

**Please send in this survey using the included postage-paid business reply envelope *postmarked by Monday, August 10th* for your chance to WIN UP TO \$150 in gift certificates, generously donated by:**

*George's Restaurant* ♦ *Butcher's Choice Steakhouse* ♦ *Hannaford's Supermarket*  
*Jorgensen's Café* ♦ *Mainely Brews Tavern* ♦ *Shaw's Supermarket*

**What is Sustain Mid-Maine?**

Sustain Mid-Maine is a 'grassroots' movement created to conserve our resources, sustain a healthy environment, and promote economic prosperity for the Mid-Maine region. The group is active in Waterville, Winslow, Fairfield, and Oakland, and is thankful for those town governments' financial and staff support. With the help of dozens of local volunteers, Sustain Mid-Maine has started projects in five areas: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy; Transportation Efficiency and Choices; Waste Reduction and Recycling; Public Education and K-12 Curriculum Change; Community Gardens and Local Foods.

**How did Sustain Mid-Maine start?**

Over 60 citizens representing state and local government, businesses, non-profits, colleges, and citizen groups met for three full days in January 2009 to create a vision for what the Mid-Maine region would look like in the year 2020. The "2020 Vision for Energy Conservation and Sustainability" was written by consensus and signed by every event participant. After writing the "vision," a list of projects were brainstormed and divided into the five areas listed above. Teams were formed in the five areas, and have since brought other community members on board.

**What are the beliefs of Sustain Mid-Maine?**

Sustain Mid-Maine believes that energy, food, transportation, and waste costs will continue to rise. They believe that a "green energy" economy will create quality Maine jobs. They believe our dependence on foreign oil leaves us vulnerable. Most importantly, Sustain Mid-Maine believes that the community can be strengthened—and more people's voices can be heard—by organizing citizens around grassroots projects to increase the quality of life for Mainers.

**What are the goals of Sustain Mid-Maine?**

1. To reflect the collective values, priorities, and aspirations of Mid-Maine residents by involving as many residents as possible in decisions that affect us all
2. To establish a mechanism to implement change in the collective values, priorities, and aspirations of Mid-Maine residents
3. To guide the decisions of our policymakers, communities, and individuals to create a sustainable, healthy, and prosperous Maine

**How can I participate?**

First, consider attending any of our events, like the upcoming Green Living Expo during the August 5<sup>th</sup> Taste of Waterville. Volunteer your time with Sustain Mid-Maine by attending any of our public meetings or offering to help with a project or event. You can also make a tax-deductible donation to the Mid-Maine Sustainability Fund to support our projects aimed at improving our community. Visit [www.sustainmidmaine.org](http://www.sustainmidmaine.org) for a list of ways to contribute. You can also contact the coordinator by phone at 859-5718 or by email at [coordinator@sustainmidmaine.org](mailto:coordinator@sustainmidmaine.org).

**Why this survey?**

A diverse set of people gathered during the January meeting to create the "vision" that reflects the collective values of Mid-Maine residents. This survey will enable us to collect the opinions of an even broader and more diverse range of area residents to make sure we have set the right priorities. Thank you for your time and support!

**Special Thanks**

Colby College and Sustain Mid-Maine have partnered since 2007 to help mitigate climate change and address sustainability issues in the community. For the past three years, the college has provided extensive administrative and financial support for this project. We thank them for their help.



Marital Status (single/married): \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M F Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Highest Education Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Occupants in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: Agriculture Business Education  
Sales/Retail Unemployed Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The perspectives that you are using in completing this survey: (Please circle all that apply).

- I work for a for-profit organization
- I work for a non-profit organization
- Government employee
- Self-employed
- Farmer
- Student
- Senior citizen
- Parent
- Environmentalist
- Outdoor enthusiast
- Elected official
- Church or temple member
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tell us what you know about local foods:**

1. Do you purchase Maine grown food?  Yes  No

If yes, please list from where and how often:

2. If it costs the same, would you eat at a restaurant that uses Maine grown foods over imported foods?  Yes  No

3. Do you know about home gardens?  Yes  No

Do you know about community gardens?  Yes  No

Do you participate in either?  Yes  No

If not, are you interested in getting involved?  Yes  No

If not, what would encourage you to participate? (Circle all that apply)

- a. Classes on how to garden
- b. Availability of community garden plots
- c. Reduced costs for seeds, soil, etc.
- d. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Would you support a curriculum change in public schools to include lessons about the importance of local foods?  Yes  No

**Tell us what you know about energy:**

5. How much do you know about energy conservation? (Circle one)  
(Nothing) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (A Lot)

6. How much do you know about renewable energy? (Circle one)  
(Nothing) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (A Lot)

7. Have you purchased renewable energy, e.g. green electricity, carbon offsets, etc.?  Yes  No  
Have you installed renewable energy equipment?  Yes  No  
If yes, what kind and by what company?

8. In what year was your home built? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Based on the size of your house, how would you rate the overall energy use? (Circle one)
- a. Less energy than the average house
  - b. About the same amount of energy
  - c. More energy than the average house

10. An energy audit is a detailed study of how much energy your house uses, and costs about \$400.

Have you had an energy audit conducted for your home?  Yes  No

If no, what would convince you to have an audit conducted? (Circle all that apply)

- a. Free audit
- b. Half-price audit
- c. Easier access to information
- d. Seeing an audit done firsthand
- e. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Have you performed any of the following energy improvements on your home? (Circle all that apply)

- a. High efficiency lighting or appliances
- b. Insulation
- c. Setting thermostats at lower temperature
- d. Sealed windows, doors, attics, or leaks
- e. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Would you be interested in learning more about how to improve the efficiency of your home to conserve energy and money?  Yes  No

Please comment:

13. Would you support a curriculum change in public schools to include lessons about energy conservation and efficiency?  Yes  No

**Tell us what you know about waste and recycling:**

14. How important do you think recycling is?

(Not Important) 1      2      3      4      5      6      7 (Very Important)

15. About how much would you pay per month to have your recyclables picked up from your house?

\$0      \$10      \$20      \$30 or more

Please explain why you would pay this amount:

16. How much do you know about recycling and the disposal of solid and hazardous waste?

(Nothing) 1      2      3      4      5      6      7 (A Lot)

17. Can you easily find information on where to take your recyclables (including batteries, electronics, hazardous materials, etc.)?  Yes  No

18. Of the following items, about how much of each material in your household is recycled? (Please estimate and if unknown leave blank):  
3—all  
2—about half  
1—none

Plastic bottles	_____	Aluminum Cans	_____
Glass bottles	_____	Paper	_____
Tin Cans	_____	Cardboard	_____
Newspaper	_____	Electronics	_____
Compact Fluorescent Bulbs	_____	Magazines/Catalogs	_____
Batteries	_____	Plastic containers	_____

19. Would you be more willing to support businesses if they use recycled products?  Yes  No

20. How often do you use reusable shopping bags?  
(Never) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (Often)

21. Do you compost food waste, yard trimmings, or other organic material?  Yes  No

Would you be interested in learning more about household composting?  Yes  No

22. Would you support a curriculum change in public schools to include lessons about recycling and waste reduction?  Yes  No

**Tell us what you know about transportation:**

23. In place of using your personal car, truck or motorcycle, do you use the following alternate forms of transportation: (Circle all that apply)

- a. Walk
- b. Bike
- c. Carpool
- d. Use public transportation
- e. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If you use public transportation, what form? \_\_\_\_\_

How many days a week do you use alternate forms of transportation? \_\_\_\_\_

24. How important do you consider the use of alternate forms of transportation?  
(Not Important) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (Very Important)

25. What improvements to your community would convince you to bike/walk? (Circle all that apply)

- a. Bike racks
- b. Bike paths
- c. Bike safety classes
- d. Benches
- e. Public bathrooms
- f. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please comment:

26. Does your employer provide incentives for using alternate modes of transportation for your commute?  
 Yes    No  
If yes, what sort of incentives?

27. Would you support a curriculum change in public schools to include lessons about the importance of alternate forms of transportation?  Yes    No

**Each of the following statements are taken directly from the “2020 Vision for Energy Conservation and Sustainability,” described on the previous page. Please mark whether you agree with, disagree with, or have no opinion on the following statements:**

**5** = Strongly Agree   **4** = Agree   **3** = Neither Agree nor Disagree   **2** = Disagree   **1** = Strongly Disagree

\_\_\_ Define sustainability as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future.

\_\_\_ Understand that natural resources, human communities, and economic systems are interdependent.

\_\_\_ Support sustainability in everything, including use of local foods, energy, and transportation.

\_\_\_ Collaborate to make wise energy and environmental choices

\_\_\_ Make decisions in terms of their environmental, social, and economic impacts, including quality of life and employment opportunities.

\_\_\_ Engage the youth in the process of achieving sustainability.

\_\_\_ Research and invest in the best available strategies and infrastructures for energy generation, distribution and use.

\_\_\_ Give priority to all local, renewable resources, including energy sources.

\_\_\_ Practice energy conservation, generation, and efficiency.

\_\_\_ Design and construct energy efficient buildings with environmentally friendly products.

\_\_\_ Move more efficiently through the use of diverse and energy-efficient transportation choices.

\_\_\_ Have an abundance of locally grown food available throughout the community.

\_\_\_ Revitalize area farms.

\_\_\_ Establish a connection between rural and urban economies.

\_\_\_ Eliminate waste through rethinking, reducing, reusing, and recycling.

\_\_\_ Work to ensure people of modest means can afford to live in the region year round.

\_\_\_ Educate the community about the benefits of recycling.

\_\_\_ Make information on sustainability readily available to the entire community.

\_\_\_ Work toward a green curriculum to increase enthusiasm for sustainability in future generations.

**Each of the following statements includes goals for the year 2020, compared with year 2009 rates. Please mark whether you agree with, disagree with, or have no opinion on with the following statements:**

**5** = Strongly Agree    **4** = Agree    **3** = Neither Agree nor Disagree    **2** = Disagree    **1** = Strongly Disagree

- \_\_\_ Reduce our reliance on fossil fuels by 50%.
- \_\_\_ Expand local usable, renewable energy production by 100% annually.
- \_\_\_ Reduce our carbon footprint by 50%.
- \_\_\_ Increase our rate of recycling to 50% of total volume.
- \_\_\_ Ensure every local grower has mechanisms for getting products to market.
- \_\_\_ Ensure every resident has access to local, affordable produce every day.

**In your opinion, please rank the following in order of importance from 1 to 5 (least to most important):**

- \_\_\_ Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy
- \_\_\_ Transportation Efficiency and Choices
- \_\_\_ Waste Reduction and Recycling
- \_\_\_ Public Education and K-12 Curriculum Change
- \_\_\_ Community Gardens and Local Foods

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**In order to be included in the prize drawing, please include your name and one form of contact:**

*You have the option not to include your name or contact information if you prefer to submit this survey anonymously.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted about any interest you expressed in this survey?  Yes     No

Would you volunteer to help the previously mentioned groups?  Yes     No

Which group would you most likely assist (circle all that apply)?

- a. Energy
- b. Transportation
- c. Local Foods
- d. Education
- e. Waste/Recycling

**OPTIONAL: Other Comments** (use back of page if necessary):