



Welcome to the Pine Tree State

 **UNITY**

A Welcome Note from Dr. Melik Peter Khoury

Thank you for considering a position with Unity Environmental University here in the great State of Maine. Unity Environmental University is the largest university in Maine, and we pride ourselves on being a student-first organization whose programs and courses are offered year-round in five or eight-week terms.

In this guide you will find statistics, links to resources, civic organizations, recreational activities, restaurants, and fun facts about “The Pine Tree State” that we hope will be helpful as you consider relocating. Maine is known for its natural beauty and when you’re not working there is no end to the year-round recreational activities you can enjoy.

I first moved to Maine over 3 decades ago to pursue an education and I can say - I fell in love with the people and the state. I think you will too if you choose to relocate here. I hope you find this guide helpful.

With Pride,



Dr. Melik Peter Khoury
President & CEO
Unity Environmental University

Why should you move to Maine?

1. Natural Beauty: Maine is home to some of the most stunning landscapes in the United States. From Acadia National Park to the rocky coastlines, the beauty of Maine is unparalleled.
2. Quality of Life: Maine offers a high quality of life with low crime rates, excellent schools, and a thriving economy. It's a great place to raise a family or start a business.
3. Outdoor Activities: If the person you are trying to convince is an outdoors person, Maine has a lot to offer. You can go fishing, boating, hiking, skiing, and much more.
4. Food: Maine is known for its delicious seafood, especially lobster, which is famous all over the world. If the person you are trying to convince is a foodie, Maine has a lot to offer.
5. Culture: Maine has a unique culture, with a strong maritime history, as well as a thriving arts scene. From local festivals to museums and galleries, there is always something interesting to do.
6. Friendly People: Mainers are known for being friendly and welcoming to newcomers, which can make the transition to a new place much easier.
7. Affordable Living: Compared to other states in the Northeast, Maine offers relatively affordable living costs, which could be a major selling point for some.



Maine Fast Stats

- Population: 1,355,924
- Counties: 16
- Land Area: 30,843 square miles
- Length of Coastline: 3,500 miles
- Lakes and Ponds: 6,000
- Forest: 17 million acres
- Persons per Square Mile: 43.1
- Largest City: Portland
- State Capital: Augusta
- Statehood: Became the 23rd State on March 15, 1820
- State Motto: Dirigo *"I lead"*
- Famous Mainers - Stephen King, Judd Nelson, Patrick Dempsey, Margaret Chase-Smith, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- Famous Foods - Known for our lobster, wild blueberries, and fiddleheads.
- Lighthouses - More than 60 dot our coastline with the oldest being Portland Headlight in Cape Elizabeth.



Unity is everywhere!



Pineland Farms
New Gloucester, ME



McKay Farms & Research Station
Thorndike, ME

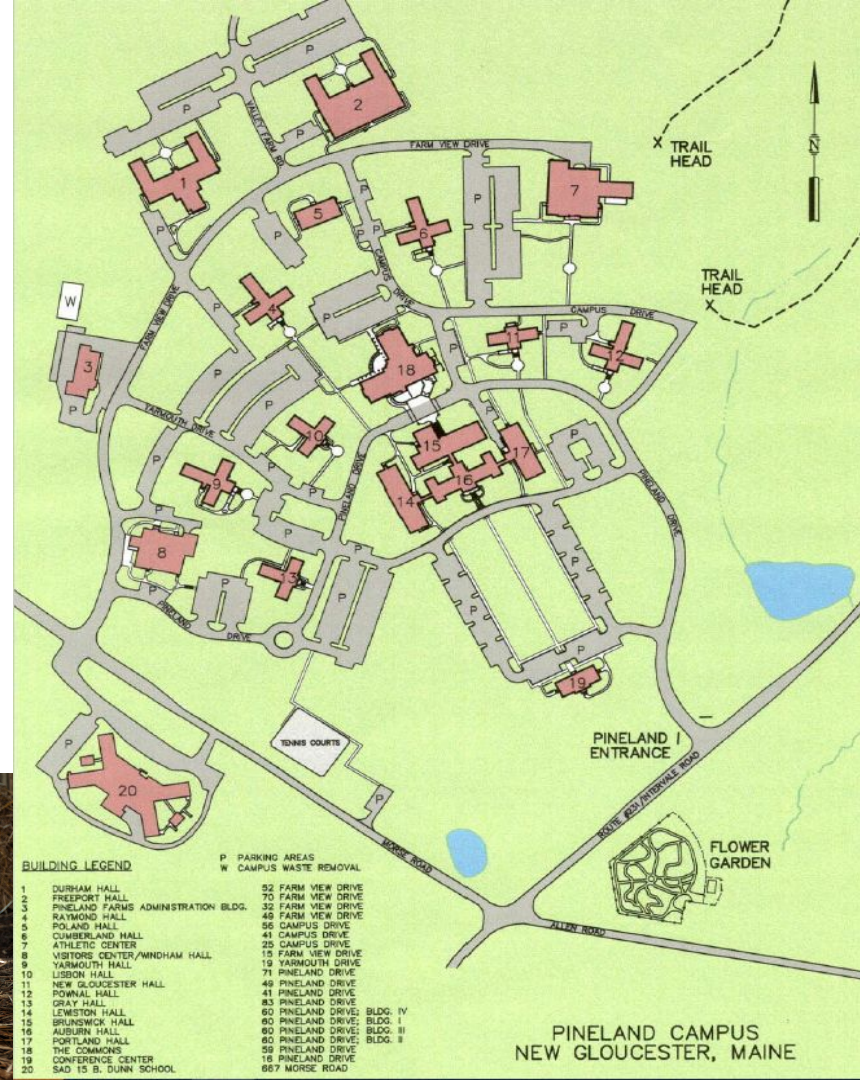


Skylodge
Moose River, ME

Pineland Farms

Pineland Farms is a 5,000-acre working farm, just 30 min outside of Portland. Offering a diverse business campus and educational and recreational venue that welcomes visitors to enjoy its beautiful rural landscape.

Unity Environmental University operates out of 3 buildings on Pineland's business campus; Yamouth, Raymond and Freeport Hall.



McKay Farm & Research Station

McKay Farm & Research Station is Unity Environmental University's multi-faceted greenhouse and field facility in Thorndike, Maine. Originally known as Half Moon Gardens, McKay Farm and Research Station was gifted to Unity Environmental University in December 2013 by Isabel McKay and Rick Thompson.

Today, it is a working production farm, with herbs and edible flowers produce available in local grocery stores. Certified by Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, the five greenhouses and one-acre production fields showcase the next generation of sustainable agriculture. Additionally, the farm provides contract growing services and rental space in the greenhouse and fields.



Sky Lodge

Situated in Moose River, ME and sitting on 150 acres, Skylodge was built as a hunting and fishing getaway for an executive from Port Chester, New York. Since its execution, Sky Lodge has seen many owners until it was gifted to Unity in 2018.

Skylodge accommodations include a 9-room historic wilderness lodge built in 1929, four log cabins, a private home, and three individual guest rooms.

Skylodge amenities include a conference center, a swimming pool, an antique auto museum, a model railroad museum, and hiking trails. Outdoor activities nearby include hiking, golfing, biking, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, whitewater rafting, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and more.



Towns Close to Unity Properties

Pineland: Portland, Brunswick, Bath,
Westbrook, Windham, Gray, New Gloucester,
Raymond, Lewiston-Auburn

McKay Farms: Waterville, Bangor, Hallowell,
Augusta, Camden

Skylodge: Moose River, Jackman, Skowhegan



Housing Resources: Pineland Farms

Short-term Rentals, Property Management Companies & Marketplaces

- Facebook Marketplace
- <https://www.furnishedfinder.com/>
- https://krainin.com/residential_rentals
- <https://tenantsolutionsllc.com>
- <https://www.portproperty.com/view-all-rentals/?locations=Maine>
- <https://www.rooseveltpropertyrentals.com/>
- <https://www.apartmentsinportlandmaine.com/simple-listing-list-view/residential/>
- <https://westbrookhousing.org/>
- <https://www.seaglassrentals.com/available-seaglass-rentals>
- <https://www.preservationmanagement.com/property/?state=maine>
- <https://harbormgmt.com/find-an-apartment/maine/portland/>
- <https://www.gpmmaine.com/availability>
- <https://mainepropertiesllc.com/>
- <http://www.preservationmanagement.com/property/?state=maine&bedrooms=one-bedroom>
- <https://www.ccrealtymanagement.com/apartment-rentals/>

Homes & Real Estate:

- <https://www.maine listings.com/> - Premier property listing site for all of Maine
- [Avesta Housing](#) - Offers homebuyer education courses and financial counseling for new Mainers and first time homebuyers

When searching for rental properties, thoroughly vet listings, check the legitimacy of landlords, and, most importantly, beware of scams and never send money upfront. Unity neither endorses nor supports any of the listed options; therefore, we strongly advise conducting thorough research when selecting your new home.



Housing Resources: Skylodge

Short-term Rentals, Property Management Companies & Marketplaces:

- <https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/112795422068008/apartments-for-rent/>
- <https://www.mountainviewterraceapts.com/>
- <https://www.indianridgeapthomes.com/>
- <https://www.ccrealtymanagement.com/apartment-rentals/>
- <https://www.realtyresourcesmanagement.com/maine>
- <https://www.ccrealtymanagement.com/apartment-rentals/mary-st-apts.php>

Homes & Real Estate:

- <https://www.coldwellbankerhomes.com/me/jackman/>
- <https://www.masiello.com/listings/?viewport=%7D%7CavGn%60eeLvyqC%3F%3FvzGwyqC%3F>

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Housing Resources: McKay Farms & Research Station

Short-term Rentals, Property Management Companies & Marketplaces:

- <https://www.realtyresourcesmanagement.com/maine>
- <https://cbmattson.com/apartments>
- <https://www.stanfordmanagement.com/>
- <https://mainedevelopment.com/maine-development-properties/>
-

Homes & Real Estate:

- <https://www.coldwellbankerhomes.com/me/jackman/>
- <https://cbplourde.com/>
- <https://realtyofmaine.com/our-listings/>
- <https://bhhsnortheastrealestate.com/>
- <https://www.masiello.com/listings/?viewport=%7D%7CavGn%60eeLvyqC%3F%3FvzGwyqC%3F>

Portland

First settled in 1632, Portland is Maine's largest city. Situated on a peninsula on the Casco Bay, it has become known for its historic buildings and neighborhoods, thriving arts scene, and more recently, as a food destination. Take a walk down to the Old Port, grab a bite at a James Beard Award nominated restaurant, stop by a music venue or concert, or hop on a fifteen-minute ferry to one of the islands in the bay - there is always something to do in Portland.



<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/portlandcitymaine>

Westbrook & Windham

Westbrook and Windham, two charming towns nestled in the heart of Maine, offer a delightful blend of natural beauty, hometown spirit, and New England charm. Both Westbrook and Windham share a commitment to preserving their natural surroundings, ensuring that residents and visitors can enjoy the beauty of Maine's forests and lakes for generations to come. With friendly communities, rich histories, and stunning landscapes, Westbrook and Windham capture the essence of Maine's charm and hospitality. Whether you're seeking outdoor adventures, cultural experiences, or simply a warm New England welcome, these two towns have something special to offer.



<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/westbrookcitymaine>

Brunswick and Bath

Nestled along the picturesque coast of Maine, Brunswick and Bath offer a charming blend of maritime history, vibrant cultural scenes, and natural beauty. Visitors can explore the vibrant downtown area, lined with local shops and diverse dining options. Just a short drive away, Bath, known for its shipbuilding heritage, boasts a scenic waterfront and the renowned Maine Maritime Museum. The city's quaint streets are adorned with well-preserved 19th-century architecture, creating a nostalgic ambiance. Both Brunswick and Bath provide residents and visitors with a unique blend of coastal charm, cultural richness, and outdoor recreation, making them delightful destinations along the captivating Maine coastline.

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/brunswickcdpmaine>



Lewiston-Auburn

Former mill towns, Lewiston and Auburn (known as L/A locally) straddle the Androscoggin River in South-Central Maine, connected by bridge. Known for its extensive French-Canadian heritage, historic Bates Mill complex and downtown, Bates College, and it's up-and-coming food scene, the Lewiston-Auburn area has a lot to offer.



<https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/lewiston-me-population>



Lakes Region: Gray, New Gloucester, Raymond

The Lakes Region of Maine is a picturesque paradise for those seeking tranquility amidst natural beauty. Nestled in the heart of the state, this region is defined by its crystal-clear lakes, including Sebago, Long, and Moosehead, which provide endless opportunities for boating, fishing, and lakeside relaxation. Surrounded by lush forests, charming small towns, and stunning mountain vistas, the Lakes Region is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, offering hiking, camping, and wildlife watching. With its vibrant local culture, friendly communities, and a deep connection to nature, the Lakes Region of Maine beckons visitors to experience the serenity and recreational delights of this New England gem.



<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/newgloucestertown>

Skowhegan

Skowhegan, situated along the Kennebec River, exudes quintessential New England charm. This historic town captivates with picturesque landscapes and a welcoming community spirit. Its downtown, a charming mix of tradition and modernity, features well-preserved architecture and vibrant shops.

Skowhegan also boasts a thriving arts scene, with galleries showcasing local talent and frequent cultural events celebrating the town's creative spirit. Coburn Park, a nearby scenic escape, is perfect for picnics and leisurely strolls. The annual Skowhegan State Fair injects excitement and tradition into the community.

With its blend of history, culture, and culinary delights, Skowhegan invites all to experience the true essence of Maine in a setting that feels like a welcoming embrace.



<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/skowhegancdpmaine>

Transportation



EZ Pass: A faster toll payment alternative for commuters and travelers

[E ZPASS Information](#)



Downeaster: Provides 5 daily round trips between Brunswick, ME and Boston, MA

[Amtrak -Downeaster](#)



Networking

- [Live + Work in Maine](#) - non-profit dedicated to providing information and resources to who want to relocate, move within, or stay in Maine.
- [Portland Green Drinks](#) - part of the international Greendrinks network an informal, volunteer-managed social/professional networking group built around a common interest in the natural environment
- [The Third Place](#) - The Third Place is an organizational collaborative and coworking space designed to build community through collective work and cooperative economics for entrepreneurs, community builders, and professionals of African descent.
- [Maine Women's Network](#) - The Maine Women's Network is a statewide nonprofit organization with multiple chapters, including Androscoggin, Midcoast, and Portland. Through monthly chapter meetings, statewide events and other programming, Maine Women's Network represents and supports hundreds of women in business across the state.
- [Realize Maine Network](#) - a non-partisan, statewide driver of equitable, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth in Maine. We connect people, decision-makers, and communities through trusted research, leadership development, and creative partnerships to stimulate new ideas, solve problems, and improve lives.



LGBTQ+ Resources

- [Equality Maine](#) - Maine's oldest and largest statewide LGBTQ+ advocacy organization.
- [MaineTransNet](#) - Maine's largest community based transgender advocacy and support organization.
- [Gay Real Estate](#) - Queer and inclusive real estate agent listing
- [NAMI Maine](#) - Mental Health Organization



Be a Tourist:

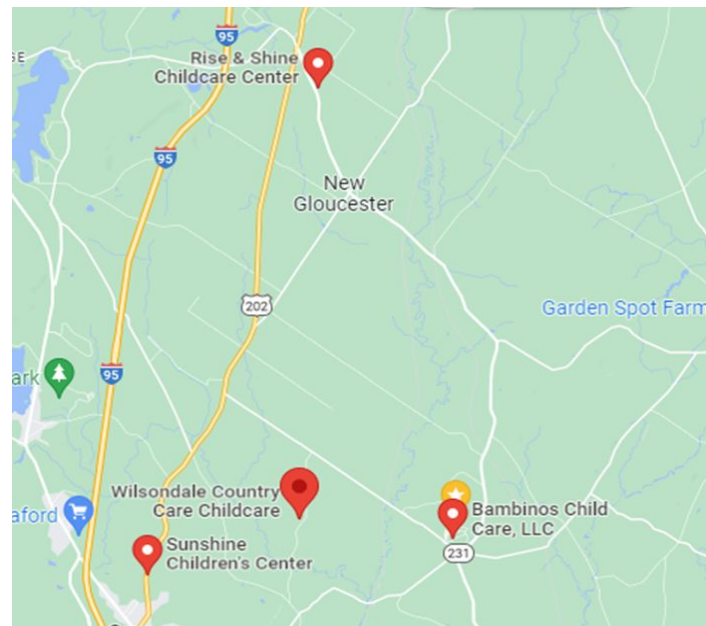
festivals, shops and the great outdoors

- See the country's first sunrise in Eastport
- Bar Harbor Whale watching
- Thompson's Point
- Weekly Farmers Markets
- Arcadia - game bar
- Happy Wheels Skate Center
- Maine Mall
- Palace Playland
- Fryeburg Fair
- Common Ground Fair
- Eastern Promenade
- Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens
- Take a Ferry ride to one of Maine's 2,000+ islands
- L.L. Bean Flagship Store
- Acadia National Park
- Portland Museum of Art
- First Friday Art Walk
- Portland Head Light
- Sail, Kayak, SUP on one of Maine's many beaches, lakes and rivers



Childcare Resources

- [Bambinos Child Care](#) - (207) 688-8088
83 Pineland Dr Suite 101, New Gloucester, ME 04260
- [Wilsondale Country Care Childcare](#) - (207) 657-2273
105 Merrill Rd, Gray, ME 04039
- **Sunshine Children's Center** - (207) 657-2126
38 Lewiston Rd, Gray, ME 04039
- **Rise & Shine Childcare Center** - (207) 926-3248
112 Intervale Rd B, New Gloucester, ME 04260



When searching for childcare, thoroughly vet listings. Unity neither endorses nor supports any of the listed options; therefore, we strongly advise conducting thorough research when selecting childcare.



Doggie Daycare

- [The Doggie Cottage](#) - (207) 657-7311
35 Bull Run Rd, Gray, ME 04039
- **K-9 Club** - (207) 776-4281
133 Lewiston Rd, Gray, ME 04039
- [Magic of Paws](#) - (207) 829-5661
14 Snowhook Trail, North Yarmouth, ME 04097
- [Howling Hill Doggie Daycare](#) - (207) 272-7917
113A Fish Hatchery Rd, New Gloucester, ME 04260
- [Pride and Joy](#) - (207) 892- 6883
59 Nash Rd, Windham, ME 04062



When searching for petcare, thoroughly vet listings. Unity neither endorses nor supports any of the listed options; therefore, we strongly advise conducting thorough research when selecting petcare.



Ranked #9 for States with the most Coastline

- Willard Beach
- Biddeford Pool Beach
- Higgins Beach
- Wells Beach
- Popham Beach State Park
- Kettle Cove
- Cliff House Beach
- Short Sands Beach
- Long Sands Beach
- Gooch's Beach
- Ogunquit Beach





Employee Favorites: Restaurants, Bars and Treats

- Blyth & Burrows
- The Holy Donut
- Otto's Pizza
- Becky's Diner
- Pho Hoa Grill
- Izakaya Minato
- Veranda Thai
- Novios
- Red's Eats
- Red's Dairy Freeze
- The Lobster Shack
- Crispy Gai
- Timber Kitchen and Bar
- Boda
- The Great Lost Bear
- The Tarratine
- Mount Desert Ice Cream
- Mi Sen
- Pai Men Miyake
- Palace Diner

