Bar Harbor breaks ground on first community solar farm in Maine

On Monday, August 1, members of A Climate To Thrive's Advisory Board, Senator Angus King, and members of the community gathered to break ground on Bar

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Harbor's community solar farm - the first on public-owned property in the state of Maine. Read coverage on this exciting event by following the links below:

- Bangor Daily News
- WLBZ - Channel 2
- Mainebiz

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**Gary Friedmann, ACTT's Chair, is Finalist for the Natural Resources Council of Maine's People's Choice Award**

Gary Friedmann has been a tremendous force behind the growing power of A Climate To Thrive. Instrumental in the founding of the initiative, Gary has worked tirelessly to bring ACTT to where we are today. This work has not gone unnoticed, and Gary is now a finalist for the Natural Resources Council of Maine's 2016 People's Choice Awards. [Vote here for Gary today!](#)

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**We are hiring!**

This spring, ACTT received grants from the Hancock County Fund of the Maine Community Foundation, the Maine Community Foundation's Broad Reach Fund and the Stroud Fund to help create a part time position that will be instrumental in propelling this initiative to the next level. Over the spring and summer, Ruth Poland and Johannah Blackman have been working in the temporary positions of Program Manager and Project Coordinator, organizing the Summer Gathering, fundraising, and supporting the committees and ACTT's Advisory Board. These temporary positions are coming to a close, as Ruth and Johannah head to prior work commitments, and A Climate To Thrive seeks a motivated change maker for the part time position of Project Coordinator. This is an exciting opportunity for a creative, multi-talented leader! [Read more here.](#)

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**Upcoming Committee Meetings**

As always, all are welcome to attend any committee meeting. All of the committees are currently hard at work identifying and gathering necessary baseline data and
formalizing a plan of action towards energy independence. Additionally, each committee is working on multiple short-term projects, including those listed below.

**Alternative Energy Committee** - Thursday, September 8, 5:30 p.m. at 7 Pine Street, Bar Harbor. Projects include Solarize MDI and identifying locations for community solar farms.

**Building Efficiency Committee** - Wednesday, August 24, 5:30 p.m. at 245 Oak Hill Road, Bar Harbor (Somesville). Projects include gathering baseline data on buildings and developing and disseminating information on simple and effective home-weatherization projects and local resources.

**Food Systems Committee** - Monday, September 12, 5:30 p.m. at 7 Pine Street, Bar Harbor. Projects include researching island-wide composting options (working with the Zero Waste Committee) and methods and resources available for increasing access to local food.

**Public Policy Committee** - Thursday, September 1, 5:00 p.m. at 13 Woods Road, Mount Desert (Somesville). Projects include identifying key upcoming policy decisions, prioritizing issues for tracking, and formulating means for achieving maximum impact.

**Transportation Committee** - Thursday, September 8, 5:30 p.m. at 12 Shannon Road, Bar Harbor. Projects include developing electric vehicle-focused event and implementing Getting There Maine (ride-sharing app).

**Zero Waste Committee** - Saturday, August 20, 8:00 a.m. at Deering Commons, College of the Atlantic. Projects include researching island-wide composting options (working with the Food Systems Committee), developing educational materials, planning a visit by Eco-Solutions and collaborating with other organizations and publicizing Hazardous Waste Collection Day (September 24).

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**A Call to Action**

Our goal of working towards energy independence by 2030 may seem ambitious, but it is absolutely required to seriously address the severity and urgency presented by climate change. Bill McKibben's latest article, *A World At War*, highlights this severity and urges appropriately intensive responses. This piece is an important read
for anyone thinking about or working on climate change, which, as McKibben points out, is something we all should be doing.

www.aclimatetothrive.org

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