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# SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

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BY: STEVE ERARIO, ERIN MAURER, JAMIE NEMECEK, & ANDREW YOUNG  
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**“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.”**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Many members of the Waterville-area and greater Maine community contributed to the Sustain Mid-Maine Summer 2009 Intern Program. The interns appreciate the interest and enthusiasm of those people who helped with the project. First and foremost, the interns thank the anonymous mid-Maine donor who, for the third consecutive year, generously financed this summer intern program. He or she can rest assured that the summer interns gained valuable lessons and insights, and that the program outcomes advanced the progress of Sustain Mid-Maine. Thanks also to Colby College who continued a three-year sustainability partnership with the local community to offer physical space, administrative support, and faculty advice for the program. Finally, we thank municipal and school administrative district officials and employees who dedicated their time and support to the summer project.

The following is a list of contributors who selflessly donated their valuable time and effort to enhancing the well-being and sustainability of Mid-Maine:

Abby Saduckas, Alan Roy, Alison McCrady, Amanda Domini, Ann Beverage, Anne D. Burt, Barb DiBiase, Ben Greeley, Bill Wilson, Blanche Davisons, Bob Gilchrist, Brooks Winner, Charlie Holly, Chuck Lakin, Cindy Thomashow, Connor McGlaufflin, Dale McCormick, David Blair, David Gilpatrick, David Gulak, David Funk, Debbie Avalon-King, Dick Backon, Doug Carnrick, Doug Fox, Eileen Johnson, Elery Keene, Eric Brown, Francis Rodrigue, Gail Carlson, Gary Poulin, George Myers, Greg Brown, Gus Libby, Iver Lofving, Jane Edwards, Jason Bullock, Jeff LaCasse, Jefferson Longfellow, Jen Olin, Jenifer Richard, Jennifer Albee, Jesse Pyles, Jessica Culverhouse, Jim Wood, Joan Saxe, John Butera, John Hasting, John Joseph, Joy Adamson, Julie Churchill, Karl Morse, Katie Hoskins, Kim Lindloff, Kimberly St. Pierre, Laurette Darling, Linda Woods, Liz McCabe-Park, Lynn Farrin, Manuel Gimond, Margaret Innes, Mark Turner, Matt Skehan, Melissa White, Mike Heavener, Mike Roy, Misse Labbe, Nat Herz, Nate Howard, Norm Anderson, Paul Castonguay, Peter Garrett, Peter Zack, Rick Clark, Ron Derosiers, Ron LeClair, Ross Nason, Ryan Herz, Sally Harwood, Scott Smith, Serena Sanborn, Seth Mercier, Shannon Haines, Stefany Arsenault, Stephen Collins, Stu Silverstein, Tim Levasseur, Tim Vrabel, Tom Longstaff, Tom Tietenberg, Tony Sutton, Travis Hitchcok, Vanessa Levesque, Victoria Abbott

## INTRODUCTION

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### OVERVIEW

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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 a unique collaboration between supportive area municipalities and community members from the greater Waterville area. Sustain Mid-Maine is addressing sustainability more comprehensively and strategically than any other region in the State of Maine.

The group's origins date back to the summer of 2007, when the City of Waterville completed a greenhouse gas analysis and energy action plan. By the end of 2008, Winslow and Fairfield, Maine had also produced energy use studies and plans, and both Waterville and Winslow governments created Sustainability Committees to address these issues.

In January of 2009, 65 representative members from greater Waterville area businesses, municipalities, non-profits, institutions, and community groups met to discuss ways to improve Mid-Maine—for the economy, for the environment, and for future generations. The 2020 Catalyst for Energy Conservation and Environmental Sustainability, convened by the Waterville Sustainability Committee, was facilitated by the Running Start Institute at the Waterville Opera House. A widely-distributed and well-responded survey confirms that a large, representative portion of area citizens support the goals and aspirations of the group. Sustain Mid-Maine now has active projects in Energy, Transportation, Recycling, Education, and Local Foods.

This report gives an overview of sustainability issues; the importance of local action; the history and organization of Sustain Mid-Maine; the status of each of the five committees; summer project accomplishments; and most importantly, *resources for the sustainability coordinator and other members*. All materials listed in the resources section are available online at the website, [www.sustainmidmaine.org](http://www.sustainmidmaine.org)



THE FOUR INTERNS AT COLBY COLLEGE;  
WATERVILLE, MAINE

## REASONS TO BELIEVE IN SUSTAINABILITY

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Sustain Mid-Maine’s definition of environmental sustainability is: “We define sustainability as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future.” Many local communities are initiating sustainable practices for a number of reasons, chief among them economic, security, human health, community-building, and environmental concerns. The following is a summary of reasons to believe in sustainability as approved by Sustain Mid-Maine’s Steering Committee.

### *Economic Concerns*

Energy, food, transportation, and waste costs will continue to rise over time, impacting affordability of living and quality of life in Maine. Addressing these high prices now through efficiency and changed practices can save residents, business, and industry money now. Proactively addressing costs will leave us better positioned to absorb rising costs as time progresses. Furthermore, a “green” economy generates local revenue and quality, local Maine jobs.

### *Environmental Concerns*

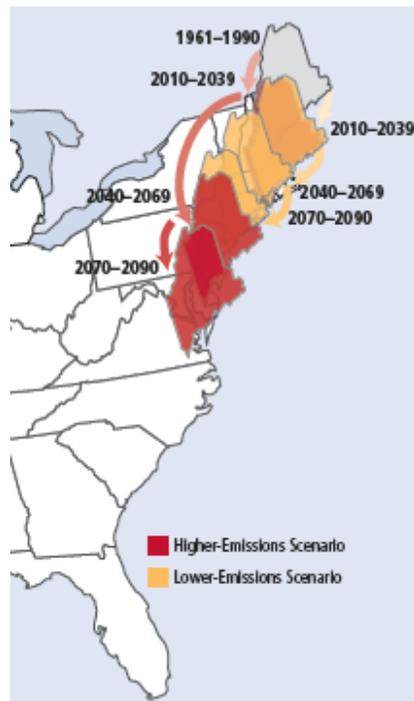
We are affecting the climate by increasing the amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses released into the atmosphere. The communities of Waterville, Winslow, and Fairfield collectively emit over half a million tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent pollution into the air annually. Climate change will raise temperatures, increase the frequency of severe storm events, and cause potentially severe economic impacts for the State of Maine. We are affecting ecosystems with pollution from unsustainable resource use and waste disposal patterns, compromising the ability of future generations to access resources, such as clean air and water.

### *Security Concerns*

Our dependence on foreign oil from unstable countries leaves us vulnerable. Furthermore, many resources we depend upon will become scarcer over time. By decreasing overall energy and resource demands through efficiency and alternatives, we can help mitigate these threats.

### *Community Concerns*

We can strengthen our community by organizing around sustainability projects. By bringing together citizens from different walks of life to achieve common goals, we encourage healthy interaction between area residents.



### **Migrating State Climate**

Changes in average summer heat index—a measure of how hot it actually feels, given temperature and humidity—could strongly affect Mainers’ quality of life in the future. Red arrows track what summers could feel like over the course of the century under the higher-emissions scenario; yellow arrows track what summers in the state could feel like under the lower-emissions scenario.

## IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL COMMUNITY ACTION

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In spite of the fact that the mid-Maine area has a small population that limits the scope of impact of any locally-driven sustainability action, such activity is important for a number of reasons. First, federal inaction on sustainability leaves the burden of action on communities and state or local governments. If action is not taken on this level, the previously mentioned sustainability concerns

*“...self sustaining and well organized local efforts are well positioned to receive an increasingly large flow of public and private funding aimed at improving [sustainability].”*

will not be addressed. Second, successfully addressing relevant issues at the local level provides a model for other communities to follow. Third, locally-initiated sustainability projects indicate to state and federal government a demand for change, which may in turn lead to policy changes and increased state and federal leadership. Fourth, local governments and communities have successfully pursued climate and sustainability action nationwide, saving residents, businesses, and industry money and creating a more prosperous future for all. Fifth,

self-sustaining and well-organized local efforts are well positioned to receive an increasingly large flow of public and private funding aimed at increasing energy efficiency, alternative energy generation, local food consumption, alternative transportation, and other positive sustainability outcomes. Sixth, local efforts that involve collaboration with or are based in local government have access to the authority to establish building permitting processes and make important land-use decisions that impact sustainability.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENJOY THE NORTH STREET  
PARK BY THE COMMUNITY GARDEN;  
WATERVILLE, MAINE

## HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION OF SUSTAIN MID-MAINE

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### 2020 CATALYST FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

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*“The aim of the 2020 catalyst is to produce real action plans [to address sustainability], but also to share ideas and learn from each other and from different viewpoints.”*

*-Henry Beck, D-76  
Former Chairman of the Waterville  
Sustainability Committee*

Sustain Mid-Maine was created during a three day community-wide strategic visioning process engaging diverse stakeholders from Waterville-area towns and cities. Representatives from community groups, governments, businesses, universities, and non-profits met to address energy conservation and sustainability goals for the greater Waterville area.

The Waterville Sustainability Committee, formed in the summer of 2007 to address sustainability concerns in the City, invited representative members and organized the logistics of the event. The Running Start Institute, which engages in collective strategic visioning, ran the event, collecting opinions from participants. The three day process followed a seven-step agenda:

1. Create a Vision
2. Brainstorm options and select Initiatives to accomplish the Vision
3. Organize Initiatives into Objectives
4. Prioritize Objectives
5. Assess Stage of Accomplishment
6. Interpret Constraints and Opportunities
7. Build Action Plan

The resulting 2020 Catalyst Strategic Plan created a number of different committees aimed at addressing sustainability goals outlined by the group present at the event. A community survey sent to 1000 local area residents later confirmed the goals and aspirations of the Strategic Plan were consistent with those opinions of the larger community.



## ORGANIZATION OF SUSTAIN MID-MAINE

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The organization of Sustain Mid-Maine is evolving. The groups are organized according to the current flow of communication, also shown below. Note that the communication flow is not a hierarchical structure. Sustain Mid-Maine is divided into the following groups:

- Community Catalyst
- Steering Committee
- Executive Committee
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Objective Teams

### *Community Catalyst*

The Community Catalyst represents the body of community members that came together in January 2009 to draft the 2020 Vision and establish the goals and objectives for achieving it. Many members of the catalyst are also members of the individual committees, including the Steering and Executive committee. The group will continue to evolve as new members join. Ultimately, it is this group that determines the priorities and policies for Sustain Mid-Maine.

### *Steering Committee*

The primary purpose of the Steering Committee is to provide support and assistance to the Team Leaders. In lieu of the Community Catalyst convening, the Steering Committee is empowered to make decisions regarding allocation of resources and matters of policy providing that such decisions are within the broad outline of the 2020 Vision. This committee is composed of the Team Leaders and other key individuals and meets on a monthly basis.

### *Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee is composed of members of the Steering Committee and is charged with working directly with the Sustainability Coordinator regarding questions of an administrative nature that may require quick responses and decisions. Currently, there are three members (Sally Harwood, Elery Keene, & Mike Roy) who attempt to answer questions of policy and resource allocation in between meetings of the Steering Committee. This committee meets on a monthly basis.

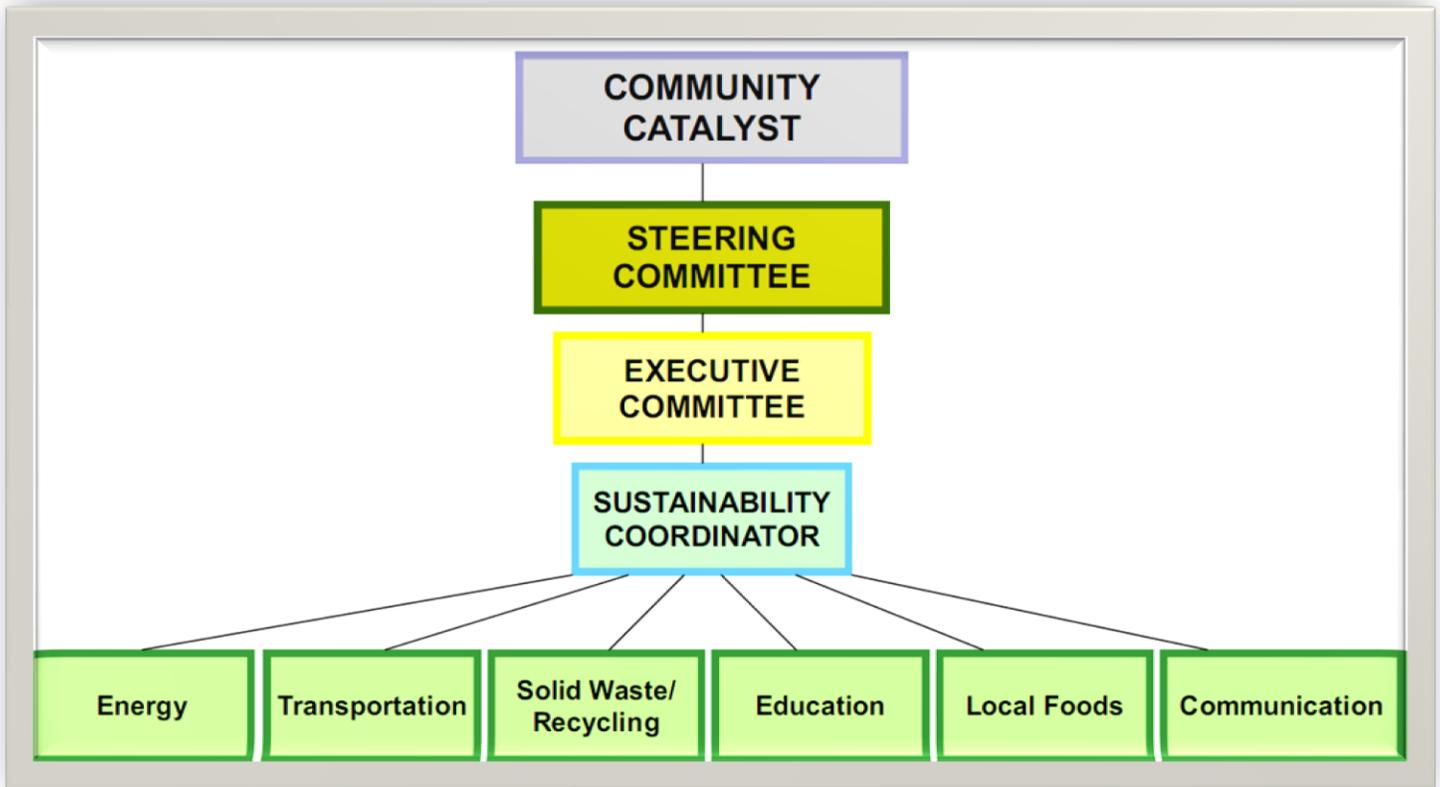
### *Sustainability Coordinator*

The Sustainability Coordinator is the go-to-person for Sustain Mid-Maine. He/she works with the Team Leaders on a daily or weekly basis, as well as communicating the messages of the group through public media, the website, and newsletters. The Coordinator has responsibility for the administration of all day-to-day affairs of the Sustain Mid-Maine, including scheduling meetings, assisting team leaders with research and data collection, answering requests for information from other like organizations. The Coordinator reports to the Steering Committee and will ultimately report to the Community Catalyst. The current coordinator is Linda Woods, who can be reached at [coordinator@sustainmidmaine.org](mailto:coordinator@sustainmidmaine.org).

### *Objective Teams*

The Objective Teams drive the projects that are stated in the 2020 Vision. Originally, eight teams were created. The Organization and Finance teams were combined and integrated into the Steering Committee and the Sustainability Coordinator, leaving the remaining six objective teams. The final organization of the objective teams is still evolving, based on the status of the sustainability coordinator. The current six teams are:

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



## OBJECTIVE TEAMS – STATUS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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### ENERGY CONSERVATION & RENEWABLE ENERGY

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**Number of Meetings:** 20

**Active Members:** 10

**Current Projects:**

The Energy Committee is a well-organized group chaired by John Joseph. The group met quickly and organized into three projects: residential weatherization, community wind, and district energy. Participation has stayed relatively high. Two public education events sponsored by this committee drew over 50 participants to each event.

1. Residential Renewable Energy & Conservation

The residential renewable energy and conservation project has met with sustainability experts from around the state to determine the situation around residential energy conservation and renewable energy. They have drafted a residential weatherization plan that aims to take advantage of incoming ARRA stimulus funding.

2. Community Wind

The community wind project has examined detailed wind resource maps from the area that do not show areas of high wind potential. They will be erecting an anemometer tower at Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) in the near future.

3. District Energy

The district energy project has been meeting with political, business, and other leaders to examine the preliminary feasibility of a biomass cogeneration plant in the area. ARRA stimulus or other significant grant funds need to be identified in order to advance a feasibility study for a biomass cogeneration facility.

**Recommendations:**

- Remain vigilant for ARRA stimulus funds for residential weatherization, and other grant opportunities facilitated through the Maine State Housing Authority, Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP), and Efficiency Maine
- Install an anemometer at KVCC by year end 2009
- Further define district energy project; apply for grant funding for feasibility study

## TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY AND CHOICES

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**Number of Meetings:** 3

**Active Members:** 6

**Current Projects:** The Transportation Committee held three meetings through July 2009 and made important progress identifying transportation initiatives on the state and regional level. They are still in the process of collecting information and identifying project priorities.

**Recommendations:**

- Prioritize and organize around projects
- Establish a co-chair position in order to ensure consistent meetings and progress for the group
- Form collaborative relationships, especially with the Waterville Area Bicycling and Pedestrian Planning group (WABPP). WABPP's mission of promoting biking and walking through improving road conditions is consistent with the Transportation Committee's tasks. A partnership with the WABPP could prove valuable because it would allow for the two groups to focus on two different areas of interest: on-road and off-road work. On-road work includes working with existing paved roads and sidewalks, such as assessing and, if necessary, increasing the safety of areas of high bicycle and pedestrian use. Off-road work includes promoting healthy lifestyles through use of the various walking trails that are already in existence the greater Waterville area.
- Use GIS mapping capabilities of local colleges to map the location and quality of biking and walking trails and sidewalks

## RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

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**Active Committee Members:** 8

**Number of Meetings:** 6

**Current Progress:**

The Waste and Recycling committee had began meeting consistently in June 2009, when the group brainstormed identified project areas of focus and helpful people to bring onto the committee. Currently the group is focusing on education through a composting workshop at Barrels Community Market, distribution of an electronic waste brochure, and other education. The group continues to gather information on waste and recycling options in the area.

**Recommendations**

- Follow up on proposed educational projects before the end of 2009
- Complete a feasibility study for curbside recycling pickup in Waterville and Winslow funded by a pay-per-bag fee
- Collaborate with Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) to ensure success of the Household Hazardous Waste Day in October

- Distribute the e-waste brochures to locations through local government websites and public locations such as town offices, libraries, and schools
- Produce a video documentary of household waste from curbside to landfill

## PUBLIC EDUCATION AND K-12 CURRICULUM CHANGE

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**Active committee members:** 5

**Number of Meetings:** 7

**Current Progress:**

1. Mobilize students to Keep Maine Warm

Students will walk from house to house handing out information about weatherization, CFL's, etc; students may also be able to help homeowners complete small weatherization projects.

2. Education for energy sustainability

At the Green Fest at Skowhegan and Lawrence High Schools, students learned about sustainability initiatives, such as weatherization and solar cars. A survey was created to ask teachers about current sustainability initiatives and their ideas for improvements. This survey will be distributed in the fall.

***Recommendations***

It is recommended that the committee be divided into three or project teams: Public Education, Curriculum Change, and School Greening. The chairs for each of these teams will meet on a regular basis to discuss problems and progress of each project. For individual projects within the project teams, there should be at least one volunteer to take charge. The project teams will meet as needed. Each project team will be responsible for finding funding through fundraisers or grants.

The Public Education team will focus on information distribution and public education events for all Sustain Mid-Maine committees.

1. Information distribution: Organize tables at public events and in public areas and door-to-door information distribution. High school or college students could be volunteers for this.
  - Example: Energy Day in the fall
2. Ongoing public education events: Team would organize events that take place continually through the year. Volunteers would work on specific projects that would interest community. Individual projects would take on volunteers as needed.
  - Example: Educational programs at Barrels Community Market
3. One-time public events: Team would organize events that take place once, or annually, such speakers and workshops. These events would represent individual committees in order to spread information to public. Volunteers, possibly from each committee, would volunteer to lead an event, and take on other volunteers as needed.
  - Example: Green Living Expo
4. Educational publications: Team would create publications about information requested by individual committees. Projects might best be completed by high school or college students, with experience in computer programs and research.

- Example: Waste committee brochure about e-waste recycling

The Curriculum Change team will work with local schools to infuse sustainability topics into the existing curriculum.

1. Planning for curriculum change: This project would consist of implementing a completed survey for teachers in the local schools to determine knowledge, ideas, and interest in curriculum change in local schools. Teachers would meet on a regular basis to discuss programs and existing curriculum materials that could be added to the existing curriculum. They would be in contact with state and national environmental education programs, such as the Maine Math and Science Alliance. They could use the index of sustainable curriculum developed during the summer 2009 internship program.
2. 'One-day' events at schools: This project would organize one-day events at local schools as a way to garner interest in sustainability issues before a curriculum is implemented. These events could be organized by interested teachers or students.

The School Greening team will work toward improving the energy efficiency of the school building. This team will work closely with the Curriculum Change team because the improvements made can be teaching tools.

1. Efficient building/sustainable practices: This project would make improvements on existing schools buildings to be more efficient. These improvements would be used as teaching tools for the Curriculum Change team. The project will also teach students 'green' habits, such as turning off lights. Project could use information from the greenhouse gas inventory completed by the summer interns.
2. Safe cleaning: This project would work to implement safe cleaning processes in local schools. The project would need a volunteer or representative from the custodial department in each school district.
3. Green schools competition: This project would create a contest or find an existing contest in which schools compete to become more sustainable. This would be a good way to raise public awareness of what the schools are working on.

## COMMUNITY GARDENS AND LOCAL FOODS

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**Active committee members:** 15-20

**Number of Meetings:** 10

**Current Progress:**

The Local Food group began by regrouping and selecting projects to focus on. After some initial work on linking growers to markets, that project decided that the Barrels Community Market was accomplishing most, if not all, tasks of the project. The Community Garden group remained and began the North Street Community Garden with grant support from the Waterville Rotary Club. A detailed account of the progress and lessons learned from that process is present in the North Street Community Garden case study.

## Recommendations:

- Expand the community garden according to a three-part vision, made possible grant funding and municipal support.
  1. Double the beds on North Street from the current 12 up to 24.
  2. Establish 12 beds in the south end of Waterville on the corner of Poor Street and Moore Street; and revisit the Kelsey Street site
  3. Attach removable greenhouses to some of the beds to extend the growing season
- Build a fence-like raised garden bed surrounding the garden on North Street to deter vandalism and increase growing space
- Rooftop gardens on Main Street.
- Increase outreach by gathering interest from gardeners and expanding educational opportunities

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## RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR & MEMBERS

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### 1. Key Resources

- a. [North Street Community Garden Case Study](#) – offers a step-by-step guide to creating, maintaining, and expanding a community garden, with recommendations specific to Sustain Mid-Maine
- b. [Community Survey and Analysis](#) – important data and analysis relative to each committee and to the strategic plan; also includes contacts for those who expressed interest in joining committees
- c. [Green Curriculum Summary](#) – summary of relevant green curriculum resources will be useful for education committee project to infuse sustainability in to the K-12 curriculum
- d. [North Street Community Garden Brochure](#) – informational brochure on the North Street Community Garden, the benefits of local foods, and the benefits of community gardening
- e. [Electronic Waste Recycling Brochure](#) – outlines options for ‘e-waste’ recycling in the greater Waterville area
- f. [Sustain Mid-Maine Brochure](#) – general information brochure with information on how to donate to the group
- g. [Green Living Expo Case Study](#) – offers a step-by-step guide to organizing a Green Living Expo and provides recommendations based on the summer 2009 expo
- h. [Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#) – accounts for government and community greenhouse gas emissions in Waterville, Winslow, and Fairfield, Maine
- i. [Sustainability Coordinator Job Description](#) – guidelines and recommendations for a sustainability coordinator, including volunteer management recommendations

### 2. Communication tools

- a. Website, [www.sustainmidmaine.org](http://www.sustainmidmaine.org)
- b. Constant contact e-newsletter subscription through Dec 2009 with registered 100+ member mailing list, [www.constantcontact.com](http://www.constantcontact.com)
- c. Communications brief, confirmed by Steering Committee, outlining rules of engagement, key communication points, and target audiences
- d. Media release template showing how to create and distribute media release
- e. Archive of previous media coverage on website

- f. Logo suite, including logo, business card design, and stationery design in .jpg and vector formats
- 3. Agendas and minutes
  - a. Minutes are posted on website
  - b. Agendas catalogued in files
- 4. Contacts
  - a. For catalyst participants (excel)
  - b. For greenhouse gas inventory (excel)
  - c. For Summer 2009 Intern Program (excel)
  - d. For mailing list (www.constantcontact.com)
  - e. Directory of area public school teachers (excel)

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## SUMMER 2009 INTERNSHIP PROJECT REVIEW

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### SUMMER WORK PLAN AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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During the summer of 2009, a group of four interns from Colby College and Unity College worked to build capacity and momentum in Sustain Mid-Maine. The following were goals for the summer:

#### ***Build visibility of Sustain Mid-Maine in the greater Waterville area and beyond***

Visibility was increased through public events such as the Grand Opening of the North Street Community Garden, which attracted over 100 attendees, and the Green Living Expo, which attracted over 200 attendees. Both of these events were advertised through newspaper articles, and event listings. Andrew Young, intern for the Waste and Recycling Committee, wrote a letter to the editor about electronic and hazardous waste recycling options. A website was developed for Sustain Mid-Maine, where meeting time and dates, minutes, and other relevant information is accessible to area citizens, state policymakers, and other interested persons. Connections in town were strengthened through personal meetings and conversations through phone and email. A community survey, with a page description of the history and purpose of Sustain Mid-Maine was sent to 1000 households in the area. The group was also advertised through an Inside Colby video focusing on the summer intern work, and a Colby Magazine article about Colby student's involvement in Sustain Mid-Maine. Decision makers in the area are becoming more aware of the group because of the development of the College Intern Training Institute.

#### ***Identify and meet funding needs through grants and other fundraising***

Through the ongoing Colby-Waterville Community Climate Partnership, a tax-deductible donations fund was established at Colby to accept online and mail-in tax deductible donations. The interns helped draft a proposal for funding from the local Waterville Rotary Club and to the Maine Energy Investment Corporation. Summer interns created a fundraising plan for Sustain Mid-Maine by researching strategies of other local groups. Interns also identified a range of relevant grants. A brochure was created outlining the goals and activities of Sustain Mid-Maine, as well as reasons to give. State and regional foundations were contacted to examine the potential of individual donors, outside of established grant programs, that might be willing to donate to the group.

### ***Build momentum by completing successful projects***

The following were completed successful projects: North Street Community Garden grand opening, e-waste recycling brochure, importance of local foods and community gardens brochure, community survey, electronic maps for Kennebec Messalonskee Trails, Green Living Expo, and a residential weatherization plan.

### ***Involving volunteers in summer intern work & supporting volunteer efforts***

Time constraints and complexities in coordinating work with community members inhibited extensive, day-to-day coordination of work with volunteers. Volunteers were engaged in committee meetings and through emails in regards to ongoing projects. The general accomplishments of the summer support volunteer efforts through built capacity, such as a presentation orienting new volunteers to the group.

### ***Build capacity for the incoming sustainability coordinator and group as a whole through: contacts, best practices, tools, reports & indicators, website, procedures, volunteer management protocol***

The above mentioned products are discussed in this final report.

### ***Grounding the group's work more deeply in the local situation (surveys, focus groups, and other research)***

A community survey was sent out to 1000 households in the four towns. This survey, provided feedback and information on how to improve our focus to better the local situation. Research was also done in GIS surveys, community inventory, and e-waste recycling options in the area.

### ***Improving communication within/among teams and team members***

Communication was slightly improved through the work of the interns. They created a template for meeting agendas and minutes to be consistent in each committee. A newsletter was also sent out to explain the Green Living Expo. It is recommended that more newsletters are sent out to keep group updated on the progress of each committee. Individual committees are keeping in touch through their own methods, such as the Local Foods committee creating the yahoo group with a listserv.

### ***Growing experience base of interns through training and project supervision***

The interns attended the following formal events: NH Local Energy Committees Conference, EcoMaine Recycling Facility, Chamber Business Breakfast with John Brautigam from Efficiency Maine, and the Mid-Maine Global Forum with Richard Vietor, Harvard Business. The interns also had many personal meetings and correspondence with important decision makers in the four towns, such as: Shannon Haines at Waterville Main St., and Jim Wood and Dave Gilpatrick at KVCAP.

## SUMMER PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### ***Community Garden***

During the summer, the interns created a Case Study documenting the successful creation of the North Street Community Garden. The intern also helped to organize the Grand Opening at the Garden.

### ***Budget for FY 2009-2010***

A proposed framework budget for the FY 2009-2010 was generated.

### ***Greenhouse Gas Inventory: Waterville, Winslow, Fairfield***

The greenhouse gas inventory for Waterville, Winslow, and Fairfield Maine was updated and standardized across the three towns. Waterville is required to report on its annual greenhouse gas emissions by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Governor's Challenge Program, of which they are part.

### ***Website, Online Calendar, Online Networking***

A website was created, hosted on the City of Waterville website, accessible by [www.sustainmidmaine.org](http://www.sustainmidmaine.org). A calendar of upcoming meetings and events is now available on the website. A Facebook group was set up for Sustain Mid-Maine members to social network online.

### ***Newsletters***

Four newsletter updates were published during the course of the summer. At least one newsletter per month should be published to the group and those who wish to remain informed about the activities of Sustain Mid-Maine

### ***Media***

A Communications Brief was prepared for the group and approved by the Steering Committee.

### ***Community Survey***

One thousand community surveys were distributed to determine if the goals of Sustain Mid-Maine were in line with the needs of the community. The survey also assessed what the community and individual households were already doing, such as what energy improvements have been done. With this information, we can better identify community needs. Another purpose for the survey was to educate the public about Sustain Mid-Maine and what initiatives have started. This would also raise awareness for sustainability and green initiatives.