

Carbon Offsets



Carbon offsetting is the investment in renewable energy and carbon capturing technologies that will help a business compensate for the emissions that they aren't able to eliminate. This practice helps companies and organizations meet their carbon reduction goals and helps support a "low carbon economy".



TerraPass does a great job of explaining carbon offsets and renewable energy credits (REC) and why they are important in the fight against climate change.

Their website offers free carbon calculators for individuals, businesses and events. They fund multiple projects in the following categories: farm power, wind power, landfill gas capture and others. You can purchase offsets that work right here in Maine at the Tri-Community Landfill in Fort Fairfield.

Terrapass was started by a professor and 41 students at University of Pennsylvania in 2004. Their funded projects meet the Verified Carbon Standard, which offers third-party validation and transparency.



Carbon Fund's motto is "Reduce what you can. Offset what you can't."

Carbon fund estimates that the average American emits 25 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually. They offer easy suggestions for carbon footprint reduction in one's life including tips for your car travel, air travel, home, wedding and office.

You can choose which projects to help fund with your offsets from three categories: renewable energy and methane projects, energy efficiency projects and reforestation and avoided deforestation projects. They offer third-party verification for their projects and your donations are tax-deductible.



The Nature Conservancy's mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Their website provides opportunities to get involved in conservation efforts in your area and worldwide. The Nature Conservancy manages more than 75 preserves throughout Maine, including Saco Health Preserve, Tatnic Hills Preserve in Wells and the Wells Barren Preserve.

The Nature Conservancy funds the latest conservation research and its scientists produce over 200 peer-reviewed journal articles each year.

Articles About Carbon Offsets

The Nature Conservancy makes the case for carbon offsetting and provides some success stories

Smithsonian Magazine: Explains offsets and air travel

