

NEMSN Profile: Bath, ME

Community Profile¹

<i>Area (sq. Miles):</i>	9.1
<i>Population:</i>	8,349
<i>Population Density:</i>	915.60
<i>Households:</i>	3,869
<i>Median Age:</i>	37.8
<i>Median Household Income:</i>	\$38,407
<i>Poverty Rate:</i>	24.10%

City Department:

Title: Office of Planning and Development

Staff: Andrew H. Deci: Director, Debby Labrecque: Administrative Assistant

Responsibilities: Coordinate planning functions for the City, Serve as staff to the Planning Board and help property owners and developers navigate the Planning Board review process. Organize, direct and coordinate the gathering and analysis of social, economic and engineering data necessary or useful in the conduct of planning and developmental activities.

Programs/Policies: Programs pertaining to the City's Climate Action Plan, and Planning and Development.

Interview:

What have been your biggest successes in the past 2-3 years?

- Replaced 8 Streetlights with LED as a pilot.
- Have 2 curbside composters that want to do pickups in the community.

Given the range of your priorities, which do you consider to be your top priorities?

Please explain why you have chosen these priorities?

How important are the metrics to identifying progress in the projects and programs?

How did you develop them?

What resources are needed to complete your strategies and priorities? Are they currently available to you? If not, do you know where/how to obtain them?

How has the local community promoted its sustainability efforts to members in the community?

What are your top 3 barriers that you consider to be beyond the control of the municipality, which have limited your ability to implement sustainability initiatives?

Sustainable Profile²

Overview

- Solid Waste Reduction & Recycling
- Food & Agriculture
- Transportation
- Storm Water
- Energy
- Development
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction
- Climate Preparedness
- Equity & Economics
- Community Engagement

Solid Waste Reduction & Recycling

Top Priorities

- Continue to make recycling a priority.
- Investigate whether it would be cost-effective to harness landfill gases for energy use.
- Research the costs and benefits of harnessing landfill gases to create energy.

Strategies

- Continue use of recycling bins and reducing the amount of paper waste at municipal offices.
- Continue with single-stream recycling and the Pay-As-You-Throw program.

Food & Agriculture

Top Priorities

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Strategies

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Transportation:

Top Priorities

- Consider an incentive program to encourage workers to carpool, walk, or bike to work.
- Encourage residents to reduce their vehicle-miles travelled by 5%.

Strategies

- Enforce “no idling” policies among Public Works Department and Police Department employees.

- Replace older vehicles in the municipal fleet with hybrids.

Storm Water

Top Priorities

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Strategies

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Energy

Top Priorities

- Get at least 30% of municipal buildings, business and residents to reduce heating and electrical use by 10%.
- The City needs to look into implementing alternative energy sources for buildings.
- Install LED streetlights.
- Encourage Residents to lower their energy use and reduce residential heating and electricity use

Strategies

- Professional energy audit for each municipal building.
- Improve wall and foundation insulation, replacing windows and doors, and sealing gaps.
- More energy efficient heating and cooling systems.
- Increase employee awareness about energy use and advise all employees to follow energy saving guidelines.
- The City could adopt a campaign similar to Keene, NH “10% Challenge.”

Development

Top Priorities

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Strategies

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Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Top Priorities

- Reduce Bath’s overall emissions by at least 2% each year.
- Goal of reducing carbon emissions by at least 20% from 2007 level by the year 2018.

Strategies

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Climate Preparedness

Top Priorities

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Strategies

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Equity & Economics

Top Priorities

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Strategies

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Community Engagement

Top Priorities

- Create campaigns that will educate employees, residents and businesses on reducing energy and transportation use.

Strategies

Source:

1.) "Census Profile: Bath, ME." *Census Reporter*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 June 2017.

2.) "City of Bath Maine; Comprehensive Master Plan",
<http://api11.team-logic.com/downloadPubFileFile.cfm?i=2014&t=40158&f=43409>