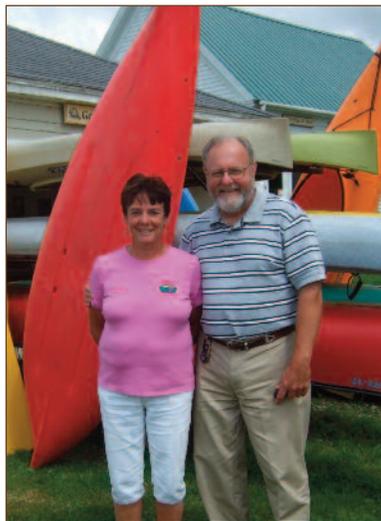


Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative

Tourism Business Development Consulting



Matching funds are available to offset the costs of expert advice to help strengthen your tourism business.

The Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative is offering a limited number of small grants (\$500 - \$1,000) to help tourism companies secure expert assistance needed to take their business to the next level. The new program will provide up to 50% of the cost for one on one consulting to help businesses implement strategies related to past and on-going training workshops in the areas of marketing, social media marketing, regional destination training, customer service, customer relations management, financial management and other areas of innovation. Recipient businesses are required to provide at least half of the project cost.

Who can apply

Consulting assistance is available to established tourism businesses that have been in operation for at least three years, and have paid employees. Eligible tourism businesses include visitor attractions, lodgings, restaurants, recreation providers and other ventures that cater primarily to Maine Woods visitors. Preference will be given to businesses that have participated in Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative workshops.

How to apply

Contact your Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative County Lead for information or a selection questionnaire. Return the completed questionnaire and a one page description of your project to your County Lead. Projects are evaluated case-by-case and accepted on a rolling basis.

County Leads

Aroostook: **Jon Gulliver, Northern Maine Development Commission,**
jgulliver@nmdc.org 498-8736

Penobscot: **Mike Wilson, Northern Forest Center,**
mwilson@northernforest.org 767-9952

Piscataquis: **Janet Sawyer, Piscataquis County Economic Development Council,**
jsawyer@pcedc.org 564-3638

Oxford: **Mia Purcell, Community Concepts,**
mpurcell@community-concepts.org, 739-6543

Washington: **Jen Peters, Sunrise County Economic Council,**
scec@sunrisecounty.org 255-0983

Somerset: **Jim Batey, Somerset Economic Development Corporation,**
jimbatey@myfairpoint.net 474-0166

Franklin: **Arika Galkowski, Greater Franklin Development Corporation,**
agalkowski@greaterfranklin.com 778-5887



Who we are

Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative delivers comprehensive, multi-modal training to meet needs expressed by tourism businesses across the Maine Woods region. Local networks include businesses, chambers of commerce, training providers, and other stakeholders working to meet current and future training needs. The Initiative is a project of the Maine Woods Consortium with coordination provided by the Northern Forest Center and funding support from the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.



Scan for
more
information

www.mainewoodsconsortium.org
USDA is an equal opportunity partner, funder and employer