequency drives to optimize pump operations with an annual energy saving of over 375 thousand kWh with a total annual savings of \$30,074 and a simple pay back of 2 years. With the help of an Efficiency Maine incentive grant, the payback will be 1.5 years.

### Portland

Portland Water District has retrofitted existing fixtures with more efficient systems with an annual energy savings of 149,633 kWh with a total annual savings of over \$14000. With an Efficiency Maine incentive of \$13,597, the payback time will be 1.5 years.

## 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations in the community.

Bath, Bowdoinham, Brunswick, Boothbay Region, Falmouth, Kennebunk, Portland, Yarmouth, Saco, and Scarborough lead the state in successful recycling programs.

## 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb Carbon Dioxide.

### Portland

has systematically inventoried and expanded Portland's urban forest and street tree collection through the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department. Partnerships with private groups and individuals have helped to increase tree plantings and stewardship.

### Waterville

planted dozens of trees in the downtown to help increase shading and absorb CO2.

Many Maine Cool Communities belong to the Tree City USA® program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. The following Cool Communities belong: Auburn, Bangor, Bath, Kennebunkport, Lewiston, Portland, South Portland, Waterville and Yarmouth.

Qualifying criteria for TREE CITY USA are: a tree board or department; a community tree ordinance; a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita; and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

## 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.

### Eliot

created a flyer, "10 ways to save \$100," which was distributed at town meeting in 2007. The Energy Committee also developed a resource kit of home energy information and tools available through the town library, and hosted a biodiesel work session for fleet managers/ facilities managers for local school systems.

### Lewiston-Auburn

A University of Southern Maine/Lewiston-Auburn Campus intern has connected the Maine Energy Education Project (MEEP) with Lewiston teachers and scheduled classroom energy/climate change programs. She has helped to present a Carbon Footprint workshop to AVEC (gifted and talented program) high students from five area high schools and developed and presented a Carbon Footprint workshop and related subjects to 5th graders. She gave them homework to do a home lighting survey and to identify opportunities for turning off lights at home.



*Maine Electric Vehicles (EV) of Falmouth at the Energy EXPO in South Berwick*

*Yellow is the Green Way to get to school! In Maine, "school buses are underutilized while roads are clogged with teenagers driving to school. If more high school students used the school bus there would be environmental, safety and reduced traffic congestion benefits for the entire community."*

*—NAPT Executive Director  
Michael Marti  
www.napt.org*



*Left to right: Kennebunk Town Council signs the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; more than 50 KEYS area resident gathered to share their “cool” successes; Jim Wellehan—a business champion for Cool Lewiston/Auburn. .*

The Kids and Transportation Program teaches students and teachers about how transportation choices impact air quality, land use, economics and communities. This program has served over 30,000 students, delivering thousands of presentations primarily in areas south of Bangor, with the exception of York County. The sister program, Kids and Transportation of York County, recently co-sponsored a successful Lean and Green Challenge at the Sanford Junior High School, which gave students an opportunity to explore the science of climate change.

### Bath

In Bath, thousands of people lined the streets at Heritage Days and witnessed the Cool Bath Team win the grand prize for its human-powered float/boat that creatively provided messages about global warming and solutions. The “crew” used the parade theme of “400 Years of Ship-building” to get out the message about energy savings and alternative energy solutions to “sail into the future.”

### Maine Partners for Cool Communities provides:

- Networking opportunities and contact information for all Cool Teams
- Technical assistance through web casting and conference calls with experts.
- Film and speaker series and discussion materials for local communities (no charge)
- Tool Kits of solutions and services

# COOLING MAINE COMMUNITIES



*Cool Communities are turning to alternate fuels for home heating.*

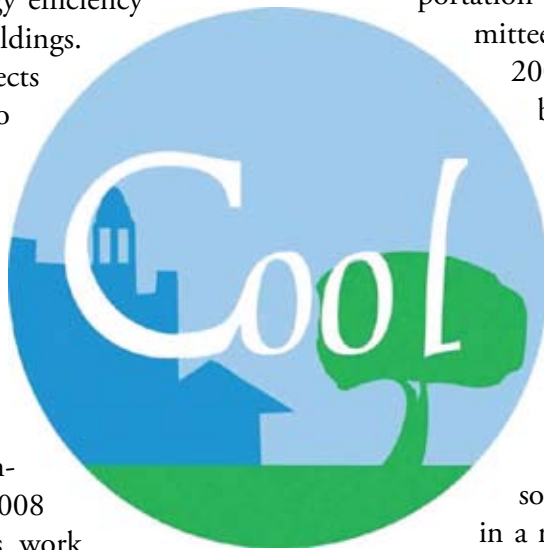
## Arrowsic

A neighboring community to Bath, some town residents attended Cool Bath meetings and began to investigate energy efficiency in the municipal buildings. Future activities/projects will most likely be tied to Bath initiatives.

## C Auburn (See Lewiston/Auburn)

### I/A Augusta

An ICLEI emissions assessment/baseline was completed in 2000/2001. The community is targeted in 2008 for Cool Communities work through MPCC contacts.



## CT I/A Bangor and nearby Communities

With support from Maine Partners for Cool Communities, the Cool Bangor Coalition of local citizens asked the Bangor City Council to sign the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and become a Cool City. MPCC and the Cool Coalition held a meeting with Wendy Warren, City Environmental Coordinator, at which she suggested the team organize projects in the community that complement City energy policies, such as no-idling and other transportation measures.

The Cool Bangor Coalition has about 8 active

members and a much larger list of those interested in curbing global warming. Nearly 20 Cool members attended the Council's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee meeting in November 2007 at which MPCC members presented Cool Communities information and received great support. Committee members encouraged MPCC to meet with Penobscot County Commissioners to take the Cool Communities program countywide. School personnel have expressed interest in a no-idling campaign for the region with possible Community-Based Social Marketing/No-Idling workshop this spring.

MPCC has met with the Cool Team and representatives of the Eastern Maine Peace & Justice Center to discuss adding a Green EXPO to the popular annual HOPE festival on Earth Day Saturday/April 19, 2008. MPCC provided contact information for potential energy business exhibitors for the EXPO.

The Bangor City Council passed a resolve on January 28, 2008, creating a local action plan, which mirrors the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. As a first step toward devel-

## Key to Cool Activities / Involvement

**C** Cool Community signed onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (15 as of 2/8/08)

**CT** Active Cool Team/ Sustainability Group

**TEC** Active Energy / Sustainability Committee sanctioned by Town

**I/An** Inventory/audit completed or underway

**Y** Youth Leadership



*Cool Bath members at the 2007 Step It Up Event, with Cool advocate State Senator Paula Benoit on the far right.*

oping a comprehensive environmental strategy, the City will implement a series of policies and programs designed to reduce its use of all forms of energy, particularly those from non-renewable sources such as fossil fuels.

### **Bar Harbor**

The Bar Harbor Conservation Committee and Sierra Club member, Gary Friedmann invited MPCC to share the Cool Communities mission and goals at a well-attended meeting, which included the Acadia National Park planner and residents of Mount Desert Island and the Cranberry Isles. College of the Atlantic President David Hale also shared COA's energy-saving achievements and plans. MPCC will follow up in 2008.

### **CT TEC Bath**

The Cool Bath Team provided a presentation to the City Council in July 2007. The Council then appointed an Energy Committee composed of municipal staff, Council members and Cool Team members. This municipal team meets every two weeks, initially studying how to proceed with an audit/inventory. The group looked at ESCOs (Energy Service Companies), ICLEI software, and consulted with Saco City Councilor and energy team member Eric Cote, Falmouth energy intern Barbara DiBiase, and Waterville intern Steve Erario, who completed that city's emissions inventory in the summer 2007.

State Senator and local small business owner Paula Benoit has regularly attended Cool Bath meetings. She has distributed information packets and Cool buttons everywhere.

The YMCA Healthy Kids day on April 14, also Step It Up Day, was a huge success. Cool Bath presented a no-idling campaign to those attending the festivities. YMCA directors talked extensively with the Cool Bath Team about a solar hot water system for the Y. Talks continue on this.

A film/speaker series was held in spring and fall 2007, which included presentations by Da-

vid Kyle of Efficiency Maine; Guy Marsden, Woolwich energy efficiency and renewable energy expert, and Jim Wellehan, president of Lamey-Wellehan.

During the summer 2007, the Cool Bath team created a fossil-fuel free float for the annual Heritage Day Parade that showcased solutions to global warming. The float won the grand prize. During the festivities that Saturday, Cool Bath set up a very successful fundraising dunk tank (Cool ME off/take the plunge for Global Warming), and staffed a table with information and collected signatures on a petition to the City Council to join the Cool Communities movement, based on a similar petition drawn up by Cool Falmouth.

The Cool Bath Community Team is developing a strategic plan for 2008 that includes a no-idling campaign, and work with schools and hospitals, small businesses, the YMCA, and others. They are supporting green builder Mike White in his campaign to pass legislation on feed-in-tariffs, which would stimulate the renewable energy economy.

During the winter Bath area Farmers Market at Bath United Church of Christ, Cool Bath is promoting local foods as a global warming solution, showing short films on the topic during market hours. The Cool Bath team is also tabling on no-idling and marketing compost bins available for sale through the local landfill and state.

Members of the Cool Bath Team have filmed an energy audit at Coastal Journal editor Gina Hamilton's home for use on Community TV and created a PSA for Community TV. The audit film will be available to other Community TV stations across Maine when it has been completed.

A Cool Bath member is co-teaching an Adult Ed program this winter on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

### **CTEC I/A Belfast**

After the city signed onto the US Mayors Cli-



mate Protection Agreement, the mayor appointed citizens to a sustainability committee. An energy expert volunteered, has completed an energy audit, and is preparing a grant to underwrite hiring an intern to complete an emissions inventory for the city. With the Belfast Food Co-op, the Unitarian Universalist Church Green Sanctuary committee and others, MPCC partner, Maine Council of Churches, has provided information and organized programs on local foods initiatives.

### **C I/A Biddeford**

Brian Phinney, Environmental Code Officer, has implemented a number of energy savings in municipal offices. The city engaged an energy performance contractor and has implemented many of the suggested energy savings recommendations. A summary of Biddeford's accomplishments is available on the [www.cool-maine.org](http://www.cool-maine.org) website under the Cool Kit.

### **CT Boothbay Region**

Cool Boothbay members came together after a Cool Community presentation in the fall 2006. In January 2007 a presentation on Solar on Schools was given at Boothbay High School by MPCC's MEIC partner Erika Morgan. In April 2007 Ray Sirois (a trained presenter for Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* slideshow), Andy Burt (MPCC), Bigelow Laboratory scientist Mike Sieracki and Cool Boothbay Team member and local business owner Laurie Knowlton did a presentation for the Rotary Club. Cool Boothbay Region volunteers worked with school personnel on a no-idling campaign and CFL project at the schools and strategized around meeting with Town Managers/town selectmen. With press coverage, MPCC volunteers (Elizabeth Derecktor and others) and school personnel installed no-idling signs at all schools and no-idling pledge cards were sent to all parents at Boothbay Elementary School. Volunteers are approaching the Y and businesses about a community no-idling campaign. One Cool Team member wrote testimony for no-idling legislation introduced in the 2008 legislative session. Parents

interested in Cool Communities are working with the high school to build a greenhouse and are active in the Farm to Schools program.

### **CT I/A Bowdoinham**

The active Cool Team invited MPCC to present the Cool Communities program to the Selectmen in September 2007. Several Cool Team/Sustainability Committee members were present to hear the inspiring response from the Town Manager and a very supportive group of Selectmen. The Town Manager was sent MPCC's no-idling toolkit and information about the local foods campaign initiative for distribution to Selectmen. There is an active Sustainability Committee working on energy and climate change issues such as transportation, recycling, local foods, and land use. An Energy Service Contractor (ESCO) has performed an energy audit and recommended energy savings for the local schools.

### **Bridgton**

Individuals involved in climate actions participated in the Step It Up April campaign. The Rotary Club is interested in a MPCC presentation in early 2008 and residents are helping to set this up. There is talk of forming a Cool Team.

### **CT TEC Brunswick**

Cool Brunswick shared the MPCC powerpoint presentation with the Town Council. On May 23, 2007 the town passed a resolution to sign the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. During Earth Week some MPCC films were used for a film series at the Frontier Café. Brunswick is expanding its Recycling Committee to include Sustainability. A Sustainable Brunswick group and ecumenical collaboration among area congregations are focused on educational presentations (films & speakers) for the community. The Sustainability committee celebrated its successes in the fall of 2007, and made plans for strengthening their efforts in 2008. The Unitarian Universalist church has a new climate action committee



*Maine's first Cool City Mayors are honored by Sierra Club—Maine Chapter*



*“We hope that our efforts as a Cool Community will not only help us become more sustainable, but will act as an example for other communities along the Maine coast and around the world.”*

*—Amanda Ravenhill*

that is exploring alternative energy solutions for their church building. Some of their members participate in other local secular sustainability/Cool initiatives.

### **Camden**

In the spring 2007, MPCC co-sponsored with the Midcoast Peace and Justice Center and the Ashwood Waldorf School *An Inconvenient Truth* slide show by Al Gore-trained presenter Paul Kando, of the Midcoast Green Collaborative. There are several residents in the area interested in Cool Communities' initiatives. MPCC plans further outreach in 2008.

### **TEC I/A Cape Elizabeth**

An Alternative Energy Committee made up of citizens and a member from the Town Council and School Board has been formed. A Kennedy School of Public Policy/Harvard intern has been engaged to perform an analysis of possible renewable alternatives, which will then be presented to the Council. The committee has observed that the average cost of energy usage for Cape Elizabeth's municipal buildings is approximately \$900,000 per year. It is assumed that energy efficiency measures will save 20% of that cost so there would be an annual savings of \$180,000. <http://www.capeelizabeth.com/aAltEnergy.html#minutes>

### **CT Cranberry Isles**

The community has launched a Sustainability Initiative as a forum to discuss ideas and promote projects to ensure a healthy future for the town. The Initiative proposes that the Cranberry Isles sign onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement at the 2008 Town Meeting, thus becoming one of the smallest “Cool Communities” in the nation. We will conduct a town-wide energy audit to provide guidance in focusing our efforts and measuring our impact. The Initiative is also promoting an “alternative energy” feasibility study concerning the local production of clean and renewable energy. The Initiative intends to have a pilot project operating within a year and, ultimately, to meet a significant percentage of the town's

energy needs with renewable resources. The Cranberry Isles Sustainability Initiative aims to be a resource for understanding how to reduce one's impact by growing more food locally, buying energy efficient appliances, reducing and reusing before recycling, insulating and tightening homes, signing up for clean power, driving energy efficient vehicles, and other smart solutions.

### **Cumberland**

MPCC has received inquiries from interested citizens and active congregations. There are preliminary plans to meet with the Town Council. A Sierra Club member has been doing a Cumberland Carbon Footprint and will continue work on it in 2008.

### **CT I/A Y Damariscotta**

Midcoast Green Collaborative is active in the area with Green EXPO planned again for Earth Day, April 18-19 at the Y. MPCC had a table at the EXPO in 2007. MPCC did a presentation to Lincoln Academy climate change students planning to do a no-idling campaign. Faculty advisor Charlie Scimone attended a MPCC workshop on Community-based Social Marketing and No-Idling. MPCC is co-sponsoring a film series with Midcoast Friends Meeting, beginning with *The Next Industrial Revolution* on Nov. 27. The local schools have been doing energy audits with help from Paul Kando, an energy expert, certified energy auditor, and volunteer presenter trained by Al Gore. Paul is one of the organizers of the Midcoast Green Collaborative. He has received a grant to obtain energy audit equipment.

### **Edgecomb**

Area churches and schools have shown interest in local foods and energy projects. MPCC has done presentations on these topics to two churches in the area. Midcoast Unitarian Universalist fellowship, which meets for worship in the Town Hall, presented a proposal to the Selectmen (which was accepted) to co-pay for an energy audit of the historic building. Paul Kando will perform the audit this spring. One

business has put up a no-idling sign and is interested in promoting a no-idling campaign for the schools in the community. There is a very preliminary discussion about putting a PV solar system on the elementary school with curriculum. MPCC partner MEIC is following up on this possibility.

## CT TEC I/A Eliot (See KEYS Region)

### CT I/A Falmouth

Members of the Cool Falmouth Team are working together following the Town Council sign-on to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. To help the town manager with audits and inventory Barbara DiBiase, USM intern, came aboard to use ICLEI software (purchased by the town) and to develop an action plan. (In February 2008 Barbara was hired to fill the new position of Sustainability Coordinator for Falmouth for 10 hours per week). Claudia King is the lead volunteer – organizing the Cool Team. They have a website ([http://www.coolfalmouthme.org/Cool\\_Falmouth/Cool\\_Falmouth.html](http://www.coolfalmouthme.org/Cool_Falmouth/Cool_Falmouth.html)). The Falmouth public library sponsored series of films/speakers and discussions during the spring and fall 2007 and continues in 2008. Cool Communities' material, including Efficiency Maine and PUC's Leap Forward/ 10,000 Carbon-Free Homes project, is displayed and distributed at these events.

### Farmington

MPCC partner contacts and university activists have expressed interest in Cool Community initiatives including no-idling and local foods solutions. MPCC will actively engage the community in 2008.

### Freeport

A model community for no-idling efforts since 2005, Freeport has had several film/speakers focused on energy topics, but no one group has emerged to take the lead to make Freeport a Cool Community. School personnel, the Downtown Merchants Assn., the Conservation Committee, and prominent community

leaders have expressed an interest in energy savings solutions. The town has implemented a municipal energy-savings policy, which directs municipal employees to turn off lights, program thermostats, and practice other conservation measures. No-idling signs already up at all schools will soon be installed in the public parking lots. There have been discussions with LL Bean regarding in-town bus service using Island Explorer propane buses when they are not in use in Bar Harbor.

Following MPCC's request for Freeport to become a Cool Community, the town adopted a Municipal Building Energy Policy. During the development of the Policy, a number of items were identified to reduce the use of energy. These items included repair of the heating control systems in both the Public Safety Building and the Community Library. The approximate cost savings from these improvements is \$320 for 2400 KW-hrs per year, and is approximately equivalent to 3,700 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. The Town had previously converted most of the buildings' incandescent light bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs; this effort typically saves 80 percent of the energy used per bulb.

In addition, the lighting system in the Public Safety garage was replaced with a new system of high-efficiency fluorescent fixtures. The approximate cost savings from these improvements is \$1,620 for 12,000 kWh per year, and is approximately equivalent to 18,600 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. The cost of the project has a simple payback period of 4.0 years. The town received a financial incentive of \$1,500 from the Efficiency Maine program for the project.

Implementation of the Town Building Energy Policy is expected to create further energy savings, and the savings will continue into the future.

### Hallowell

MPCC partner, American Lung Association of Maine Executive Director Ed Miller (Hallowell resident) has held preliminary discussions



*Falmouth celebrates Green Ribbon Commission announcement and first anniversary of Cool Falmouth.*



*The Kennebunks Middle School Lights up with Solar. The community demonstration, photovoltaic array, was made possible with contributions from local individuals and organizations and a grant from the PUC.*

*Photo by Ellen Dooley*

to pull together a local Cool Team. MPCC will follow up in 2008.

### **CCTEC I/A Y Kennebunk**

The community signed onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (USMCP) after a presentation by local concerned citizens (Sustainable Energy Alliance). A group of town employees and citizens continue to meet and discuss ways to meet the USMCP goals. MPCC partners continue to organize films/speakers at the Unitarian Universalist Church every fall and spring with folks interested in Cool Communities. About 400 people attended the *An Inconvenient Truth* film in summer 2006, so there's lots of interest in the area.

In spring 2007 nearly 60 people attended *The Global Banquet* film on local foods/globalization, including two CSA farmers who provided information about their farms. An "Energy Advisory Team" made up of parents and other community members meets monthly with MSAD 71's Operations Director, Tom Maines, to find clean, cost-effective energy solutions for the schools. Jennifer Niese & Sassy Smallman, members of the Advisory Team, worked successfully to get a Maine PUC grant and local matching funds for a new 5.6 kW photovoltaic array at the Middle School of the Kennebunks.

### **\*Kennebunkport**

Residents are working with the Kennebunk group above.

### **KEYS Region (Kittery, Eliot, York, South Berwick)**

Supported by a grant from the PUC, MPCC met with community leaders to assess needs and compile resources. MPCC organized a forum at Kittery Trading Post in the fall 2007. The event was attended by more than 50 community leaders. Kurt Adams, PUC Chair, was the featured speaker. MPCC organized a Smart Energy EXPO for Nov. 4 at Marshwood High School in South Berwick, where 30+ businesses and services had booths/tables, and about 400 people attended the exhibits, work-

shops, and film festival. High school students from the Recycling Club actively participated. MPCC created a Cool Kit toolkit of state and community resources, available for download at the MPCC website [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org). MPCC convened a public meeting/celebration in early February for KEYS communities to share 2007 successes and 2008 plans. Each community has a Cool Team/Energy Committee working on solutions.

The Kittery Cool Team presented before Town Council and encouraged town-sanctioned committee to go forward with purchase/installation of wind generator. Other energy initiatives will be launched in 2008 through the efforts of an appointed committee.

An Eliot Active Energy Committee/Cool Team is working on a strategic climate action/smart energy plan. An energy backpack of resources and energy testing equipment was created and is available at the library. Ordinance amendments to facilitate siting residential wind and solar energy systems have been introduced.

The York Cool Team presented to the Town Council and is working on forming an energy committee. A Green Building Code was presented to the town council and was unanimously approved for a public hearing before placement on the town ballot.

Several activists from South Berwick attended the February meeting/celebration and will meet in early 2008 to get Cool initiatives launched there.

### **CCTEC Kittery(See KEYS Region)**

### **CCT Lewiston/ CCT Auburn**

An EPA grant was awarded to MPCC to work with DEP/MEEP in schools on energy efficiency and alternative transportation initiatives, and to prepare a matrix of leaders/community interests, activities, and resources, and a Cool Kit (like the KEYS kit).

MPCC is working with the Engage Maine project and presented to about 45 local citi-



zens in the spring 2007. Vi Raymond from the Blueprint Project helped with campaign planning and how to approach mayors. Jim Wellehan, president of Lamey-Wellehan, has helped by calling and presenting before the mayors and city councils. Both mayors have signed onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, with Auburn City Council endorsing and Lewiston still to endorse. Jim Wellehan and Andy Meyer, of Safe Handling, Inc., spoke on Cool Communities/Governor's Carbon Challenge to the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce breakfast, with 200 + attendees. MPCC's Andy Burt and Jim Wellehan were guests on "Answers from Augusta" community TV program co-hosted by State Representatives Margaret Craven and Dick Wagner. The group as a whole is interested in better recycling practices/policies and solutions, as well as transportation/idling problems/solutions. Vi organized volunteers to be at farmers markets promoting the 2% climate action solution during the summer and early fall 2007. With Cool Falmouth intern Barbara DiBiase, Jim Lysen attended the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund retreat for community activists in September. A film/speaker series has been organized for spring 2008.

### **CTTEC Montville**

The Town of Montville voted to establish an Energy and Climate Committee at its annual town meeting in March 2007 with a small budget of \$600.

The committee began its work by assembling records of electricity and fuel use for town-owned buildings and vehicles and discussed ways to reduce energy use. A borrowed blower door and infrared camera were able to locate points of heat loss in the town office, garage, and fire station. The Board of Selectors has begun to get estimates for the work required to reduce these losses.

The committee asked and the Board of Selectors agreed to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. This agreement urges all levels of government to strive to meet or

exceed the goal of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7% below the 1990 levels by 2012.

The committee has discussed ways to encourage individual households to evaluate their petroleum energy use and ways to assist in lowering it. We are considering ways to involve students in this process. Another idea is to have an Energy and Climate Committee page on a Town of Montville website. This web page could host a forum where people could exchange ideas and tips. It could provide a bulletin board for ride sharing.

### **Naples**

Individuals have contacted MPCC. MPCC will follow up in 2008.

### **Ogunquit**

Members of the Conservation Committee requested materials from MPCC. Several town businesses have pursued "greening/cooling" activities. MPCC will follow up in 2008.

### **Phippsburg**

A local minister and others are interested in creating a Cool Team. The minister participates in Cool Bath. The United Church of Christ is involved in local foods initiatives. Members of the Conservation Commission/members of the church are interested in a no-idling campaign. A Conservation Commission member has requested MPCC do a presentation on Cool Communities/Cool Cash for the town selectmen in 2008.

### **CTEC I/A Portland**

MPCC has provided Cool presentations in several venues in neighborhoods. Partners are working on implementing solutions in churches, neighborhood groups, etc. MPCC promoted local foods/2% solution with MOFGA and Slow Food Portland at a CSA Fair in early February 2008. Kathy Roberts, Sierra Club Cool Cities volunteer is participating on the City-sanctioned committee that has completed a draft Sustainability Plan. City departments



*Clockwise from lower left: Kitsy Winthrop, Mary Neal, Lindy Gifford, Eliza Cole.*



*Liz Seidel, Cool Team, South Portland, congratulates Mayor Claude Morgan for signing the city onto the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. Congressman Tom Allen looks on in approval.*

have created and implemented energy-saving policies, such as no-idling.

### **CT TEC Rockland**

Bill Pearce and Norma Athearn, Cool Team members have been appointed to the city-sanctioned Energy Efficiency Review Committee, which is headed up by one of the councilors. MPCC presented Cool Communities information at a council workshop in April 2007, and expects to provide some guidance for the committee. (The Energy Committee has been stalled around the idling trains issue and Council elections, but should get “back on track” early in 2008.) A very active Green Sanctuary committee at First Universalist Church is a model for linking local farms and fishing co-ops to churches. Church members were advocates for Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) legislation, enacted spring 2007.

### **CTEC I/A Saco**

The City of Saco is MPCC’s “poster child,” having taken the lead on energy efficiency and alternative energy projects throughout the municipality. Travis, wastewater treatment staff person, is the contact person to update the Saco profile on [www.coolcities.us](http://www.coolcities.us) and [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org). Action alerts were sent to MPCC constituents and contacts from Earth Day events to remind citizens to attend meetings or write/call their councilors to support the Energy Committee’s work. MPCC’s Andy Burt, with Ray Sirois, (trained presenter for *An Inconvenient Truth* slideshow) provided a presentation to the Saco UCC church where local foods has been a focus. A respiratory therapist and members of a Breathe Easy group attended the presentation and indicated an interest in a no-idling campaign. Town Council and head of their energy Committee, Eric Cote continues to be available to other Cool Community activists as an advisor. A. Burt joined Saco Mayor Johnson on a workshop panel on Cool Cities/Neighborhoods at the GrowSmart Maine conference in October. Saco is putting up another wind generator and a LEED-certified train station.

### **Sanford**

MPCC partners Joan Saxe and Andy Burt met with Middle School officials interested in a no-idling campaign after their successful school-based Lean and Green alternative transportation project in spring 2007. Saxe spoke with the Economic Development Committee about Cool Communities’ work. There will be follow-up in 2008.

### **Y Scarborough**

High school students have done a no-idling project at the school. The Superintendent of Schools has directed the district to be a no-idling zone. The policy will go into effect district-wide in the fall 2008. The high school students have been in touch with MPCC to organize a Cool Scarborough team. MPCC will follow up with students in 2008.

Sierra Club members requested a meeting to organize a Cool Scarborough team to work with the community and municipality in 2008.

### **South Berwick (See KEYS Region)**

### **CT South Portland**

Kathy Robertson, Sierra Club member, has helped the Cool South Portland Team get organized. The group has been meeting regularly since June 2007. The mayor signed the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement in early September 2007. MPCC helped to organize a November press conference with U.S. Representative Tom Allen to congratulate the mayor/community as the mayor received a plaque recognizing the sign-on. The Cool Team is involved in local outreach to educate the public including a successful film series and a business roundtable following the film *The Next Industrial Revolution*. Cool South Portland’s current initiatives include introducing the Maine Energy Education Program (MEEP) to South Portland schools, seeking to reduce auto emissions on the Casco Bay Bridge during rush-hour openings and exploring funding for home energy audits.

## Topsham

MPCC has met with residents and some town personnel. Some residents are organizing a film and speaker series for spring 2008, when it is also expected that MPCC will provide a presentation to the Town Council.

## C/A Waterville

Steve Erario, intern, addressed a monthly Cool Team conference call with tips on how to get and compile information for an emissions baseline inventory using ICLEI software. His complete informative report on Waterville can be found at [www.coolmaine.org](http://www.coolmaine.org). In 2008, MPCC expects to partner on education and outreach initiatives to the community and schools with Colby College student interns and Waterville Main Street (whose mission is “to advance efforts to develop the Downtown area into a thriving, energetic, commercial, social, cultural and entertainment destination”).

## Westbrook

MPCC has had discussions with neighborhood associations and several local groups (i.e., Westbrook Environmental Improvements Corporation... WEIC). WEIC's purpose is retaining and protecting natural, scenic, or open space values of real property; protecting natural resources; maintaining or enhancing air or water quality while facilitating, fostering, encouraging and assisting the physical location, settlement, or resettlement of commercial, industrial, manufacturing, and other business enterprises within the City of Westbrook. In 2008 MPCC intends to collaborate with members of WEIC on efforts to sign Westbrook as a Cool Community.

## Windham

MPCC provided a power point presentation about Cool Communities and smart energy solutions to the Rotary Club in January 2008. Several citizens from the area are interested in forming a Cool Team and linking to the municipal government. A letter has been written to the Town Manager to inquire about a meeting/presentation in early 2008. MPCC will organize in this community during 2008.

## Woolwich

Woolwich residents are active in Cool Bath and Cool Brunswick initiatives. Several residents are interested in the potential for wind power in the area. MPCC will follow up in 2008.

## CCTECYarmouth

High School students talked to MPCC and asked for help to get the community signed on as a Cool City/Community. Students participated in a local Portland TV program with DEP Commissioner David Littell, State Senator Phil Bartlett, former Portland mayor Jim Cohen and Maine Cool Communities Partner Joan Saxe (Sierra Club). The program aired every week on Fridays in April. MPCC recognized the Town Manager and Council Chair with a certificate for signing onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The town is considering how to approach emissions reductions. Students had a booth at the Clam Festival and gave away CFLs. High school students wrote a successful grant to put solar panels on the school.

Yarmouth has established an Energy Conservation Committee consisting of seven members, an associate member, and three high school students. The chair is Melissa Walsh Innes. Town Councilor Mark Hough acts as liaison to the Town Council. The Town Engineer is assigned to work with the Committee.

## CTY York (See KEYS Region)



*High School students Ami Robbins and Ned Jones successfully led the campaign to challenge Yarmouth to become a Cool Community.*

*Kurt Adams praised Maine Partners for their state wide grass roots efforts to curb Global Warming at a local York County event.*





*New Saco train station will be “Cool and Green”*

## Maine Partners Achievements 2007

# LOOKING BACK & OVER THE HORIZON

Over the past year, Maine Partners for Cool Communities has served as both an organizing center for community-based climate action in Maine, and as a means to facilitate more intensive activities at the local level. As an organizing center, we have identified and nurtured grassroots interests in nearly four dozen Maine communities, as described in this report. We have also established a communication forum among various critical state agencies, including the Maine Public Utilities Commission and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, which did not exist previously. We have also begun to assemble an Advisory Committee to ensure that our knowledge reflects the most up-to-date information spanning the wide variety of disciplines necessary for effective climate action. By establishing this dialogue at both the grassroots level and the level of state resources, we have been able to achieve a core objective of our work by linking community interests with the resources available to address those interests.

Also, through grant funds, we have been able to work more intensively with certain communities as they explored ways of implementing their climate change initiatives. With funding from the State Energy Program, we worked with four communities in southern Maine (Kittery, Eliot, York, South Berwick—the “KEYS” region) as they established better local coordination on climate action. Specifically, 1) we organized two community forums to bring

together the interested citizens and organizations in the region around the goal of coordinated planning and implementation; 2) we helped to bring out a highly successful Energy Expo (including educational workshops and films), attended by over 300 local citizens; 3) we developed for the region a toolkit (“Cool Kit”) of local and statewide resources.

With funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency, we were able to better coordinate environmental education activities in the Lewiston/Auburn area, linking together the public schools, the service learning opportunities provided by Bates and Lewiston Auburn College, and the widely acknowledged educational programs offered by the Auburn Land Lab. This funding also provided us with the resources to conduct an initial needs assessment of the community, and develop recommendations for how local initiatives could be best coordinated and sustained.

These accomplishments are not only important in their own right. They also provide a solid foundation for a dynamic and interactive program moving forward. As such, a new role is emerging for the MPCC, as we continually document what we have learned from the experiences of Maine’s communities and convey that knowledge to others. In this role, we serve as the means of disseminating best practices, regarding both the technical approaches to achieving climate action goals and the effective



methods of organizing and mobilizing community actions around these goals.

In 2008 and 2009 we will focus our attention on several communities where new grassroots efforts are just beginning to take shape and develop tools and materials that our grassroots colleagues identify would be helpful in their work to “cool” their communities. We know that one of the early stumbling blocks for most communities is completing an emissions inventory, so we plan to look for funding and interns to accomplish that task. We are committed to organizing effective communications strategies among the various Cool Communities to assure that we learn from one another and adopt best practices that efficiently implement smart energy solutions. We expect to launch a Cool Biz project, linking small businesses in our Cool Communities to resources that will assist them in saving money and energy. With our state colleagues we are planning projects to engage and incentivize families and neighborhood organizations to get on the path to “Cool.”

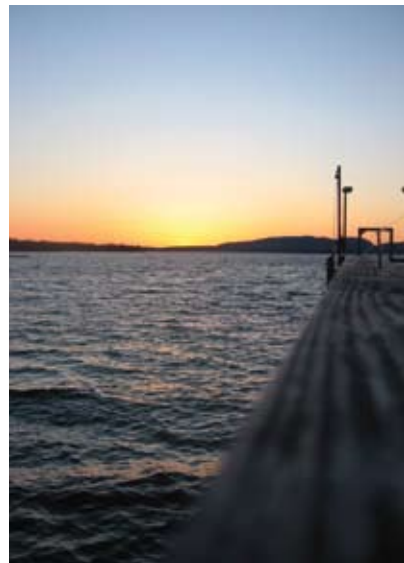
One Community at a time ... together we're building a cool Maine from the ground up ...<sup>44</sup> and counting...



*Bath congregations support with local foods potluck*

# Cool Communities Activities and Contacts

COOL COMMUNITY	USM CPA	COOL TEAM	SANCTIONED COMMITTEE	INVENTORY AUDIT	YOUTH LEADERS	CONTACT	CONTACT EMAIL
Arrowsic						See Bath	
Auburn	X	X				R.Miller	rmiller@ci.auburn.me.us
Augusta				X		TBD 2008	
Bangor	X1	X	X			C.Diebold	cpdiebold@yahoo.com
Bar Harbor						G. Friedmann	gary@garyfriedmann.com
Bath		X	X	2008		K. Wainberg	kwainber@maine.rr.com
Belfast	X		X	2008		R.Lee	grogerlee@gmail.com
Biddeford	X		X	X		B. Phinney	bphinney@biddefordmaine.org
Boothbay		X				E. Derecktor	spiritwear@adelphia.net
Bowdoinham		X	X			P.Reed	meemawbubba@peoplepc.com
Bridgton Harrison Area						D. Enright	benright@fairpoint.net
Brunswick	X	X	X		X	P.Edgerton	punnie@mac.com
Camden						TBD 2008	
Cape Elizabeth						C. Hubbard	hubbac@mmc.org
Cranberry Is.	X	X	X	2008		A. Ravenhill	ajoyravenhill@gmail.com
Cumberland			X			P.Weiss	weissp@hotmail.com
Damariscotta					X	P.Kando	PaulKando@lincoln.midcoast.com
Deer Isle						Jess Bercume	jessica.bercume@yahoo.com
Edgecomb						See Boothbay	
Eliot		X	X			L. McEwen	laurel@steppingupgreen.com
Falmouth	X	X	X	X		C. King	seekingc@maine.rr.com
Farmington					X	TBD 2008	
Freeport		X				J. Saxe	jsaxe@suscom-maine.net
Hallowell						TBD 2008	
Kennebunk	X	X	X	X	X	J. Niese	turnstone@gwi.net
Kennebunkport	X					L. Mead	lmead@kennebunkportme.gov
Kittery	X	X	X			S. Brown	actionkittery@gwi.net
Lewiston	X3	X	X		X	B. Dube	RDube7@roadrunner.com
Montville	X	X	X	X		J. LeGore	legore@fairpoint.net
Naples						D. Enright	benright@fairpoint.net
Ogunquit						M. Horn	klaxon@maine.rr.com
Phippsburg						See Bath	
Portland	X	X	X	X		K. Robertson	kmr510@netzero.com.
Rockland		X	X	X		N. Athearn	athearn2@earthlink.net
Saco	X		X	X		K. Kern	kkern@sacomaine.org
Sanford						R. Bettinger	rrpond1@yahoo.com
Scarborough					X	D. McDonough	jadimarah@hotmail.com
South Berwick					X	TBD 2008	
South Portland	X	X	X			L. Seidel	lizseidel@yahoo.com
Topsham						H. Goulette	hgoulette@suscom-maine.net
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