

Keene Sustainable Energy Plan

Vision: In 2050, the City of Keene will be a thriving and resilient community powered by affordable, clean, and renewable energy. All electricity and energy used for heating, cooling, and transportation will come from renewable energy sources.



Electricity



Thermal



Transportation



Learn More

To learn more about specific tools and strategies to help us achieve our community's energy goals, please visit KeeneEnergyPlan.com.

Contact us

City of Keene, New Hampshire
Community Development Department
City Hall, 4th Floor
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431
Email:
communitydevelopment@ci.keene.nh.us
Phone: 603-352-5440



Electricity

Goal: 100 percent of electricity used in Keene will come from renewable energy sources by 2030.

How:

1. Reduce electricity use for buildings in all sectors.
2. Increase renewable energy generation and storage.
3. Procure renewable energy to meet remaining electricity demand.
4. Advocate at federal, state, and county levels.

Strategies

Access Renewable Energy Loans

Keene can partner with a local bank or credit union to help residents secure affordable finance options for renewable energy projects like home solar.

Develop a Battery Storage Program

Keene and Eversource can work together to start a program to reduce electricity demand charges by using electricity stored in batteries.

Community Power Programs

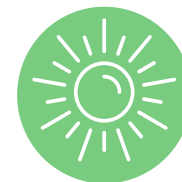
Through Community Power, Keene can make a bulk purchase of energy for residents and businesses, which can help ratepayers get lower rates while adding more renewables to the energy portfolio.


Solar-ready Guidelines

Keene can adopt solar-ready guidelines to make sure that new buildings are designed to accommodate solar now and in the future.

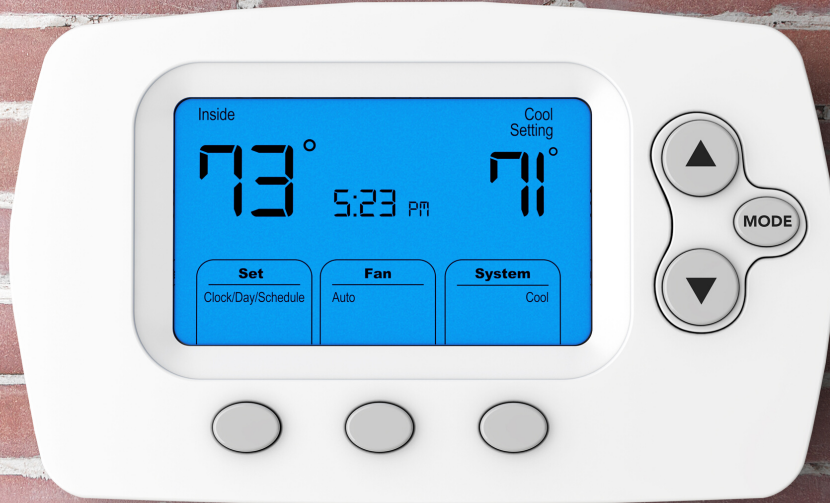
Community Power: Medford, MA

"We're buying the electricity in bulk for the entire city. The city basically does that for your water. Why can't they do it for your electricity?"
--Denis MacDougall, City of Medford, MA



[Listen to learn more about Community Power Programs](#) 

Learn more at KeeneEnergyPlan.com



Thermal

Goal: 100 percent of all thermal energy consumed in Keene will come from renewables by 2050.

How:

1. Reduce thermal energy use for buildings in all sectors.
2. Increase local renewable energy generation and storage.
3. Encourage fuel switching to renewable fuel sources.
4. Advocate at federal, state, and county levels.

Strategies

Expand Weatherization

By partnering with existing programs, Keene can help residents take advantage of rebates and incentives that make weatherizing your home more affordable.

Kickstart Heat Smart

Bulk discount pricing on thermal technologies can make upgrading your home heating and cooling systems more accessible and affordable.

Adopt a Benchmarking Ordinance

Measuring the energy efficiency of commercial and municipal buildings can help Keene identify which buildings can benefit from efficiency upgrades.

Start a Home Energy Labeling Program

Knowing the energy efficiency scores of Keene homes and apartments can help you make an informed decision when buying or renting a home.

Home Energy Labeling, City of Montpelier, VT

"If you wouldn't buy a car without knowing the gas mileage, why would you buy a house without knowing effectively what the gas mileage is of that house?"

--Anne Watson, Mayor of Montpelier, VT



[Listen to learn more about Home Energy Labeling](#) 

Learn more at [KeeneEnergyPlan.com](https://www.KeeneEnergyPlan.com)



Transportation

Goal: 100 percent of all energy used for transportation will come from renewables by 2050.

How:

1. Reduce the total vehicle miles traveled in Keene.
2. Accelerate the shift to electric vehicles and other alternative fuel vehicles.
3. Promote efficient growth patterns.
4. Advocate at federal, state, and county levels.

Strategies

Expand and Improve City Express Bus Services

Expanding service hours and the number of bus stops can increase ridership and better serve the needs of Keene residents.

Adopt EV-Ready Guidelines

The City can adopt EV-ready guidelines to make sure that new developments are designed to accommodate EV chargers now and in the future.

Create a Multi-modal Transportation Center

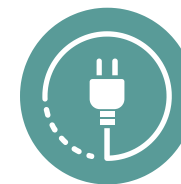
A multi-modal transportation center in Keene can be a central hub for bus transit, bike transit, car-sharing, electric vehicle (EV) charging, and more.

Advocacy

Keene can advocate for more federal and state funding to support public transportation, and educate community members and decision-makers about its benefits.

Expand the Complete Streets Program

Keene streets can be accessible and safe for all users, including drivers, pedestrians, people with disabilities, bicyclists, seniors, and youth.



[Listen to learn more about vehicle electrification in Keene.](#)



Learn more at [KeeneEnergyPlan.com](https://www.KeeneEnergyPlan.com)