

USEFUL WEB SITES

MARA forum and resources page

<https://www.maineroads.org/>

Use the search function on the **Forum** to see if anyone else has asked a question similar to yours. If not, enter a question of your own.

Subscribe to the Topic so you will get notified any time someone posts an answer.

Subscribe to the Forum to get notified of new questions

Resources page - links to the statutes, sample forms, guides to running a road association, manuals on road maintenance, etc.

Windham Private Roads Resource Binder

<https://www.windhammaine.us/DocumentCenter/View/7803/Resource-Binder-Materials>

Aimed at Windham roads, but an excellent resource - especially the Order of Filling Out Forms

Statute Search

<https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/search.htm>

Use to locate latest version of statutes, or to find statutes on any subject

Arrow in upper corner of statute allows scrolling through following statutes

If you don't know the statute number, use word search

Town tax maps and commitment books

Not all towns have them online but most do

Search for "(your town) ME tax maps" (Don't forget the ME)

(Avoid the publicrecords.netronline, as it's usually not helpful.)

Most towns have a map **Index** to help you get oriented and find the right map

Some towns let you scroll through all maps, others require loading one at a time

Some towns have commitment books by lot, some alphabetical, some both

Use Ctrl-f to do a word search for name, street name, or map and lot number

(Be sure to use their format for map and lot)

Use to locate the following:

All landowners on your road

Their mailing addresses

Book and page number of their deed and the date of purchase

Acreage owned

Assessed value (Important due to 1% limit in 23 MRS 3101 - be sure to use total value of land and buildings. If it lists exemptions such as tree growth, call town assessor to find value before deduction if value is below limit.)

Many towns use John O'Donnell as their assessor - their site makes it easy to search by landowner name or street name. Their search by map and lot is trickier. Click on blue number by each listing to see detailed info.

Geolibrary parcel viewer

<https://maine.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=28e35c8fcf514d2685357b78bdd0b246>

Can use if town doesn't post info - but it may be out of date

Type location into search box

Use icon on top left to "Change Basemap"

Click and drag to move map around

Use +/- to zoom in on a lot and click to read info

Registries of Deeds

<https://www.maineregistryofdeeds.com/>

Use to find recent sales, locate new owner's address, check for easement wording in deed, etc.

Each county site is a bit different - DO NOT sign up for an account - you can **download or print up to 500 images a year for free**, but may have to create username and password to do so rather than signing in as guest

Various search options - by name, book and page (volume), document number, date, Recorded Land or Land Plans,

Narrow search by specifying town, range of dates. (May be under Advanced tab.)

Can also limit type of document (Deed, Lien, Release, Misc), etc. but you may want to see all.

Sort documents by date

There may be an icon to click to view document, or just a number in color.

Arrows let you scroll through pages

+ to enlarge

Print icon usually lets you either print or download once you get through the sign-in

Simple Interest Calculator

<https://financial-calculators.com/simple-interest-calculator>

Makes calculating interest super easy

Fill in Starting Amount, Annual Interest Rate, Start Date, and End Date.

Click "Calc" and it does the rest.

DOT mapviewer

<https://www.maine.gov/mdot/mapviewer/>

Great for finding out how much road is town-maintained.

Wait while it loads a map

Type in name of town and click on Town at end of pop up list

Click outside town to get rid of blue

Click and drag to move map

+/- to zoom in or out

Click to place a pin on a road

Click on Show Road Info to get details such as what mileage is town-maintained

(It may be listed in sections, so try pin at different points)

For more fun, go to Layers at top right, click on Add

Look through options, or type in RIG and click on the plus by the two that come up to locate old county roads

Box on left gives code numbers for county record book and page number of layout

"D" after code number indicates Discontinued by county before 1976

(Later discontinuance would be by town, and would not show here except as “status unknown)

Historic aerials

<https://www.historicaerials.com/>

Fun way to research the history of a road - bear in mind that maps often lag behind reality
Click on View Images
WAIT for it to load an image before you enter a search
Enter a location in the search box and click Go
Select Topos or Aerials in the left column, then select date from the list of available images

DEP

<https://www.maine.gov/dep/>

Explore this site for a number of helpful resources, including the following:
Click on the Land Resources tab, then Publications and Resources, then on Manuals and Guides to Reduce Water Pollution.
Scroll Down for their Gravel Road Maintenance Manual and their Guide to Forming Road Associations

A Ditch in Time

<https://ruralhometech.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Road-Book-by-RL-8-17.pdf>

An easy to understand, well-illustrated manual on gravel road maintenance

MEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants

<https://www.maine.gov/mema/grants/mitigation-grants>

email Hazard Mitigation Officer Heather Dumais of Intent to Apply by October 15, 2022.

NRCS

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/me/home/>

Can sometimes fund culvert replacement if there is agricultural or forest land involved

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

<https://maineconservationdistricts.com/>

Helps find local solutions to natural resource problems
Click on the District Locations tab to find the branch for your county

Maine Woodlands

<https://www.mainewoodlandowners.org/>

Formerly SWOAM - Their members have an interest in keeping access passable

Maine Forest Products Council

<https://maineforest.org/#>

May be able to intervene when there is an issue with a logger's use of a road.

Warden service

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/warden-service/>

May be able to help when there are issues with use of road or private land by Hunters, ATV's or Snowmobiles

Maine Association of Mediators

<https://www.mainemediators.org/>

Maintains a list of professional mediators

Family and Community Mediation

<https://mainefcm.org/>

Low cost Mediation services to help resolve neighbor and community disputes

Cooperative Extension Agricultural Mediation

<https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/agricultural-mediation/>

Mediation services low cost or free if agricultural or forest land is involved

Google Earth - measuring tool, historic images

Maine ROADWays

Resource on Abandoned & Discontinued Roads

Page on Road Maintenance Tips on a Shoestring

Quick links to many road related statutes