Green Communities Program

Serving as the hub to all Massachusetts cities and towns on all matters related to energy

Green Communities Grant Program

- Provides annual grants and loans to *qualifying* communities

  – Funds allocated for Green Communities from RGGI auctions – *roughly $7 million for FY 2010*

  – Communities must meet all 5 criteria in order to be eligible to receive a grant

- Qualification Criteria

  1. Adopt as-of-right siting, in designated locations, for RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D, or RE/AE manufacturing

  2. Adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process

  3. Establish an energy use baseline inventory with a plan to reduce baseline by 20% in 5 years

  4. Adopt fuel-efficient vehicle policy

  5. Passage of the Stretch Code

Green Communities Grant Program

- FY 2010, 1ˢᵗ round: Up to $1 million per community
  - Can apply for various projects
  - Used to fund all or a portion of the costs of *studying, designing, constructing and implementing* energy efficiency activities, including by not limited to:
    - Energy conservation measures and projects
    - Procurement of energy management services (ESCO)
    - Installation of energy management systems
    - Adoption of demand side reduction initiatives
    - Adoption of energy efficiency policies. Financing the sitting and construction of renewable and alternative energy projects on municipally-owned land

Green Communities Applications

- Designation Application
  - Must complete designation prior to grant submittal
  - Begin accepting March 19, 2010
  - Deadline: May 14, 2010
- Grant Application
  - Deadline for FY10 grant: May 28, 2010
  - Most likely two rounds in FY 2011

Becoming a Green Community – Why Do it?

- Economic Benefits – save energy
- Environmental benefits – reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Recognition – Sustainability leader in the Commonwealth
  - Recognized on DOER website, printed materials
  - Recognition sign placed in each community
- **Grants** - to become even greener!