



What you can do to start saving money and participate in the Mass Farm Energy Program

1. Get signed up or renew your application for the MA Farm Energy Discount program:

Subject to certification by the Mass Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), persons or corporations determined to be principally and substantially engaged in production agriculture or farming for commercial purposes may be eligible for a 10% discount on electric & gas rates. A two-page application is available at <http://www.mass.gov/agr/admin/farmenergy.htm> or contact Linda Demirjian, Office Manager, MDAR, at (617) 626-1733.

2. Get an energy audit and implement at least some of the recommendations:

INVESTOR-OWNED Utility Customers

- First, contact your investor-owned utility (electric or natural gas – contact information on reverse) about their audit and incentive program, which might offer energy audits/assessments as well as financial incentives for energy efficiency measures. These energy assessments *could possibly* be used for application to USDA-RD programs (see below). Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/existing.php#public>.
- **If your electric and/or gas utility programs do not address the majority of your energy needs, apply for an audit and/or incentive through the MFEP Audits & Incentives Program. Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/energy.php>**

MUNICIPAL Utility Customers

- First, contact your provider because you may have access to a fee-for-service energy audit, which *could possibly* be used for application to USDA-RD programs. Go to <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/existing.php#municipal> for more information.
- **If your municipal utility does not address the majority of your energy needs, apply for an audit and/or incentive through the MFEP Audits & Incentives Program. Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/energy.php>**

3. Leverage funding from other programs: MFEP can help you access these programs which help farmers with energy costs.

- **USDA/NRCS EQIP: Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)** details are at <http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/airquality/index.html>. You may sign up for this program at any time through your local NRCS office at <http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/contact/index.html>
- **USDA/Rural Development REAP Program:** Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides funding for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements to farmers and rural small businesses. Learn more about REAP at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html>. The MA Farm Energy Program, with support from the MA Woodlands Institute and Rural Development, offers **grant writing assistance** to farmers and forest products businesses for this program. To apply for grant writing assistance go to http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/forms/grant_writing_req.php
- **Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust (MRET)** programs include: Commonwealth Solar Phase 2 includes the Solar RPS Carve-Out, or Solar Credit program, expected to be introduced in January 2010. See Commonwealth Solar for all details. (<http://www.masstech.org/solar/>); and Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program providing rebate, grant, and loan funding for installation of wind projects. Contact MRET at 508-870-0312 or <http://www.masstech.org>.
- **MFEP Audits and Incentives Program.** The MFEP is accepting applications from farmers across Massachusetts interested in receiving energy audits and implementing the recommendations of the audits. The MFEP will make referrals to existing audit and incentive programs, provide “targeted” energy audits and/or renewable energy assessments, and provide up to \$7,500 in financial incentives for implementation of audit recommendations. Go to <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/energy.php> for complete information and to apply.
- **MA Department of Ag Resources:** Primary MDAR grant program for farm energy is the Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP): While primarily a water quality program, AEEP will also fund practices that promote energy efficiency, conserve water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Application deadline is annual, usually June. Details at <http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/aEEP/index.htm>. MDAR also occasionally offers energy related grant opportunities in addition to AEEP. See <http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/>

4. Stay abreast of farm energy information and funding sources at Berkshire-Pioneer RC&D: Go to the MA Farm Energy Program pages at <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/index.php> to get the latest information about the Mass Farm Energy Program.

– See reverse for additional Contact Information –

For general information and support ...

<http://berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/index.php>

CONTACT Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

- ✓ **WEBSITE:** full information at <http://berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/index.php>.
- ✓ **BY MAIL:** c/o Berkshire-Pioneer Resource Conservation & Development, 433 West St., #8, Amherst MA 01002
- ✓ **BY PHONE:** 413-256-1607
- ✓ **BY EMAIL:** Darlene Monds: darlene.monds@ma.usda.gov Ann Gibson: agibson@berkshirepioneerrcd.org
Jess Cook: jesscook@berkshirepioneerrcd.org
- ✓ **Patriot Resource Conservation & Development**, 319 Littleton Rd., #302, Westford MA 01886, Ph: 978-692-1904
Stephanie Wilsen: stephanie.wilsen@ma.usda.gov

CONTACT Gerry Palano, **Renewable Energy Coordinator, MDAR**, 251 Causeway St., Suite 500, Boston MA 02114
Ph: 617-626-1706, gerald.palano@state.ma.us

CONTACT Charles W. Dubuc, Business & Cooperative Programs Specialist, **USDA/Rural Development**, 60 Quaker Lane, # 44 Warwick RI 02886 Ph: 401-826-0842 Fx: 401-828-6042 charles.dubuc@ma.usda.gov

For investor-owned utility audit & incentive programs ...

Cape Light Compact: Vicki Marchant, Superior Court House, PO Box 427, Barnstable, MA 02630,
vmarchant@capelightcompact.org, 508-744-1278, fax 508-362-4136

Bay State Gas Co.: Partners in Energy Intake Center, 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough MA 01581, www.baystategas.com,
800-232-0120

Berkshire Gas: Robert Gyurjan, 115 Cheshire Rd., Pittsfield, MA 01201, rgyurjan@berkshiregas.com, 413-445-0345

National Grid: Michael Pace, 40 Sylvan Rd., Waltham MA 02451, michaelpace@usngrid.com, 781-907-1610

NSTAR Electric & Gas: Electric: Augustine Pimentel, One NSTAR Way, SW 360, Westwood MA 02090,
Augustine.pimentel@nstar.com, 781-441-8705 or 339-987-7568. Gas: Paul Degnan, Paul.Degnan@NSTAR.com, 781-441-8997.

UNITIL/Fitchburg Gas & Electric: Ed Mailloux, 6 Liberty Lane W., Hampton NH 03842, mailloux@unitil.com, 603-773-6541

Western MA Electric Co (WMECO): Robert Dvorchik, 333 West St., Pittsfield MA 01201, dvorcrs@nu.com, 413-499-9004

For funding ...

MA Farm Energy Program (energy efficiency and renewable energy)

For information about MFEP's Audit and Incentives program go to <http://www.berkshirepioneerrcd.org/mfep/energy.php> or call us at 413-256-1607.

Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust (renewable energy)

Elizabeth Kennedy and Sara Jayanthi at 508-870-0312, kennedy@masstech.org and jayanthi@masstech.org, 75 North Drive, Westborough MA 01581

USDA/NRCS EQIP (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

Environmental Quality Incentive Program: EQIP details are at <http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/airquality/index.html>.
You may sign up for this program at any time through your **local NRCS office** at <http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/contact/index.html>

USDA/Rural Development (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

To identify the USDA/Rural Development contact in your area go to: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html>

MA Dept. of Ag Resources (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

Ag Environmental Enhancement Program: Gerard Kennedy, 617-626-1773, Gerard.Kennedy@state.ma.us,
<http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/aEEP/>