

Updated Maine Won't Wait Report

Maine Climate Council is working to finalize an updated version of their Maine Won't Wait Report. Their original plan was released in December of 2020. A new version will be approved by December of 2024. The current draft includes many recommendations. You can read the full draft report here: [Maine-Wont-Wait-Draft-10.15.24.pdf](#). Here are some highlights with emphasis on those recommendations most closely connected to the work of land trusts followed by other recommendations outlined in the report:

- 30% conserved land goal with focus on lands with:
 - Potential for carbon storage
 - Rich ecological diversity
 - Culturally and economically important features
 - Connectivity benefits
 - Ability to provide equitable access
- Doubling of statewide conserved farmland
- Increase to 30%, amount of Maine produced food consumed in Maine
- Improve forest carbon data
- Monitor ecosystem changes and extreme weather events
- Increase technical assistance and capacity to provide guidance to communities and natural resource industries
- Increase municipal enrollment in Community Resilience Partnership program
- Promote and incentivize land use planning to avoid transportation emissions, conserve natural and working lands, create housing, and meet energy goals
- Build network of trusted partners that can relay messages about climate impacts
- Help natural resource industries to become more resilient
- Protect working waterfront infrastructure
- Develop new incentives to increase forest carbon storage
- Engage Maine youth

Other Recommendations in the Plan

- Greater use of electric cars, trucks, buses, ferries, etc.
- Increase public transit and enhance active transportation
- Expand high speed internet access
- More resilient public infrastructure: roads, buildings, etc.
- Install more heat pumps and weatherize more homes
- Better efficiency in new and renovated buildings
- Greater use of climate friendly building products
- Decarbonize industrial processes
- Lead by example on government buildings
- Decrease energy burden while transitioning to renewable energy

- Plan and build new infrastructure needed to reach 100% renewable energy by 2040 target, big emphasis on offshore wind
- Grow clean energy economy while diversifying the workforce
- Reduce food waste by 50%
- Reduce and capture methane emissions from waste stream
- Enhance ability to prepare for and recover from natural disasters
- Strengthen public health monitoring, education, and prevention
- Address mental health aspects of climate change
- Measure and reduce lifecycle emissions from Maine purchased products
- Increase capacity to reduce waste