

Programs

- Grants for nature-based tourism projects to enhance areas within the UT that have cultural, natural or historic value.
- Economic development planning funds. May include, but are not limited to, feasibility and analysis for a commercial facility, tourism amenities, conference center, energy development, or transportation infrastructure.
- Commercial revolving loan program. Focus is on business start-ups and expansions, with an emphasis on tourism and nature-based businesses.
- Capital project fund for public and/or commercial improvements. Made at the discretion of the county commissioners based upon urgent need.
- Grant matching program for county government to use in leveraging federal, state, and other agency economic development projects.

All projects must take place in the Unorganized Territories of Washington County. Please see back panel for list. The map is also available at <http://www.washingtoncountymaine.com>.

10/4/10

How to apply for funding

Grant and loan application forms are available from Sunrise County Economic Council or from the Washington County web site (please see right panel). SCEC is the county's economic development contractor.

Applications for the nature-based tourism funds must meet "base conditions" outlined in the grant application materials and will be scored based on a variety of factors, including number of jobs created or retained and percentage of total project costs secured by applicant in addition to TIF grant funding.

Funding applications will be accepted throughout the year and reviewed on a rolling basis.

Requests for commercial revolving loans also will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Who may apply

Anyone who wants to create economic development in the UT. Preference in funding **nature-based tourism projects** will be given to (in this order):

- Full-time residents of the UT
- Property owners in the UT
- Residents of northern Washington County
- Residents of other areas of Washington County

For more information

The Washington County UT TIF District is a program created by the Maine legislature and administered by Washington County government with assistance from the Sunrise County Economic Council.

Washington County government considers applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, the presence of a non-job-related medical condition or handicap, or any other legally protected status.

Applications and additional information are available online at www.washingtoncountymaine.com.

For questions about these programs, contact the Sunrise County Economic Council:

tifadmin@sunrisecounty.org
Phone: 207-255-0983
Fax: 207-255-4987
www.sunrisecounty.org

Sunrise County Economic Council
P.O. Box 679
1 Stackpole Road
Machias, ME 04654

The Sunrise County Economic Council initiates and facilitates the creation of jobs and prosperity in Washington County, Maine by working with a consortium of community-minded businesses, nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and citizens.



What is a TIF district?

Tax increment financing is a method of “capturing” an increase in property value and using it to fund economic development projects. A TIF district is an area that has been designated for this purpose by the state legislature.

Why does Washington County have a TIF district?

The county’s TIF district was created to capture tax monies generated by the Stetson I and Stetson II wind farms located in the unorganized territories near Danforth. This arrangement will make funds available for grants and loans to people and organizations who want to create and expand businesses and other opportunities in any of the unorganized territories of Washington County, Maine.

What are the unorganized territories?

The “UT” are townships that do not have their own local governments. For these areas, the county commissioners serve as selectmen and the state Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) serves as planning board. There are 34 UT’s in Washington County, from Forest City to Trescott and Devereaux to Big Lake.



Washington County civil divisions. Areas in blue are unorganized territories.

UT's of Washington County:

Big Lake (No. 21 Twp))	T 26 ED
Berry (T 18 ED BPP)	T 18 MD
Brookton	T 19 MD
Cathance (No. 14 Twp)	T 24 MD
Centerville	T 25 MD
Day Block (T 31 ND BPP)	T 30 MD
Devereaux	T 36 MD
Dyer	T 37 MD
Edmunds	T 42 MD
Forest Twp	T 43 MD
Forest City	T 5 ND (Sakom)
Fowler	T 6 ND
Greenlaw Chopping (T 27)	T 6 R1
Kossuth	T 8 R3
Lambert Lake	T 11 R3
Marion	T 8 R4
Trescott	T 19 ED

Washington
County, Maine,
Government



Funding
Opportunities
for
Businesses &
Nonprofits
in the
Unorganized
Territories



Washington
County UT
TIF District