

News from the Green Communities Division



Mass Save Energy Code Training

Trainings for Massachusetts code officials, design professionals, builders, subcontractors, suppliers of materials and equipment, and others

Mass Save® Energy Code Technical Support is delivered by Performance Systems Development (PSD). Support services are offered as part of the Mass Save Codes and Standards Compliance and Support Initiative. Sponsors of Mass Save are providing virtual energy code training throughout the summer. These training sessions are approved for MA code officials CEC, AIA LUs, CSL and BPI CEUs.

Training topic	Date	Time	Registration link
Residential -(R2.1) Existing Buildings Overview	6/28/2023	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Residential existing buildings overview
Commercial - (C1.1) Commercial Stretch Code Overview	6/28/2023	2:05 - 3:05 pm	Commercial Stretch Code Overview
Residential - (R2.2) Residential Additions	7/26/2023	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Residential Additions
Commercial - (C1.2) Commercial Stretch Code Changes	7/26/2023	2:05 - 3:05 pm	Commercial Stretch Code Changes
Residential - (R2.3) Residential Alterations	8/30/2023	1:00 - 2:00 pm	Residential Alterations

Commercial - (C1.3) Commercial Solar & EV Ready	8/30/2023	2:05 - 3:05 pm	Commercial Solar & EV Ready
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To learn more about code training and to sign up for the email list, visit [MassSave Code Training](#).

Now Available: High Performance Building Toolkit

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) contracted with Built Environment Plus (the US Green Building affiliate in MA) to develop a High-Performance Building Procurement Toolkit which consists of materials that can be used and adapted by developers and building owners when **identifying companies and procuring services needed for their high-performance building or retrofit projects**.

The toolkit includes resources that municipal representatives can use when discussing new project proposals with developers and help those **public officials explore the sustainability, resiliency, and climate mitigation objectives of the developers' proposals**, particularly regarding energy efficiency, embodied and operational carbon, indoor air quality, and grid interactivity.

[Click here](#) to access the toolkit.

Mark Your Calendars: UMass Clean Energy Extension to Hold Virtual Solar Forum in Fall

UMass Clean Energy Extension is planning a **series of online public discussions and information-sharing sessions regarding the opportunities and challenges associated with solar PV development and installation**.

The Commonwealth has set ambitious goals for additional solar PV development to meet renewable energy targets for 2030 and 2050. Increasing **solar PV capacity is necessary to meet climate goals and has the potential to provide significant economic benefits to state residents**. However, solar development can conflict with other state and local goals, including land preservation, wildlife conservation, food production, and environmental and social equity.

Over a series of online sessions on Tuesday afternoons in September, the forum will explore a variety of topics, including Solar 101, solar and land use, and equity and community benefits of solar.

Visit the [solar forum website](#) to learn more and join its email list.

2023 Clean School Bus Grants

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting applications from eligible entities to incentivize and accelerate the replacement of existing school buses with clean and Zero Emissions school buses. Eligible activities include the **replacement of existing internal-combustion engine school buses** with electric, propane, or compressed natural gas (CNG) school buses, as well as the purchase of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) infrastructure and EVSE installations.

Applications will be accepted from state and local governmental entities that provide bus service, including public school districts; eligible contractors; and nonprofit school transportation associations.

EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$400 million of funding in [this solicitation](#).

ACT School Bus Advisory Services

To help school districts plan for the deployment of electric school buses, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) is offering **free fleet electrification planning support to public school districts** across Massachusetts. The Accelerating Clean Transportation (ACT) School Bus Advisory Program will provide public school districts and third-party school bus fleet operators technical services such as:

- vehicle and charging infrastructure analysis
- feasibility designs
- financial models
- preparing for and applying for future funding opportunities
- vehicle and charging station procurement plans
- educational materials

MassCEC is currently soliciting interest in this program. [Click here](#) to learn more.