



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Your Real Estate Experts

NEW LAW UPDATE:

By MAR Legal Counsel, Hannah McMullen

Public Law Chapter 127 (LD 1132): ***“An Act To Encourage the Renovation of Available Housing Stock”*** (Effective October 18, 2021). The purpose of this law is to make available more affordable housing by allowing the clearing of title of tax acquired abandoned property within a year of the acquisition rather than the existing 5-year period. The law only applies to residential real estate, which is defined as property that includes a residential structure that has one to 4 residential units. Upon acquiring title to residential real estate for nonpayment of property taxes, the municipality may make a determination that the property is abandoned. The public official making the determination of abandonment must certify that determination and file a copy of that certification in the registry of deeds for the county in which the property is located. The certification must include certain information, which is set forth in the new law. With respect to tax liens for abandoned property recorded after December 1, 2021, a person may not commence an action against the validity of the governmental taking of real estate for nonpayment of property taxes upon the expiration of a 6-month period immediately following a certification that the property is abandoned. The municipality must also notify the Maine State Housing Authority of determinations of abandonment for use by the authority in determining opportunities for redevelopment, programs supporting first-time home buyers and similar programs and data analysis.

MAR FOUNDATION:

The Maine Association of REALTORS® Foundation has kicked-off its 2021 Local Board Matching Grant Program. On behalf of the Directors of the Maine Association of REALTORS® Foundation, thank you for your efforts to raise funds for affordable housing organizations in your communities. Keep Up the GOOD WORK! To enroll or for more information about the MAR Foundation: [Click Here](#)

Quick Links

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Listings](#)

[Maine Real Estate Commission](#)

Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®](#)

[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

REAL ESTATE FORECAST SUMMIT:

On December 15, tune in 1-3 p.m. ET for NAR's Real Estate Forecast Summit: The Year Ahead. During this free webinar, NAR Chief Economist Dr. Lawrence Yun and a panel of experts will review 2021 and discuss the forces that will shape the real estate market and the economy in 2022. Economists, researchers, and thought leaders will review key insights in the housing and commercial markets, with opening and closing remarks from NAR leadership. Topics include:

- Economic Outlook
- Housing Market Outlook
- Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers
- Home Buyer Preferences, Demographics, and Challenges
- Commercial Market Outlook

To view the agenda: [Click Here](#)

To register (no cost): [Click Here](#)

2022 REALTOR® DUES – ALL ARE DUE IN DECEMBER:

- Your 2022 REALTOR® dues are due in December (Greater Portland Board and MidCoast Board were due on December 1) and local board late fees may be assessed beginning in early-December – as early as December 2. You pay your dues through your local REALTOR® boards' Member Portal (links in right margin).
- Designated Brokers: Remember...dues must be paid for anyone licensed in a REALTOR® office as of January 1, 2022. If an agent plans to make their license status inactive or his/her license expires any time on/after January 1 and they do not plan to renew, you must inform the Maine Real Estate Commission in writing that the agent's license is no longer affiliated with your company by December 31, 2021 or you, as DB, will be responsible for that agent's payment.

MEMBER BENEFITS:

Thank you for your membership! To learn more about your Maine Association of REALTOR® Association member benefits, check out this video and benefits summary: [Click Here](#)

MAINE REALTOR® MAGAZINE DELIVERY:

Maine REALTOR® magazine is mailed to your "Communication Preference" address on file at the

MAR Leadership

President

Aaron Bolster

President Elect

Madeleine Hill

First Vice President

Carmen McPhail

Treasurer

Sherri Dunbar

Chief Executive Officer

Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: November 22

Some content may be commercial in nature.

Maine Association of REALTORS®. See below for instructions on how to update.

COMMUNICATION PREFERENCE:

To update your “Communication Preference” in the MAR membership system:

- 1) Login to the MAR RAMCO portal: [Click Here](#)
- 2) Help info is on the top and bottom of the portal sign-in screen. Please contact MAR, info@mainerealtors.com, if you need login and password assistance.
- 3) Click on the “Update Your Profile” in the blue box (upper left)
- 4) Note the five sections on the left to update (Main, Home Address, Mailing Address, Personal, Communication Preference)
- 5) Update your information in each section and be sure to click on Update and/or Save at the bottom of each section

MAINE REALTOR® MAGAZINE LIBRARY:

For the digital editions of all Maine REALTOR® magazines: [Click Here](#). Remember, once you open a digital issue, you can share articles by clicking on the icon on the lower right of your screen.

INTERACTIVE FAIR HOUSING TRAINING:

Have you visited Fairhaven? The National Association of REALTORS® has developed this no-cost online simulation that helps you identify, prevent, and address discriminatory practices in real estate. Take a trip through Fairhaven to assess how well you’re protecting your clients during their real estate transaction. The simulation takes 60-100 minutes but is self-paced and you can come and go from Fairhaven as your schedule allows. To visit Fairhaven: [Click Here](#) If you need assistance with your NAR login credentials, you can contact NAR member support at 1-800-874-6500 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



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