

News and highlights from the Northeastern Governors and Washington, DC in the policy areas of energy, environment, and transportation.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION:

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Environmental Conservation Police, who provide law enforcement on public lands and state parks, are being trained to administer the overdose reversing drug Narcan.



Governor Dannel Malloy announced that the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services will award more than \$6 million to eight communities to increase efforts to prevent underage drinking and prescription drug abuse.

Governor Malloy announced the launch of an innovative new program that will help 500 Connecticut families with young children by promoting family stability and reducing parental substance abuse.

The CT Department of Transportation and the UConn Transportation Safety Research Center have received national recognition for its state-of-the-art electronic motor vehicle crash reporting system and crash data repository.

Governor Malloy announced the availability of up to \$5 million in competitive grants to remediate and redevelop brownfield sites throughout Connecticut.

MASSACHUSETTS

Governor Charlie Baker has signed an Executive Order, Establishing an Integrated Climate Change Strategy for the Commonwealth, to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions; safeguard residents, municipalities and businesses from the impacts of climate change; and build a more resilient Commonwealth.

Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito released the *State of Charge* that finds the addition of energy storage to the state's energy portfolio could save Massachusetts ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars, reduce the impacts of peak demand on the state's energy infrastructure, and reduce carbon emissions.

Governor Baker announced the first statewide safe medication disposal program with Walgreens to install new drug take-back kiosks in pharmacies throughout Massachusetts.

Governor Baker announced that 55 state-owned buildings, totaling over 8.4 million square feet across 29 state agencies, authorities, and campuses, have received a LEED certification that recognizes advanced energy and environmental design .

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources awarded \$518,645 in grants to 75 cities and towns across the Commonwealth to develop clean energy projects.

MassDOT announced the award of seven grants totaling \$2.2 million to improve access to the Commonwealth's freight rail network.

MAINE

Inaugural U.S Department of Transportation FASTLANE grants will provide \$7 million to improve the infrastructure, equipment and technology at the Port of Portland.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Governor Maggie Hassan announced that the U.S. Census Bureau 2015 American Community Survey shows that New Hampshire had one of the highest increases in median income and the lowest poverty rate in the country and a significant decline in the number of uninsured citizens.

Governor Hassan and the Executive Council approved several contracts to expand substance misuse services for pregnant and parenting women, support a Safe Stations Initiative, and provide Family Support services.

New Hampshire has been selected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to participate in two pilot projects aimed at increasing transitional housing for people recovering from opioid and other substance use disorders.

NEW YORK

Governor Andrew Cuomo unveiled the plans for a complete transformation at the historic James A. Farley Post Office into a transportation hub that will house both Amtrak and LIRR ticketing and waiting areas.

Governor Cuomo announced the availability of \$27.9 million in state competitive grants for projects that preserve and enhance rail and port services in major trade and passenger travel corridors and enhance economic competitiveness across New York.

Governor Cuomo announced the availability of \$2.5 million in Climate Resilient Farming grants to help farms reduce their environmental impact and better prepare for, and recover from, severe weather events.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority announced \$10 million in grants for two new clean energy initiatives to support energy efficiency and reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions at industrial and manufacturing facilities.



The Federal Railroad Administration has awarded \$5 million to the New York State DOT for the Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad to increase safety at railroad crossings, train stations, and tracks , including the installation of CCTV cameras to record grade crossing movements .

RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island Department of Health announced that one hundred percent of healthcare providers who are authorized to prescribe opioids and other controlled substances are now enrolled in the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

Senator Jack Reed announced the award of \$5.6 million in Federal Transit Administration grants to the city of Pawtucket for bus facility upgrades and service improvements.

The state's congressional delegation announced the award of a \$543 million grant from DOE for a Rhode Island-led interstate partnership that will help consumers compare home energy efficiency performance.

VERMONT

Governor Shumlin announced that the Federal Transit Administration has awarded more than \$4 million to the Vermont Agency of Transportation to purchase buses and for pilot programs to connect people to health care services.



The Vermont Agency of Transportation will receive an additional \$16 million in redistributed federal highway funding.

THE NORTHEAST

Extreme drought is taking its toll on the region. "Scenes From New England's Drought: Dry Wells, Dead Fish and Ailing Farms", *New York Times*



New England could face serious power challenges. "New England's energy situation 'precarious,' ISO leader says", *New Hampshire Union Leader*

Alternative energy is taking hold in New England. "The gradual greening of New England", *Boston Globe Media in Collaboration with Cross Insurance*



NEWS FROM WASHINGTON, DC:

State Energy Efficiency Rankings: The CONEG states received high marks from the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy in its *2016 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*.

U.S. Government Accountability Office Report: After examining the condition and funding of the nation's bridges, GAO recommends that FHWA develop measures that demonstrate the linkage between the federal funding of bridges and the desired performance outcomes, such as maintained or improved bridge conditions.

Coastal Watershed Grants: U.S. EPA has awarded \$4.637 million for eight grants focused on coastal watershed efforts such as water monitoring, watershed planning, nutrient and/or septic management, and resilience to climate change in southeast Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Climate Change and Security: President Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum for federal agencies to integrate climate change into national security planning.

Home Heating Fuel Prices: The Energy Information Administration will begin reporting home heating oil and propane prices in the October 5 Heating Oil and Propane Update.

? *Did You Know...*

New York's Penn Station is the busiest in the Western Hemisphere, serving 650,000 riders a day, equaling the population of Boston.

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