



Efficient and Resilient Communities

MISSION

Assist Northeast and Mid-Atlantic communities to equitably advance home and building energy efficiency to achieve local clean energy, climate resiliency, and economic development goals.

The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states include over 4,500 towns and cities, many of which are committed to energy efficiency to achieve clean energy, climate resiliency, economic development, and environmental goals. **Efficient and Resilient Communities** assists these leading communities to undertake effective community initiatives. NEEP's regional High Performance Communities network engages them to exchange best practices, share success stories, and develop and use resources that lead to efficient and resilient homes, businesses, and public buildings. Our regional collaboration also engages state and federal agencies, business and community associations, utilities, service and technology providers, non-profits, and consumer and clean energy advocates to join community leaders to improve the efficiency of homes and buildings with workforce development that creates valuable local jobs and business opportunities with an equity focus. NEEP also provides best practice tools and resources for communities to build, operate and maintain energy efficient, healthy, safe, comfortable, and climate-resilient homes and buildings, including lead-by-example high performance and zero energy/carbon public buildings and schools.

LONG-TERM MARKET TRANSFORMATION GOALS

By 2025:

- 60% of Northeast communities have reduced municipal building energy consumption by 20% or more.

By 2030:

- All Northeast states adopt 2050 carbon neutral mandates for all homes and buildings with zero energy/carbon codes for new and renovated homes and buildings to begin by 2032.
- All Northeast states engage low and moderate income communities to implement equitable economic development programs that improve the efficiency, resiliency, health, safety and long-term affordability of their homes and community buildings.

Regional Trends and Leaders:

- K-12 public schools in the NEEP region are national and regional leaders in the development of zero energy and high-performance facilities with over 121 schools built to [Northeast Collaborative for High Performance \(NE-CHPS\) standards](#).
- Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States are national leaders in number of zero energy or zero energy ready public buildings with approximately 103 built in MA, VT, NY, RI, and MD.
- MA, MD, NY, RI and the District of Columbia are developing jurisdiction-wide zero energy plans leading with public buildings. CT and PA support such community initiatives for all building types through grants and recognition.
- Informed by learning exchange with other leading communities, small, medium, and rural communities are increasingly committing to zero energy public buildings, strategic electrification, and 100% renewable energy.



2021 Project Outcomes

NEEP's 2021 Project Outcomes:

1. Two additional states in the region join MA, NY, PA, and CT to support community-focused initiatives with state level resources to advance clean energy, increase equitable access to energy efficiency programs and projects, and deliver workforce development opportunities.
2. Seven Northeast and Mid-Atlantic communities develop innovative strategies, such as zoning requirements or strategic electrification plans, to reduce community-wide carbon emissions 60 percent by 2030.
3. States and communities lead by example by increasing the number of zero energy public buildings in operation by 10 across at least 5 states.



2021 Strategies and Deliverables Continued

Stakeholder Engagement: NEEP engage key stakeholders, and provide best practice resources, and analyses in 2020 to assist communities to set and achieve efficiency and carbon reduction goals through:

- **New!** Online Q&A discussion forum for local level energy champions
- Regional High Performance Communities Working Group
 - Three topical webinars and one in-person/virtual meeting to address stakeholder needs
- State-specific High Performance Schools Working Groups in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island (*Pending state funding*)
- Regional and national presentations and briefings as requested
- One high performance or zero energy school video exemplar in conjunction with Healthy School Day 2021

Tracking and Analysis: NEEP will track and analyze community initiative progress at the regional, state and local levels and highlight leading regional trends.

- **Update!** Web-based Regional Dashboard of state and communities zero energy and carbon policies
- **New!** [Interactive Regional Map of high performance schools by state](#)
- Maintain and disseminate NEEP's [Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools Criteria](#) (NE-CHPS V3.2 2019) for school construction and design

Tools and Guidelines: NEEP advances the development of strategies, tools and best practices to move communities forward with their efficiency planning by providing best practice tools and resources developed by NEEP and others (e.g., U.S. DOE, U.S. EPA, Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), Institute for Market Transformation (IMT), New Buildings Institute (NBI), and others).

- Maintain and update [CAPEE](#) with at least one new module and resources based on stakeholder needs
- Maintain [Online Resource center](#)
- **Update!** [Regional Operations and Maintenance Guide](#) to include COVID-19 safe practices and other new best practice guidance
- **New!** Develop state-specific zero energy school toolkits by request
- Provide direct technical assistance for communities on various topics, as requested

Research and Reports: NEEP will develop new best practice reports while maintaining access to existing reports with support for their use across the region:

- **New!** Develop two exemplars highlighting innovative pathways to develop zero carbon schools, public buildings, multifamily, or other building type with a focus on small or rural community. Develop one exemplar highlighting a community’s progress related to health and energy, equity, or workforce development.
- **New!** Brief analyzing best practices and exemplary zero energy and strategic electrification plans in communities
- **New!** Trends, Opportunities, and Challenges with Zero Energy Schools in the Region

National/Regional Collaboration: NEEP will contribute to and leverage state and national resources to inform community resources and planning.

- Monitor, communicate, present, and coordinate with national and regional organizations (e.g., Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association (MFAA), State Specific ZE Working Groups, NH Local Energy Solutions, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), Energy Economic and Environmental Justice Groups, etc.)
- Disseminate U.S. DOE best practices and link states to federal programs and resources
- Engage with stakeholders to contribute to the development of national programs such as SEE Action Network and U.S. DOE’s Zero Energy Schools Accelerator and the new Better Buildings Workforce Accelerator
- Participate as members of the CHPS Board of Directors

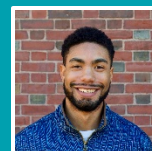
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