

March 27, 2024

WHAT'S UP IN AUGUSTA?

2024



Next Tuesday- April 2nd - See you Augusta!



**REALTOR®
RALLY**

TUESDAY
APRIL 2, 2024
9 AM- 1 PM
AUGUSTA, ME



Join your fellow REALTORS® on April 2nd starting at 9am at the [Governor Hill Mansion](#) to kick start MAR's day of advocacy! There are some priorities we will continue to engage on and we want your help!

The [Virtual element of Rally Day](#) will be in the days leading up to and on April 2nd. Stay tuned for a statewide Call for Action where you will be able to send a message to your state Senator and Representative around

What to expect on April 2nd:

7:30am Call For Action Request delivered to your inbox- Please **ACT** and send a pre-written message to your Legislators. *(You will also be able to connect with them in-person if you plan to attend Rally)* We encourage you to send a message in addition to live attendance because makes a HUGE impact!

priority issues being discussed at the [Maine State House](#).



9am: Governor Hill Mansion "Pre-Party" Issues Briefing, Meet some of your REALTOR® Legislators, Q & A with MAR Government Affairs Team, prepare Thank You cards to Legislators, learn about the issues, collect your Advocacy Guide.

10:30am-1pm: Hall of Flags, Maine State House

Tour the State House, visit the House and Senate chambers and watch our government in action, network with REALTORS® and Legislators. We will have Guest Speakers and lunch available.

Check out the [REALTOR® Rally Landing page](#) before heading to Augusta!
More details relating to parking, security and more will be sent out closer to April 2nd.

Check out the Most Current Bill Tracking Report

Litigation Update



Proposed Settlement Resources:

MAR is working to receive and pass information as it relates to NAR's proposed settlement as it become available. We are working on collecting the top needs of the members and will soon have talking points and updates to provide. Please provide feedback so we may ensure we best assist you. (button on left to give feedback, button on right to visit MAR's landing page for NAR Proposed Settlement information).

**Help Us Help
YOU!**

**Proposed Settlement
Resources**

How can you engage?

We know things are challenging right now, and information is being tossed around left and right. Some accurate and some not. Right now its essential for you as a REALTOR® member to continue to provide the exceptional service you have ALWAYS provided your clients. We encourage discussion around the proposed changes being put forth and we also encourage you to reach out

to your Designated Brokers, Local Associations and [MAR for resources, support and questions](#). We can assure that we will work to provide the best tools and products to aid you in confidently navigating the changing conditions of the market and our industry!



VA

U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Loan Program & Industry Changes:

NAR has reached out to Department of Veteran's Affairs and the *"VA is working closely with the Department of Justice to determine any potential implications for Veteran borrowers and is committed to ensuring that Veterans are neither disadvantaged in the homebuying process nor overcharged"... the VA recognizes that potential changes may be forthcoming in the industry as a result of the proposed NAR settlement"*

Community Home Lenders of America sent a letter asking Department of Veterans Affairs to expedite regulatory changes in response to NAR Proposed Settlement as it relates to buyer financing and what can be done to protect buyers using the VA programming.

More on this to come...

Sustainability-- We need to know how YOU feel:

As you know, MAR has been seeking feedback on public policy topics in a effort to better prepare for updates to our [Public Policy Statement](#) later in the year. We still need your input around **different subject areas as they relate to real estate, private property rights and the economy**. Please consider answering these 1-2 question polls to ensure your voice is heard on these important policy topics. (All submissions are anonymous) Click on the button below for our next subject area.



Topic #3: Sustainability



You can still weigh in on our other topics:

[Topic #1: STR's- What do you think?](#)

[Topic #2: Rent Control & Rental Registries](#)



Maine Regulatory Updates:



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Maine Farmers can apply for PFAS Aid

On March 18th, it was announced that the Maine [Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Fund to Address PFAS Contamination \(PFAS Fund\)](#) is now accepting applications for assistance from commercial farms impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination. The grant program is managed by DACF and has a \$60 million budget. [Learn more about the program...](#)

LUPC Request for Comment on STRs & ADUs

[The Land Use Planning Commission \(LUPC\)](#) has issued a request for comments around 2 projects as they relate to zoning management in unorganized and deorganized areas of the State, including townships and plantations:

Comment Period and Contact Information: Short-term Rental rulemaking comment deadline: April 17, 2024. Submit comments to: stacy.benjamin@maine.gov or by mail to: Maine Land Use Planning Commission, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0022.

ADU rulemaking comment deadline: April 1, 2024. Submit comments to: Timothy.Beaucage@maine.gov or by mail to: Maine Land Use Planning Commission, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0022.



April 2, 2024: Maine REALTOR® Rally Day
Register Now!

May 4 - 9, 2024: NAR "RLM" Meeting in D.C.
Registration is Open

June 11, 2024: State Primary Election



TO **ENGAGE** from *anywhere*, Please text the word "REALTORS" to 30644, to activate **REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts**.

Questions?
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