



15th Annual Leading by Example Awards

Presented by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Leading by Example Awards annually recognize outstanding clean energy and environmental efforts among Commonwealth agencies, public colleges/universities, municipalities and individuals.



MUNICIPAL



The **City of Greenfield**, designated a Green Community in 2010, has achieved a 67.7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 2008 and is now putting a plan together to adopt the “Race to Zero Initiative” to ensure future policies support MA climate goals. The city installed a 1.2MW solar array on its wellfield, guided the first successful C-PACE financed project in MA, completed significant energy projects at City Hall, and more.



The **Town of Acton**, designated a Green Community in 2010, passed a Climate Emergency Declaration in 2020 and launched a Climate Action Plan process to identify and prioritize strategies to curb community-wide greenhouse gas emissions. The town has installed a 1.6 MW solar field on its landfill, procured 100% renewable energy for municipal buildings, constructed an all-electric fire station, and more.

PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

Bridgewater State University has reduced its overall greenhouse gas emissions by 36% over a 2004 baseline, thanks to significant work in improving efficiency in both its buildings and fleet. The university installed a 1.3MW solar canopy that will generate clean electricity equivalent to the needs of 195 homes and is working to install a battery energy storage system that will help reduce University grid demand during peak periods.



The **decarbonization teams from UMass Amherst, UMass Dartmouth, UMass Lowell, and Salem State University** have worked painstakingly over the last year to complete decarbonization roadmaps that are helping their campuses understand the technologies and strategies needed to meet campus energy needs while achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner. The teams have collaborated regularly across their own campuses and with each other and are now sharing best practices as they work to translate the roadmaps into action.



STATE AGENCIES



DCR’s Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve has integrated climate change mitigation and adaptation into the Reserve’s four key program areas: research, education, training, and stewardship. The Reserve’s Green Team, active since 2009, has advanced energy efficiency efforts at their facilities while facilitating workshops to advance climate action in local communities, the Commonwealth, and across the country.



The Board of Library Commissioners’ Public Library Construction Program is driving emissions reductions at public libraries by integrating the goals of Executive Order 594 into its funding programs, supporting 27 projects that have achieved LEED Certification since 2010, many of which now include all-electric HVAC systems and solar PV infrastructure. BLC’s podcasts, listservs, and other outreach strategies have taken advantage of local clean energy experts to reach state, national, and international audiences on a range of innovative technologies and tactics.

INDIVIDUALS

Ed Vitone, member of the Ashburnham Energy Committee, has spearheaded many energy initiatives in town, ensuring successful implementation of projects aimed at reducing energy use, costs and greenhouse gas emissions. Notably, Ed’s dual role as both a member of the town’s energy committee and the Stevens Library board of trustees allowed him to successfully shepherd a comprehensive weatherization project, installation of ASHPs, and EV charging stations, resulting in a GHG emissions reduction of nearly 70%.



Sean Donaghy, Manager of Energy Programs for MBTA, is responsible for the program that manages and tracks the MBTA’s greenhouse gas emissions and overall energy use. Under his leadership, the MBTA adopted an energy management system to track energy consumption and costs on nearly 600 accounts, helping the MBTA to make smart decisions about where to invest in energy efficiency and other energy management programs. Among other initiatives, Sean notably guided the MBTA through the procurement of 100% renewable electricity through the purchase of renewable energy credits.



2021 Leading by Example Awards

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Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Department of Energy Resources

Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance

Thursday, December 9th, 2021, 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

UMass Lowell – University Crossing

Welcome

Chancellor Jacquie Moloney, UMass Lowell & Commissioner Woodcock, Department of Energy Resources

Opening Remarks

Secretary Theoharides, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Award Presentations

Secretary Theoharides, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

- *Award Recipient: Campus Decarbonization Teams*
- *Award Recipient: DCR Waquoit Bay*

Commissioner Woodcock, Department of Energy Resources

- *Award Recipient: City of Greenfield*
- *Award Recipient: Town of Acton*

Deputy Commissioner Hope Davis, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

- *Award Recipient: Bridgewater State University*
- *Award Recipient: Board of Library Commissioners Library Construction Program*

Joanne Bissetta, Acting Director, Green Communities Division, DOER

- *Award Recipient: Ed Vitone*

Eric Friedman, Director, Leading by Example Program, DOER

- *Award Recipient: Sean Donaghy*

Group photos will be taken following the awards program.