



Bro we just want walkable cities and third places in order to find community, not imaginary friends.





Roman Helmet ... 🔮 @romanhelmet... · Apr 30

Zuckerberg explaining how Meta is creating personalized AI friends to supplement your real ones: "The average American has 3 friends, but has demand for 15."



7:09 PM · May 4, 2025 · 215.6K Views



Why is someone from Maine talking to people in New Hampshire?



GrowSmart Maine supports communities in navigating change by convening to action, sharing thought leadership, and advocating, all in alignment with smart growth principles.

### Ten Principles of Smart Growth

- 1. Mix land uses
- Take advantage of compact building design
- Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
- 4. Create walkable neighborhoods
- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place
- Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas
- Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities
- 8. Provide a variety of transportation choices
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost effective
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions



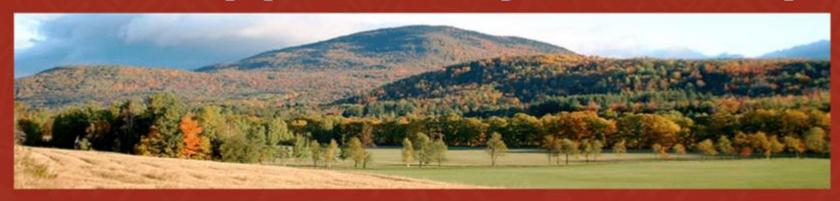








## **Rural Opportunity Roadmap**



### **GROWSMART MAINE** SUMMIT 2025

- WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE
- C Thursday, October 16th

Visit our website: growsmartmaine.org

For more information:





# Creating inclusive, strategic, and fundable plans that deliver tangible results for our

communities.

A Training Program for Community-Driven

**Development Solutions** 





transportation that works

### **Engage. Invent. Ignite!**

October 19, 2016 | Waterville | Thomas College

2016 Fall Summit | Maine-Grown Solutions

### **LEANING INTO CHANGE**



Keeping Maine...Maine

Join us for a full day of tours and workshops.

Roderick Scott, CFM, L & R Resources, on redevelopment in the age of sea level rise, flood insurance changes and wild weather.

#### New approaches to:

- · arts and culture as an economic engine
- · retaining and recruiting millennials and immigrants in today's workforce
- · transportation that works
- balancing environment and economy

#### **Generously Sponsored by:**







You matter more.





### Mainers for Smarter Transportation



























Aimed straight for Maine. Photo credit: Maine Turnpike Authority

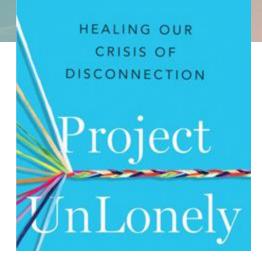
Maine can do better.

We're looking for more organizations to join our expanding coalition.

## Creating Places for Connecting People

Building and Enhancing Places that Advance Community Resilience







#### Featured Presentations

The Well Building Standard

Zoe Reich Margarites - VP, Market Solutions, International Well Building Institute

Smart Growth Builds Wellness

Christopher Coes- VP, Land Use and Development, Smart Growth America

### 2020 GrowSmart Maine Summit

Thursday, October 22 | Pepperell Mill | 40 Main St. | Biddeford

Anchor venue: Biddeford

Satellite locations: Presque Isle | Bangor | Machias | Hallowell | Sidney

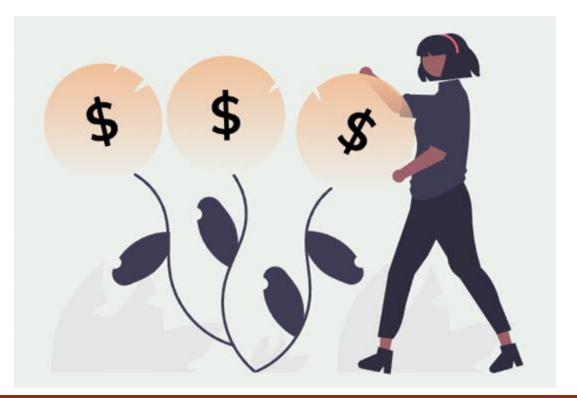
Flexing the Power of Home Rule: A Path Toward Regional Solutions

## 2021 GrowSmart Maine Summit

November 4 | Pepperell Mill | Biddeford

Turning Climate Action into Economic Opportunity: Smart Growth Guidance for Maine Communities

## IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT MONEY





As politics has become nationalized, problem solving has become local ... power increasingly belongs to the problem solvers.

— Bruce Katz in the The New Localism



### **SUMMIT 2014**

The Dollars and \$ense of Smart Growth

### 2018 GrowSmart Maine Summit

October 11th | Cross Insurance Center, Bangor





Featuring speaker Bruce Katz of Drexel University and co-author of The New Localism: How Cities Can Thrive in the Age of Populism.

Generously Sponsored By. Bangor Savings Bank | The Nature Conservancy in Maine Elmina B. Sewall Foundation | PDT Architects

## EXCEPT WHEN IT'S ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS



### Balancing Those Dam Interests

- Friends of the Presumpscot River
- Downtown Westbrook Coalition

### WESTBROOK

### First, Build a Bridge

### Maine's Premier Smart Growth Conference

Interactive morning tours & workshops Relevant & engaging discussions with experts Networking lunch & reception



8am-6pm Wednesday October 18th

### Journalism, Truth and Healthy Communities



Healthy people, healthy businesses, healthy governments — healthy communities — are all best informed and engaged by independent community journalists who examine school budgets, expose scandals, question practices and politics, scrutinize environmental practices, who champion good and who dare to challenge fear and falsehoods.

The work we do in our newsrooms enhances community life, it exposes mental and social health care problems and brings solutions forward, it relentlessly exposes overspending in our governments, and highlights the great people who live and work all around us. Communities are healthier, more engaged, more resilient and better able to thrive when informed by truth.



## Prepare for Possibility

Maine communities thrive when properties reach their full potential. If your municipality is struggling to redevelop or revitalize a former mill, institutional, retail, office or residential property, you can have a brand-new partner.

Not sure where to start? Feeling stuck? Our team can't wait to put our experience, resources, and time to work for you.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PROJECT TODAY

### Maine Historic Tax Credit Economic Impacts Report



September 2020

Prepared by: Charles Lawton & Frank O'Hara

Commissioned by Maine Preservation in partnership with CEI. Greater Portland Landmarks. GrowSmart Maine. and Maine Real Estate & Development Association From **2009 to 2019**, 106 projects were certified and placed in service in Maine.

- Generated \$525 million in construction investment;
- Rehabilitated **3.6 million square feet** of commercial and residential space;
- Created or preserved **1,911 housing units**, of which nearly **1,300 were affordable**;
- Generated **200-700 full-time-equivalent (FTE) jobs** through construction spending alone annually for the past decade.



Welcome to the

## 2022 GrowSmart Maine Summit

October 13 | Bangor | Biddeford | Virtual

### **Advocacy is Empowerment!**

Agriculture to Urban: Shaping Change in Your Community





Climate Tour Delegation with Rufus Gifford, U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark

## American and Maine Farmland Trust Guidelines

- Protect "prime" and "farmland of statewide importance"
- Use disturbed farm property
- Dual-use, Integrate Farming
  - o (note those Danish sheep)
- Preserve future use of farmland after decommissioning
- Minimize grid connection damage to land
- Provide power directly to farm
- Promote Equity and Farm Viability

### American Farmland Trust Farms Under Threat 2040

### Maine Audubon Guidelines

- Target disturbed, degraded lands
- Minimize impacts to sensitive wildlife habitats and high value natural resources
- Maintain intact forest landscapes and wildlife corridors
- Use wildlife-friendly fencing
- Protect water quality; avoid erosion
- When restoring site, maintain and restore native vegetation

# Smart Growth Matters "It's All Connected"