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## COVID-19 Update: HHW Collections, CARES Act Grant Programs, and More

- **HHW Regional Satellite and Depot Collections**
- **MMA Webinar - Voting a Budget via Referendum During COVID-19**
- **NHDES Free Webinars & NRRA Summer Webinar Series**
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act Funding**
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- **State Supports Local COVID-19 Education Efforts**
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- **Click [here](#) to access AVCOG's COVID-19 Resource Page**

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### HHW Regional Satellite and Depot Collections

AVCOG is sponsoring one-day collections of household hazardous waste at various sites throughout the region (Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties).

The first satellite collection of the season will be **Saturday, June 13** at the **Northern Oxford Regional Solid Waste Transfer Station** from **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**.

Please check our **website** for the complete list of participating municipalities and future satellite dates.

The Western Maine Environmental Depot, co-located with the Lewiston Solid Waste Facility on 424 River Road in Lewiston, will be open on the third Saturday of every month from now until **October 17**. The hours of operation are from **8:00 - 11:45 AM**.

Please check our **website** frequently for current information.

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### MMA Webinar - Voting a Budget via Referendum During COVID-19

Maine Municipal Association will host a webinar on **Wednesday, June 17, 2020 from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**.

The webinar is geared toward municipal officers, and will review basic rules for conducting a secret ballot referendum to vote on an annual town budget. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

The training will be recorded and available on demand for MMA members following the event.

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## NHDES Free Webinars & NRRRA Summer Webinar Series

There are two free upcoming webinars sponsored by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Topics include: municipal contract negotiations; handling of a variety of materials such as lithium batteries, glass aggregate, eWaste, etc.; and other topics relative to solid waste, recycling, and composting management.

- **NRRRA/NHDES BMPs for Negotiating Municipal Contracts for Waste, Recycling & Composting Part 1**  
Wednesday, June 17, 2020  
9:00 AM -10:15 AM  
Click [here](#) to register and for more details.
- **NRRRA/NHDES BMPs for Negotiating Municipal Contracts for Waste, Recycling & Composting Part 2**  
Friday, June 19, 2020  
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM  
Click [here](#) to register and for more details.

Northeast Resource Recovery Association is also hosting several webinars throughout the summer that are available to both NRRRA members and nonmembers. Click [here](#) to register and for more details about the summer webinar series.

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## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act Funding

The Maine Department of Economic & Community Development has released the Program Statement for three new CDBG COVID-19 programs that will become available on July 1, 2020. Pending HUD approval, the new three CDBG COVID-19 grant programs are:

- **Housing Assistance Program** – provides funding to community action agencies to address emergency housing needs for low-and moderate-income persons as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Food Security Program** – addresses community needs of food insecurity by providing funding for operating expenses, program supplies, and distribution activities of the Good Shepard Food Bank (GSFB) which will benefit low/moderate income (LMI) persons.
- **Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grant Program** – provides grant funds to micro-enterprise businesses in non-entitlement areas through a partnership with Maine's Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) and their partners.

More program details can be found on our [website](#), and for more information contact Joan Walton at [jwalton@avcog.org](mailto:jwalton@avcog.org) or 207-783-9186 ext. 223.

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## EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance

The Economic Development Administration will make CARES Act Recovery Assistance grants under the authority of its Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, which is intended to be flexible and responsive to the economic development needs and priorities of

local and regional stakeholders.

EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance investments will support a wide range of non-construction and construction activities, including Revolving Loan Funds, in regions across the country experiencing severe economic dislocations brought about by COVID-19.

Examples of projects EDA may fund through its CARES Act Recovery Assistance include:

- Economic recovery planning and preparing technical assistance strategies to address economic dislocations caused by COVID-19.
- Preparing or updating resiliency plans to respond to future pandemics, implementing entrepreneurial support programs to diversify economies, and constructing public works and facilities that will support economic recovery, including the deployment of broadband for purposes including supporting telehealth and remote learning for job skills.

Click [here](#) for the application and the list of eligible applicants, and click [here](#) for additional information.

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## AVCOG Business Loans

### COVID Loan Program

- Borrow up to \$10,000
- 3 years at 3% interest
- SBA may make 6 months of payments for eligible borrowers

### Micro Loan Program

- Up to \$50,000
- Quick loans available for qualified borrowers
- Business Loan Program Up to \$150,000

### Business Loan Program

- Up to \$150,000

For assistance contact Jane Mickeriz at [jmickeriz@avcog.org](mailto:jmickeriz@avcog.org) or 207-783-9186 ext. 250.

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## Clarity for Town Meetings and Elections

AVCOG held a Q&A session with Maine Municipal Association staff on June 4 and discussed issues of holding town meetings and the July 14 election based on the Governor's Executive Order announced on June 2.

- Click [here](#) to view the Governor's order via MMA.
  - Click [here](#) for the Q&A Session with MMA meeting notes on how to interpret and apply the order as it relates to town meetings, elections, and holding a referendum vote.
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## State Supports Local COVID-19 Education Efforts

The Governor's "Keep Maine Healthy" Plan, announced on June 8, 2020, includes reimbursement for municipal costs associated with providing COVID-19 public education and prevention activities.

- Click [here](#) for the program description, cornerstone #3.
  - Click [here](#) to review the grant application and details via MMA.
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## State of Maine Resources

- Click [here](#) for FAQ's for visitors and lodging establishments.
- Click [here](#) to find where you can get tested for COVID-19.



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