

## **Opportunities for Municipalities to Help Residents Lower Heating Costs and Save Energy**

May 2016

Following are three opportunities for towns to help residents learn about lowering heating costs and saving energy. Please contact Tyler Kidder, Efficiency Maine Communications Manager, for more details on these initiatives. She can be reached by phone at 866-376-2463 or email at [tyler.kidder@energymaine.com](mailto:tyler.kidder@energymaine.com).

### **1) Collective Purchase Events**

Communities around the state have successfully organized events for residents to join together in the bulk purchase of ductless heat pumps, weatherization, and other home efficiency upgrades. Participating homeowners often receive a discount on such improvements and have a greater level of confidence in project outcomes. In some cases municipalities have dedicated savings from their utility budgets to supplement rebates and incentives available from Efficiency Maine. Contact Ms. Kidder to learn more about setting up a collective purchase of equipment or services in your area.

### **2) Home Energy Savings in Tax Bill Mailing**

For the past few years, Efficiency Maine has provided an energy efficiency brochure for tax bills in more than 150 towns. We cover the incremental costs to insert and mail the brochure, so including the information is at no cost to the municipality. The 2016 tax bill season is here and we are hoping to add your town. Help us tell homeowners in your town about energy saving opportunities. To participate, contact Ms. Kidder and include the date when tax bills are prepared, how many brochures you need, and specifics on collaborating with your tax billing service.

### **3) Low-Cost Options for Home Energy Efficiency**

Efficiency Maine offers low-cost options for residents who qualify as low income, including those eligible for heating assistance as well as owners of homes valued at \$80,000 or less (including all mobile homes). We welcome your help in connecting residents to local contractors who are registered with Efficiency Maine and have agreed to provide weatherization services for as little as \$100 for qualifying homeowners. If you can help us reach low-income residents in your town through informational events or other creative outreach approaches, please contact Ms. Kidder.

*Efficiency Maine looks forward to working with you to help lower energy costs for your residents.*