

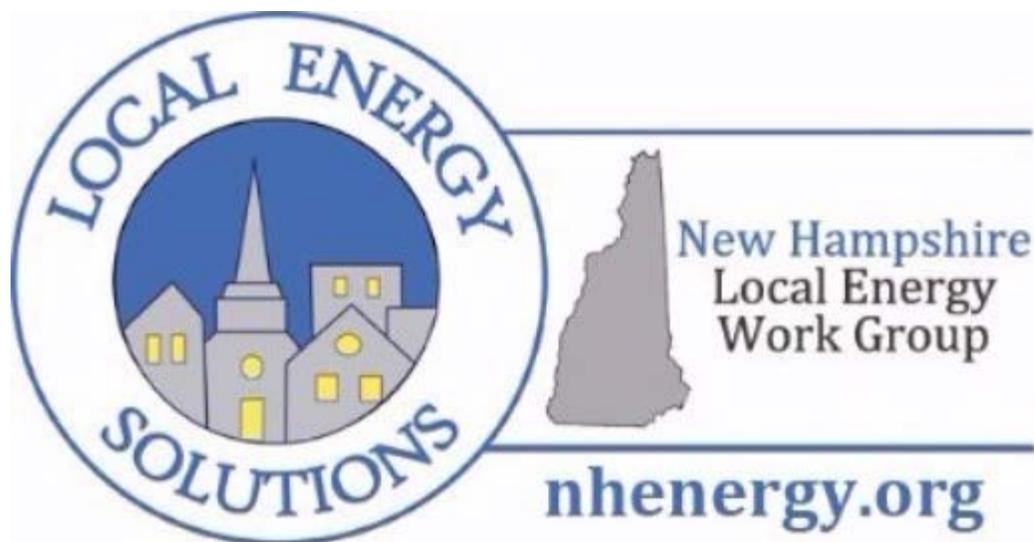
LES Conference Registration Open!

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## Local Energy Solutions E-News

*Turning Ideas into Action*

**October 2016**



***Register Today for the  
LES Conference!  
November 19th***

Mark your calendars for the [2016 Local Energy Solutions \(LES\) Conference](#) on **Saturday, November 19th, 2016 at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord, NH!** Whether you're an energy committee member, local leader, engaged citizen, legislator, industry representative, or curious to learn more about clean energy, **you don't want to miss this conference.** Featuring multi-track sessions, panel discussions, and a keynote address, the **LES Conference is NH's premier conference dedicated to achieving clean energy success in the Granite State.**

[Register here to attend!](#)

The LES Conference is co-hosted by the [NH Local Energy Solutions Work Group](#) and the [NH Sustainable Energy Association.](#)

Thank you to our sponsors!

# NH SAVES

*we all win*



## Energy News

### What Tools Would Help Your Community Develop Renewable Energy? - [Take the Survey!](#)

Municipalities look to renewable energy to reduce costs, improve reliability, and meet environmental goals. However, it's challenging to determine which renewable energy to select. The Nashua Regional Planning Commission in partnership with the Local Energy Solutions Work Group is developing a "Renewable Energy Tool Belt" to help communities compare potential renewable energy systems for their municipal facilities and schools. A survey has been designed to identify the challenges faced when implementing renewable energy and the resources that might help them to overcome these barriers. [Please add your input](#) to help design the Renewable Energy Tool Belt and create a valuable resource for communities across NH. Input is welcome

from local energy committee members, facilities committees members, conservation commission members, budget committee members, facilities managers, town administrators, finance administrators, planning staff, and engaged residents and business leaders. For more information about the project, please contact Jill Longval, [JILL@nashuarpc.org](mailto:JILL@nashuarpc.org).

[Take the survey here!](#) It closes on October 28th.

## **Funding Available for Renewable Energy Generation Projects in the Commercial & Industrial Sector**

On September 20, 2016 the NH Public Utilities Commission issued a request for proposals (RFP) for projects that will increase the supply of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) from thermal renewable energy or non-photovoltaic electric renewable energy projects located in New Hampshire. For more info [click here](#).

## **Commons Energy**

The Vermont Energy Investment Corporation has started an Energy Services Company (ESCO) focused on public use buildings. They will take on projects that may be too small or low profit for traditional ESCO's. They've completed a handful of projects in Vermont and are beginning to work with other states. For more information please visit: <http://www.commonseenergy.com/>.

## **Climate Change - What Does It Mean for NH?**

[Check out this video](#) made by the NH Department of Environmental Services on climate change impacts in NH.

## **Button Up NH Workshops**

Check out the [Events Calendar](#) for dates on the Button Up NH programs. Already in place: Concord, Conway, Exeter, Hudson, Pembroke, Derry, Pelham, Enfield/Mascoma, Grantham, Manchester, Lebanon.

## **Mt. Washington Valley Citizens for Energy Efficient Communities**

The team has been busy with completing community presentations on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Municipalities to six towns and January 15, 2017 is already on the calendar to kick off the Solarize MWV program.

## **Solar Up NH - Final Round**

Solar Up NH is embarking on the final round in the Southern NH Planning Commission Region. The towns of Derry and Londonderry and the West Side of the City of Manchester are participating. This solarize campaign began on September 26th and will be ending on December 31, 2016. This round follows three very successful rounds that involved 10 of the planning commission's 14 member communities. The first public informational workshop is scheduled for October 20th from 7 to 8:30 PM at the Londonderry High School. For more information, please contact Jack Munn, Chief Planner at SNHPC at [jmunn@snhpc.org](mailto:jmunn@snhpc.org).

# **Workshops & Trainings**

## Water, Weather, Climate and Community Workshop Series

Indoor and Outdoor presentations and discussions will focus on what communities can do to manage and sustain their water resources in the face of climate change. Join Seacoast community and CAW members. A Free event. Check out the [Event Calendar](#).

## Municipal Waste Water - Energy Efficiency Workshops

Calling all waste water operators, local decision makers, local energy committee members, and design engineers! The [NHSaves.com](#) electric utilities are partnering with NHDES to offer six free Municipal Waste Water - Energy Efficiency workshops and tours from September 20th to November 3rd. Registration links can be viewed on the [DES website](#).

## 29 Efficiency Workshops

Efficiency workshops will be happening all over the state this Fall. Most of these are focused on municipalities and larger buildings. This list is still a work in progress but most of the dates are confirmed. As details are finalized for each specific event they will be posted on [NHSaves.com](#)

## High Performance Schools Summits

If you want to study how to improve the student learning environment and contribute to the academic success of our students, join NEEP & its partners for two High Performance Schools Summits on October 21st and November 9th. The summits will gather a wide variety of school stakeholders including architects, engineers, facility and energy managers, utility program administrators and school business officials. In an effort to bring together a large audience to share best practices and real-world expertise, these two events are free. Registration for both is now open. Please visit [New Hampshire Summit](#) and [Rhode Island Summit](#) webpages for more information.

## Funding Available

Ongoing SolSmart Technical Assistance. SolSmart is a national recognition and a no-cost technical assistance program for local governments. The program is designed to drive greater solar deployment and help make it possible for more homes and businesses to access affordable and renewable solar energy to meet their electricity needs. SolSmart experts will design personalized action plans for communities that outline a path to designation as a SolSmart community, along with a rough timeline. SolSmart is federally funded for a three-year period, but is expected to persist beyond this timeframe. Stakeholder and community benefits are described on the program website. <http://www.gosparc.org/>

## Grants for K-12 Schools

Grants will be awarded to support projects related to access to healthy food, air quality, heat island effect, climate change, or storm water collection. Young people will work as social innovators to help their communities through project design and implementation. A \$2,000 grant will be awarded to 55 schools. Deadline for applications is October 31, 2016. More information: <https://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/grants/>

## Utility & Business Events

### New Hampshire's Future in Clean Energy and a Shifting Climate in New England

October 24, 2016

***Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH***

Join Eversource, state and regional environmental experts, and business and community leaders for lunch and engaging discussions about clean energy and resiliency efforts underway to achieve air emissions goals and to adapt to a shifting climate.

[Register Here](#)

## **New Energy Resources**

### **Solar 101 Presentations**

The Lakes Region Community College, has recently completed their Solar 101 workshop series and PDF versions of the presentations are available here:

- [Solar 101 for Municipal Officials](#)
- [NH Residential Solar 101](#)

These Solar 101 workshops have helped build the regional solar market by targeting the reduction of non-hardware "soft" costs for solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. The workshops were produced by Lakes Region Community College, with support from the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative Rooftop Solar Challenge II, in partnership with the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning and Clean Energy States Alliance. Thank you to all who helped coordinate and participated!

## **EVENTS CALENDAR**



[Click](#) on the calendar to see what is happening in October & beyond.

## **LES WORK GROUP MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Each month we shine the light on a LES Work Group Member.



[Meet Linda Darveau, US Region 1, Environmental Protection Agency](#)

## ABOUT THE LES WORK GROUP

Our mission is to provide collaborative guidance and technical support to Local Energy Committees & Commissions (LEC's), municipalities, schools, and other political subdivisions\* seeking to reduce energy use, minimize energy costs, and/or reduce fossil-fuel consumption. Consider joining our efforts: contact [Leigh Cameron](#) for more information on the LES Work Group's efforts and opportunities for participation.

About Our E-Newsletter: The monthly Local Energy Solutions E-newsletter of the NH LES Work Group is compiled and distributed by the New England Grassroots Environment Fund on behalf of the NH Local Energy Solutions Work Group. [Learn more about the Grassroots Fund.](#)



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