

Kennebunk CAP - 2025 Update

The Town of Kennebunk adopted the Kennebunk Climate Action Plan in May 2024. The plan outlines 22 comprehensive strategies across five categories that Kennebunk will implement to further reduce the community's greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen its ability to adapt and thrive.

PROGRESS IN 2025



BUILDINGS & ENERGY Making our buildings and energy systems resilient to climate change.



- Kennebunk is participating in the [Southern Maine Energy Navigator Pilot](#), which launched in May 2025. The town is coordinating with the Energy Navigators on outreach to community members. *Supports strategies B1 and B2.*
- The Town is continuing to make progress on energy efficiency measures for existing and new municipal buildings. *Supports strategy B1.*



- The Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Committee (EESC) has been coordinating with the local school district, RSU21, on solar opportunities for the school district. *Supports strategy B3.*
- Kennebunk received [SolSmart Bronze](#) designation in recognition of the Town's support for rooftop solar. *Supports strategy B3.*
- 11 permits were issued for solar systems between July 2024 to June 2025. *Supports strategy B3.*
- The Town received a Community Action Grant to install solar on the Waterhouse Center. *Supports strategy B3.*



- Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC) is leading the development of a [Regional Energy Resilience Plan](#) in coordination with Central Maine Power and Kennebunk Light and Power to address grid resilience issues. *Supports strategy B5.*



- In 2024 Maine passed a [new state law](#) requiring property owners to disclose flood risk to potential buyers. *Supports strategy B6.*

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE Making our transportation systems and infrastructure ready for climate change.

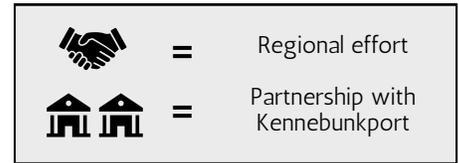


- Kennebunk is continuing to work with RideMaine and York County Community Action Corp. to expand access to and use of public transit services. *Supports strategy T1.*
- Bike and pedestrian impact fees are being assessed with building permits. *Supports strategy T2.*
- Kennebunk and other partners are creating a task force to identify connectivity of existing trails and potential opportunities for expanding the trail network. *Supports strategy T2.*
- The Town has identified additional locations for public EV charging stations and continues to explore opportunities for converting more fleet vehicles to EVs. *Supports strategies T3 and T4.*



- Kennebunk is working with the Kittery Area Comprehensive Transportation System and MDOT on improvements to the bridge on Parsons Beach road, taking into consideration climate vulnerabilities and Complete Street considerations. *Supports strategy T6.*

PROGRESS IN 2025 - Continued



LAND USE & NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Helping our environment respond to climate change.

- The Town currently regulates wetlands greater than 1 acre and passed a Wetland Mitigation Ordinance in 2022 to regulate impacts greater than 499 square feet. *Supports strategy L2*
- Kennebunk is continuing to promote and encourage “nature-based solutions”, such as the restoration of sand dunes or wetlands, to protect shorelines and property from flooding and erosion. *Supports strategy LN2*
-  **The Town is partnering with the Town of Kennebunkport on a study of the Kennebunk River** to identify flood and sea level rise resilience options for both communities. *Supports strategy LN3.*

HEALTH, SAFETY, & WELLBEING Ensuring our community's resilience to climate change impacts.

-  SMPDC has increased coordination with York County Emergency Management Agency, meeting quarterly and helping co-host the York County Coastal Resilience Summit in 2024. *Supports strategy H1.*
- The Town of Kennebunk became an owner community of EcoMaine in 2025, which will reduce waste emissions and increase accuracy and transparency in waste management tracking.
- The EESC is exploring opportunities for offering composting services to community members. *Supports strategy H2.*
- **On May 27th, 2025 the Select Board approved a policy to eliminate the purchase of single-use plastics by the municipality.** *Supports strategy H3*

LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY Ensuring our town has the resources and support to implement climate actions.

-  Kennebunk applied for and supported several grants for climate action, including a Community Action Grant and a grant from the Broadreach Fund. *Supports strategy LS1.*
- The Town continues to track municipal expenditures for larger storms and disaster declarations. *Supports strategy LS2.*
- **The Select Board established the Climate Action Committee** in Fall 2024 to facilitate the implementation of the CAP. *Supports strategy LS3.*
- The Climate Action Committee began conducting public outreach and education around the CAP and climate change in Kennebunk, including tabling efforts at the May Day Festival and a conservation commission event, Protecting Our Water in the Kennebunks. *Supports strategy LS4.*