

Massachusetts Executive Office of
Energy and Environmental Affairs



**Building an Affordable,
Prepared Massachusetts**

2025 End of Year Report



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Letter from the Secretary

In 2025, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has been dedicated to delivering for the people of Massachusetts during an unprecedented time for our Secretariat. Despite diminishing resources on the federal level, our team remained steadfast in our values, optimism and resolve to preserve Massachusetts as the best place to live and raise a family.

With that in mind, and under the direction of Governor Healey, 2025 was a year focused on affordability, preparedness, and protecting health and nature.

Governor Healey has fought for decades to bring down energy costs and in 2025, energy affordability remained a top priority. In March, the Governor announced her Energy Affordability Agenda to lower energy costs for Massachusetts residents and businesses by \$5.8 billion over the next five years. Building on this agenda, the Governor introduced the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act. By getting costs off of bills, empowering customers, bringing more energy into the state and increasing accountability, this bill will save residents and businesses an additional \$10 billion over the next 10 years.

Knowing that every dollar we invest in strengthening infrastructure and preparing for extreme weather will save us \$13 in the future, Governor Healey introduced the Mass Ready Act. This \$3 billion environmental bond bill filed in June will finance key infrastructure projects, help cities and towns build climate resilience and support local economies. The Mass Ready Act also invests in our state parks and public lands ensuring that they remain accessible for all to live, work and play. To address near-and long-term vulnerability to sea level rise, storm surge and erosion, this year we also released our ResilientCoasts initiative, a framework for coastal resilience of the next 50 years.

As has been central to our work since taking office, our team continues to innovate and collaborate with state and local leaders to reduce air and water pollution, strengthen biodiversity, and create healthier outdoor spaces for every community.

Despite a rapidly changing federal landscape, the dedicated staff at EEA are meeting this moment with ingenuity, resolve and hard work. On behalf of all of us, we take immense pride in improving the lives of our communities across Massachusetts.

Secretary Rebecca Tepper



Legislation

In 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration introduced two major pieces of legislation to lower costs for families and protect communities from extreme weather: the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act and the Mass Ready Act.

Together, these bills signal a major step toward a more affordable and prepared Massachusetts. They empower cities and towns to upgrade their infrastructure, protect residents and property, and ensure Massachusetts families have access to affordable, dependable energy for years to come.

Legislation | Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act



Governor Maura Healey announces the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act in Leominster, Massachusetts. May 13, 2025

Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act

On May 13, 2025, Governor Healey filed the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act to cut costs for residents and businesses.

“Massachusetts families and businesses can’t afford big energy price spikes now, or in the future. This bill – along with our energy affordability agenda – will get costs off bills, save people money, and adopt an all-of-the-above strategy to bring new energy into Massachusetts.”

– Governor Maura Healey

Key reforms include eliminating and reducing certain charges on the bill, ensuring that unnecessary infrastructure costs aren’t passed on to ratepayers, expanding the state energy procurement authority, and reducing barriers to new cutting-edge nuclear technologies.

The administration estimates that the bill will save Massachusetts customers more than \$10 billion over 10 years, on top of the \$6 billion savings estimated from her Energy Affordability Agenda announced in March 2025. SEE PAGE 17

An independent analysis of the legislation found that savings could lead to even more savings. SEE PAGE 9



Legislation | Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act

If passed, the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act would save ratepayers more than \$10 billion over the next 10 years.

More than \$10 Billion in Savings Over 10 Years



Get Costs Off Bills | *Saves \$6.9 Billion*

- Phase out alternative portfolio standard bill charge
- Reduce net metering charge
- Pay for programs like Mass Save differently
- Reform existing rates and charges



Create Accountability | *Saves \$2.5 Billion*

- Require utilities to comprehensively plan and minimize grid costs
- Provide more oversight of costly transmission projects
- Restrict costs that utilities can recover from ratepayers
- Authorize utility management audits



Bring More Energy into Massachusetts | *Saves \$200 Million*

- Expand state energy procurement authority
- Provide flexibility to set supply rates
- Allow customers to connect faster to the grid
- Reduce barriers to advanced nuclear technologies



Empower Customers to Lower Bills | *Saves \$900 Million*

- Protect customers from predatory electricity marketing and pricing
- Reduce upfront costs to building geothermal
- Reform low- and moderate-income discount rates
- Establish new financing tools for customers to efficiently heat and cool buildings
- Make Mass Save more efficient and responsive



Power Innovation and Growth

- Create clean energy ready zones to accelerate development
- Share benefits of infrastructure investments with ratepayers and communities



Governor Maura Healey and Secretary Rebecca Tepper testify in support of the Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act. June 25, 2025

Independent Analysis of the Energy Affordability Act

Independent analysis conducted by Sustainable Energy Advantage and Synapse Energy Economics found that the Energy Affordability, Independence and Innovation Act would deliver substantial savings for Massachusetts residents and businesses, **reducing electric and gas bills by an estimated \$11.6 – \$14.35 billion between 2026 and 2035.**

The analysis attributes the majority of near-term savings to authorizing electric and gas rate reduction bonds, comprehensive distribution system planning, and modernizing utility procurement and basic service rules. Additional savings are generated through the phase-out of the Alternative Portfolio Standard, reforms to existing rates and charges, inclusive utility investment programs, and expanded clean energy procurement authority.

Beyond the first decade, the report notes even greater long-term benefits, including billions in additional avoided customer costs from expanded clean energy procurements, APS phase-out, flexible interconnection, and continued savings from smarter grid planning. Together, these findings demonstrate that the Act not only lowers energy bills in the near term but also positions the state to secure long-lasting affordability gains while advancing reliability, modernization, and clean energy deployment.

Source: Analysis of Ratepayer Cost Savings of Key Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act Provisions by Sustainable Energy Advantage, LLC and Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., published August 19, 2025.



Governor Maura Healey unveils the Mass Ready Act at Braintree Town Hall, near a local dam removal and river restoration project. June 24, 2025

Mass Ready Act

On June 24, 2025, Governor Healey filed the Mass Ready Act to strengthen and protect Massachusetts communities. This legislation focuses on crucial infrastructure improvements, including upgrades to dams, bridges, and culverts.

“The Mass Ready Act is a practical investment in the things that matter most to our daily lives – safe homes, reliable roads, clean water and strong neighborhoods. This legislation will help our communities get ready for the challenges ahead and make sure our families and neighborhoods stay safe.”

– Governor Maura Healey

Key provisions of the Mass Ready Act include streamlining permitting for culvert replacements and natural restoration projects and requiring flood disclosures. The bill also protects drinking water, waterways, and vital habitats for wildlife. Finally, the Mass Ready Act invests in local economies by supporting farmers, ensuring families have access to fresh, local produce and seafood, and providing communities with resources and new finance tools to reduce flood and heat risk.

Together, these investments position Massachusetts to reduce risk, speed recovery, and keep communities safe, connected, and economically strong in the face of climate change.

If passed, the Mass Ready Act would invest \$3 billion to strengthen infrastructure and prepare for disasters.

More than \$3 Billion for Stronger Communities



Strengthening Our Infrastructure

The Mass Ready Act strengthens our infrastructure to protect our homes, businesses, and communities, with a focus on increasing flood risk. Due to increasing rainfall and rising sea levels, floods have become more likely. This bill aims to address these challenges by allocating funding to enhance our flood protection efforts, including:

- \$308 million to address high-risk dams, inland flood control systems, and coastal and marine infrastructure
- \$200 million to implement ResilientCoasts recommendations
- \$587 million to invest in parks, trails, beaches, and historic sites
- \$177 million to improve transportation infrastructure, including bike lanes, greenways, and pedestrian bridges
- \$28 million to manage solid waste and decrease pollution
- \$73 million for improvements to infrastructure and facilities that support the development and implementation of the ResilientMass state hazard mitigation and climate adaptation strategy



Investing in Farms and Local Economies

The Mass Ready Act supports targeted investments in food security, climate-smart agriculture, land and water conservation, and resilience projects.

- \$125 million for the Food Security Infrastructure Grant (FSIG) program
- \$315 million for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program (MVP)
- Food Policy Council will evolve to expand its membership to include the Division of Marine Fisheries, representing the interests of the fishing industry, and the UMass Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment
- \$68 million for MDAR to protect farmland and foster food security, and sustain agricultural economic viability
- Creates a new Resilience Revolving Fund to provide low-interest loans for resilience projects that protect communities and prevent future damage





Protecting Water and Nature

The Mass Ready Act strategically invests in people and wildlife. With significant funding dedicated to clean water, land conservation efforts, recreational investments, and more, this legislation will safeguard open space and expand everyone’s access to nature and the outdoors.

- Aligns with the Massachusetts Biodiversity Goals SEE PAGE 30
- Historic Connecticut River Water Trail Fund would address urgent safety needs for navigational markers for recreational boaters along a heavily used stretch of the river
- Updates the DCR Historic Curatorship Program by expanding the agency’s ability to partner with private curators to rehabilitate and maintain historic properties
- Authorizes \$9 million to support environmental law enforcement facilities and equipment
- For Chapter 91 Waterways, the General License provision will expedite projects like salt marsh restoration and dredging for activities like dam removal
- For Wetlands, the appeals streamlining will apply to nature-based resilience projects. The Wetlands Protection Act will now include “promote wetlands restoration, preservation, and resilience to changing climate conditions.” And, we will create a pathway for expedited approval for projects that offer substantial ecological and resilience benefits.



Housing and Environment Permitting Reform

The Mass Ready Act will support pathways to build the housing we need, while ensuring these buildings can withstand future conditions, are energy efficient, support access to transit, and minimize impact to the environment.

- Ensures residents are aware of past flooding and future flood risk before they purchase or lease a home
- Introduces a new general license and permit system that will streamline the approval process for projects that previously required individual licenses, while still maintaining departmental oversight through compliance and public notification requirements
- Gives the Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) the ability to enhance the Massachusetts State Building Code to enable housing production and ensure new developments can withstand current and future extreme weather conditions



Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll and Secretary Rebecca Tepper testify in support of the Mass Ready Act. July 15, 2025



Supporting Western and Central Mass

The Mass Ready Act will deliver critical investments to communities across the state, with a strong focus on supporting those in Western and Central Massachusetts, where the need is great.

- Makes a historic investment in state land acquisition by authorizing \$340.5 million for protection and stewardship. Further, \$20 million is dedicated to implementation of the Massachusetts Biodiversity Conservation Goals.
- Helps communities prepare for extreme weather events with \$308 million allocated to manage high-risk state-owned or abandoned dams and inland flood control systems
- \$93.5 million to manage municipal and publicly owned dams, as well as inland flood control infrastructure and nature-based solutions to enhance climate resilience
- Supports the creation of a Connecticut River Valley Resilience Commission, which enables the development of a regional strategy to mitigate flood risk and address aging infrastructure along the Connecticut River
- \$30 million for forestry and tree planting programs
- Invests in the development and upgrading of bike paths, accessible trails, woodland trails, and multi-use paths
- Ensures all residents have access to clean water and air, including developing tools to better strategically manage public water supply for drinking water, to support rural firefighting; and to plan for stormwater infrastructure and monitor cumulative environmental impacts



Governor Healey, First Lady Joanna Lydgate, Secretary Tepper, and Medford Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn at an Earth Day tree planting with DCR staff and the Malden and Medford Girl Scouts at Torbert MacDonald State Park. April 22, 2025



Affordability

In 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration was laser focused on affordability, delivering relief for families struggling to keep up with rising costs — whether for utilities, housing, education, or transportation.

This work reflects a simple commitment: Massachusetts families deserve affordable, thriving communities.

Affordability | Governor Healey's Energy Affordability Agenda



Governor Healey, Lieutenant Governor Driscoll, and Secretary Tepper announce the Energy Affordability Agenda in Lowell, Massachusetts. March 10, 2025

Governor Healey's Energy Affordability Agenda

On March 10, 2025, Governor Healey released her Energy Affordability Agenda to lower energy costs for Massachusetts residents and families.

“With our Energy Affordability Agenda, we’re getting people help now, keeping costs off bills, and getting ahead of surprise price shocks. Our Agenda includes historic actions. We need to address competitive energy suppliers that have overcharged residents outrageous sums. We’re launching a first-in-the-nation middle-income rate. And we need to get out of this cycle of costly swings in prices every winter.”

– Secretary Rebecca Tepper

Governor Healey’s plan could save energy consumers about \$5.8 billion over the next five years. Additionally, customers have already received more than \$220 million in immediate relief, resulting from a one-time electric bill credit and near-term gas rate reductions.

The agenda will help energy consumers by lowering bills, avoiding unnecessary spending, and stabilizing prices. This plan will deliver savings to residents and businesses across the state and provide them with additional opportunities to lower bills through money saving programs.



More than \$6 Billion in Total Savings

Provide Immediate Relief to Customers | *Saved \$220 Million*

- Provided a one-time \$50 credit on bills to every residential electric customer in April 2025
- Called on the DPU and the state's gas companies to act immediately to provide relief, immediately mitigating gas bills for all residential customers' March and April 2025 bills

Expand Discount & Money Saving Rates | *Saves \$2.5 Billion*

- Encourage the DPU to work to direct the utilities to improve the discount rate enrollment process
- Establish regulations to create a first-in-the-nation moderate-income discount rate for customers of all electric utilities and tiered discount rates for low-income customers
- Expanded discount heat pump rates to customers of all three major utilities

Keep Costs Off Bills | *Saves \$3 Billion*

- Remove unnecessary solar charges on bills
- Increase oversight of competitive electric suppliers
- Reduce the need for energy infrastructure by managing electricity demand
- Clear obstacles to deploying more distributed solar to lower prices for all customers

Stabilize Prices | *Saves \$200 Million*

- Prioritize long-term, fixed price contracts
- Direct the DPU to investigate and pursue all available opportunities to avoid rate shocks
- Called on the DPU to launch a comprehensive review of the state's gas and electric delivery rates to scrutinize costs and provide relief to customers

Progress Made

Since its introduction in March, the Healey-Driscoll Administration has already made progress on implementing the Energy Affordability Agenda.

- ✓ **A 7.4 to 16% deferral on March and April gas bills for all residential gas customers** | *Mitigated peak gas bills by \$95 million*
- ✓ **\$50 bill credit distributed to all residential electric customers in April 2025** | *\$125 million saved*
- ✓ **New Seasonal heat pump rate available to all Eversource, National Grid, and Unitil residential customers as of November 1, 2025** | *\$70 million saved 2025-2026 winter*
- ✓ **DPU investigation opened in December 2025 to review delivery charges on electric and gas utility bills**

Discount Heat Pump Rate

Governor Healey called on the three major electric utilities to implement a reduced rate for households using heat pumps earlier this year.

The Department of Energy Resources filed a petition that included a call for heat pump rates to be available to all residential customers across the electric utilities. The Department of Public Utilities moved quickly to approve new rates before the start of the winter. The new heat pump rates will save 130,000 customers nearly \$70 million this winter alone, at no cost to other customers.

Review of Bill Charges

The DPU opened an investigation on December 15, 2025 to comprehensively review all delivery charges on electric and gas utility bills. The investigation will examine the causes of bill volatility and promote a greater understanding of rates for customers to take greater control over their energy bills. This investigation aligns with the priorities highlighted in Governor Healey's letter to the DPU and includes additional analysis on potential measures to further protect ratepayers.

Energy Supply

Energy powers the homes we live in, the businesses we depend on, and the innovation economy that defines Massachusetts. However, families and businesses across the country and in Massachusetts are struggling to keep up with the rising and volatile cost of energy. We need more energy to meet demand and keep costs down.

Governor Healey is taking an all-of-the-above approach to bring more locally produced energy into the state. More supply means lower costs. Massachusetts is also partnering with neighboring states to get more transmission built and unlock shared clean energy resources, ensuring power can move reliably across the region when and where it's needed.

SMART 3.0

In 2025, DOER updated its solar incentive program after extensive program review and stakeholder engagement. SMART 3.0 will advance solar in Massachusetts while quickly responding to changing market conditions. It is expected to provide ratepayers \$300 million in benefits in its first year alone and spur investment in Massachusetts. This program will help bring more low-cost energy supply into the state ahead of federal rollbacks of solar tax credits.

The simplified program provides a flat incentive rate for residential customers, better incentivizes low-income household participation, and strengthens consumer protections. SMART 3.0 takes an innovative approach to land use policy to protect Massachusetts' natural landscapes and offset the impacts of solar infrastructure.

Advanced Nuclear and Fusion Energy Roadmap

On November 2, 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced its partnership with the University of Massachusetts Lowell in developing the "Advanced Nuclear and Fusion Energy Roadmaps" to accelerate the state's leadership in advanced nuclear and fusion energy technologies.

"Massachusetts has the ingredients to be a world-class leader in advanced nuclear and fusion energy – technologies that provide affordable power, good jobs and significant economic development. Our partnership with UMass Lowell will help us leverage our strengths to lower costs and grow these industries in Massachusetts."

– Governor Maura Healey

The roadmaps, set to be completed in early 2026, will outline steps to leverage Massachusetts' existing innovation ecosystem, scale workforce development programs to support long-term industry growth, develop strategies for inclusive community engagement, and coordinate planning efforts with the other New England states.



Governor Healey, EEA staff, and solar industry and labor leaders at the Governor's Solar Summit in Boston. September 29, 2025

Governor Healey's Solar Summit

On September 29, 2025, Governor Healey convened solar industry and labor leaders for a Solar Summit in Boston to discuss how to advance solar power in Massachusetts, create jobs, and lower energy bills.

"Massachusetts is open for business."

– Governor Maura Healey

For years, Massachusetts has been a nationally recognized leader for solar installations. Solar has transformed the Massachusetts electric grid, saving ratepayers hundreds, if not billions of dollars. Solar power is the cheapest and fastest way to bring more energy into Massachusetts. The solar industry employs about 17,000 people across the state.

During every season, solar plays an important role in the reliability of the Massachusetts grid. **On June 24th – the hottest day of 2025 – solar met 22 percent of demand, saving customers \$8.2 million dollars on that day alone.** This is true in the spring and fall, as well. During the afternoon of April 20, 2025, over 55 percent of New England's electricity demand was met by distributed solar facilities, bringing grid demand to an all-time low.

At the Solar Summit, the administration met with industry leaders to discuss possible state actions to support the solar industry. Looking ahead to 2026, Massachusetts is looking at taking actions to accelerate solar development, save jobs, and save ratepayers more by investing in this industry.

New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, Northeast International Committee on Energy, and Committee on Environment

In February 2025, the Northeast International Committee on Energy (NICE) and the Committee on Environment (CoE), co-chaired by Massachusetts and Newfoundland and Labrador, reconvened to pursue regional collaboration on the topics of electric transmission, offshore wind supply chain, hard-to-decarbonize sectors of the economy, ecological connectivity, and food security. The committees included representation from the six New England states and five Eastern Canadian provinces. NICE and CoE presented their findings and recommendations for additional areas of collaboration to state and provincial leaders at the Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers in November 2025.

New England Competitive Transmission Solicitation

On March 31, 2025, ISO New England issued the region's first-ever competitive transmission solicitation to relieve long-standing constraints on the New England transmission system and access affordable onshore wind generation in Northern Maine. The solicitation comes after years of collaborative efforts by the New England states, working with ISO New England, to create a new, more holistic transmission planning process that allows for cost sharing across the states. ISO New England received bids on September 30, 2025, and plans to select a preferred transmission solution by September 2026.

Interregional Transmission Request for Information

On June 23, 2025, the Northeast States Collaborative on Interregional Transmission (Collaborative) issued a Request for Information (RFI) seeking interregional transmission project concepts that reduce costs for consumers, improve grid reliability, and support economic growth. The Collaborative is made up of nine states – Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont – that have come together to coordinate on interregional transmission expansion efforts. The RFI received a robust response, and an evaluation is underway.

Transparency in Asset Condition Transmission Project Spending

In 2025, Massachusetts and its fellow New England states worked to bring greater transparency and scrutiny to electric transmission spending in the region. Spending on projects to repair aging or damaged transmission equipment — so-called asset condition projects — are a major driver of transmission costs, yet they receive little review or scrutiny by federal regulators.

Through advocacy by the New England states, the region's grid operator has agreed to assist states and other stakeholders in evaluating these projects so that the region can have more confidence in the dollars being spent.



Secretary Tepper, OET Executive Director Melissa Lavinson, and Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn at a roundtable in Medford, Massachusetts. July 17, 2025

Geothermal Roundtable at Tufts University

On July 17, 2025, Secretary Rebecca Tepper and Medford Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn joined Tufts University and university leaders from Greater Boston to discuss energy affordability challenges for their institutions and key provisions from Governor Maura Healey's Energy Affordability, Independence, and Innovation Act, notably on geothermal energy and interconnection reform.

Participants from Tufts, MIT, UMass Lowell, HEET, and PowerOptions shared that interest in geothermal heat loops is growing across higher-education campuses, but financing challenges are delaying important projects. University facilities directors emphasized that geothermal networks offer the most efficient way to heat and cool dense, energy-intensive campuses.

University leaders want to see this changed. Governor Healey's legislation would allow gas companies to own and operate geothermal loops, and large campuses could pay for the system over time.

This arrangement is a win-win: universities can secure efficient heating and cooling, reducing demand for ratepayer-funded subsidies.

Home Modernization Navigator

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), in coordination with EEA, launched the Home Modernization Navigator to provide hands-on assistance to help low- and moderate-income residents, renters, and those who speak languages other than English take advantage of bill discounts, energy savings measures, and home improvements offered by Mass Save and other programs. The Navigator launched in Springfield and Lowell and expanded to Chelsea, Lynn, Framingham, and Taunton and works closely with local partners in those communities.

ADU Accelerator

All-electric Accessible Dwelling Units (ADUs) have the potential to address both the housing shortage and climate change. MassCEC's ADU Accelerator will create an online ADU Resource Center and provide technical assistance for homeowners in the Pioneer Valley to streamline and accelerate all-electric, pre-fabricated ADU implementation. The ADU Accelerator will increase the number of prefabricated all-electric ADUs in Massachusetts.

Affordable Housing Decarbonization Grants

In 2025, the Department of Energy Resources awarded \$46 million to support 24 affordable housing properties in 21 communities across Massachusetts. The grant program transforms homes with better insulation and modern equipment so renters can enjoy comfortable, healthy living spaces and much lower energy costs. The funding will help upgrade or build more than 1,638 affordable homes with modern heating and cooling systems, top tier insulation, improved indoor air quality, and in many cases, on-site energy generation.

Massachusetts Building Decarbonization Clearinghouse Final Report

EEA completed a two-year assessment on delivering building energy resources in the most efficient and effective way possible, including weatherization, electrification, efficient heating and cooling systems. The recommendations informed proposed Mass Save reforms in Governor Healey's Energy Affordability, Independence and Innovation Act.

Climate Campaign / Massachusetts Energy Savings Finder

EEA continued its public awareness campaign, Climate Action is for All of Us, with a simple, practical message: taking steps to reduce your energy use and protecting our environment isn't just good for the planet — it can save money. The campaign encourages residents across Massachusetts to explore the many rebates, incentives, and clean energy programs available to them — support that can help lower utility bills, reduce upfront costs for home upgrades, and support a shift toward clean energy options. The campaign featured the new Massachusetts Energy Savings Finder, a free tool providing homeowners and renters with customized resources and savings.



Staff promoting the "Climate Action is for All of Us" Campaign at South Station in Boston.

DPU Affordability Efforts

The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) took several actions in 2025 to reduce costs for ratepayers and ensure a fair and affordable clean energy transition:

- Approved seasonal heat pump rates for residential customers of all electric distribution companies to make efficient heating more affordable
- Reduced the Mass Save budget by \$500 million to limit rate impacts and directed the utilities to prioritize cost-effective measures
- Lowered the GSEP caps for state gas pipeline infrastructure while maintaining higher caps for Non-Pipeline Alternatives to encourage lower-cost, climate-aligned solutions
- Opened an investigation to review all charges and reconciling mechanisms for the delivery portion of bills to explore ways to contain costs and reduce price volatility
- Directed the utilities to immediately resolve all severe billing issues for roughly 3,000 impacted customers, shielding them from having to pay bills older than 60 days



Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, MassDEP, announces grants to expand ferry and water transportation services on the Boston Harbor. August 13, 2025

\$2.3 Million in Affordable and Easy Waterfront Transit

This year, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection announced a grant program to expand public access and water transportation in and around Boston Harbor.

The grants support the MBTA and numerous non-profit organizations to expand ferry and water transportation. The six projects selected will boost ferry ridership, get cars off the road, add new routes, and support water transportation programs that connect people of all ages and abilities to the area’s cultural and historical assets.

“Water is one of our most valuable assets in Massachusetts. These grants connect workers and students with affordable transportation options and make Boston Harbor and its amenities more accessible to the public.”

– Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, MassDEP



A group participating in a DCR First Day Hike. January 1, 2025

DCR’s Interpretive Programming Impact

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) hosted more than 8,000 free and engaging interpretive programs at 46 locations statewide for more than 223,000 visitors, deepening the connection between residents and the environment. These programs include annual initiatives like DCR’s Girl Scouts Love State Parks program, Gratitude After Gravy Hikes, and the agency’s signature First Day Hikes that bring together families, friends, neighbors, and caregivers of all ages and backgrounds.

Girl Scouts Love State Parks Program

The Girl Scouts Love State Parks Program is a partnership between DCR and the Girl Scouts Councils of Massachusetts to provide exclusive opportunities for Girl Scouts to earn their Eco Friend Brownie badge, the Eco Camper Junior Badge, and other nature-based badges.

Gratitude After Gravy Hikes

DCR’s Gratitude After Gravy Hikes, formerly known as “Go Green on Black Friday” Hikes, returned for its 17th year to provide Massachusetts families and residents with free staff-led hikes ranging from one to four miles at DCR properties in Amherst, Andover, Boston, Falmouth, Lanesborough, Sterling, Taunton, and Turners Falls.

First Day Hikes

On January 1 each year, the department leads First Day Hikes at DCR parks across Massachusetts. This tradition, now offered by all 50 states, started in the Blue Hills in Milton, Massachusetts on New Years Day in 1992.

Protecting People & Nature

In 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration took action to help communities prepare for extreme weather and rising seas. These investments make neighborhoods safer, lower long-term costs by avoiding future damage, and ensure residents have strong infrastructure built to stand the test of time.

The state also advanced first-in-the-nation initiatives to restore ecosystems and strengthen biodiversity. By rebuilding wetlands, upgrading culverts, removing outdated dams, and enhancing habitat for fish, pollinators, and wildlife, Massachusetts is improving natural defenses against flooding and creating healthier outdoor spaces for every community.

Protecting People & Nature | ResilientCoasts Plan



Secretary Tepper announcing the final ResilientCoasts Plan in Chelsea, Massachusetts. November 6, 2025

ResilientCoasts Plan

On November 6, 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration released the final ResilientCoasts Plan — a comprehensive statewide strategy designed to help coastal communities protect residents, strengthen local infrastructure, and safeguard Massachusetts’ natural resources. Developed with direct input from local officials, residents, and regional partners, the plan provides practical, community-driven steps to prepare for future storms, flooding, sea level rise, and erosion resulting from climate change. The plan aims to save taxpayers billions by guiding smart coastal management decisions and investments. It lays out the steps to protect people and property, strengthen infrastructure, and preserve natural buffers like dunes, wetlands, and salt marshes that reduce flood risks. ResilientCoasts is a priority action of ResilientMass, the statewide climate adaptation plan to reduce risk and strengthen communities in the face of climate change impacts. Specific components include:

- **Regional Collaboration:** The plan identifies 15 Coastal Resilience Districts — grouping cities and towns that share common characteristics like coastal environment, population and development character, and coastal risks — to promote regional collaboration and prioritization of district-scale projects.
- **Near-Term Adaptation Areas:** Within these districts, the plan identifies Near-Term Adaptation Areas with high concentrations of people and housing, infrastructure, and/or economic resources expected to be exposed to coastal flooding by the 2030s to help direct limited resources where they will make the biggest difference for residents and local economies.
- **Targeted Solutions:** The plan provides guidance on a suite of resilience measures that can be applied across different coastal landscapes, including elevating roads and homes above expected flood levels, relocating people and housing to safer locations, floodproofing critical infrastructure, implementing nature-based solutions like salt marsh restoration, and retrofitting and redesigning seawalls.
- **State Leadership:** The plan proposes 10 state-led strategies and over 70 actions to be undertaken across state government to lead by example and accelerate the pace of coastal resilience across the state.



Governor Maura Healey announces the Massachusetts Biodiversity Goals in Barnstable, Massachusetts. August 21, 2025

Massachusetts Biodiversity Goals

On August 21, 2025, Governor Maura Healey announced nation-leading Biodiversity Conservation Goals for Massachusetts.

In 2023, Governor Maura Healey signed Executive Order No. 618, which called for the state to set biodiversity conservation goals, including for coastal and marine environments, for 2030, 2040, and 2050. To meet this charge, the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game, alongside many partners, developed this ambitious, 25-year, whole-of-government approach to rebuild biodiversity and invest in nature to sustain our health and well-being, food security, economy, and way of life.

“Our lands, waters and wildlife are at the heart of what makes Massachusetts so special. They shape our identity, drive our economy, promote public health and support the way of life we value. Protecting them isn’t optional – it’s essential.”

– Governor Maura Healey

The plan sets four key goals — Protect, Restore, Sustain, and Connect — each with specific strategies for action for 2030, 2040, and 2050. The plan also includes core commitments, governance, and innovative funding models to drive progress.

Biodiversity Goals



Goal #1 | Protect

- Double the pace of land protection to achieve 30% by 2030 and 40% by 2050
- Strategically protect 425,000+ acres of the most important habitats by 2050
- Protect key wildlife migration corridors and build wildlife-friendly road crossings
- Support consideration of Cashes Ledge National Marine Sanctuary
- Protect people and wildlife from pesticides, pollution, and plastics
- Support community-led efforts to protect local biodiversity



Goal #2 | Restore

- Restore 75% of the most important habitats to good health by 2050
- Remove 10% of 3,000 dams and restore fish passage in every coastal watershed
- Upgrade over 2,500 culverts for biodiversity and climate resilience
- Restore essential marine habitats and salt marshes
- Grow native plants for pollinators and remove invasive species
- Support community-led efforts to restore local biodiversity



Goal #3 | Sustain

- Support biodiversity on farms, ensure no net loss of farmland, expand community gardens in urban areas
- Boost our blue economy with no net loss of shellfish beds, restoring habitats and water quality, and investing in working waterfronts
- Increase food security with wild foods, access to hunting and fishing, and foraging
- Value ecosystem services of biodiversity through innovative and dedicated funding mechanisms



Goal #4 | Connect

- Nature in the Neighborhoods: Launch the local biodiversity grants program to support community-led efforts and develop a municipal biodiversity toolkit for city and town leaders
- Nature in the Schools: Develop a biodiversity-focused curriculum for K-12, after-school, and summer programs
- Nature for All: Launch a public education campaign and invest in access to nature for all
- Nature at Work: Invest in workforce development to launch the next generation of conservation and restoration leaders



MEP Captain Scott Amati and a herpetologist hold water monitor lizard, Goose, at a press conference in Webster, Massachusetts. August 4, 2025

Goose on the Loose

On July 18, 2025, Goose, a five-foot-long water monitor lizard, escaped from its residence in Webster, Massachusetts after crawling out of a second-floor window. Water monitor lizards are illegal to own in Massachusetts without a proper permit, and authorities confirmed the reptile was being kept without one.

Over the following days, the Massachusetts Environmental Police and local law enforcement actively investigated reported sightings of Goose as the animal traveled far beyond its original escape point — from the town of Thompson, Connecticut, near the state line, back into Douglas, Massachusetts, and surrounding areas. Residents in both states were urged not to approach the lizard and to immediately report sightings to authorities, as the reptile is capable of climbing and traveling long distances.

Despite multiple confirmed sightings and targeted search efforts, Goose proved elusive for more than two weeks, at times basking on pavement or hiding beneath tree roots, making capture difficult.

On August 2, 2025, after a concerted effort by Massachusetts Environmental Police, Department of Conservation and Recreation personnel, and local animal control partners, Goose was safely captured in Douglas. Officers reportedly used bait, including pieces of chicken, and catch poles to retrieve the reptile from a sheltered spot near Southwest Main Street. No injuries were reported during the capture.

Following Goose's capture, the owner was cited for possessing the non-native reptile without the required permits. Goose was transferred to Rainforest Reptile Shows Oasis, a nonprofit animal sanctuary, where he received veterinary care and was housed in a specially designed habitat.



Group photo of EEA, MWRA, and DFG staff at the ribbon cutting of the restored Quinapoxet River. September 10, 2025

Restoration of the Quinapoxet River

On September 10, 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration celebrated the completion of the Quinapoxet River Restoration Project, including the removal of an obsolete dam. The project highlighted ongoing efforts to implement climate resiliency throughout the Commonwealth, as well as restoring critical habitats and ecosystems. Additionally, the completion of the project increased public access for local residents and visitors. In order to develop and complete the project, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority partnered with several stakeholders, such as DCR, DFG, including DER and MassWildlife, the Town of West Boylston, and others.

The \$3 million river restoration project incorporated several components to improve the waterway, the riverbed, and surrounding area. A major element of the project was the removal of the Quinapoxet River Dam in order to provide upstream fish with access to the Wachusett Reservoir. The dam, originally constructed in 1905 to support the creation of the reservoir, had outlived its usefulness due to upgrades the MWRA had made to its water transfer systems, allowing the opportunity to remove it.

By removing the 250-foot-long and 18-foot-high earthen embankment and stone masonry dam, 35 additional miles of river was made accessible to fish, and approximately 1,000 feet of upstream habitat and one acre of riparian habitat was restored. Additionally, an ADA compliant path and platform was constructed on the riverbank and interpretive signage was installed to help educate visitors of the site.

The Quinapoxet River is part of the larger source drinking water supply, which includes the Quabbin Reservoir, Wachusett Reservoir, Ware River, and Sudbury Reservoir watersheds. These critical waterbodies supply water for over 3 million people working and residing in Massachusetts.



Removal of Becker Pond Dam in Mount Washington, Massachusetts. November 3, 2025

Restoration Rising

In 2025, DFG's Division of Ecological Restoration advanced an unprecedented number of ecological restoration projects throughout the state. DER had 21 projects under construction in 2025, including removing 8 dams, restoring 2 wetlands and 4 retired cranberry bogs, and replacing 7 culverts. These projects play a crucial role in restoring important habitat, reconnecting fish passage, improving water quality, and increasing climate resilience. DER has almost 50 active Priority Projects underway and is helping to advance over 50 additional projects through DER's Regional Restoration Partnerships Program.

Securing the Future of our Natural Resources

The Department of Environmental Protection's Natural Resource Damages program awarded \$224,100 to the Connecticut River Conservancy to restore natural resources harmed by a 2019 acid spill from the Barnhardt Manufacturing Facilities in Colrain. The funding will help restore the North River's ecosystem, which supports cold water fisheries, aquatic life, wetlands and sediment-dependent species.

The NRD program also secured \$2.1 million for damages linked to hazardous substance releases from the Shpack Landfill Site in Attleboro and Norton, where contamination injured water, sediment, groundwater, wetlands, soil, and the habitats they provide for fish and wildlife.

Supporting Community Recreation and Conservation

EEA's Division of Conservation Services awarded over \$12 million in grants to 40 Massachusetts communities through three programs. The Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant program helps cities and towns create and renovate outdoor recreation areas. The Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) program supports conservation commissions in protecting natural land. The Conservation Partnership Grant funds nonprofit land trusts that work to conserve open space for future generations.

Woodlands Partnership Grant Awards

Over \$310,000 in grants were awarded to protect forests and boost local economies in Western Massachusetts. Through the Woodlands Partnership Program, EEA funded six rural communities and three regional organizations focused on conservation and economic development. Grants will improve outdoor recreation opportunities in public forests, ensure community safety and implement sustainable forestry practices that promote forest resilience.

Promoting Public Engagement in Cleanup of Contaminated Sites

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Technical Assistance Grant program awarded \$100,000 in grants to support two municipalities and three community groups to enhance residents' involvement in cleanups of contaminated sites in their areas. The grants provide funding to hire expert assistance that can guide meaningful participation in these processes. The grants also will help increase public participation and awareness by providing educational resources that inform residents about contamination issues and the steps being taken to address them.

Mapping Assistance to Communities

In June 2025, MassDEP announced it would provide free technical assistance to 16 municipal and state-owned water utilities across the state to support infrastructure mapping. Through MassDEP's Water Utility Resilience Program program, 11 drinking water systems and 5 sewer systems will receive technical expertise to better map the location of existing and planned utilities. These maps will help communities plan effectively, respond to emergencies, and manage their infrastructure.

Taking on Nitrogen on the Cape

MassDEP awarded \$825,000 in Natural Resource Nitrogen Sensitive Areas grants to eight towns on Cape Cod. The funding is aimed at reducing nitrogen pollution, which mostly comes from wastewater and septic systems. Nitrogen can cause serious problems in water bodies, such as harmful algae blooms that can degrade water quality and affect both the environment and public health. This funding represents a critical step in helping Cape Cod communities address longstanding challenges of nitrogen pollution.



Group photo of COASTSWEEP volunteers with trash collected during cleanup. August 5, 2025

COASTSWEEP Beach Cleanups

From August to November each year, COASTSWEEP brings together thousands of volunteers across Massachusetts for a beach cleanup effort. In 2025, preliminary reports show that more than 2,700 volunteers participated, cleaning 147 locations and covering over 148 miles of coastline. Together, they removed more than 23 tons of trash this year.

DCR Flood Hazard Management

DCR's Flood Hazard Management Program assisted 306 Massachusetts cities and towns with updating floodplain bylaws, reviewing development proposals, providing training and workshops, producing flood maps, conducting National Flood Insurance Program audits, and addressing general floodplain development matters. These efforts help communities reduce flood risk, protect property and public safety, enhance resilience to extreme weather, and ensure compliance with state and federal regulations — safeguarding people and the environment across Massachusetts.

Project Shade

DCR advanced its Project Shade program to enhance the resilience of our state park system to extreme heat by installing shade structures and expanding native tree canopy. In 2025, large shade pavilions were added at Georges Island, Wompatuck, and Myles Standish, and new canopies were installed in Chelsea. At Constitution Beach, 26 native trees were planted in partnership with Tree Eastie. DCR also advanced design and permitting for seven pilot sites, including pavilions built from DCR-sourced wood.



Volunteers planting at the Blackstone River Greenway Visitor Center in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Shared Stewardship of Public Spaces

Over the last year, more than 3,000 volunteers contributed over 6,000 hours to help maintain, beautify, and preserve DCR parks, beaches, watersheds, trails, and forests statewide. Volunteers painted crosswalks and bear boxes, picked up litter, cleared brush, built trail railings, planted flowers and pollinator gardens, turned compost, and more — giving back to the natural resources that give so much to all of us.

Growing Wild

DCR's Growing Wild pollinator program, in collaboration with MDAR and the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, received the 2025 National Association of State Park Directors Innovation Award for expanding pollinator habitats and public engagement in conservation.

“Growing Wild shows how powerful it can be when we invite our residents to help care for our natural resources. A few plants in a backyard may seem small, but when thousands of people across the state join us in this movement, it creates a healthier ecosystem and a strong sense of shared stewardship.”

– Commissioner Nicole LaChapelle, DCR

In five seasons, the program has distributed over 8,200 starter kits with native plants, seeds, and educational materials, creating nine acres of new habitat. This year, Growing Wild partnered with three tribal communities to offer kits featuring culturally significant plant species.



DCR Forest Fire Control Team receives Firefighter of the Year Awards from Governor Healey. November 25, 2025

DCR's Forest Fire Control Team Recognized After Historic Season

After a historic fire season, when an unprecedented 662 wildfires broke out across the state, DCR's Forest Fire Control Team received two statewide awards and was recognized by Wellpoint as "Hometown Heroes" for their dedication to serving communities and protecting our forests. The team also received the Manuel Carballo Governor's Award from the Lieutenant Governor in October and the Firefighter of the Year Award from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, presented by the Governor in November.

MEP Connected Cruisers

Massachusetts Environmental Police officers working in remote locations throughout the state were routinely experiencing cellular connectivity challenges in their day-to-day work, particularly in western Massachusetts. These challenges would make it impossible to access critical data systems and make phone calls. EEA-IT addressed this issue by moving to a "Connected Cruiser" model piloted by the Massachusetts State Police. IT deployed a dual active SIM card, wi-fi enabled router with two mounted antennas to provide seamless connectivity statewide for all 110 cruisers on both the Verizon and AT&T networks.

MEP Leverages Technology

MEP officers used newly acquired CalTopo mapping tools and NESPIN services to strengthen investigations in 2025. CalTopo enabled real-time tracking during search efforts, creation of geospatial references for large-scale investigations, and shared problem-area maps for regional officers; NESPIN connected officers with data analysts to support search warrants on cellphones and trail/game cameras and to track New England-wide patterns in ATV/dirt-bike thefts linked to growing crime rings.



MassDEP and EEA staff outside of an air monitoring station in Boston's Kenmore Square.

Air Monitoring in Saugus and Framingham

In 2025, MassDEP installed two new air monitoring stations in Framingham and Saugus. These stations will identify and measure pollution levels from fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and black carbon. This is part of MassDEP's broader, ongoing initiative to combat pollution and improve air quality across the state. MassDEP now has 26 air quality monitoring stations located across the state.

DPU Safety Division Successes

The DPU's Pipeline Safety Division continues to lead as one of the best pipeline safety departments in the country, receiving a 100% rating for three years in a row by the United States Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The DPU Rail Transit Safety continues as one of the leading state safety oversight agencies in the country and successfully implemented its Risk-Based Inspection Program work to identify areas of highest risk and directing the MBTA to address those risks.

OTA Wins Award for Chemical Safety and Climate Preparedness Videos

The Office of Technical Assistance won a Silver Medal in the 2025 Digital Health Awards for one of its recent videos on how OTA's climate change preparedness services can reduce the risk of industrial chemical accidents, and on how reducing toxics can protect workers and nearby at-risk and environmental justice populations. The videos, produced in partnership with the John Snow Institute and Audio Chemists, will be used to enhance outreach to businesses and encourage local officials, organizations, and community members to refer businesses to OTA.



Division of Marine Fisheries and partners deploying real-time buoy in Cape Cod Bay.

North Atlantic Right Whale Acoustic Monitoring Project

In 2025, the Division of Marine Fisheries' Protected Species Program launched a passive acoustic monitoring network for North Atlantic Right Whales in Massachusetts. Two near real-time buoys and 17 bottom-mounted archival monitors were deployed to record underwater sound and detect large whale vocalizations to improve our understanding of the spatial and temporal presence of large whales, particularly endangered North Atlantic right whales. The data will be used to develop occupancy model estimates, increase the effectiveness of dynamic fisheries management, and inform future conservation strategies.

Plate Auctions & Grant Program Relaunch

The Massachusetts Environmental Trust celebrated the 30th anniversary of its Whale License Plate in 2025 with its first-ever online auctions of low-number plates – launching a multi-year series featuring numbers 1-999 across the Right Whale (RW) and Roseate Tern (RT) plate prefixes. The January auction raised \$75,000, with RW3 selling for \$14,000, and second auction followed in December. Revenue from these specialty plates helps fund MET's grantmaking programs, which were relaunched this year. MET awarded nearly \$500,000 to twelve organizations for environmental education and marine wildlife protection. This included an annual \$200,000 allocation to the Atlantic Large Whale and Sea Turtle Disentanglement Network.

In October 2025, DMF and MET jointly hosted an online auction featuring 20 low-number Striped Bass specialty license plates. The auction showcased a set of highly sought-after plates and successfully generated \$52,580. Proceeds will advance efforts to protect and raise awareness for striped bass — one of Massachusetts' most iconic and economically important saltwater species. The Striped Bass specialty plate, designed by local artist Janet Biondi, highlights the dynamic pursuit of alewives, a favored forage fish and an essential part of the striped bass food web.

Marine Habitat Restoration

In 2025, DMF expanded its marine habitat restoration program, allowing it to make strides towards the development of a statewide marine habitat restoration plan. This work builds off DMF's shellfish, hard bottom habitat, and eelgrass restoration projects. DMF hired its first ever Restoration Specialist, who will work with DMF's Habitat and Shellfish Programs, as well as with partnering organizations, to identify suitable sites for oyster, eelgrass, and other coastal habitat restoration projects throughout Massachusetts waters. And, for the first time, the team distributed 160,000+ viable eelgrass seeds to 6 volunteer groups to accelerate eelgrass restoration statewide.

Commercial Fisheries Commission Established

In 2025, the Commercial Fisheries Commission (CFC) convened for the first time. The CFC was established by An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind in 2022 and is co-chaired by the directors of DMF and CZM. The new public body provides a forum for stakeholders and commercial fishery representatives to discuss and prioritize strategies to support the sustainability of the commercial fishing industry and address concerns facing the industry. In its first year, the CFC has tackled topics like strengthening port infrastructure, offshore wind and fisheries, fish processing efficiency, and more.

HPAI Response

In January, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) killed over 60 geese and other birds in Plymouth and smaller outbreaks occurred across the state throughout the winter. MassWildlife, in coordination with EEA, MDAR, DPH, DEP, and DCR, led a coordinated response to protect wildlife and human health. MassWildlife collected birds, conducted testing and data collection, and evaluated thousands of reports from the public. By taking swift action, agencies effectively communicated guidance to many stakeholders, including farmers, town officials, ACOs, hunters, and the public.

State Wildlife Action Plan

With input from conservation partners and the public, MassWildlife submitted the 2025 State Wildlife Action Plan, to secure eligibility to receive federal funding for conservation efforts. The updated plan builds on BioMap, identifying 619 Species of Greatest Conservation Need, along with 35 habitat categories. It includes new dashboards and fact sheets, as well as over 100 natural communities, and identifies key actions to conserve and restore vulnerable plants, animals, and habitats in Massachusetts.

Climate Science Report

EEA's Office of Climate Science launched the first-ever Massachusetts Climate Science Report that will update and provide the latest guidance on climate change science and data, including trends for increasing sea level rise, precipitation, temperature, drought, and wildfire. The report development is being led by UMass Amherst, includes climate science experts from across the region, and will inform the 2027 Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment and 2028 ResilientMass Plan.



MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle poses with Massachusetts Tomato Contest winners. August 19, 2025

40th Anniversary Massachusetts Tomato Contest

The 40th Anniversary of the Massachusetts Tomato Contest was celebrated on August 19, 2025. Co-sponsored by MDAR and the New England Vegetable and Berry Growers Association, the event at the Boston Public Market brings chefs, food writers, and partners together to showcase peak-season tomatoes. Commissioner Ashley Randle awarded the top entries across four categories. The long-running contest builds camaraderie among growers statewide, who produce about 5 million pounds of tomatoes each year.

Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program

The APR program invested \$7.4 million to protect nearly 600 acres of farmland at three Massachusetts dairy farms, Pine Island Farm and Balsam Hill Farm in Sheffield, and Herrick Farm in Rowley. This ensures the land remains in agricultural use permanently. The project supports the Massachusetts Farmland Action Plan's goal of expanding farmland protection and was completed in partnership with the Cooper Hill Conservation Alliance, NRCS, and Essex County Greenbelt.

Buy-Protect-Sell

Buy-Protect-Sell is a farmland protection strategy in which MDAR purchases land, places a permanent agricultural restriction on it, and sells it to a new farmer. Recent legislation authorized MDAR to use this tool, and the agency is building a framework to identify suitable properties, apply APRs, and select farmers to operate them. The program supports the Massachusetts Farmland Action Plan by expanding protected farmland, improving access, and strengthening farm viability statewide.



Division of Marine Fisheries staff holding eelgrass on a boat. August 5, 2025

Environmental Justice

EEA's environmental justice work is rooted in connection and equity. This year, environmental justice staff met residents where they were by hosting meaningful engagement opportunities to share resources, gather feedback, shape public policy and eliminate barriers for all communities.

EEA also expanded investments, technical assistance, and policy reforms to ensure that neighborhoods historically overburdened by pollution and climate risks receive the support they deserve. These efforts are delivering cleaner air, safer water, greater access to nature, and stronger resilience for the communities that need it most.

Environmental Justice



OEJE staff participating in Spicket River Clean Up hosted by Groundwork Lawrence. September 20, 2025

OEJE Grant Program

The Office of Environmental Justice & Equity (OEJE) successfully completed the inaugural Environmental Justice Capacity-Building Grant program designed to support equity-focused community initiatives. The OEJE Grant program awarded twelve grants totaling over \$500,000 to enhance accessibility, foster inclusive engagement, and build sustainable systems that empower communities most impacted by environmental and energy challenges.

Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

OEJE has launched the development of a Tribal and Indigenous Environmental Justice Strategy. This is an important step toward establishing a framework that centers Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities in statewide environmental justice efforts. Through collaborative engagement, OEJE is working to ensure this initiative reflects the priorities, knowledge, and lived experiences of Tribal and Indigenous stakeholders.

Environmental Justice and Equity Trainings

OEJE convened EEA and other secretariat teams for Environmental Justice Expert Panel Sessions. These sessions deepened participants' understanding how environmental justice and equity issues manifest in communities across sectors and how agencies can meaningfully support environmental justice efforts. OEJE also began developing environmental justice training modules for EEA agencies, including the history of the environmental justice movement as well as current challenges.

Language Access and Public Involvement Plans

EEA staff successfully completed comprehensive trainings in language access and public involvement. These have provided practical tools to communicate effectively and engage in meaningful ways with the public. EEA and its agencies now have a Language Access Plan, a roadmap with resources allocated for successful implementation. This achievement enhances EEA's capacity to deliver clear, equitable information and services.

Through targeted training, EEA staff are now better equipped to engage a wide range of stakeholders, support collaboration, and strengthen inclusive decision-making across projects to ensure meaningful public participation.

Equitable Siting and Permitting: Cumulative Impact Analysis and Community Benefit Plans and Agreements

OEJE advanced one of its most significant statutory responsibilities by developing draft statewide standards and guidelines for Cumulative Impact Analysis (CIA) and Community Benefit Plans and Agreements (CBPs/CBAs), required under the 2024 Climate Act. OEJE engaged communities and stakeholders statewide and built the core framework for a Massachusetts-specific cumulative impact screening tool. OEJE also outlined standards to strengthen how CBPs and future agreements are created and evaluated. This work lays the groundwork for a more transparent, equitable, and community-centered approach to energy facility siting and the clean energy transition in Massachusetts.

Community Climate Advisory Council

The Community Climate Advisory Council (CCAC) brings together representatives from municipal government, regional planning agencies, and community organizations across Massachusetts to ensure state climate planning, policy, capacity building, and technical assistance efforts respond to local needs and priorities. In 2025, the CCAC was instrumental in shaping key statewide initiatives, including the Climate Resilience Playbook; the Home Modernization Navigator and MA Energy Savings Finder; the design of ECO OneStop; engagement occurring through MVP 2.0, and ensuring the Climate Science Report supports the work of communities.

Continued Efforts

- Convened EEA Environmental Justice Liaisons and Representatives from the agencies and offices regarding planning, implementing and managing their EJ Strategy and annual reporting.
- Convened across all secretariats regarding developing environmental justice strategies.
- Convened external environmental justice and equity stakeholders to discuss and shape EEA policies and priorities.



Environmental Justice Liaison Syenna Mashmasarmi presents to the Environmental Justice Council in Leominster on OEJE's draft MassEnviroScreen tool and its' application for Cumulative Impact Analysis for energy infrastructure. November 30, 2025

Workforce & Innovation

Massachusetts is investing in the people and ideas that power our future. This year, the state expanded career training, supported small businesses, and grew youth programs that introduce young people to clean energy and environmental careers.

Workforce & Innovation | Supporting Workers

Fossil Fuel Workforce Commission

In 2025, the Special Commission on the Fossil Fuel Workforce, a 21-member commission including representatives from labor, technical schools, major energy employers, and environmental justice groups, released recommendations to ensure that Massachusetts' energy transition supports the workers who keep the system safe and reliable today while preparing a new generation for clean energy careers. The Commission concluded that both fossil fuel and clean energy workers are essential to grid stability and that any transition must be deliberate, data-driven, and centered on maintaining good-paying jobs across the state.

The report calls for expanding clean energy apprenticeships, aligning licensure and training requirements, improving long-term workforce planning, and strengthening statewide data tools. The Commission also pointed to successful models, such as the MBTA's technician training program, that help workers move into emerging clean energy roles without losing pay, seniority, or opportunity — underscoring that Massachusetts can modernize its energy system while protecting workers and supporting communities.

Climate Critical Training Program and Climate Careers Fund

In July, MassDEP provided \$21 million from the Climate Mitigation Fund to support Massachusetts Clean Energy Center workforce development initiatives that will:

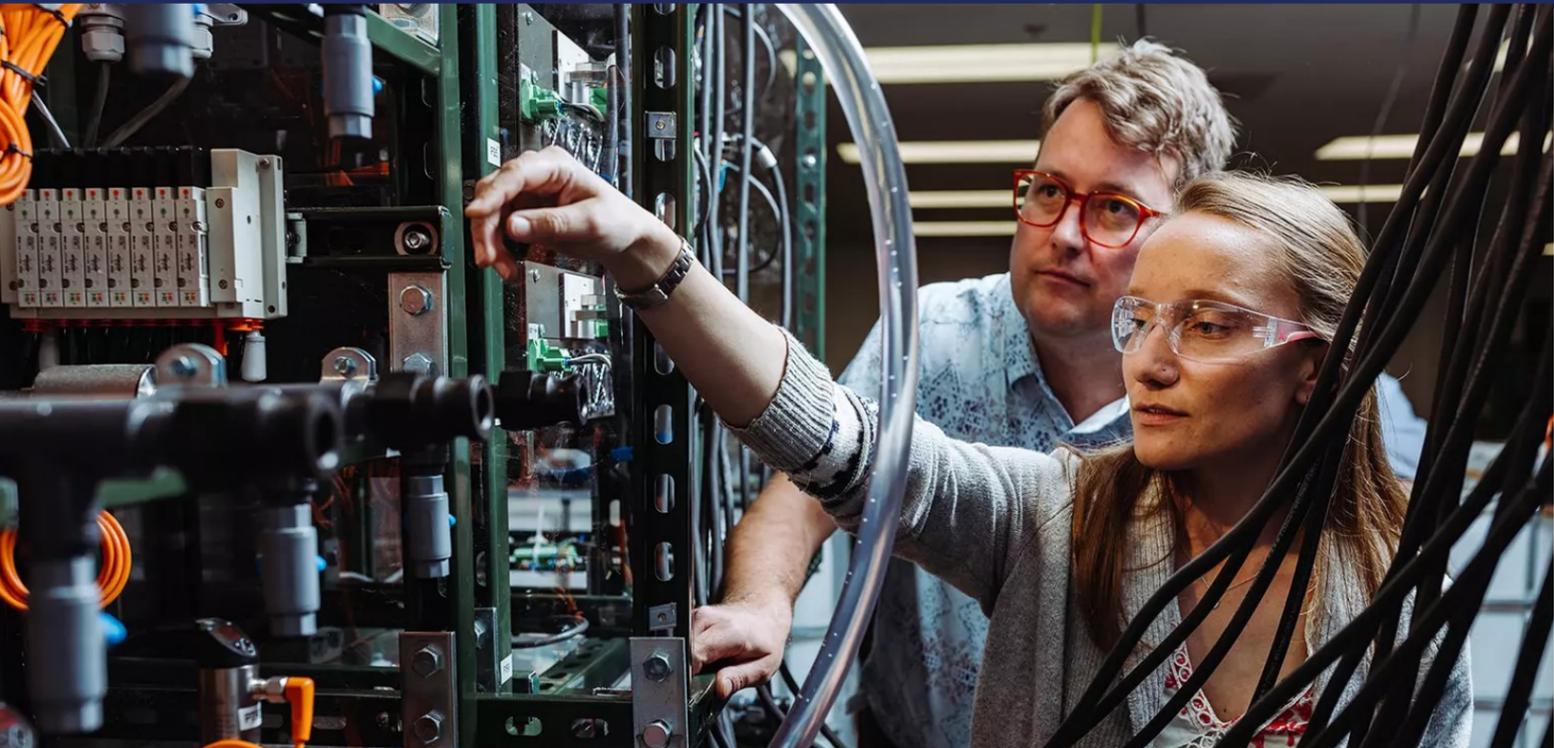
- Launch the Massachusetts Climate Careers Fund “talent finance” public-private initiative to train workers for clean energy careers;
- Expand clean energy training pipelines to upskill and reskill current industry workers;
- Grow the number of qualified instructors across all regions; and
- Modernize training program equipment such as ground- and air-source heat pumps, energy auditing equipment, tools, and learning resources.

Passive Building Education

Certification to passive building standards is now mandatory for multifamily buildings in 45+ Massachusetts municipalities. It is essential to share lessons learned and educational content coming out of early passive multifamily projects so housing can be built at lower cost. MassCEC is working with Passive House Massachusetts to interview project developers, develop best practice training content, and educate the building professionals including contractors, architects, and engineers on lower cost approaches to achieving passive multifamily buildings.

Heat Pump and HVAC Training Network

The Community College Heat Pump and HVAC Training Network, offered by MassCEC with funding from DOER, is designed to offer direct funding and technical assistance to Massachusetts community colleges seeking to establish or upgrade HVAC and heat pump training centers. Funding supports staffing capacity, training seats, and enhanced wrap-around support services. These grants will increase access to modern, relevant training equipment and infrastructure and provide support to community colleges to build and scale career pathways that help Massachusetts residents access and advance in HVAC mechanic and technician occupations.



Nth Cycle team members operating electro-extraction refining system. Photo courtesy of Nth Cycle.

Testing and Demonstration Assets Program

In 2025, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center launched the inaugural Climatetech Testing and Demonstration Assets (TDA) Program, which provides capital grants to Entrepreneur Support Organizations in Massachusetts to develop shared infrastructure, equipment, and other capital assets that advance climatetech R&D, innovation, manufacturing, commercialization, and deployment in the state. TDA is MassCEC's first program launched under the Mass Leads Act (2024) and supports the goals outlined in the Massachusetts Climatetech Economic Development Strategy and Implementation Plan (2025).

Catalyst/DICES Grant Program

The Catalyst Program provides grants of up to researchers and early-stage companies looking to demonstrate initial prototypes of their climate technologies. Catalyst is jointly administered by MassCEC and MassVentures with a goal of stimulating the commercialization of climate technologies developed in the Commonwealth. The Fall 2025 application cohort received a 90% increase year-over-year, with 76 early stage climatetech researchers and entrepreneurs applying for funding.

Climatetech Studio

The Massachusetts Climatetech Studio is a 16-week accelerator connecting entrepreneurs with breakthrough climatetech from research labs. Across two cohorts from 2024 and 2025, 50 entrepreneurs formed 17 teams, mostly paired with Massachusetts-based labs. The program offers mentorship, stipends, and opportunities for prizes and grants. Since winter 2024, 13 teams have incorporated and raised approximately \$360,000 in external funding.

Climatetech Corridor Roadshow

Bringing people together to create jobs and grow businesses is at the core of MassCEC's mission. This year, the agency launched a Climatetech Corridor Roadshow, an initiative to highlight Massachusetts' Climatetech Economic Development Plan — a decade-long effort to make the state a global leader in climate innovation. Following its kickoff event in Central Massachusetts, MassCEC held gatherings over several months in the Cape Cod, Pioneer Valley, and the Southeast regions.

The Roadshow brings together diverse climatetech stakeholders, including municipal leaders and entrepreneurs, for an immersive day of conversations, tours, and relationship-building — far more than just a traditional networking event.

Throughout 2025, MassCEC engaged over 100 stakeholders and visited around twelve climatetech sites. From Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute's laboratories to rising startups in the Pioneer Valley, these experiences demonstrate that climatetech presents economic opportunities across every region of the state. The Roadshow highlighted the vital role of local leadership, proving that Massachusetts' climatetech sector grows stronger when all regions have a seat at the table.

Looking ahead to 2026, MassCEC plans to continue the Roadshow with events in the Berkshires, Greater Boston, and the Northeast.

MassCEC 2030 Fund

In the 2025 calendar year to date, the MassCEC's 2030 Fund has made three public investments in growing Massachusetts-based climatetech companies. Two investments were made in new portfolio companies: 1) BlueShift, a company reducing critical mineral costs by developing AI electrochemical systems 2) EQORE, a company developing smart battery storage systems. A follow-on investment was made in Lithios, a company producing low-cost, sustainable lithium.

InnovateMass Gridtech Spotlight

MassCEC's Tech-to-Market team, in collaboration with the Net Zero Grid team, ran a gridtech spotlight for its InnovateMass Program. This is a first-of-the-kind opportunity Massachusetts for gridtech startups to conduct pilots with the state's utilities. The first round of the program included five electric utilities and resulted in three gridtech startup projects. Because of its success, MassCEC just launched a new round of the gridtech spotlight program.

Massachusetts Clean Auto Repair (MassCAR) Guide Updates

OTA developed the MassCAR guide in 2013 to help autobody and repair shops stay in compliance with state and federal environmental law and reduce toxics use and releases wherever possible. In 2025, as part of OTA's commitment to making our resources more accessible to all, we have made the MassCAR curriculum available as a web guide. The content has been refreshed and is now compatible with screen readers and online translation. OTA is making similar accessibility improvements to its other resources and now offers a web-based case study library.



Group photo of the Massachusetts Agriculture Youth Council on the Massachusetts State House Grand Staircase. March 18, 2025

Year of Youth in Agriculture

MDAR ushered in its second class of the Massachusetts Agriculture Youth Council, made up of high school students, this past spring and also declared 2025 as the Year of Youth in Agriculture, which emphasizes the need for our youth to be involved in agriculture to shape the next generation of growers. Ag Youth Council members participated in meetings with MDAR leadership and attended farm visits and various agricultural events to receive real world and hands-on experience to see agriculture in action in Massachusetts.

MassDEP attended 121 + Community Events in 2025

MassDEP attended over 100 community events this year, including 40 Career Fairs to connect with students and discuss the importance of careers in public service. The MassDEP Michelle Waters-Ekanem Internship Program provides opportunities to undergraduate, graduate, and law school students, as well as others interested in environmental careers. It fosters hands-on experience, training, supervision, and networking opportunities to help develop professional skills and thrive in the environmental field.

DCR's Conservation and Recreation Leadership Fellows

Building the Next Generation of Environmental Stewards: In 2025, DCR launched the third season of the Conservation and Recreation Leadership Fellows program, welcoming seven college students for 11 weeks of leadership training, interpretive guide training, and hands-on fieldwork with DCR mentors. Fellows advanced projects including pollinator habitat restoration, community shade planning, park history, and native plant inventories. DCR was also honored with Salem State University's Community Partner Award, recognizing our commitment to mentoring students and growing future environmental leaders.



Group photo of DCR's Stewardship Corps.

DCR's Stewardship Corps

In 2025, DCR continued its commitment to building future conservation leaders through the agency's Stewardship Corps program, completing two partnerships with the Boys & Girls Clubs in Fall River and in Lawrence and Lowell through a combined regional program. Designed to engage young people ages 13–16 from Environmental Justice communities, Stewardship Corps provides hands-on opportunities to connect with nature, learn directly from DCR experts, and experience Massachusetts' state parks as places of learning, recreation, and potential career exploration.

CELT Fellows

As part of the Clean Energy and Environment Legacy Transition (CELT) initiative launched in 2024 by the Healey-Driscoll Administration, the Office of Energy Transformation hosted five student fellows this year to support OET's ongoing work. All fellows are current students at Massachusetts universities and played a key role in advancing the work of OET's Focus Area Work Groups (FAWGs). Over the course of their fellowship, the fellows conducted policy research, supported development of a legislative report, helped organize community meetings, and took on additional assignments that advanced OET's work while gaining valuable experience in state government. OET is grateful for the contributions of this inaugural cohort and looks forward to welcoming the second cohort in January to continue this collaboration.

CELT, funded by DOER, also began placing municipal cleanenergy fellows in communities and regional planning agencies across the state to support local energy planning and projects. CELT helps municipalities with data needs required for project planning and created the CELT Energy Transition Atlas, an interactive mapping tool that provides data and information to support municipal decision-making and track progress on renewable energy and sustainability. DOER's Green Communities Division works closely with CELT staff to place fellows and identify municipal data needs and gaps.



Group photo of EEA, DFG, NGO, and academic partners on a Blue Carbon Tour in the Great Marsh in Ipswich hosted by The Trustees of Reservations. May 6, 2025

Blue Carbon Program

In 2025, the Department of Fish and Game completed the feasibility study for the first Blue Carbon Program for salt marshes in the country. Massachusetts has 45,000 acres of salt marshes — one of the most productive ecosystems on Earth that provides habitat for wildlife, including threatened species like the salt marsh sparrow, protects communities from storm surge, and supports sustainable fisheries. By protecting and restoring salt marshes, we can boost their ability to store and sequester carbon and support the Commonwealth’s net-zero goals. DFG brought together experts at the forefront of salt marsh restoration and blue carbon research to explore the feasibility of financial incentives to drive progress. In December 2025, DFG completed the feasibility study and began implementation, including filling data gaps, with a goal of enrolling 4,000 — 6,500 acres of salt marsh in the program by 2030.

DPU CERÉ Division

Innovation isn’t limited to new technologies — it also includes how government adapts. In 2025, the DPU established the Clean Energy and Resilience Engineering (CERE) Division to oversee the safety, reliability, and modernization of Massachusetts’ energy systems. The CERE Division evaluates utility plans for electrification and gas system decommissioning, assesses non-pipeline alternatives, reviews grid investments to strengthen resilience, and monitors system performance and emergency events. The CERE Division also reviews electric utility filings, collaborates on grid modernization and renewable interconnection, and investigates service disruptions, safety incidents, and consumer complaints to ensure compliance and protect ratepayers.



DCR volunteers posing for a selfie outside.

DCR’s Inaugural Innovation Awards

DCR announced 16 winners of its inaugural Innovation Awards Program, aimed at funding creative solutions to advance the agency’s mission. Focused on climate resilience and decarbonization, the projects received nearly \$498,000 in total and include a traveling solar-powered salt marsh for education, a statewide climate volunteer corps, pollinator gardens, cooling centers, solar snow-melting mats, and rehabilitation of the Blackstone River Greenway with native habitats and a seed bank to support long-term sustainability and public engagement.

Supporting Innovative Waste Reduction

MassDEP launched a brand-new grant program designed to fund innovative waste reduction projects. The grants will support new and existing businesses, non-profit organizations, and institutions that are committed to investing in advanced equipment or technology to reduce waste. These investments will grow the innovation economy, create new jobs, and reduce the amount of waste headed to our landfills. First rounds of awards are expected to be announced in Q1 2026.



Governor Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll spin basketballs on their fingers at the Big E in West Springfield, Massachusetts. September 18, 2025

Investing in Our Communities

This year, the state delivered funding, technical assistance, and on-the-ground support to help cities and towns strengthen local infrastructure, expand access to clean energy, protect natural resources, and improve quality of life for residents.

We also modernized our grant management systems to make funding easier to access for municipalities and community partners.

Investing in Our Communities | Grants By the Numbers

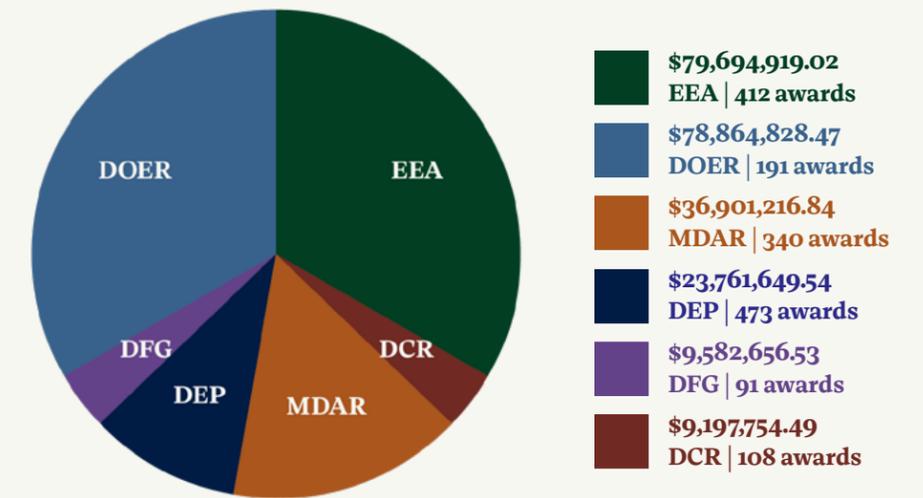
Grants By the Numbers

In 2025, EEA and its agencies distributed more than **\$238 million in grants** across 70+ programs, supporting over **1,600 individual awards** statewide.

\$238 Million Awarded in Grant Funding

1,600 Individual Awards Statewide

\$1.04 Billion in Loans Distributed



These investments — administered by MDAR, MassDEP, DCR, DFG, DOER, and EEA (including CZM) — funded projects that strengthen communities, protect natural resources, support agriculture and fisheries, and advance clean energy and resilience. In addition, MassDEP issued **38 low-interest loans totaling more than \$1.04 billion**, helping communities make long-term infrastructure improvements.

Grant Management System

In March 2025, EEA launched the new Grants Management System to facilitate grant applications and management for external constituents and agency managers. Since launch there have been over 20 grant programs moved to the GMS with over 270 different municipalities, nonprofit organizations and businesses applying for over 350 grants. EEA is on track to have over 1,000 community users by the new year. EEA continues to roll out additional features to make it easier for our partners to find, apply for, contract, and manage grants.

AI Grants Navigator

Created in collaboration with students from Northeastern University, EEA's new Grants Navigator uses Artificial Intelligence to help users quickly locate grants that match their needs and interests. Users simply enter keywords related to their project or area of focus, and the tool searches Mass.gov for the most relevant results all in one convenient place. The Grants Navigator tool represents an important step forward in improving access to state funding information and supporting communities, organizations, and individuals working to make a difference across the Commonwealth.



Children playing at the new Constitution Beach Playground in East Boston. November 19, 2025

Constitution Beach Playground

DCR opened a new playground at Constitution Beach in East Boston, following a \$1.1 million project to replace aging play structures with a new, more modern, accessible space for children and families. The new equipment uses resilient materials designed to withstand coastal conditions, reducing long-term maintenance needs. The project expanded accessible parking and relocated the playground further from the shoreline, allowing for a new coastal dune to protect the beach from erosion. The new playground supports a range of activities for children of all abilities.

Lynn Harbor Park Project

Lynn Harbor Park opened in July and a ribbon cutting was held in September. Significant inter-agency coordination transformed land once inaccessible to the public into a one-of-a-kind natural and recreational resource. EEA and its Gateway City Parks Program has played a vital role in the revitalization of the Lynn Waterfront including provision of over \$10 million in funding for the project and related work since 2021.

Lynn Harbor Park provides a mile of new accessible pathways, hundreds of new trees, basketball and pickle ball courts, perennial gardens, a performance stage, and an overlook pavilion. Significant site remediation repaired a failing landfill cap and safely encapsulated contaminated soils. Complex environmental site permitting and agreements with abutting parcel owners were necessary to see the successful completion of the park project. The reshaped landfill is also designed with coastal resilience in mind and includes features to mitigate storm surges and flooding.



Marker at the Gold Star Families Memorial Bridge dedicated to Massachusetts veterans and their families. November 5, 2025

Rededication of Veterans Memorial Park in Lynn

In 2025, DCR rededicated what was formerly Lynn Heritage State Park as Veterans Memorial Park and unveiled a new marker at the Gold Star Families Memorial Bridge, a pedestrian bridge over Route 1A designated in 2020 as the state's official bridge honoring Gold Star Families. The park and bridge stand as lasting tributes to the courage and sacrifice of Massachusetts' veterans and their families who carry their memory forward.

Universal Access Program

Over the past year, DCR, through its Universal Access Program (UAP), provided recreation opportunities for 1,500 people with disabilities and 1,200 family members, friends, caregivers, and support staff, helping people of all abilities experience Massachusetts' state parks. In the spring, Triangle, Inc. honored UAP as Disability Advocate of the Year in recognition of the program's support at Triangle's annual beach event, where dozens of participants experience the ocean for the first time. In 2025, UAP debuted a new all-terrain TrackChair at Windsor State Forest, expanding access to DCR's trails.

Destination Mountain Biking Development Grants

In 2025, the Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation (MOOR) invested in destination mountain biking trail systems in Lanesborough, Williamstown and Sandwich, boosting outdoor recreation economy and adaptive riding opportunities. Completed trail networks are designed for riders of all levels, offering scenic routes that integrate the regions natural beauty and local outdoor recreation businesses, creating a true "town-to-trail" destination.

Trails for All Initiative

MOOR has advanced the work of the Trails for All effort, a comprehensive initiative that will review the current state of universally accessible trails in Massachusetts. Through intentional trail planning, this initiative plans to promote inclusivity for people with disabling conditions and other mobility considerations by implementing trail improvements such as gentle grades, stable surfaces, and inclusive signage.

This year, MOOR convened the multistakeholder Trail Access Working Group and hosted two public forums to gather feedback on the condition of accessible trails. These efforts will result in a comprehensive accessible trails network assessment to improve access to the outdoors all Massachusetts residents and visitors.

Twin City Rail Trail Project

In 2022, EEA contributed \$865K to the City of Leominster to purchase inactive CSX ROW to connect the Twin City Rail Trail into downtown. “Phase 3” of the trail now provides access to Carter Park and the downtown Leominster business district including the historic train depot building at Water Street. In 2023 EEA also funded the completion of trail design for Phase 3 and contributed \$1.7M towards the cost of construction.

Construction was declared substantially complete in late fall and a ribbon cutting held in mid-November. Additional user amenities such as benches, informational signage, pedestrian plazas, and sitting areas, were provided along the trail into the downtown of Leominster where trail users now have improved access to associated businesses and community service centers.

The completed Twin Cities Rail Trail will run roughly 4.5 miles from its intersection with Water Street in Leominster to the Water Street Bridge and MBTA Commuter Rail station in Fitchburg. The goal of the project is to connect the downtowns of Leominster and Fitchburg via a safe, off-road alternative transportation corridor and recreational trail facility/ shared use path.

Archery for All

This summer, MassWildlife opened public archery ranges on six Wildlife Management Areas across the Commonwealth. These temporary ranges gave target archers and bowhunters of all ages and abilities safe, legal places to practice archery and enjoy the outdoors. The public immediately embraced the concept, with over 1,200 free range passes issued, and hundreds of students joining MassWildlife at archery education classes held at the ranges.



Ribbon cutting of the new canoe and kayak launch on the Millers River in Athol, Massachusetts. August 29, 2025

Fishing and Boating Public Access Wins

In 2025, DFG’s Office of Fishing & Boating Access (OFBA) significantly increased public access to fishing and boating, particularly in underserved and Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. OFBA cut the ribbon on a brand-new public access boat ramp on the Millers River in Athol and celebrated new and improved facilities on the Quabbin Reservoir, Flint Pond in Shrewsbury, Cheshire Reservoir in Cheshire, Scituate Harbor in Scituate, and Norton Reservoir in Norton. These improvements made facilities fully accessible so all can enjoy outdoor recreation and connection to nature.





Group photo of Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll and Undersecretary Katherine Antos with students at the former Beaver Brook Golf Course. October 9, 2025

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grants

EEA announced nearly \$30 million in grants to help 54 Massachusetts communities prepare for increasingly extreme weather brought on by climate change – including heat waves, flooding, wildfires and storms. This year, EEA made a targeted effort to recruit rural and small towns into the MVP Action Grant program, with \$11 million going specifically to those areas. Among the many awardees, the Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe was awarded \$196,230 to plan for future acquisition of the culturally-significant Tidmarsh Farms Homestead and preserve it in a way that promotes traditional ecological knowledge and climate resilience, and the Town of Williamsburg received \$1.2M to preserve and rewild the 288-acre Beaver Brook golf course to mitigate against future flooding. MVP is a priority program of ResilientMass, the statewide climate adaptation plan.

New Environment and Climate One Stop Grant Portal

EEA is launching a One Stop for community partners to apply for seven different climate resilience grant programs with a single application. The Environment & Climate One Stop (ECO One Stop) centralizes and streamlines applications for four EEA, two CZM, and one DFG programs into a single portal. Applicants provided 541 “Expressions of Interest” for potential projects. These applicants were given personalized feedback about their ideas by program staff. The full grant application for FY27 grants will open in January 2026.

Drought Resiliency and Water Efficiency Grant Program

In FY25, this inaugural grant program was launched to help Massachusetts communities become more climate resilient by reducing water use, improving water loss control, and increasing drought management/planning. Almost \$500,000 was awarded to 13 projects; the program will continue in FY26.



Beach nourishment along Bay Avenue in Marshfield, Massachusetts. Photo credit: Woods Hole Group

Coastal Resilience Grants

On October 6, EEA and CZM announced \$3.8 million in grants for 12 projects that protect critical infrastructure and natural resources from erosion, storm damage, and flooding. Coastal Resilience Grants were awarded to: Barnstable, Chatham, The House of the Seven Gables Settlement Association, Hull, Kingston, Nantucket, New Bedford, Plymouth, Revere, Salisbury, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and Westport.

With this crucial funding, these communities and nonprofit and tribal partners are taking necessary actions to identify vulnerable areas and prepare for future impacts to the coast.

The Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) grant is the first Coastal Resilience Grant award to a Massachusetts tribal government. The project will integrate Tribal knowledge and best practices for stabilizing eroding coastal banks to protect the sacred Gay Head Cliffs and surrounding infrastructure.

Dam Owners Technical Assistance Program

The Dam Owners Technical Assistance Program provides no-cost engineering services to both private and public dam owners for completing required inspections, preparing or updating Emergency Action Plans, and in some cases, beginning to plan for dam repair or removal projects. Priority is given to privately owned dams that are classified as High and Significant Hazard Potential structures with large lapses in regulatory compliance. In year one of the program (FY25), EEA provided \$819,123 in services to 114 dams, spanning across 73 cities and towns.



Governor Healey joins EEA staff on a culvert visit in Becket, Massachusetts. March 18, 2025

Culverts and Climate Resilience

In March, Governor Maura Healey announced a historic \$200M investment in resilient culverts. Signed into law in August, this transformative funding will help communities replace undersized culverts with larger, safer structures. EEA's Climate Team and DFG's Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) are collaborating with MassDOT and municipalities to advance these projects statewide to improve public safety, address flood risks, and improve habitat for fish and wildlife. DER's Stream Continuity Program is a leader in culvert replacements and supports municipalities pursuing them through funding, technical assistance, and training. EEA is developing standards to incorporate climate resilience into culvert design.

Dam and Seawall Repair and Removal Projects

Nearly \$11 million in grants were awarded to repair or remove aging dams, seawalls, and levees across Massachusetts. This funding, provided through the Dam and Seawall Repair or Removal Program, will support 23 municipalities and nonprofit organizations in making long-overdue repairs and taking down outdated structures that put homes, roads, and neighborhoods at risk. Specifically, the awards will support 17 design and eight construction projects, advancing work for the repair of 15 dams, two seawalls, and one levee system, as well as the removal of seven dams.

Statewide Floodplain Development Training Program

Flood Hazard Management Prevention staff developed and presented floodplain development training to all Massachusetts communities on a variety of topics for local building officials, conservation commissioners, regional planning agencies and others. More than 28 workshops were held in FY25.



Lawrence Mayor Brian De Peña presents at OTA's tabletop exercise. June 24, 2025

Exercises for First Responders, Manufacturers, and Communities

OTA hosted in-person tabletop exercises in Lawrence and Holyoke to help businesses, first responders, municipal officials, and local organizations prepare for climate-related chemical emergencies. Participants roleplayed their responses, from preparation through post-incident recovery, to hypothetical climate-related chemical release scenarios in their communities. OTA has made the exercise materials available in multiple languages on its Chemical Safety and Climate Change Resilience webpage, where visitors can learn more about OTA's resources for businesses and local communities.

Climate Resilience Playbook

The Climate Resilience Playbook is an online interactive tool that local planners can use to identify and prioritize resilience actions for their communities. It was developed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in collaboration with EEA and the Barr Foundation. The Playbook provides step-by-step guidance to help advance local climate efforts from planning to implementation. The Playbook won the 2025 American Planning Association Massachusetts President's Award for its essential, practical approach to municipal climate adaptation.

Resilience Revolving Fund

The Mass Ready Act filed by Governor Healey establishes a Resilience Revolving Fund that would issue low interest loans for shovel-ready projects that protect communities from flooding and extreme heat. Cities, towns, tribes, and water and wastewater districts would be eligible for loans, and repayments would be reinvested in future resilience projects such as resized culverts, dam removals, living shorelines, shade structures, and wetland and stream restorations. The Resilience Revolving Fund creates a new tool in the toolbox to finance projects that avoid damages and costly repairs.



Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, Commissioner Mahony, and electeds pose for a group photo at the Climate Leader Communities event. May 2, 2025

Climate Leader Communities & Green Communities

DOER certified the first 28 Climate Leader Communities and made \$60 million in grant funding available to support cities and towns in reducing energy costs and pollution under the program. In 2025 DOER awarded the first major grants to 4 communities, a total of \$3.8 million. The program builds on the highly successful Green Communities program and was created in response to strong municipal demand for a higher tier of the program. Nearly 300 cities and towns are designated Green Communities and partnered with DOER on hundreds of projects delivering nearly \$30 million in cost savings each year.

DOER awarded more than \$15 million to 88 cities and towns to fund local clean energy projects that lower municipal energy costs, reduce air pollution, and boost local economies. The proposed projects are expected to save roughly \$1.1 million each year in energy costs. DOER also awarded \$194,000 in Municipal Energy Technical Assistance grants to 12 local governments across Massachusetts, and \$911,000 in Regional Energy Planning Assistance grants for 11 regional planning agencies to support 143 cities and towns. Both programs help municipalities analyze and plan for clean energy projects.

More than 200 community leaders, clean energy and climate practitioners, and committee members came together to learn, collaborate, and celebrate successes at the 2025 Green Communities + Leading by Example Summit. The 2nd Annual Summit featured presentations on energy initiatives, policy updates, and opportunities for partnerships and gave attendees the opportunity to network and learn from each other.



Ribbon cutting for Leading by Example grantee, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority. June 17, 2025

Leading By Example

DOER's Leading by Example (LBE) program collaborates with state organizations to lower environmental impacts of state government. In 2025, LBE awarded \$1.3 million in grants to build solar at Framingham State University, Massachusetts State Police, Pioneer Valley Transit Authority and MassDOT. The solar systems will save more than \$4 million in energy costs over their lifetimes. DOER also made \$50 million in grant funding available for state organizations to implement solar and electrification projects to lower energy costs and pollution at state facilities throughout the Commonwealth.

Energy Efficiency Three-Year Plans

The current Mass Save program's Three-Year Plan approved by the DPU will provide \$12 billion in total benefits to customers and helps direct critical funding toward Designated Equity Communities that enables eligible residents to receive no-cost weatherization and qualified rental properties and moderate-income customers to receive no-cost air-source heat pumps, barrier mitigation, and dedicated support. The new Mass Save Designated Equity Communities initiative will expand access to energy efficiency and lower bills for the people who need it most. In 2025, DOER, with the MA Energy Efficiency Advisory Council, began work on the next Three-Year Plan to ensure the Mass Save programs continue to benefit residents, businesses and our electric grid.

EVICC Assessment and Electric Vehicle Funding Announcement

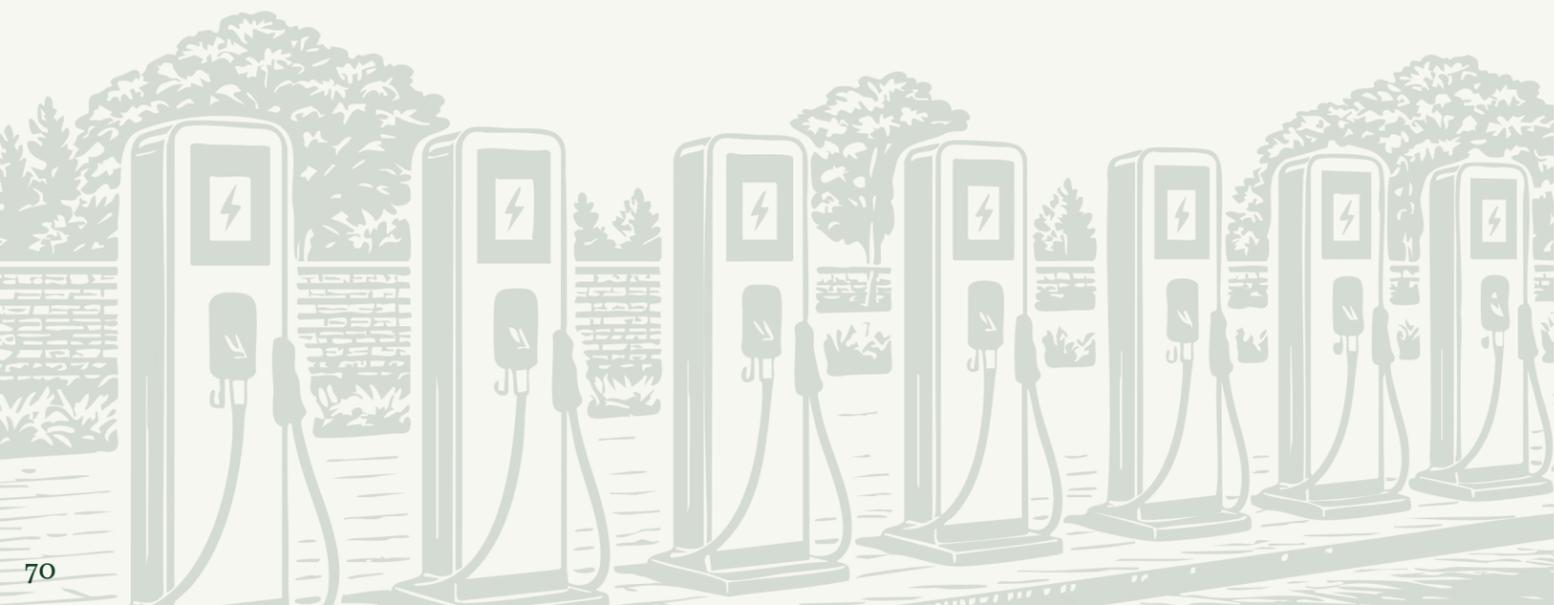
In 2025, the Healey-Driscoll Administration paired the latest Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinating Council Assessment with a \$46 million investment by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to make electric vehicle charging access more equitable across Massachusetts. The assessment identified that, while the state leads the nation in charger density overall, access is uneven: many secondary corridors, rural towns, and communities without off-street parking lack reliable public charging.

By focusing deployment in western and central Massachusetts, along key travel routes, and in neighborhoods where residents cannot charge at home, the state is ensuring that the benefits of electrification — lower operating costs, cleaner air, and quieter streets — extend to all Massachusetts communities. MassDEP’s funding will scale chargers for passenger vehicles as well as medium- and heavy-duty fleets, which are major contributors to transportation pollution in environmental justice communities. Delivered through both existing programs and new grant opportunities, these investments will accelerate charger deployment where needs are greatest rather than where markets already thrive.

On-Street Charging Solutions

MassCEC’s On-Street Charging Solutions program provides technical and financial assistance to cities and towns interested in on-street EV charging. The program prioritizes municipalities with high percentages of environmental justice communities. 40 municipalities are participating as of December 2025.

Massachusetts now has 10,000 chargers across 4,000 public charging locations!



\$1.26 Billion Invested in Water Quality

MassDEP made record investments in water quality in 2025:

- \$1.24B in low-interest SRF loans to improve water quality, upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, and reduce plant energy use and costs.
- \$4M to prevent, control or reduce nonpoint source pollution
- \$825K for nitrogen reduction projects protecting Cape Cod estuaries
- \$750K+ for water quality testing and improvements in Massachusetts’ waterbodies and coastal resources
- \$16M+ to help small and disadvantaged communities address emerging contaminants like PFAS and manganese

Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants

On October 8, EEA and CZM announced \$1.1 million in Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants to reduce stormwater pollution to the coast and support habitat restoration. The nine projects — matched by \$1.2 million from municipal and nonprofit sources, demonstrating a strong local commitment — will help keep beaches and shellfish harvesting areas open and advance coastal habitat restoration. The grants were awarded to the Association to Preserve Cape Cod, Charles River Watershed Association, Cohasset, Duxbury, Kingston, Mashpee, Mystic River Watershed Association, Weymouth, and Yarmouth.

Grants to Protect Habitat and Water Quality in the Buzzards Bay Watershed

On April 4, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced \$138,000 in grants awarded by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program through CZM to support fish migration and improve water quality in the Buzzards Bay watershed. Plymouth received \$69,000 for a stormwater treatment system to protect Clear Pond from seasonal cyanobacteria outbreaks, and Westport received \$69,000 to complete preliminary engineering design plans to replace undersized and deteriorating culverts to improve stream flow, fish migration, and public safety by reducing roads damage during extreme flooding.

Completion of Critical Water Redundancy Projects

Section 101 – Waltham: MWRA began a pipeline extension project along Section 101 in April 2023, constructing a new 36-inch water main from the Waltham–Lexington line along Lexington Street to Totten Pond Road. The new connection provides a redundant water supply to Waltham’s Prospect Hill Service Area, supports emergency supply to MWRA’s Northern Extra High Pressure Zone, and ensures continued service during future rehabilitation of the WASM 3 pipeline and Lexington Street Pumping Station. The project was largely completed in summer 2025 and included replacement of some of Waltham’s aging water and sewer mains, some more than a century old.

Section 89 – Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester, and Woburn: Building on the Northern Intermediate High Pressure Zone Redundancy Project completed in 2021, MWRA advanced the replacement of Section 89, a 1970s-era pipeline made of pre-stressed concrete cylinder pipe vulnerable to failure. With redundancy in place, MWRA replaced the PCCP segments with new ductile iron pipe. Pipe installation was completed in fall 2025, with roadway restoration along Fallon Road and North Border Road in Stoneham scheduled for spring 2026.



Group photo with MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle and DMF Director Dan McKiernan at the Massachusetts Aquaculture Month kick-off: November 7, 2025

November Dubbed Massachusetts Aquaculture Month

In partnership with the Massachusetts Aquaculture Association, the Healey-Driscoll Administration declared November Massachusetts Aquaculture Month to highlight the state's thriving aquaculture industry. A kick-off event occurred at the Copley Square Farmers Market at the beginning of the month and along with DMF, MDAR created social media content throughout November to highlight the positive impacts of the industry on the blue economy.

Farmland Licensing Program

The State-Owned Farmland Licensing Program manages 1,055 acres across 12 state properties, supporting over 30 tenants growing vegetables and forage, including organizations subleasing to Historically Underserved Farmers. The program added 10 new licenses in FY25. In 2025, MDAR invested over \$1 million in improvements, installing new irrigation wells or river pumps at eight sites, including solar-powered systems in remote areas.

Farmland Preservation

MDAR continues to implement its Farmland Action Plan that was unveiled 2 years ago in December 2023 and this past year, launched a new grant program called the Massachusetts Farmland Partnership Program that awarded nearly \$2 million to organizations that will build networks and strengthen partnerships to protect, enhance the viability of, and ensure access to farmland for current and future farmers.



With the support of a SMRP grant, the Town of Plympton launched a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program at its transfer station. April 1, 2023

280 Municipal and Regional Programs Across Massachusetts Awarded Over \$4 Million in Recycling and Waste Reduction Grants

MassDEP provided Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grants for recycling, composting, reuse, and source reduction activities that decrease the amount of waste disposed of in landfills and incinerators. SMRP-awarded projects also boost resiliency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by capturing embodied energy in everyday products and packaging materials for conversion into new products. The program helps ensure that our cities and towns have the resources they need to become more sustainable and achieve their goals of reducing disposal costs and the amount of waste in our landfills.



Cutting Red Tape

Cutting red tape is key to getting critical projects built faster and delivering benefits to communities sooner. This year, Massachusetts streamlined permitting, reduced duplicative reviews, modernized outdated processes, and improved coordination across state agencies.

These reforms are helping housing, clean energy, resilience, and environmental restoration projects move from planning to construction more quickly. We're saving time, lowering costs, and ensuring communities see real results.

Cutting Red Tape

Siting and Permitting Reform

On November 21, 2024, Governor Healey signed the 2024 Climate Act into law. The cornerstone of this act was a series of comprehensive reforms to the permitting procedures for small and large clean energy infrastructure facilities. These reforms will improve stakeholder input into siting decisions, establish site suitability criteria, require cumulative impact analyses, consolidate permitting proceedings, and reduce permitting timelines. EEA, DOER, EFSB, and DPU have conducted extensive stakeholder engagement throughout 2025 as they collectively aim to implement this new framework in 2026.

DPU sought comments on an intervenor grant support program that, once implemented in 2026, will provide financial support for municipalities, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders to participate in proceedings before the DPU and EFSB. DPU expanded its Siting Division staff to support the development of the siting and permitting changes. DPU's Siting Division and Division of Public Participation led numerous public meetings, public hearings, webinars, and small group conversations to inform regulations to implement the 2024 Climate Act.

DOER stood up a new Division of Clean Energy Siting & Permitting to provide municipal guidance for a streamlined local siting and permitting process for small clean energy projects. The new team, which includes four regional coordinators, hit the ground running and met with hundreds of stakeholders, including municipal officials across Massachusetts. In October, DOER held six public meetings to provide an overview of the proposed regulations, answer questions, get feedback, and receive comments. DOER received 225 written comments and issued final draft regulations in December.

Building Energy Codes

In early 2025, DOER made updates to the stretch and specialized energy codes to add flexibility and catalyze more housing. These updates were based on feedback from code users and stakeholders. The changes included relaxed energy performance requirements for major residential renovations and additions and a new category for Auxiliary Dwelling Units. These updates create an easier pathway to meet Massachusetts' growing housing needs.

MEPA Reviews

The Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office continued to conduct efficient reviews of projects in 2025. A total of 211 filings were published between January and November 2025, including 61 (out of 113 total) new project filings proposed near historically disadvantaged environmental justice communities. The Office averaged 42 days to issue certificates in this time frame.

To further advance the Administration's housing production goals, the MEPA Office filed draft regulations that would allow qualifying housing developments to complete review through a streamlined 30-day process, rather than the typical 9–12-month Environmental Impact Report. The proposal focuses accelerated timelines on projects meeting criteria for dense, infill development that preserves natural resources and appropriately considers climate change. The proposed MEPA streamlining also applies to ecological restoration projects and conceptual urban renewal plans.

MDAR Commercial Feed and Pet Food Registration Program

The Massachusetts Commercial Feed and Pet Food Registration Program requires all animal feed and pet food sold in the state to be registered annually. It verifies that labels, ingredients, and product claims meet state regulations to protect consumers and animals. The program was previously managed through an outdated, paper-based process with limited visibility, but it has now been fully digitized into an online platform. This modernization greatly improves efficiency, transparency, and oversight, ensuring only compliant and safe products enter the Massachusetts market.



Inside EEA

EEA's success starts with its people. This year, we grew our team, welcomed new talent across agencies, and strengthened the internal systems that help our staff thrive.

We enhanced human resource and information technology services, modernized key tools and processes, and expanded resources that make our workplace more efficient and connected. We also celebrated staff achievements and awards that showcase the expertise, dedication, and collaborative spirit that define our Secretariat.

Inside EEA | Information Technology

EEA Information Technology

EEA couldn't operate without the hardworking staff on the IT team. IT staff kept the agency in motion so EEA could continue to deliver energy savings, climate action, and safe and healthy communities. IT also ensures EEA is on the cutting edge of government service delivery, by integrating new technologies into daily operations and building unique tools to advance the agency's goals. Some of IT's accomplishments this year include:

Device Replacements

The EEA-IT Technical Services team replaced almost 900 Windows devices across the state in 2025. Over 3,000 EEA staff have Windows devices. A defective device can hinder an employee from doing their job and potentially bring key government services to a halt. These device replacements are critical to maintaining operations statewide.

Innovative Overnight Patching and Maintenance

The EEA-IT Information Security team innovated an automated overnight patching process that sets the standard for vulnerability management across Massachusetts state government. This approach deploys critical patches and updates to endpoints during non-business hours, ensuring devices remain secure and current without disrupting productivity. In addition to patches, this process also migrated over 1,700 devices from Windows 10 to Windows 11 with zero downtime for affected users. As a result, EEA has the lowest number of discovered vulnerabilities of any secretariat in the Executive Branch.

DCR Storm Center Relocation

DCR has a comprehensive storm management team for the snow and ice season, tracking locations for which DCR has snow removal responsibility and deploying available snow removal resources. This project successfully prepared and relocated the DCR Storm Center to the Northpoint facility ahead of the Southeast Corridor's Deep Energy Retrofit that was scheduled to start end of October, ensuring continuity of operations.

Cost Savings in Cellular Services

EEA-IT helped save taxpayer money by migrating over 100 devices to a lower cost cell service provider. These changes will lead to thousands in savings every month.



Secretary Tepper, DEP Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, and former EEA Secretaries and DEP Commissioners cut a ribbon at DEP's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

MassDEP 50th Anniversary

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection celebrated 50 years of protecting the environment and preserving public health.

“Fifty years ago, MassDEP was given a simple but critically important mission to preserve, protect and enhance the natural resources of our state. I’m proud that Massachusetts continues to lead the nation in cutting food waste, establishing PFAS requirements and so much more. We’re leading safer, healthier lives and protecting our environment for generations to come because the work of MassDEP.”

– Governor Maura Healey

Since 1975, **MassDEP has been a leader and innovator in environmental protection**, including:

- Enacting disposal bans on clothes, textiles, mattresses and commercial food waste.
- Leading the U.S. in keeping food waste out of landfills
- Creating the first privatized wastesite cleanup program in the U.S.
- Establishing nation-leading PFAS requirements
- Leading on Environmental Justice with the first in the nation Cumulative Impact Analysis requirements for new air permit applications

This year, MassDEP recognized partners who strengthen state environmental laws, educate young people and champion environmental causes.



Group photo of a 2025 cohort of DEP interns.

EEA Internship Program

EEA’s Internship Program is offered year-round with sessions in the Winter/Spring, Summer and Fall. The program is coordinated by the HR Shared Services Training & Outreach internship coordinator. The DEP internship program is coordinated by DEP’s internship program coordinator. During 2025, a total of 148 interns, fellows and co-ops worked in various programs throughout the Secretariat.

HR Shared Services Case Management System: HR Hub Implementation and Expansion

EEA’s HR Shared Services Team continues to invest in employees and streamline the resources EEA staff rely on. The HR Shared Services Case Management System, the HR Hub, advances EEA’s HR Transformation by delivering a modern, standardized, technology-enabled approach to service delivery.

Launched in June 2025 and expanded in November 2025, the HR Hub gives EEA employees direct access to records, forms, and HR communication tracking, improving efficiency, transparency, and the overall HR experience.

Our Teams

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs encompasses six regulatory agencies responsible for advancing Massachusetts' environmental, natural resource, and energy goals. EEA also houses and collaborates with a variety of specialized offices and quasi-public organizations to maximize the Secretariat's impact.

Together, these entities help keep our air and water clean for our residents, promote and protect the state's biodiversity, build a strong food system, provide a wealth of outdoor recreation opportunities, increase energy affordability, and strengthen our resilience against extreme weather.



Rebecca Tepper
EEA SECRETARY



Michael Judge
ENERGY
UNDERSECRETARY



Katherine Antos
DECARB. & RESILIENCE
UNDERSECRETARY



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Our Teams



Climate Team

The Climate Team works with teams within EEA to lead statewide efforts to achieve Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and equip people, infrastructure and natural resources to adapt to climate change.



Energy Team

The Energy Team works with teams within EEA to drive affordability and modernization by reforming energy policy, stabilizing costs, improving utility oversight, and expanding clean, reliable energy options for residents and businesses.



Environment Team

The Environment Team works with teams within EEA to protect natural resources and habitats, support community resilience, and advance conservation, restoration, and equitable access to healthy lands and waters across Massachusetts.



Office of Environmental Justice and Equity

OEJE works to make sure environmental and energy systems benefit everyone. We help all EEA agencies put equity at the center of their policies and programs, making sure all voices are heard and included. Our goal is to support meaningful community engagement and create more equitable public policies.

Our Teams



Department of Agricultural Resources

MDAR’s mission is to cultivate a robust and equitable agricultural economy, promote a safe and resilient food system, and preserve a healthy environment for Massachusetts farmers, animals, and consumers.



Department of Fish and Game

DFG’s mission is to conserve the Commonwealth’s abundant marine and freshwater fisheries, wildlife, plants, and natural communities, as well as the habitats that support them, for the benefit and enjoyment of all people.



Department of Energy Resources

DOER’s mission is to create a clean, affordable, resilient, and equitable energy future for all in the Commonwealth.



Department of Public Utilities

DPU oversees investor-owned electric power, natural gas, and water companies in Massachusetts and the safety of natural gas pipelines, while also regulating the safety of bus companies, moving companies, and transportation network companies.



Department of Environmental Protection

MassDEP protects and enhances our natural resources – air, water, and land – to provide for the health, safety and welfare of all people, and to ensure a clean and safe environment for the future.



Department of Conservation and Recreation

DCR oversees nearly half a million acres of land, making up one of the largest, most diverse state park systems in the nation. Our work nurtures the connection between people and the environment by protecting, promoting, and enhancing our commonwealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the well-being of all.



Office of Energy Transformation

OET’s mission is to accelerate the energy transformation, with a focus on gas-to-electric transition, electric grid readiness, and an affordable and just transition for workers, businesses, and communities.



Office of Coastal Zone Management

CZM is the lead policy, planning, and technical assistance agency on coastal and ocean issues within EEA and implements the state’s coastal program under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act.

Our Teams



Office of Federal and Regional Energy Affairs

The FREA office within EEA works with state, regional, and federal partners to advance the Commonwealth's affordability, reliability, and clean energy priorities.



Office of Outdoor Recreation

MOOR works with public and private partners to grow the outdoor economy in Massachusetts and make our state one of the most welcoming, inclusive, diverse, and accessible places to play outside.



Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

MWRA is a Massachusetts public authority established by an act of the Legislature in 1984 to provide wholesale water and sewer services to 3.1 million people and more than 5,500 large industrial users in 61 metropolitan Boston communities.



Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

MassCEC is a state economic development agency dedicated to accelerating the growth of the clean energy and climatetech sector across the state to spur job creation, deliver statewide environmental benefits, increase affordability, and secure long-term economic opportunities for the people of Massachusetts.



Environmental Policy Act Office

MEPA provides opportunities for public review of environmental impacts of projects requiring state approvals to ensure that measures are taken to avoid or minimize impacts.



Massachusetts Environmental Police

MEP's mission is to protect the environment and natural resources of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through enforcement, education, and public outreach.



Massachusetts Environmental Trust

MET funds and coordinates projects to restore, protect and improve aquatic resources and ecosystems, and conserve threatened marine animals. Grant funds are generated from the sales of the Right Whale, Brook Trout, Striped Bass, Blackstone Valley license plates, and from donations.



Office of Technical Assistance

OTA provides free, confidential technical assistance with toxics use reduction and resource conservation to Massachusetts manufacturers, businesses, and institutions.



Division of Conservation Services

DCS offers grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of conservation and parkland, as well as for park renovation and development. DCS also reviews Conservation Restrictions, administers the Conservation Land Tax Credit Program, and supports Conservation Districts.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE of ENERGY
& ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2025 End of Year Report

