



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Your Real Estate Experts

CURRENT LAND USE PROGRAMS

REFRESHER:

The State of Maine has four "current use" programs that offer the property owner a reduction in assessed value (property tax relief): Farmland, Open Space, Tree Growth, and Working Waterfront. The programs establish valuation of property at its current use, rather than at market value. All four programs are available to property owners through an application process with the local municipality. Applications must be filed on or before April 1 of the year the reduced valuation is first requested.

Property must meet certain criteria to qualify for each program and any future change in the use of the land will cause disqualification resulting in a penalty. Need an information resource? [Click Here](#)

WIRE FRAUD PREVENTION REMINDERS:

While we all appreciate the convenience of transacting business electronically, please remain vigilant. Here are some reminders for you and your clients:

1. Never transmit confidential information over free wi-fi.
2. It's very unusual for wiring instructions to be changed. Receiving an email directing you to change the wiring instructions should raise a red flag. Do not wire funds until you have confirmed wiring instructions via a telephone call initiated by you. Do not call the number shown on the email changing the wiring instructions. Call the number that you have historically used.
3. Never trust contact information in an unverified email.
4. Review all emails carefully – fake emails can appear to be from someone you have been corresponding with regularly. Trust your instincts. If the message looks at all suspicious, follow up with a phone call to a number known by you to be legitimate, and check to be sure.
5. Beware of last-minute instructions, particularly if

Quick Links

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[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Listings](#)

[Maine Real Estate Commission](#)

Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

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[Kennebec Valley Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

- Maine Commercial Association
- MAR Only Members
- York County Council

[Mid-Coast Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Acadia Council
- Mid-Coast Council
- Penobscot Bay Council

[Mountains to Shore Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Androscoggin Valley Council
- Lincoln County Council
- Merrymeeting Council
- Western Maine Council

those instructions contradict earlier instructions.

DID YOU KNOW?

Common targets for financial wire fraud include free web-based email users (gmail, yahoo, hotmail, etc.) and free public wi-fi. Best practice is to use “domain” email accounts (like: test@mainerealtors.com not test@yahoo.com) and, if transacting business in a public setting, use your own cellphone’s data plan, not public wi-fi.

MREC CONSENT AGREEMENTS:

By MAR Legal Counsel, Hannah McMullen

At the time of license renewal, the licensee had not completed the correct Core Course for her license type and also did not have all of the required education hours. Fine was \$750 and the licensee agreed to complete the remaining education hours including the correct Core Course within 10 days.

At the time of license renewal, the licensee had not completed the required education hours. The licensee agreed to a 60-day suspension of his license and a fine of \$1,800. Licensee agreed to complete the remaining education hours within 10 days.

There were three agreements with the following outcome: At the time of license renewal, the licensee had not yet completed the required education hours. Licensee completed the remaining education hours after renewal. Fine was \$750 and licensee agreed that the education recently completed would only be used for the prior renewal period.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING OR TRAVELING?

Make sure to check out the NAR REALTOR® Benefits Program Partners to see if you could be saving money because of your REALTOR® membership: [Click Here](#).

VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY:

MAR and Maine Listings offices will be closed Thursday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day. Maine Listings staff will be monitoring the systems and Help Desk. If you should experience any issues, please email help@mainelistings.com.

Veterans Day was originally known as Armistice Day and was meant to honor those who died in World War I. The holiday was amended in the 1940s and changed to honor all veterans who have served in the U.S. military.

We send our gratitude to REALTORS® and their

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Some content may be commercial in nature.

family members who serve or have served in the
U.S. Armed Forces. Thank you for your service and
sacrifice.



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