FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGANICS & COMPOST RELATED BUSINESSES FROM STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE NORTHEAST STATES

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, & Vermont

January 2018

NERC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
INTRODUCTION
This document provides state-by-state information for the 11-states in the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) region—Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont—regarding potential sources of grant or loan funding for organics-related businesses that are available from state and federal agencies.

Foundations and other organizations may also be a source of funding and that information is not included in this document.

For questions, or suggestions for amendments to this document, contact Lynn Rubinstein, NERC Executive Director.
CONNECTICUT

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development Economic Development and Manufacturing Assistance programs include direct funding from the Department of Economic and Community Development and Connecticut Innovations. In addition, there is a network of local and regional revolving loan funds across the state to assist businesses with their financing needs.

The Small Business Express Program (EXP) provides loans and grants to Connecticut’s small business to spur job creation and growth. For more information, contact Sheila Hummel.

Economic and Manufacturing Assistance Act (MAA)

Incentive-driven direct loans for projects when there is a strong economic development potential. Eligible uses include:

- Planning, including but not limited to: feasibility studies, engineering, appraisals, market studies and related activities
- Acquisition of real property, machinery or equipment or any combination, provided such assistance does not exceed the fair market value
- Construction of site and infrastructure improvements relating to a municipal or business development project
- Construction/renovation/demolition of buildings
- Relocation expenses for the purpose of assisting manufacturing or other economic-based businesses to locate, construct, renovate or acquire a facility
- Working capital in conjunction with a business development project

Business support services such as labor training, day care, energy conservation, pollution control, recycling and the like, in conjunction with other state agencies

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

STATEWIDE LOAN PROGRAMS

Community Economic Development Fund (CEDF) provides loans and technical assistance to small businesses.

Connecticut Community Investment Corporation (CTCIC) is a non-profit economic development lender that provides Connecticut's small business owners with access to capital that may not be available elsewhere. CTCIC also provides financing opportunities for expanding businesses looking to purchase real estate and/or machinery and equipment.

OTHER LOAN PROGRAMS

Connecticut Innovations (CI) identifies, evaluates, and nurtures emerging companies with:

- Ideas that improve health.
- Ideas that increase prosperity while helping to restore the natural environment.
- Ideas that make work more productive and life more rewarding.
It provides early-stage funding to such companies across a broad range of industries through equity and equity-related investments that will spur growth. CI is frequently the first institutional investor, which often results in attracting additional investors.
Contact: (860) 258-788
info@ctinnovations.com

**Hartford Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO)** help create new programs that meet the changing needs of entrepreneurs and increase the funds available to help people build and improve their business.

**Contact information**

The **Small Business Administration (SBA)** provides **Financial Assistance**. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are **30 offices** in Connecticut.

**Connecticut District Office**
Phone: (860) 240-4700

**SouthEastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer)** is a public-private regional economic development agency serving the towns of New London County. It administers several loan programs and can also assist with marketing and business development.
Phone: (860) 437-4659

**Waterbury Development Corporation (WDC)** Business Growth Group is focused on serving Waterbury’s business clientele at all stages of the business cycle. It can provide one-on-one business support as well financial assistance.
Phone: (203) 346-2607

The **USDA Rural Development Program** offers many programs for business development:
- Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Business Investment Program
- Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
- Strategic Economic and Community Development
- Value Added Producer Grants

**PRIMARY RESOURCES**

**Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)**
Contact: **Chris Nelson**, Supervising Environmental Analyst
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Phone: (860) 424-3454
DELAWARE

GRANT, TAX INCENTIVE, & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

**Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO)**
Delaware provides powerful tax credit programs to incentivize investment and job creation in the state.

The [Small Business Administration (SBA)](https://www.sba.gov) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 10 offices in Delaware.

**District Office**
Phone: (302) 573-6294 - Wilmington

The [USDA Rural Development Program](https://www.rd.usda.gov) offers many programs for business development:
- Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Business Investment Program
- Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
- Strategic Economic and Community Development
- Value Added Producer Grants

**US Environmental Protection Agency** – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

**PRIMARY RESOURCES**

**Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO)**
*Email*
Phone: (302) 739-4271 - Dover
Phone: (302) 577-8477 - Wilmington

**Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Office of Planning, Business Assistance (DNREC)**
Michelle Jacobs, Small Business Ombudsman
Phone: (302) 739-9069

**Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) – “Recycle Delaware” Program**
Rich Von Stetten, Sr. Manager of Statewide Recycling
Phone: (302) 739-5361
MAINE

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

Maine Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) offers a wide range of funding assistance programs to businesses. From generous tax incentives to finance assistance and grants, the State of Maine strives to be a partner in long-term business growth and success. Maine is Open for Business! Phone: (800) 872-3838 in Maine, or (800) 541-5872 from outside of Maine
Email

Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) provides access to innovative financial solutions to help Maine citizens pursue business opportunities. The focus of the Business Division at FAME is to help businesses access capital to grow, expand and succeed.
Phone: (207) 623-3263 or (800) 228-3734
Email

Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI) is a private, nonprofit Community Development Corporation and Community Development Financial Institution that provides financing and support for job-creating small businesses and natural resources industries.
Phone: (207) 504-5900
Email

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many programs for various business development opportunities, including composting and anaerobic digestion:
• Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Bio based Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
• Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
• Rural Business Development Grants
• Rural Business Investment Program
• Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
• Strategic Economic and Community Development
• Value Added Producer Grants

The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. Locate an office in Maine.
Maine District Office
Phone: (207) 622-8551

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TAX INCENTIVES
The Maine Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) offers a variety of tax incentives.
Phone: (800) 872-3838 in Maine, or (800) 541-5872 from outside of Maine
Email
PRIMARY RESOURCES

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP)

George MacDonald, Manager, Sustainability Unit
Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Phone: (207) 287-2870
Webpage

Carla Hopkins, Manager, Residuals Management Unit
Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Phone: (207) 215-3314
Webpage

Julie Churchill, Small Business Ombudsman
Assistant Director of the Office of Innovation and Assistance
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Phone: (207) 287-7881
Webpage

Maine Compost Team/Maine Compost School is a long-running cooperative effort of three agencies (Departments of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, and Environmental Protection, along with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension) assisting with the promotion, development and success of composting in Maine. The Team formed in 1990 to address a rapid rise in the interest of capturing and recovering the value of organics; the school, founded in 1997, continues to provide training to help composters do a better job.
Phone: (207) 592-0455
Email

OTHER RELATED RESOURCES

Environmental and Energy Technology Council of Maine (E2Tech) is a member-based organization comprised of businesses and organizations that seek to build Maine’s environmental and energy technology economy and include renewable power companies, environmental engineers, emerging entrepreneurs, innovators and designers, and non-profit organizations and businesses that see the economic promise of clean tech for Maine. E2Tech membership is for organizations and individuals engaged in Maine’s environmental and energy sectors interested in the growth of Maine’s clean technology economy.
Phone: (207) 956-1970
Email
MARYLAND

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS
The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 35 offices in Maryland.
Maryland District Office
Phone: (410) 962-6195

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many programs for business development:
• Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
• Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
• Rural Business Development Grants
• Rural Business Investment Program
• Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
• Strategic Economic and Community Development
• Value Added Producer Grants

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TAX INCENTIVES & GRANTS
The Maryland Department of Commerce offers several tax incentive programs for businesses.
• Job Creation Tax Credit
• Enterprise Zone Tax Credits
• One Maryland Tax Credit
• Research and Development Tax Credit
• Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (RISE) Zone Program

The Department also provides specialized financing and incentive resources for small businesses, veteran-owned businesses and minority and women-owned businesses, offering assistance with a variety of needs including:
• Land acquisition and infrastructure improvements
• Machinery and equipment purchase
• Development of commercial opportunities
• Financing for the economically disadvantaged
Phone: (877) 821-0099

Military Personnel and Veteran-Owned Small Business Loan Program offers no interest loans for businesses owned by military reservists, veterans, National Guard personnel and for small businesses that employ or are owned by such persons.

Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business Account- Video Lottery Terminal Fund (VLT) provides 1.5% of the proceeds from video lottery terminals (slots) for distribution in targeted areas surrounding select casinos. Allocations are divided between small, minority, and women-owned businesses located within a 10-mile radius of Maryland casinos and small, minority, and women-owned businesses located throughout Maryland.
**Maryland Small Business Development Fund Authority (MSB DFA)** provides financing for small businesses that are not able to qualify for financing from private lending institutions or owned by socially and economically disadvantaged persons.

**State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)** is a component of the federal Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 that provides direct funding for state credit enhancement programs. These funds must target an average borrower size of 500 employees or less and loans averaging $5 million.

**PRIMARY RESOURCES**

**Maryland Department of the Environment**

*Kaley Laleker*, Deputy Director  
Land Management Administration  
Maryland Department of the Environment  
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 610  
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1719  
Phone: (410) 537-3314

**Business Resources**
**GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS**

The **Recycling Loan Fund**, administered by the **Business Development Corporation** on behalf of the MASSDEP, provides loans to Massachusetts recycling companies and to non-profits for any reasonable recycling purpose. There is priority assistance of up to $500,000 available for food waste projects. And, the Recycling Loan Fund provides loans of up to $1.5 million for anaerobic digestion projects.

- **Dave Harrington**, Director  
  Phone: (781) 928-1100

**Recycling Business Development Grants**

The Recycling Business Development Grant (RBDG) program is intended to help Massachusetts recycling processors and manufacturers create sustainable markets for eligible materials, and to add value to municipal and business recycling efforts. Selected applicants will receive grant awards of between $50,000 and $400,000.

Only projects related to the list of eligible materials will be funded. Projects to increase recycling of other materials will not be considered. Eligible materials are determined for each grant cycle. The program typically awards grants on an annual basis.

- **John Fischer**  
  Phone: (617) 292-5632

**Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs** maintains a [website](https://massdep.mass.gov/) that provides a matrix of help available for renewable energy developers to find funding and technical assistance for organics processing projects. It identifies a number of grant, loan and other programs available from both government agencies and quasi-public organizations, indicating which are most applicable to different project stages and types of sites.

**Massachusetts Clean Energy Center** provides grants to support anaerobic digestion projects through the [Commonwealth Organics to Energy Program](https://masscleanenergy.gov/). The program provides multiple categories of grants to support public and private entities.

- **Amy Barad**  
  Phone: (617)-315-9310

The **Small Business Administration (SBA)** provides a wide range of business assistance, including technical assistance. For more information, visit the [SBA programs and services webpage](https://www.sba.gov/). There are 28 offices in Massachusetts.

- **Massachusetts District Office**  
  Phone: (617) 565-5590

The **USDA Rural Development Program** offers many grant programs for business development:

- Business & Cooperative Grant Assistance
  - Repowering Assistance Program (Section 9004)
  - Rural Business Development Grants
  - Rural Energy for America Program Grants/Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assist (REAP/EA/REDA)Section 9007
  - Rural Economic Development Loan And Grant (REDLG)
- Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)
- Rural Business Investment Program (RBIP)

**US Environmental Protection Agency** – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

**TAX INCENTIVES**
The Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development provides information on tax rules, regulations, credits, and incentives.

**PRIMARY RESOURCES**
*Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)*
Commercial Waste Reduction Program
John Fischer, Branch Chief
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: (617) 292-5632

The Recycling Works Program provides free information and technical assistance to help businesses and institutions waste less, and recycle and compost more. Contact the program to ask questions and request assistance. The RecyclingWorks program also provides free assistance to compost site operators.
Email
Phone: (888) 254-5525
NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS
The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides a wide range of business assistance, including technical assistance. For more information, visit the SBA programs and services webpage. There are 20 offices in New Hampshire.
New Hampshire District Office
Phone: (603) 225-1400

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many programs for business development:
• Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
• Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
• Rural Business Development Grants
• Rural Business Investment Program
• Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
• Strategic Economic and Community Development
• Value Added Producer Grants

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TAX INCENTIVES
The New Hampshire Division of Economic Development provides information on tax incentives, loans, and business service programs.

PRIMARY RESOURCES
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES)
Michael Nork, Solid Waste Management Bureau
Phone: (603) 271-2936
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0095
Website for businesses

New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development (NH Economic Development Division)
Christopher Way, Acting Director
Phone: (603) 271-2341
NEW JERSEY

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

Business Funding Incentive Resources, Public & Private
The State of New Jersey Business Portal offers a wide variety of financing, incentive, tax credit and assistance programs designed to support business growth and relocation needs. The site offers an interactive Financing and Incentives Tool, which offers detailed information on NJ business incentives and financing programs.
Phone: (866) 534-7789

The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 34 offices in New Jersey.

Contact: New Jersey District Office
Phone: (973) 645-2434

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many grant programs for business development:

- Repowering Assistance Program (Section 9004)
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Energy for America Program Grants/Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assist (REAP/EA/REDA)Section 9007
- Rural Economic Development Loan And Grant (REDLG)
- Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)
- Rural Business Investment Program (RBIP)

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TAX INCENTIVES

New Jersey Business Action Center - State of New Jersey Business Portal One-Stop Shop for Business. When you need professional help to launch, expand or relocate your business in New Jersey—or you could benefit from business consulting services for your small business-take action. Make one call to the NJ Business Action Center (BAC). They are your "one-stop" resource for everything you need to do business in New Jersey.

PRIMARY RESOURCES

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP)
Scott Brubaker, Deputy Director, NJDEP Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste
401 East State Street, P.O. Box 414
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: (609) 984 3438

Steven Rinaldi
NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability
401 East State Street, P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: (609) 633-0538
New Jersey Commission on Science and Technology (NJCST)
Peter R. Reczek, Ph. D., Executive Director
Phone: (609) 984-1671
Email

New Jersey Economic Development Authority
Trenton Office
Phone: (609) 858-6700
Email

Newark Office
Phone: (973) 855-3450

North Brunswick Office
Phone: (732) 839-1880

Business Action Center
Phone: (866) 534-7789
Email
**NEW YORK**

**GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS**

*Empire State Development (ESD)* provides a variety of assistance aimed at helping businesses; whether you are an international company looking to make a move or a small business owner wanting to access capital – ESD is here to help. It offers loans, grants and tax credits, as well as other financing and technical assistance, to support businesses and encourage their growth within New York State.

Through the *New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)*, a single application for multiple sources of state funding, New York State is soliciting grant applications for funding to advance the priorities of the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDC).

Program information is listed below. Refer to [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov) for announcements and updates on future funding opportunities through the CFA.

For more information, eligible applicants should visit [http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/](http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/), which includes contact information for the appropriate ESD Regional Office covering the project area.

*Environmental Finance Center at Syracuse University (EFC)* leverages more than 200 Syracuse Center of Excellence partners to connect local government officials and private organizations with technical assistance, assessment tools, and funding offered by their large network of collaborators and resources. EFC also provides professional training and community outreach to engage, educate, and enable communities to make change toward improved environmental infrastructure and quality of life. *Melissa Young*, Assistant Director

*NYSERDA* provides financial and technical assistance to businesses and municipalities to promote investment in emerging technologies, energy efficiency, and environmental protection for the purpose of increasing the efficient use of energy, reducing operating costs, and increasing overall profitability. Environmental programs include the Biomass Resources Program. *Kelly Tyler*, Director, Communities & Local Government Phone: (716) 842-1522, Ext. 3005

*NYS2P1*, the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I), is a statewide research and technology transfer center funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Technical expertise includes environmental footprinting, new product commercialization acceleration, and food waste reduction and diversion. As part of several priority areas, NYSP2I provides assistance to food-related businesses.

This is done through the Community Grants Program and Sustainable Food Program, which provides direct support, and online tools and guides all located on NYSP2I’s [Food Waste Clearinghouse](http://foodwaste.clearinghouse.net) website. The Institute also anticipates having implementation funding available for large generators of food scraps through Empire State Development funds. NYSP2I’s goal is to provide full geographic coverage of P2 programs and services across the state. This is achieved through a number of mechanisms including strategic partnerships with technical assistance providers in the public and private sectors, universities and non-profit organizations.

*Email*
Phone: (585) 475-2512
The **Small Business Administration (SBA)** provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are **84 offices** in New York State.

New York District Office  
Phone: (212) 264-4354

The **USDA Rural Development Program** offers many programs for business development:

- Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Business Investment Program
- Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
- Strategic Economic and Community Development
- Value Added Producer Grants

**US Environmental Protection Agency** – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

**TAX INCENTIVES**  
**New York Economic Development Incentive Programs**

**PRIMARY RESOURCES**  
**New York Business First**  
Contact information

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)**  
Peter Pettit  
Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling  
625 Broadway, Ninth Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7253  
Phone: (518) 402-8706

**New York State Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA)**  
Contact
GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS
Loans, tax credits, and grant for businesses information is available through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 65 offices in Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia District Office
Phone: (610) 382-3062

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many programs for business development:
- Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Business Investment Program
- Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
- Strategic Economic and Community Development
- Value Added Producer Grants

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TAX INCENTIVES
The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development provides information on loans, loan guarantees, tax incentives, and grants.

PRIMARY RESOURCES
Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center, Inc. (RMC) is a Pennsylvania based non-profit corporation that serves to reduce barriers that lead to use of recycled materials in Pennsylvania. The RMC has strong skill sets in assistance for markets development, materials use, applied research, business assistance, and technical training.

Headquartered in Harrisburg, with satellite offices in Pittsburgh, the RMC has relationships with each assistance organization listed in this business assistance guide.

By contacting the Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center, Inc., it can develop a go-to-market strategy for your use of recycled materials. It often serves as a consolidator of assistance, making your start-up the most time, cost, and assistance efficient. You are encouraged to contact the RMC, as your recycled materials concierge to Pennsylvania’s assistance organizations. It is the “keystone” of Pennsylvania recycled materials and markets development.

Robert Bylone, Executive Director
Penn State Harrisburg
777 West Harrisburg Pike, Third Floor Church Hall
Middletown, PA 17057
Phone: (717) 948-6660
GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

Small Business Administration (SBA) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 10 offices in Rhode Island.

Rhode Island District Office
Phone: (401) 528-4561

The USDA Rural Development Program offers many grant programs for business development:

- Repowering Assistance Program (Section 9004)
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Energy for America Program Grants/Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REAP/EA/REDA) Section 9007
- Rural Economic Development Loan And Grant (REDLG)
- Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)
- Rural Business Investment Program (RBIP)

US Environmental Protection Agency – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

LOANS & TAX INCENTIVES

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation offers information about credits and financial incentives to in-state companies.

PRIMARY RESOURCES

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC)
65 Shun Pike
Johnston, RI 02919
Phone: (401) 942-1430
VERMONT

GRANT & LOAN FUNDING PROGRAMS

**Vermont Agency of Agriculture grants**

**Vermont Community Loan Fund**

**Working Lands Enterprise Fund**

The [Small Business Administration (SBA)](https://www.sba.gov) provides financial assistance. SBA’s investment programs, business loan programs, disaster loan programs, and bonding for contractors help start, run, and grow businesses. There are 21 offices in Vermont.

Vermont District Office
Phone: (802) 828-4422

The [USDA Rural Development Program](https://www.rus.usda.gov) offers many programs for business development:
- Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Rural Business Investment Program
- Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program
- Strategic Economic and Community Development
- Value Added Producer Grants

The [Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development](https://commerce.vermont.gov) provides access to funding and incentives.

[US Environmental Protection Agency](https://www.epa.gov) – Information and resources for financing anaerobic digesters.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation** provides guidance to permit applicants and environmental compliance assistance to Vermont businesses.

The [Environmental Assistance Office](https://conservation.vermont.gov) assists businesses, communities, state agencies, and others to identify effective and economical ways to reduce waste at the source in order to avoid waste treatment and disposal costs and to safeguard human health and the environment. The Office also administers business recognition programs such as the Vermont Business Environmental Partners and the annual Governor’s Awards for Environmental Excellence.

**Ed Antczak**, Program Manager
Phone: (802) 622-4111

[Vermont Small Business Development Center (VT SBDC)](https://www.commerce.vermont.gov/sbdc) works to positively impact and strengthen established businesses and start-up entrepreneurs through one-on-one, confidential, no-cost advising services.

Contact information
Phone: (802) 728-1423
**Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund** hosts the Vermont Agriculture Development Program, which supports the growth and long-term success of Vermont-based, value-added agricultural enterprises that are building markets and infrastructure for other Vermont agricultural businesses and local or regional food systems development.

**Geoff Robertson**, Director of Business Assistance  
Phone: (802) 828-3753

**Vermont Farm Viability Program** – a program of the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.
• Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC)
• Association of Compost Producers (ACP)
• Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)
• Composting Association of Vermont
• Cornell Composting, Cornell Waste Management Institute
• Food Waste Reduction Alliance (FWRA)
• MD-DC Composting Committee
• Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association (MABA)
• National Renderers Association
• National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA)
• New York State Organics Recycling and Composting Council
• North East Biosolids & Residuals Association (NEBRA)
• Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA)
• Organic Trade Association (OTA)
• US Composting Council (USCC)
• Virginia Composting Council