



Are you an organic farmer who wants to reduce your fossil fuel use?

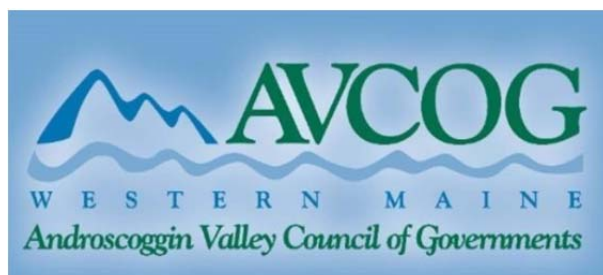
Using funds from an Elmina B. Sewall Foundation grant, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) and Slow Money Maine will award grants in early 2019 to help organic farms throughout Maine reduce their fossil fuel use. We are accepting two kinds of proposals:

Photovoltaic Panels: We will award grants of 25% of the cost of installing solar photovoltaic panels, or \$10,000, whichever is less. For example, applicants could request a \$7,000 grant for a \$28,000 PV project or a grant of \$10,000 to fund a \$60,000 project. USDA's Rural Energy for America Program ([REAP](#)) grants may be available to fund an additional 25% of the cost of solar PV projects. Some solar installation companies will help write a REAP application and have had good success helping farmers get REAP grants.

Other Energy Conservation and Renewable Projects: AVCOG will accept applications for projects other than PV panels that produce energy using renewable fuels or reduce fossil fuel consumption through improved efficiencies. Grants for projects in this category will fund 50% of the cost of the project, or \$5,000, whichever is less. For example, an applicant can ask for a grant of \$4,000 to fund an \$8,000 project or a grant of \$5,000 to fund a \$12,000 project. *Grants are not available for farmhouse weatherization.*

See the Efficiency Maine website (www.energymaine.com/) for other grants to help pay for energy saving measures.

Please fill out the attached application and submit it to Lisa Bonney at AVCOG no later than **Wednesday, January 30th 2019**. Total funding available for this project is limited, and we will not be able to fund all applications. Grant funds will be paid out as a reimbursement, after the project is installed and proof of investment and a photo of the project is submitted. AVCOG will make grant decisions no later than the end of February. If you have questions about the application, contact Linzee Weld at lzweld@icloud.com.



**Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG)
Application for Farm Projects that Lower Fossil Fuel Use
through Energy Conservation or Renewable Energy Production**

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 30, 2019. *Please submit your application to Lisa Bonney by email at lbonney@avcog.org; by Fax (207) 783-5211; or mail to 125 Manley Road Auburn, ME 04210.*

1. Contact Information

Name: _____

Name of Farm: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Office Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Website: _____

What is the best way to reach you?

2. Is your farm certified organic? _____

How long have you owned/leased your farm (please circle own or lease)?

How many years of farm experience do you have? _____

What food do you produce? _____

3. Please describe the project(s) you are applying for grant funds for:

4. Provide the estimated dollar value of energy savings per year from this project and how you arrived at this number _____

5. Provide an estimated timeline for installing the project: _____

6. Describe how your project is innovative, if at all. (Not an application requirement.)

7. Please submit a copy of your farm's 2017 income taxes including Schedule F.

8. Please provide a detailed budget for your project including material and labor (*sample format please submit on separate sheet*)

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| a. _____ | _____ |
| b. _____ | _____ |
| c. _____ | _____ |

Total funds required: _____

Amount of grant request: (up to 25% for photovoltaic projects, not to exceed \$10,000; or up to 50% of the cost of other projects, not to exceed \$5,000) _____

Amount you are paying: _____

All information submitted will be held in a strictly confidential manner. Funding will be on a reimbursement basis following submission of proof of investment and receipt of a photo of the completed project. For questions about the application, contact Linzee Weld at lzweld@icloud.com.