

Sustainability Matters: Community Unity

Reducing our use of energy and sourcing it from clean technology means controlling costs by reducing energy bills. Investing in the resilience of our built environment and coastal resources means protecting people, property and industries from sea level rise and storms. The Gulf of Maine is acutely impacted by sea level rise projected by NOAA to be between 1.5 and 10+ feet by 2100 depending on whether or not and how fast we can cut carbon emissions.

It is critically important as real estate professionals that we are prepared to knowledgeably advise our clients on effective ways to both control energy costs and protect our coast. From the 193 countries in the global Paris Climate Accord to the 15 towns in the GPBR, we're all working towards the same goal, to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees centigrade.

By attending the 2023 Sustainability Matters course, subtitled Community Unity, licensees will learn from expert instructors how towns in the GPBR are working with state and federal governments and each other to incentivize cutting greenhouse gasses and protecting coastal assets, including some terrific incentives available to the public and businesses. Please join us for a course custom designed for what you need to know now.

Your Instructors:

Brian Ambrette, Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator, Maine Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF)

GOPIF organized the Maine Climate Council in 2019 and the Community Resilience Partnership in 2022 which has given \$5 million in grants to date to help communities plan and execute energy efficiency, renewable energy, and coastal resilience projects.

Kelly Rehberg, Sustainability Program Manager, Greater Portland Council of Governments
Greater Portland Council of Governments is a non-profit that coordinates area communities and helps share resources and effective strategies, including on clean energy and resilience, and has partnered with GOPIF to facilitate efficiency and resilience at the community level.

Dr. Dave Reidmiller, Director of the Climate Center, Gulf of Maine Research Institute
The Gulf of Maine Research Institute is a non-profit where scientists are dedicated to the resilience of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the communities that depend on it.

Julie Rosenbach, Director of Sustainability, South Portland

One Climate Future is a joint collaboration between the cities of Portland and South Portland to meet greenhouse gas emissions goals, focusing on the potential for transformation by charting an achievable course towards a future that is equitable, regenerative, and resilient.

Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Town of Cumberland Lands and Conservation Commission (LCC) Climate Action Planning Subcommittee

Jesse joins Julie Rosenbach to describe how the innovative strategies by the towns of Portland, South Portland, and Cumberland move their communities along a path to energy efficiency and resilience, as well as working with GOPIF, GPCOG and GMRI.

Julia Bassett Schwerin, Green Broker, Advisors Living Real Estate and Co-Chair, Sustainability Advisory Group of the Greater Portland Board of Realtors, Co-Producer and Moderator
The Sustainability Advisory Group (SAG) is in its third year fulfilling its mission to educate and advise the GPBR board and members on issues related to climate change and the potential economic, social and environmental impacts to the real estate industry from a warming climate. From 2019 to 2022, the SAG produced 11 original CEU hours of classes including Sustainability Matters and Realtor Green Day and sponsored six hours of classes on how to sell high performance homes and understanding the flood zone.