

Greenwood Climate Vulnerability Assessment

July 15, 2026

Center for an Ecology-Based Economy

The Nature Conservancy Maine

Prepared by the Center for an Ecology-Based Economy and The Nature Conservancy

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Introduction

This report was conducted in 2025 and 2026 by the Center for an Ecology-Based Economy (CEBE), a nonprofit environmental and climate justice organization based in Norway, Maine, with support from Ray Mills, Climate Adaptation Resident for The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

The purpose of the assessment was to identify the strengths, needs, and vulnerabilities of the infrastructure and populations in Greenwood to help the town become more resilient to extreme weather and other climate impacts. CEBE analyzed historical weather and environmental data, population/Census data, and relevant infrastructure data. The analysis also includes data collected through a community-wide survey of 27 respondents and 6 stakeholder interviews. Following data collection and analysis, CEBE developed and prioritized recommendations to address the identified vulnerabilities and increase community resilience.

CEBE would like to thank the Town of Greenwood, survey respondents, and interviewees for their time and contributions, and for sharing their experiences to help inform and contextualize the data within this report. CEBE also extends deep gratitude to Ray Mills for their research and contributions to this report.

This work was funded by a Service Provider Grant from the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP), a state program through the Maine Office of Community Affairs (MOCA).

For more information, please visit CEBE's website, reach out via email or phone, or visit our office in Norway.

With gratitude,

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Executive Summary

Climate Change in Greenwood

The town of Greenwood is experiencing changes in temperature, precipitation, and other weather events as a result of human-caused global warming. Since 1895 in Oxford County:

- Annual average temperatures have increased by 3.94°F (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, 2026).
- Average annual precipitation has increased by 6.15 inches due to more rainfall (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, 2026).

These changes are expected to continue over the next century:

- Statewide climate models project another 2°F to 4°F of warming by 2050 and up to 10°F by 2100 (MCC STS, 2024).
- Annual precipitation in Greenwood is projected to increase from 2004 levels by 3.00 inches around 2050 and 7.00 inches by 2100 (Argonne Laboratory, 2026).

Climate change, or long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns, leaves Greenwood more susceptible to challenges such as heat waves, flooding and storm damage, invasive species and other pests, insect-borne disease, and degrading lake water quality. For impacts like drought, wildfires, and ice storms, it is uncertain how climate change will shift their likelihood specifically in Greenwood, however global and regional trends suggest that there will be increased risk.

Climate Vulnerability

When comparing common population-level indicators of climate vulnerability to statewide averages, Greenwood's community is more vulnerable than the average town in Maine. Greenwood has a higher percentage of individuals aged 65 years and older, individuals without a high school diploma or GED, and households with no internet subscription, and householders living alone, including a large percentage of individuals 65 years and older who live alone.

People who are isolated– physically and/or socially– and people who are unhoused or in unstable housing conditions are generally most vulnerable to climate impacts.

Climate change impacts public health, financial stability, and overall wellness in Greenwood.

- Primary public health challenges include heat-related illness, vector-borne disease and pest impacts, water-borne illness, inability to meet essential health needs, and mental health and wellness decline.
- Financial impacts include increased medical costs, property damage, lost work shifts, burdensome energy costs from increased prices and usage, and food loss from power outages and lower garden productivity.

Current Policies and Positive Assets

Greenwood does not have any formal policies explicitly related to climate change, but there are several informal or indirectly related town policies of note, including:

- Participation in Oxford County EMA's hazard mitigation planning process
- Town funding for General Assistance and social service providers
- Town coordination with and funding of Community Lakes Association (CLA) to monitor water quality of lakes
- Upsizing of culverts when making road repairs
- Mutual aid agreements with fire departments in the region
- Plans to update the town's Comprehensive Plan
- Newly available text-alert system for residents in 2026

There are also several community resources and assets that increase Greenwood's adaptive capacity, including Mt. Abram Ski and Bike Park; social service providers; social, cultural, and religious institutions; environmental organizations; and a "neighbors helping neighbors" culture.

Recommended Strategies

Recommendations across eight strategy areas can be found on pages 25-27. It is recommended that Greenwood implement policies and programs that:

- Improve communication and outreach year-round
- Reduce social isolation and disconnection for vulnerable populations
- Upgrade infrastructure and incorporate nature-based solutions to prepare for increased frequency and severity of heavy precipitation events
- Formalize emergency response to climate hazards
- Engage the community in environmental and climate education and preparedness
- Improve local energy independence and resilience
- Update codes and ordinances for resilience
- Develop a system for tracking local climate data

Climate Change in Greenwood

Extreme Temperatures

Temperature Observations

The world is warming, and so is Greenwood. While local weather data is limited, county and state-wide average observations show significant increases in annual temperatures across Maine. In Oxford County, annual average temperatures have increased by 3.94°F since 1895 (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, 2026).

Greenwood's lakes are also warming. Late-summer surface temperatures in Bryant Pond (also known as Lake Christopher) show a clear long-term warming trend over the past four decades. Early measurements in the late 1970s and 1980s ranged primarily from 60–65°F, while temperatures in the 1990s and early 2000s frequently exceeded 70–80°F. In the time since the Lake Stewards of Maine began recording Bryant Pond's temperatures in 1977 to the most recent recordings from 2023, the lake's surface temperature has increased by about 0.024°F. Based on this trend, it will likely increase by another 0.04°F by the year 2100, reflecting a continuation of this very gradual long-term warming trend.

While this may not at first appear to be a significant change, even small variations in surface temperature may impact lakes and the species that call them home. Bryant Pond has always been a destination for both open-water and ice-fishing, and many of the prized fish species that inhabit it prefer colder temperatures. For example, landlocked Atlantic salmon prefer water temperatures below 65°F and brook trout prefer temperatures between 50–65°F (Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 2026). As Greenwood's lakes warm, the habitat for these coldwater fishes is diminished, while habitat for warmwater fishes, along with invasive species, becomes more plentiful.

As in the rest of Maine, Oxford County's winters are warming fastest. Oxford County winters have warmed a startling 6.55°F – over a degree more than the statewide average – and the maximum daily temperature in winter has risen by 3°F from 2016 to 2026 (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, 2026).

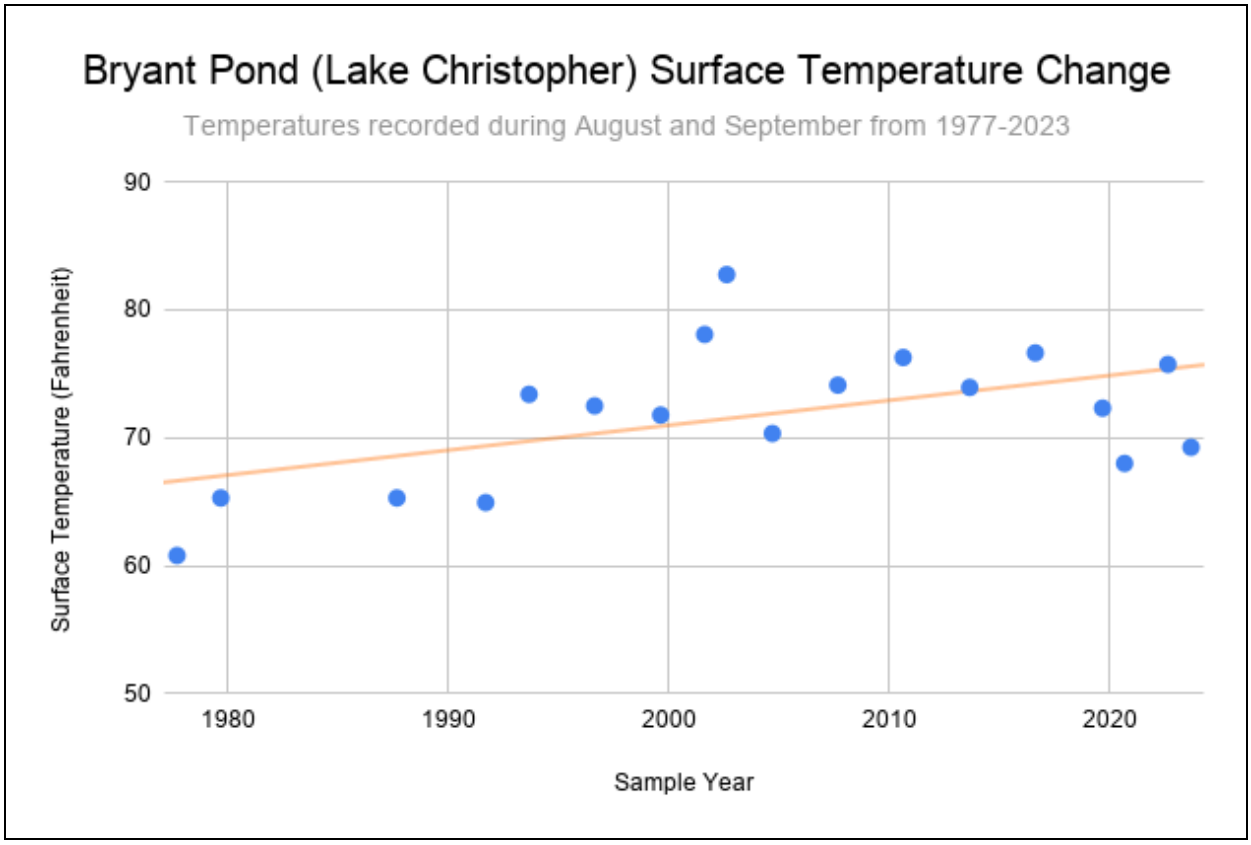


Figure 1: Bryant Pond (Lake Christopher) Surface Temperature Change from 1977-2023. (Source: Lake Stewards of Maine.)

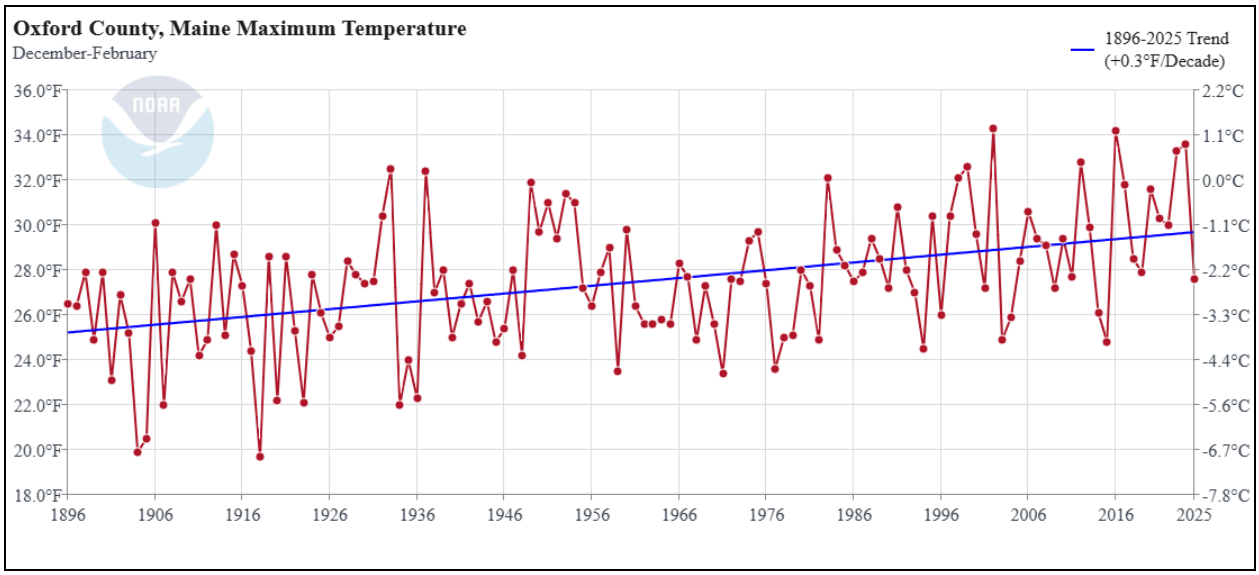


Figure 2: Oxford County, Maine Maximum Winter Temperature, 1896-2025. (Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (2026).)

Table 1: Oxford County Winters, 10-Year Average Daily Maximum Temperatures (°F)												
1896-1905	1906-1915	1916-1925	1926-1935	1936-1945	1946-1955	1956-1965	1966-1975	1976-1985	1986-1995	1996-2005	2006-2015	2016-2025
24.9	26.7	25.2	27.1	26.6	28.9	26.6	27.1	27.1	28.1	29.1	28.7	30.5
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (2026)												

As winters inch toward daytime averages above freezing, Oxford County and Greenwood are experiencing more "winter whiplash" of rapid freeze-thaw cycles, unseasonable heat, and changing winter conditions. Over the past century, the Northeast has seen increased days of mud, bare ground, insect pest survival, and thaw, while experiencing fewer days of frost, snow on the ground, snowmaking conditions, and ice (Fernandez et al., 2020).

Temperature Projections

Statewide, climate models project that annual temperatures will increase another 2°F to 4°F by 2050 and up to 10°F by the end of the century (MCC STS, 2024). In Greenwood, assuming that global greenhouse gas emissions peak by 2040, models project an increase of 5.04°F from 1995-2004 baseline temperatures by 2050, and a total increase of 7.86°F by 2100 (Argonne National Laboratory, 2026).

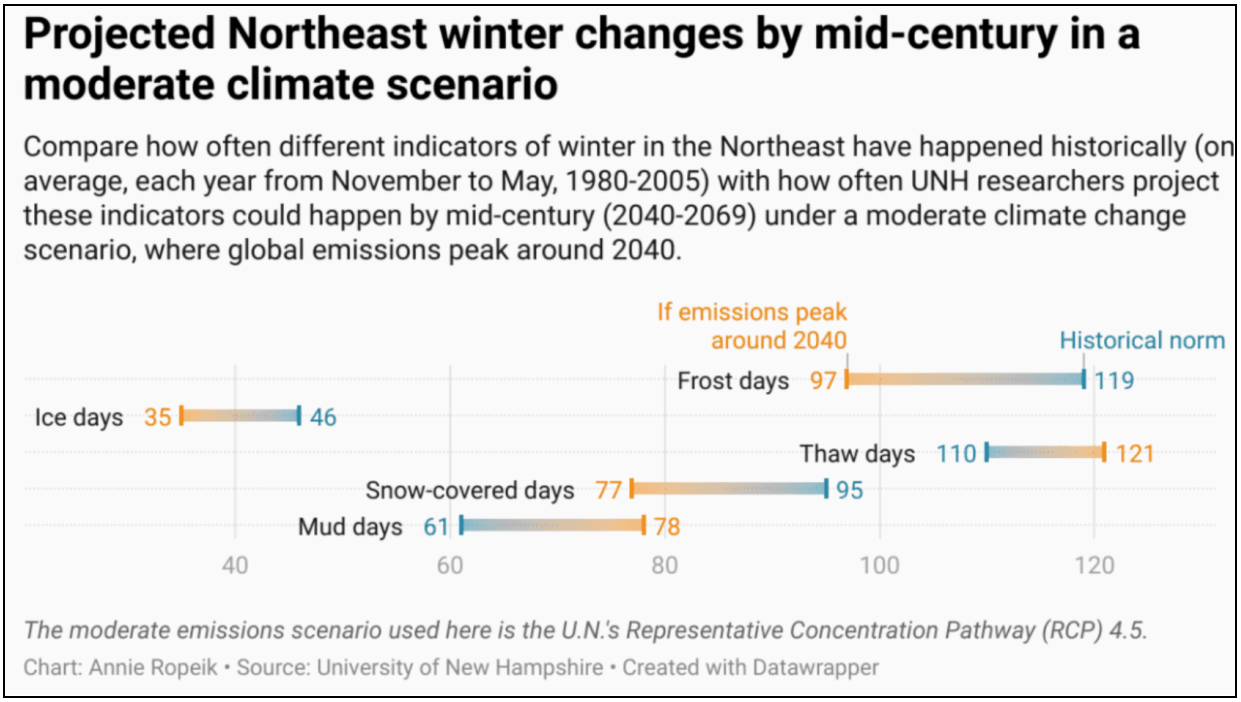


Figure 3: Projected Northeast winter changes by mid-century in a moderate climate scenario. (Source: Annie Ropeik for The Maine Monitor, 2023).

As temperatures rise through the next century, winters and summers will continue to change. By mid-century, the Northeast is projected to have 22 fewer frost days, 11 fewer ice days, and 18 fewer days of snow cover (Ropeik, 2023). Compared to a historical climate baseline, the average winter in recent years has been shortened by two weeks; meanwhile, the average warm season has been lengthened by about two weeks (MCC STS, 2024). As a result, the average growing season has lengthened by just over two weeks (MCC STS, 2024; Fernandez et al., 2020).

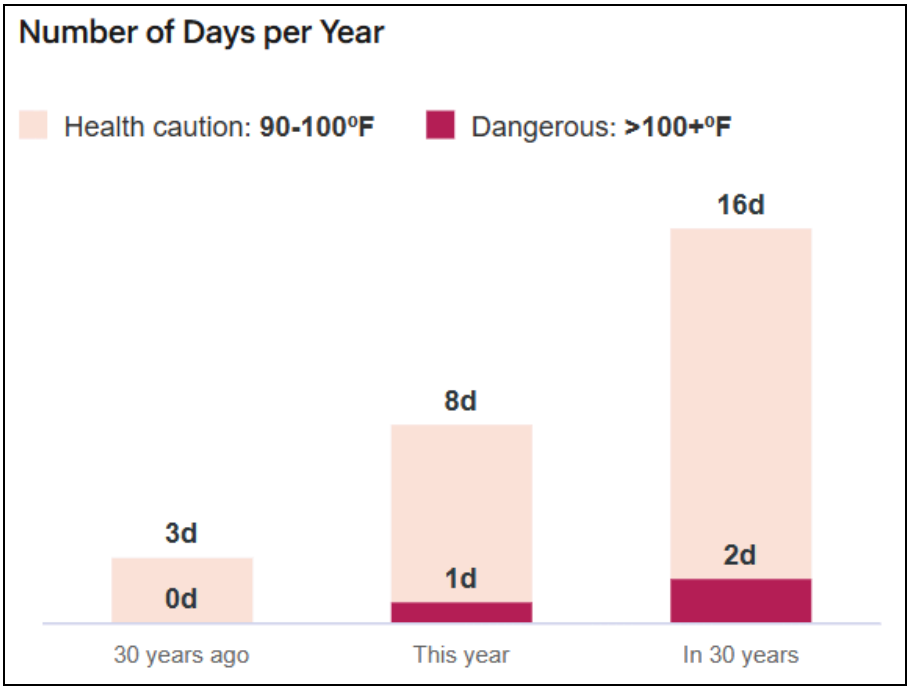


Figure 4: Number of Days per Year between 9-100°F and over 100°F.

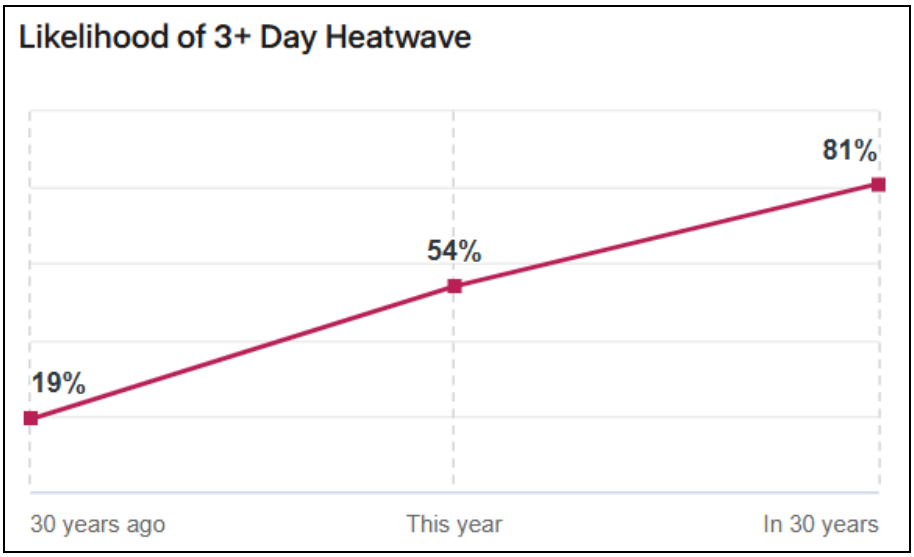


Figure 5: Likelihood of a 3+ Day Heatwave.

While winters will continue to warm more rapidly, hotter summers will also present challenges. Thirty years ago, Oxford County experienced an average of only three days of temperatures between 90°F and 100°F. Meanwhile, this year, Oxford County is likely to experience 8 days of 90°F to 100°F and 1 day of over 100°F, and in another 30 years, the number of days in each category is predicted to double.

Additionally, the likelihood of a three-day heatwave event occurring this year has increased by about 35%, compared to thirty years ago, with the current likelihood being 54%. In another 30 years, that likelihood increases to about 81% (First Street Foundation, 2026).

Extreme Storms and Precipitation

Precipitation Observations

Precipitation is on the rise across Maine and in Greenwood (Fernandez et al., 2020). In Oxford County, average annual precipitation has increased by 6.11 inches since 1895 (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, 2026). However, average annual snowfall in Maine has decreased, meaning the increase in precipitation is due to more rainfall. Maine now experiences 1-2 additional days with precipitation of 2 or more inches, and 2-3 additional days with precipitation of at least 1 inch.

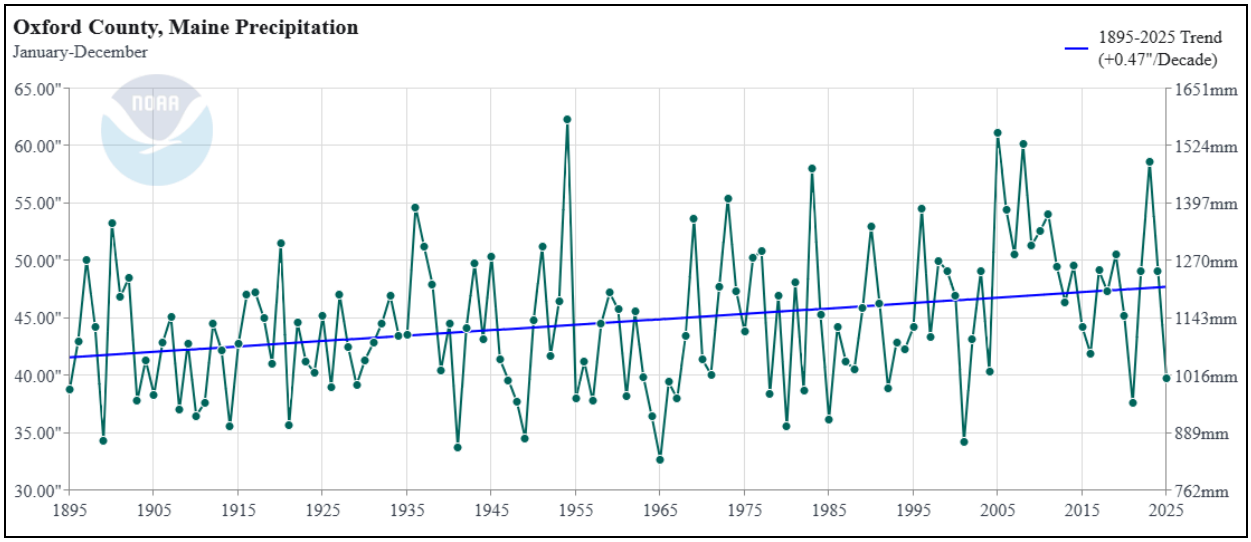


Figure 6: Oxford County, Maine Winter Precipitation from 1895-2025. (Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (2026).)

Community members observe that local storms have grown more intense. Given that Greenwood is prone to hyper-local microbursts, caution must be taken when inferring changes in local precipitation patterns from regional data. That said, heavy precipitation has increased in

Northeastern states at a faster rate than in any other region in the country (Fernandez et al., 2020). An analysis of precipitation in Farmington found that 2”, 3”, and 4” precipitation events are two to three times more common now than in the last century (Fernandez et al., 2020). Many long-term weather stations, including Rumford and Farmington, have recorded an increase in heavy precipitation events.

During the winter of 2023-2024, Oxford County experienced severe winter and multi-hazard storms, most notably the storm of December 3–4 and the storm of December 17–21, 2023 (the "Grinch Storm"), which dropped 7+ inches of rain, caused historic river flooding, washed out local roads, and knocked out power for tens of thousands of residents, leading to a Federal Major Disaster Declaration. This storm caused an estimated $5.7 million in damage to public roads, bridges and buildings (Oxford County EMA, 2023).

In addition to increased precipitation, Greenwood may be experiencing more intense winds during storms and day-to-day. Research on this topic is limited, but anecdotal evidence suggests that parts of Maine are experiencing higher winds (Schauffler, 2021). The First Street Foundation’s Risk Assessment Tool reports that Oxford County has recorded 144 notable wind events, though it is unclear how these events have changed over time due to lack of available records. It has been suggested that nearby ski mountains have shut down lifts more frequently due to threatening gusts.



Image 1: High winds downed a tree on Howe Hill Road in Greenwood during the “Grinch Storm” in December of 2023. (Source: Rose Lincoln/Bethel Citizen.)

Precipitation Projections

Annual precipitation is expected to continue increasing through the next century (MCC STS, 2020). Assuming that global greenhouse gas emissions peak by 2040, annual precipitation in Greenwood is projected to increase from 2004 levels by 4.06 inches around 2050 and 6.52 inches by 2100 (Argonne National Laboratory, n.d.). Ice storms and severe wind storms are more complex and harder to predict, but may become more frequent or intense in Maine (MCC STS, 2020).

What about Droughts and Wildfires?

In other parts of the country, rising temperatures correlate with more severe droughts and worsening wildfires. In the western U.S., wildfires bigger than 1,000 acres in federal forests have become five times more common and are burning much larger areas than in the 1970s (MCC STS, 2020). Previously, there was no observed increase in drought or wildfire occurrence in Maine to date. This was primarily attributed to the upward trend in statewide precipitation. However, the increase in drought occurrence has changed dramatically over the last few years. In October 2025, 43% of Maine was experiencing Extreme Drought, and 47% was experiencing Severe Drought. The potential impacts of severe and extreme drought is extensive.

Agricultural impacts of drought include significant or widespread crop and pasture losses, water shortages, fruit crop size and yield reduction, and dramatic increases in hay prices. Wildlife are also more likely to visit farms in search of water, and instances of wildlife disease may increase, potentially further endangering livestock. Drought has a major impact on water quality and availability, but it also may lead to widespread water restrictions, dug wells running dry, reduced river flow, warmer water temperatures, and streams running dry, leading to large-scale fish death (The University of Maine Cooperative Extension).

Although droughts and wildfires aren't as likely in Maine as they are in hotter and drier parts of the world, droughts and wildfires are still hazards of concern in Greenwood. Maine experienced 35 statewide droughts between 1900 and 2020 (Fernandez et al., 2020). One of the most severe droughts in the past century contributed to the wildfires of 1947, which burned over 220,000 acres and 1,000 homes (Maine Forest Service, n.d.). Closest to Greenwood, Brownfield lost its school, two churches, two post offices, businesses, and 250 homes (Oxford County EMA, 2023). Overall, the Maine Forest Service considers Oxford County one of the counties most vulnerable to forest fires and Greenwood is rated as being at moderate risk (Oxford County EMA, 2023). As of 2023, there was a 10 percent chance of a major wildfire occurring in any given year in Oxford County (Oxford County EMA, 2023). Due to recent drought conditions, this probability has likely increased.

During the summer and fall of 2025, the Northeastern United States experienced severe, persistent dry conditions and intense heat, ranking as the sixth driest summer on record for Maine. Oxford County was the hardest-hit area during the severe drought (see Figures 6 and 7). Prolonged rainfall deficits caused widespread residential private well failures, severely low groundwater and stream levels, and agricultural strain, leading to Oxford County being designated a federal primary natural disaster area. Towns like West Paris and surrounding districts urged voluntary water conservation as surface and shallow neighborhood water supplies dwindled. Several survey participants from Greenwood expressed concern over drought and felt that more should be done to ensure the town is prepared to handle future drought conditions (see Appendix B for survey responses).

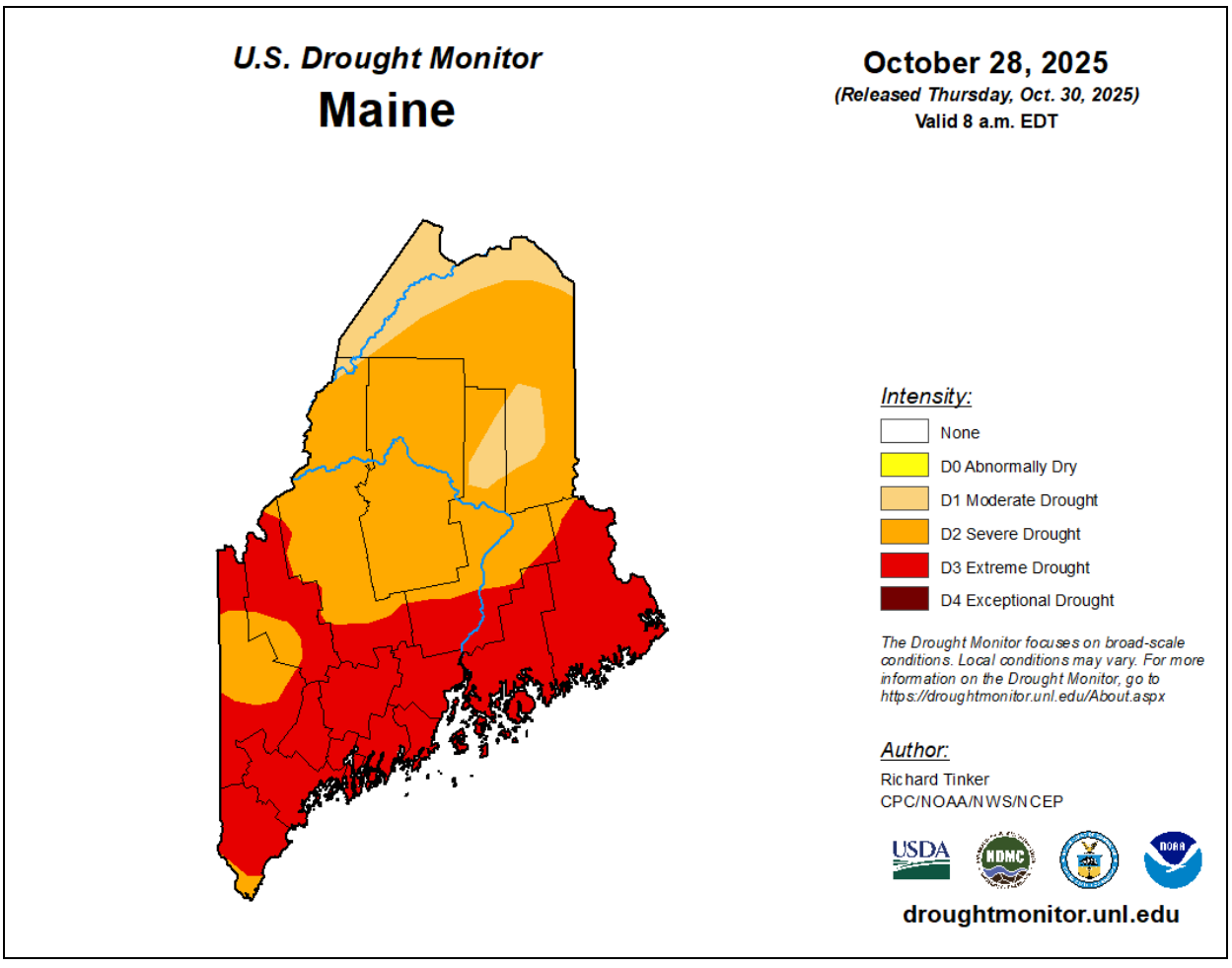


Figure 7: United States Drought Monitor, Maine, October 28, 2025.

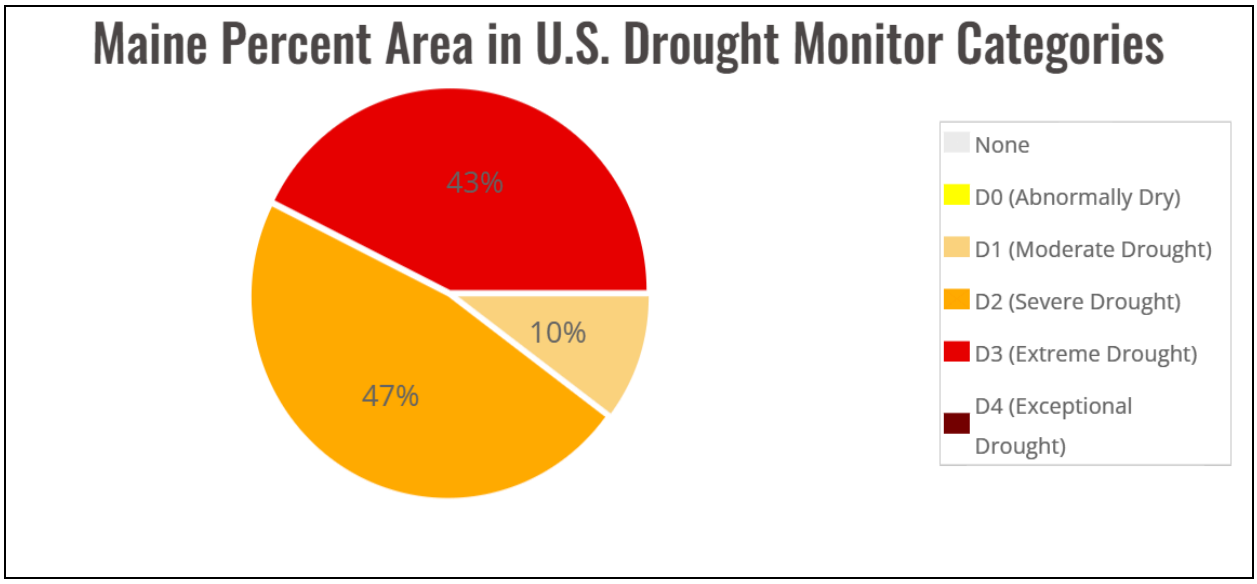


Figure 8: Percentage of Maine areas in each of the United States Drought Monitor Categories. (Source: U.S. Drought Monitor, 2025.)

Over the last several years, the number of wildfires in Maine has increased substantially and drought conditions lend to more frequent and severe fires. In August of 2025, Maine had more than 200 wildfires, the most the state had seen in 20 years. Prior to 2025, the most wildfires recorded in August in the last 20 years was 100, and the average has been about 40 (Delaney, 2025).

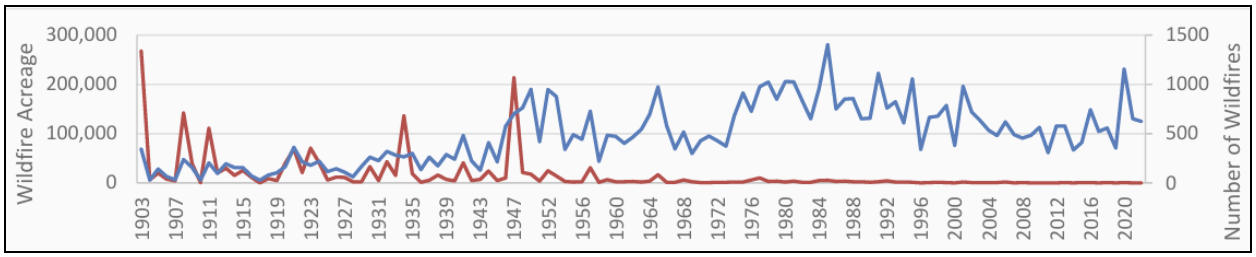


Figure 9: Wildfire Occurrence over time in Maine by acreage (red) and total count (blue) between 1900 and 2020. (Source: 2023 Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan.)

Wildfires and Air Quality

Looking beyond Maine's borders, we can expect wildfires in the West and in Canada to worsen, which may result in increased frequency of poor air quality days in Greenwood as smoke blows into the Northeastern U.S.

In July of 2026, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection issued an air quality advisory due to wildfire smoke drifting in from Manitoba and Ontario, Canada. Statewide particle pollution concentrations measured by a 24-hour average reached the 'Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG)' level. Instances like this may become more likely due to climate change.

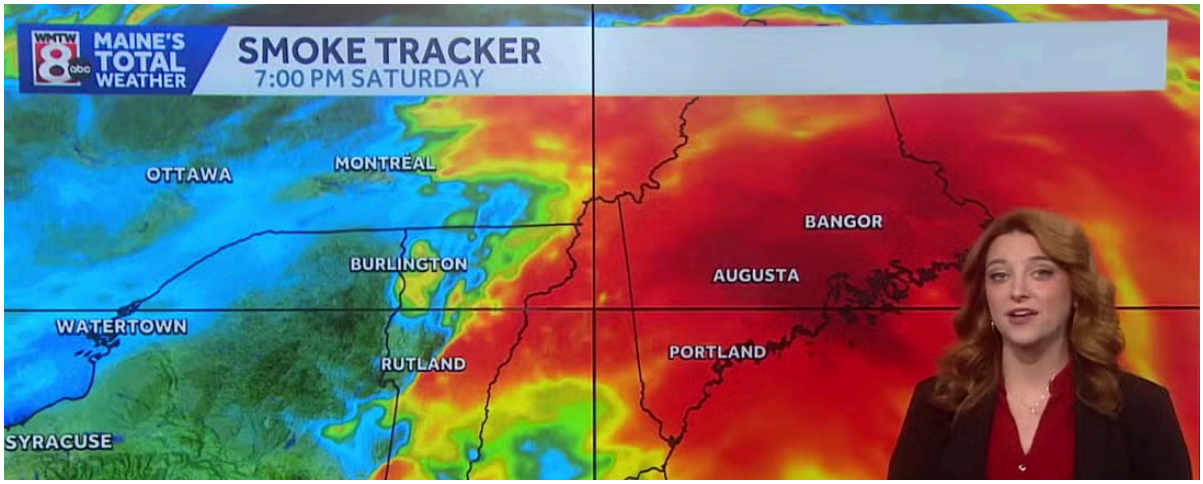


Image 2: Wildfire Smoke drifting over New England as shown on July 17th, 2026 (Source: WMTW News 8 Portland.)

Community Vulnerability Profile

The observed and projected changes in Greenwood's climate will impact community members and the economy in myriad ways. These changes leave Greenwood more susceptible to challenges such as heat waves, flooding and storm damage, invasive species and other pests, insect-borne disease, and degrading lake water quality. Some of these issues, like flooding, decline of lake water quality, and an increase in Lyme disease, have impacted Greenwood already. Greenwood should plan for all of these climate impacts to increase in severity.

Some people are more vulnerable to these impacts than others. In general, people that are considered to be more vulnerable to climate hazards include children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities. Other indicators that are often analyzed to understand a community's vulnerability include poverty rate, unemployment, educational attainment, level of English proficiency, and access to transportation. Prevalence of those and several other indicators are summarized in Table 2.

Red blocks indicate where Greenwood has a higher percentage of vulnerable populations and households than Maine's average, and green blocks indicate a lower percentage than the state average. This is the case in every group except for people under the age of 18, those with limited English proficiency, people with a disability, those below poverty level, and single parent households. People over 65 represent almost a quarter of Greenwood's population. Out of those who are over the age of 65, many live alone, leaving them particularly vulnerable to extreme weather events.

Table 2: Social Vulnerability Indicators for Greenwood				
Indicator	**Population Greenwood**	**Population Maine**	**Household Greenwood**	**Household Maine**
Total, 2020 Decennial Census	781	1,405,012	347	615,235
People under 18	12.4% (97)	17.4% (244,472)	15.6% (54)	24.0% (147,656)
People 65 years and over	23.9% (187)	23.5% (329,926)	44.1% (153)	37.7% (231,944)
Limited English proficiency	-	0.7% (9,835)	-	0.9% (5,302)
No High School Diploma	7.1% (55)	5.2% (73,061)	-	-
People with a disability	14% (109)	16.6% (230,693)	-	-
Below poverty level	8.7% (67)	10.6% (144,428)		11.7% (71,982)
Unemployed	-	2.7% (37,935)	-	-
No internet subscription	-	-	17% (59)	7.3% (45,000)
No vehicle	-	-	2.6% (9)	6.7% (41,220)
Single parent households	-	-	1.2% (4)	4% (24,609)
Living alone		30.6% (429,934)	44.7% (155)	30.8% (189,492)
Over 65 living alone		14.5% (203,727)	28.5% (99)	14.5% (89,209)

Data from 2020 Decennial Census & American Community Survey, 2024 5-Year Estimates. ACS results are presented as a percentage of the ACS population estimates. ACS 2024 estimated the population to be 781 and number of households to be 347. The indicator list is adapted from information presented by Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission's community vulnerability assessments.

There are also housing characteristics that may leave occupants more vulnerable to climate hazards. Those indicators are summarized in Table 3.

Renters and residents of multi-unit buildings generally have less power to make home improvements, like weatherization or installation of air conditioning, that can reduce their vulnerability to climate impacts. Older homes and mobile homes are also considered more vulnerable to extreme weather and temperatures due to lack of weatherization and/or quality of building materials.

Table 3: Housing Vulnerability Indicators for Greenwood	
Indicator	**Estimates**
Renter Occupied Units	31.1% (108)
Multi-unit Buildings	5.5% (47)
Mobile Homes	6.3% (54)
Structures Built Before 1970	35.6% (306)
American Community Survey, 2024 5-Year Estimates. The indicator list is adapted from information presented by Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission's community vulnerability assessments.	

While Tables 2 and 3 provide useful contextual information about the community, they do not tell the full story about who is most vulnerable to climate change and how they will be impacted. Informed by stakeholder conversations and community survey responses, the following sections flesh out a more nuanced understanding of Greenwood's community vulnerability.

Population Vulnerability to Climate Hazards

Everyone who lives, works, plays, and spends significant time in Greenwood will be or is already being impacted by climate change. Hazards such as extreme heat, flooding and storm damage, drought, wildfires and poor air quality, pests and insect-borne disease, and poor lake water quality can negatively impact public health and economic well-being if adequate adaptive measures are not in place. According to a community survey of 27 Greenwood community members conducted by CEBE for this assessment, a number of negative impacts are already occurring: 81 percent of respondents reported impacts related to one or more of the hazards listed above, and 93% reported concern about said hazards.

Public Health and Wellness

Climate hazards that may impact Greenwood present a number of challenges for public health and overall wellness. The primary challenges are:

- Heat-related illness
- Vector-borne disease and pest impacts
- Water-borne illness
- Inability to meet essential health needs
- Mental health and wellness decline

Heat-related illness

Days when the heat index exceeds 90°F are still relatively uncommon in Greenwood but continue to grow in frequency. Extreme heat poses a range of health challenges. Commonly known impacts include heat stroke, heat exhaustion, and dehydration. Extreme heat can also cause renal failure and other kidney-related issues; worsen existing health conditions; impact fetal health and result in preterm births; and contribute to poor mental health conditions (MCC STS, 2020). In 2022 and 2023, there were 40 heat-related emergency department visits in Oxford County; in 2024 and 2025 there were 36. There have already been 19 in 2026 as of July 11th. Between 2009 and 2019, emergency department visits due to heat-related illness increased by 75% in Oxford County. This is almost double the increase seen statewide during the same time frame (Maine Tracking Network, 2026). Locally, one survey participant reported that they have already experienced worsening health conditions due to high temperatures.

On the whole, Maine residents are particularly vulnerable to high temperatures since we are less adapted to high temperatures (MCC STS, 2020). There are also people who are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat due to increased sensitivity and exposure. Those who are more

sensitive to the way heat impacts their body include older adults and young children, people with chronic disease and mental illness, and those who are pregnant.

There are also a number of community members who face greater exposure to high temperatures. People who work outdoors are particularly exposed to extreme heat. In Greenwood, an estimated 63 people work in an outdoor job like construction or agriculture (Census Bureau, 2024), which includes the majority of employees at Greenwood's primary business, Mt. Abram Ski and Bike Park.

Another group that is particularly exposed are those without air conditioning. Though data is not available for Greenwood, county-wide data suggests 33% of adults live without air conditioning in Oxford County, compared to 28% statewide (Maine Tracking Network, 2023). Additionally, those who rent, those with lower incomes, and individuals over 65 years old are less likely to have access to air conditioning. Poor insulation, especially for second- or third-floor rooms and apartments, can lead to unbearably hot indoor conditions if occupants lack air-conditioning.

Vector-borne disease and pest impacts

Warmer winters, higher relative humidity, and more days over 65°F are associated with increases in deer tick populations in Maine (MCC STS, 2020). As these conditions become more common, we may see more cases of Lyme disease and other deer tick-borne illnesses such as anaplasmosis, babesiosis, deer tick virus, encephalitis, and tick-borne relapsing fever. The lone star tick, known for causing red-meat allergy among other diseases, is also extending its territory northward as temperatures increase and is expected to establish throughout Maine by 2040 (MCC STS, 2020). From 2018 to 2022, Greenwood had 6 reported cases of Lyme (Maine Tracking Network, 2026). Those living in more heavily wooded areas have greater tick exposure.

Ticks currently pose a greater public health threat than other pests. Mosquitos have, for the most part, remained more of a nuisance than a health hazard as Greenwood has not experienced reported cases of mosquito-transmitted diseases like West Nile virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and Jamestown Canyon virus that have been reported elsewhere in Maine. However, factors like earlier and warmer springs, increased summer precipitation, and warmer falls are expected to exacerbate transmission of these diseases.

Another emerging threat is browntail moth caterpillars, an invasive pest that damages deciduous trees and can cause skin and lung irritation. While browntail moths are not new to Maine, their territory has expanded over the past decade. Researchers suggest that this expansion and proliferation may be related to climate change because the fungal pathogen that had kept the moths at bay requires cooler spring temperatures which are becoming less

common (UMaine, 2022). Recently, browntail moths became established in Greenwood. As Greenwood continues to warm, browntail moths and other invasive pests will remain a threat.

Water-borne illness

Greenwood's seven ponds – South Pond, Round Pond, Twitchell Pond, Indian Pond, Oversett Pond, Hicks Pond, and Mud Pond - as well as the ponds that border Greenwood – North Pond, Bryant Pond (Lake Christopher), and Furlong Pond – are invaluable resources for the community. Rising pond temperatures and increased runoff from heavy rainfall threatens the health of ponds and the community. These climate impacts encourage the growth of harmful algal blooms, which can cause rashes, nausea, diarrhea, or even death in people and animals (MCC STS, 2020). Anyone who swims or boats near a harmful algal bloom is at risk of becoming ill. People who are immunocompromised and pets are especially vulnerable (CDC, 2022).

Lake associations/community groups (such as the ones we interviewed) provide resilience to these threats through regular reporting and monitoring. These services offer valuable data for Greenwood and can alert residents to harmful algal blooms or bacterial overgrowth. However, groups have expressed concern about aging volunteers/lack of community interest, and these services may become less available in the future depending on volunteer availability.

Inability to Meet Essential Medical Needs

Climate change will increase the likelihood of severe weather events that impact the community's ability to meet essential health needs like functioning ventilators or hospital access. For example, extended power outages can result from severe storms or a widespread heat wave that taxes the power grid. Power outages can be inconvenient for some in Greenwood; for others, they can be deadly. As of July 2026, there are 651 Medicare beneficiaries in Oxford County who rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment like ventilators and at least 11 in Greenwood alone (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 2026). Without access to a generator or backup system, power outages can be life threatening to these individuals.

Those with pressing medical needs are also vulnerable to roads made impassable by flooding, washouts, or debris. For example, impassable roads could prevent someone from reaching the hospital during a medical emergency. If these conditions last for an extended period, they also threaten individuals who are reliant on meal or medication deliveries. Impassable roads not only strand medically vulnerable individuals, but health providers as well. Critical care providers across all fields could be similarly impacted during a severe storm, reducing Greenwood's capacity to respond to medical needs during and in the aftermath of these events.

In general, those living in more remote parts of Greenwood are most vulnerable to these impacts. Homes further outside of town are more likely to lose power due to the higher number of trees. Out of 27 survey respondents, 11 (40.7%) reported that they have been experiencing more power outages due to storms. This is not surprising as Central Maine Power, the utility servicing the town, is rated among the least reliable public utilities in the U.S. (Citizens Utility Board, 2021). People in rural towns like Greenwood are also more likely to encounter road washouts, flooding, and downed trees that result from a severe storm. Five survey respondents have experienced their home or business becoming more prone to flooding or storm damage, and five respondents reported sometimes being unable to enjoy the outdoors due to flooding or storm damage. Those living on private roads with no outlets are particularly vulnerable. Six community members reported severe property or private road erosion or sink holes. Overall, storm related impacts were experienced by 66.7% of survey respondents.

Mental health and wellness decline

The mental health and overall wellness impacts of climate change are not as tangible as the previously discussed issues. However, climate change can take a toll on multiple levels. Most immediately, extreme heat has been shown to increase aggression, violence, and suicide rates, while moderate heat can disturb sleep and reduce cognitive function (MCC STS, 2020). Exposure to extreme weather events can also lead to long-term mental health issues like anxiety, depression, and PTSD (MCC STS, 2020). Recurring impacts, such as property damage from storms, may produce chronic stress and anxiety about future events. More generally, concern about climate change can develop into climate anxiety and psychological distress. Climate change is already taking a toll on mental health in Greenwood. Three survey respondents reported that they have experienced mental health challenges as a result of climate anxiety or extreme weather impacts. A conversation with Oxford County Mental Health Services also revealed that flooding and other extreme weather impacts are a source of anxiety for clients.

Climate change can also impact more general wellness by preventing exercise and recreational activities. In the summer, wildfire smoke and high heat may get in the way of outdoor exercise and recreation. Seven survey respondents shared that they have been increasingly unable to enjoy outdoor activities because it is too hot. Harmful algal blooms can also limit access to recreation on Greenwood's ponds. That said, winter recreation is particularly vulnerable due to quickly rising winter temperatures. Six survey respondents reported that they have been increasingly unable to enjoy winter activities due to melting snow and ice. Loss of recreation opportunities is an added stressor that can contribute to a decline in mental health and overall wellbeing.

Financial Stability

In addition to health impacts, climate change threatens the financial stability of community members. All of the public health concerns listed above can result in increased medical costs, with one national study attributing over $800 billion annually in American health costs to climate change (Natural Resources Defense Council, 2021). Storms can also result in substantial property damage. Damage from just one storm can be financially overwhelming for residents with lower incomes, and back-to-back storms can be devastating. Some survey respondents noted financial impacts related to property. Six respondents reported that their property has been damaged in an extreme weather event and five reported that their home or business has become more prone to flooding. Other financial impacts include lost work shifts, increased medical bills due to hazards listed above, crops or agriculture loss due to erratic weather events or drought, burdensome energy costs from increased prices and usage, and food loss from power outages and lower garden productivity.

New England in general has some of the highest average electricity costs per kilowatt-hour for residential customers in the country, with all six New England states ranking as more expensive than the United State average. Maine in particular has some of the least reliable utilities, with the highest average frequency of power outages resulting from major weather events. Additionally, Maine experiences some of the longest durations of power outages, no matter the presence of a major weather event, as compared to the rest of the United States (Citizens Utility Board of Illinois, 2023).

With all of these impacts, it is important to consider that low-income households are particularly vulnerable to accumulating impacts that increase overall vulnerability. For example, if a household is suffering financially due to repairs that were needed following flood damage on their property, this leaves them even more financially vulnerable to future damage and other climate-related financial impacts.

Community-Wide Adaptive Capacity

In the previous pages, we outlined a number of climate impacts of concern. The degree to which the town of Greenwood is vulnerable to these impacts depends on the town's adaptive capacity, or ability to cope with the hazards presented. In this section we highlight a few overarching themes, as well as positive assets, that may influence community-wide adaptive capacity.

Isolation and Disconnection

A recurring theme from stakeholder conversations and community survey responses is isolation. One element of this is physical isolation. When asked who they are most concerned about during an extreme weather event, every stakeholder mentioned people who live in more remote parts of Greenwood, and particularly elderly adults and those with fewer financial resources.

Social isolation is also a key indicator of sensitivity to climate hazards. In western Maine, Healthy Oxford Hills and the Oxford County Wellness Collaborative have spent significant time analyzing and addressing social isolation in the community, which is considered one of the primary drivers of poor health outcomes. It is also a driver of high vulnerability to climate hazards, as observed in other parts of the country. A stark example can be found in Chicago's 1995 heat wave, which resulted in over 700 deaths. Sociologist Eric Klinenberg found that social isolation was the driving factor in these deaths. His research showed that two neighborhoods, both identified as vulnerable based on racial and economic characteristics, had wildly different outcomes based on the degree of social contact, collective life, and public engagement facilitated by vibrant public spaces (University of Chicago Press, 2002).

Disconnection from support and available resources is another major concern that was presented by stakeholders and survey respondents. Specifically, there was much interest in the topic of how to communicate about available resources and how to reach those who may need them most. While connecting vulnerable people to resources is a start, stakeholders noted that there are often complex barriers to accessing help, including stigma around how these resources are framed and a culture of rugged individualism. Additionally, stakeholders who routinely work with vulnerable populations acknowledge that part of the challenge with community-wide communication is that there is no longer one source that everyone looks to for information.

Housing Instability

The group that is most vulnerable to nearly every hazard and impact mentioned in this assessment are those who are unhoused or living in unstable housing situations. To an extent, homelessness in Greenwood is an invisible problem. While there are some people who are camping outdoors, there are far more who are "couch surfing" or living in recreational vehicles (RVs) that are not meant for all-year usage. There are also many people who come to the area for the services available but can't find a place to live, leading them to live in their car or in sheds and campers in someone's yard. Homelessness in Greenwood is a complex issue that cannot be solved through town policy alone, but the climate vulnerability dimension of this issue cannot be overstated.

Positive Assets for Adaptive Capacity

There are several community resources and assets that help build Greenwood's adaptive capacity. Although social service providers are sparse in Greenwood, the surrounding towns are home to a number of organizations that may provide valuable support for those who are most vulnerable in our community. Those include social service providers like Community Concepts, Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice, The Progress Center, Oxford County Mental Health Services, The HILLS Recovery Center, and SeniorsPlus. It also includes social, cultural, and religious institutions like churches, Whitman Library, Norway Grange, Heywood Club, Weary Club, American Legion, Alan Day Community Garden, and the Community Lakes Association in Greenwood. The Center for an Ecology-Based Economy in Norway will also remain an asset for future collaboration on local climate resilience.

Finally, there is a level of informal neighborhood-based support that is difficult to quantify but is certainly beneficial for Greenwood's overall resilience. While some have expressed doubt about how far "neighbors helping neighbors" goes these days, there is also a strong sense that Greenwood residents do look out for each other.

Recommendations

What Policies and Programs are in Place?

There are few relevant policies and programs pertaining to climate resilience in Greenwood. That said, there are several informal or indirectly related town policies that contribute to the community's adaptive capacity. Those policies include:

- Participation in Oxford County EMA's hazard mitigation planning process
- Town funding for General Assistance and social service providers
- Town coordination with and funding of Community Lakes Association (CLA) to monitor water quality of lakes and ponds
- Consistent upsizing of culverts when making road repairs
- Potential for collaboration with the Legion Hall now that it functions as a Red Cross shelter for use as a shelter in emergency scenarios
- Mutual aid agreements with fire departments in the region
- Plans to build a new fire station
- Casual wellness checks on vulnerable households by Greenwood Fire Department
- Plans to create a town text-alert system

Preliminary Recommendations

Based on the community feedback and our assessment of Greenwood's vulnerability, we propose the following recommendations:

A. Improve communication and outreach year-round
    a. Create a town text-alert program that residents can opt into
    b. Create a town mailing list for Greenwood residents
    c. Install permanent town-owned signage to communicate important town announcements and health advisories

B. Reduce social isolation and disconnection for vulnerable populations
    a. Create a neighborhood-based support program that encourages neighborhood-level wellness checks and mutual aid
    b. Maintain a voluntary list of people who would like to be checked on occasionally or during emergencies
    c. Collaborate with local organizations to run a public awareness campaign about social isolation and disconnection as it pertains to extreme weather

C. Upgrade infrastructure and incorporate nature-based solutions to prepare for increased frequency and severity of heavy precipitation events

a. Upgrade drainage culverts and repair ditches for stormwater control and to reduce road washouts, erosion, and runoff
b. Upgrade culverts and bridges at stream crossings in accordance with Stream Smart Crossing guidelines
c. Plant trees and shrubs on municipal land, especially near waterways, for erosion control, and encourage residents to do the same on their private property

D. Formalize emergency response to climate hazards
    a. Install water filtration systems at the fire station where there is currently public access to non-potable water
    b. Conduct climate change scenario planning exercises with first responders
    c. Adopt a warming and cooling center policy that defines when the centers open, what space(s) will be used, what resources will be made available, how on-site supervision will be provided, and where and how information about the center(s) will be communicated
        i. Ensure that overnight heating and cooling facilities are available if needed
    d. Develop an emergency communication plan
    e. Develop a "community outreach information network" of community organizations and volunteers to contact and support vulnerable populations during climate emergencies
E. Engage the community in environmental and climate education and preparedness
    a. Develop PSAs, flyers, and other materials that provide information about ways to protect Greenwood's ponds, local ordinances, climate emergency preparedness, and available resources in our community
    b. Distribute informational materials to residents via tax bill or other mailers
    c. Create and distribute emergency kits to vulnerable and remote populations
    d. Host public forums on environmental protection and climate resilience, especially as part of Greenwood's Comprehensive Plan development
    e. Continue to fund and work closely with the Community Lakes Association on water quality testing and invasive species monitoring and removal
    f. Install roadside signs informing people of Greenwood's anti-littering ordinance
F. Improve local energy independence and resilience
    a. Install solar on municipally-owned properties, especially the Town Hall and the new Fire Station
    b. Replace generators with solar and battery storage systems
    c. Plan for long-term transition to distributed energy generation and storage
    d. Install EV chargers on municipally owned property in locations that would be useful to the general public
G. Update codes and ordinances for resilience

    a. Conduct a climate resilience-framed review of existing codes and ordinances to determine where updates are needed
    b. Coordinate with the Community Lakes Association to determine if new or updated ordinances are needed to protect pond and lake health
H. Develop a system for tracking local climate data
    a. Maintain records on known infrastructure and community impacts from climate events
    b. Invest more in continued lake monitoring and assessment of strategies for maintaining lake health

Further recommendations made by community members in survey responses and interviews can be found in Appendix A.

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Appendix A. Community Recommendations

Community Recommendations

Throughout the engagement process, we sought ideas about how Greenwood can improve community wide resilience. We received several recommendations through our stakeholder conversations and community survey. Those ideas are summarized below.

Emergency response and services

- Plan for emergency by assessing generator conditions and capacity around town
    - Consider switching to solar battery storage
- Warming and cooling center
    - Formalize warming and cooling center policy
    - Plan, ensure capacity for on-site supervision, and keep supplies on hand
- Make services and places available to people during severe weather events
- Build a list - ask people to sign up if they want to be checked on in an emergency
- Distribute emergency kits to remote and vulnerable populations

Education, outreach, and awareness

- Improve emergency communication
    - Consider starting town-wide newsletter for Greenwood residents
    - Formalize an emergency communication process
    - Install more public signage (e.g. a programmable digital signs)
    - Once warming/cooling center is established, plenty of outreach and communication about warming and cooling centers
- Improve emergency preparedness through education
    - Provide climate hazard preparedness materials (what individuals can do, available resources and support, etc.) in public spaces
    - Encourage and educate for improved personal preparedness in remote parts of town
    - Send out information about emergency preparedness and available resources with tax bill or other materials that residents receive
    - PSAs and handouts
- Community education through frequent forums, info in newspaper and on social media
- Let community members know about ways they can reduce energy demand during peak hours or anytime

- Let property owners know what they should be doing to reduce hazards or vulnerability on their property

Community building

- Brainstorm solutions as a community
- Create program that encourages formation of neighborhood groups for support/mutual aid during emergencies

Data collection

- Improve record-keeping to make emergency planning process easier
- Invest more in the Community Lakes Association for lake monitoring, health measures
- Develop and track local climate metrics

Built environment

- Roads
    - Repairs
        - Repair and build flood-resilient roads
        - Plan for increased road repair budget
        - Regularly inspect and repair roads
    - Encourage EVs
- Codes, Ordinances, Zoning
    - Update building codes to require energy efficiency standards in new builds
    - Forward thinking zoning
    - Adjust antiquated ordinances that prevent resilient development (e.g. remove parking minimums for housing)
- Flood mitigation
- Be sure the dams can be well controlled to manage water flow
- Remove roadside hazards like overhanging limbs, dead trees

Natural environment

- Lake quality protection
    - Monitor water quality
    - Boat wake rules to prevent erosion
    - Invasive species prevention
    - Invasive species control
    - Lake quality monitoring
    - Address runoff
    - Ban phosphorus fertilizers

    - Limit water drawing from lakes for private use (pools)
- No Mow May
- Promote local, sustainable food production
- Install more trash receptacles by Greenwood Beach and other areas to help prevent roadside litter and trash in the ponds

Energy

- Renewable energy for town buildings
- More solar opportunities
- Lower energy costs
- Energy conservation
- More distributed energy generation and storage
- Support electrification for community members
- Sponsor low/no interest heat pump loans

Other

- Provide public drinking water, restroom access, and shower access
- Limit growth and population

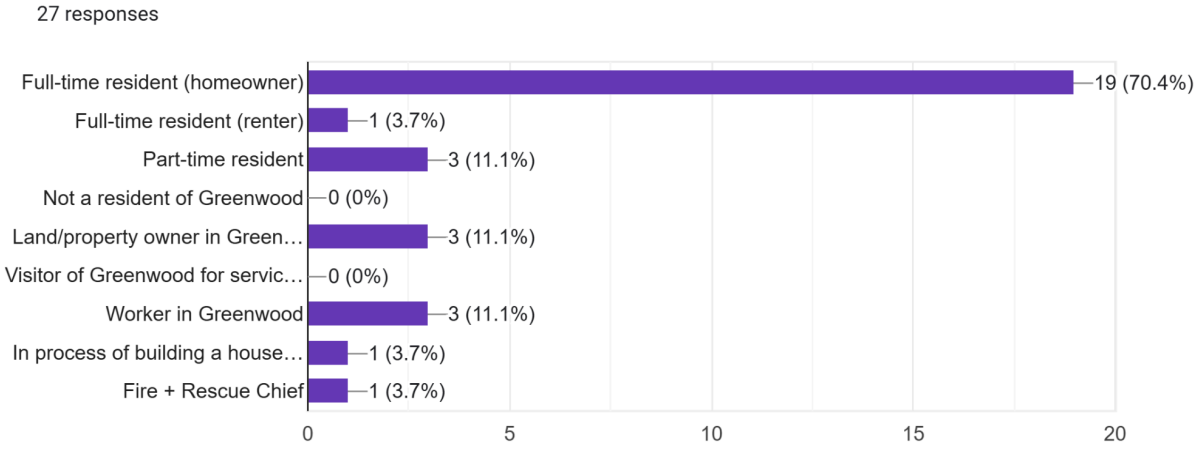
Appendix B. Survey Responses

About the Survey

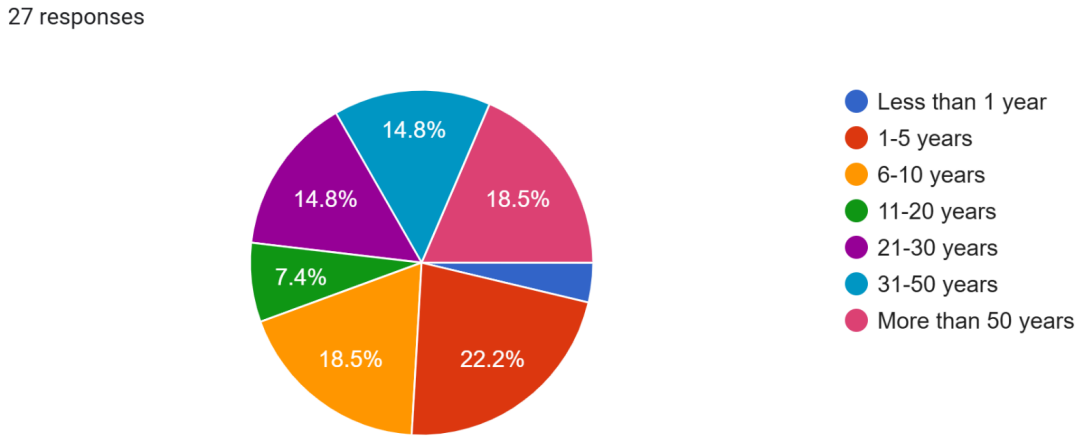
In February of 2026, a community survey was published on Greenwood's website and paper copies were made available in the town office, library, and the Center for an Ecology-Based Economy's office in Norway. We also shared the survey at community events. We received a total of 27 survey responses, the results of which are summarized below. The survey remains open and will be used to capture additional input as Greenwood develops its Comprehensive Plan.

Survey Questions and Responses

1. Which of the following statements most accurately describe your relationship to Greenwood?

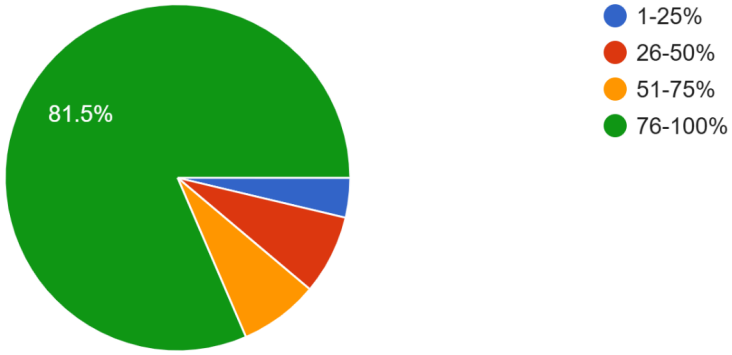


2. How long have you considered yourself a part of the Greenwood community? (i.e. How long have you lived here, worked here, or spent significant time here?)



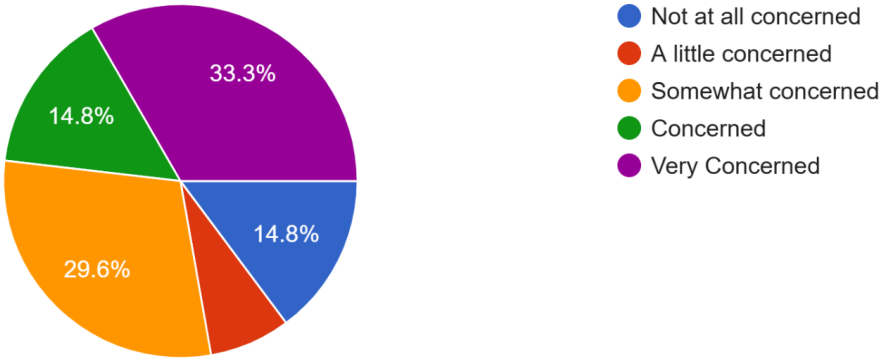
3. On average, what percentage of the year do you spend in Greenwood?

27 responses



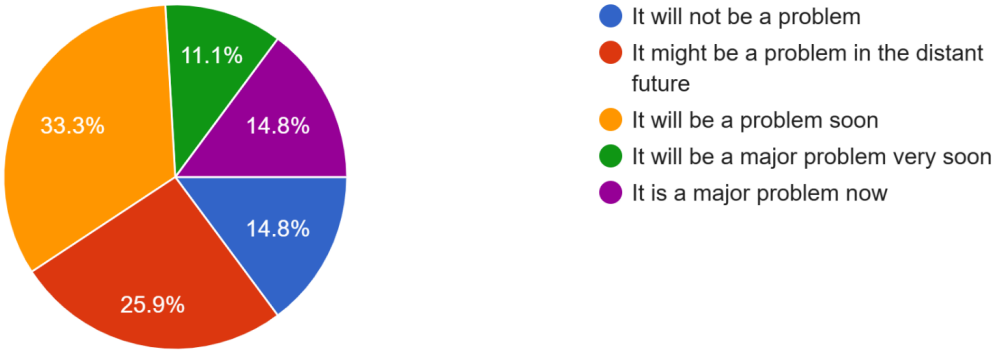
4. How concerned are you about the impacts of extreme/changing weather and environmental degradation?

27 responses



5. How soon do you think extreme/changing weather and environmental degradation will be a major problem that affects Greenwood?

27 responses



6. Have you experienced any of the following heat-related disruptions in Greenwood?

Have you experienced any of the following heat-related disruptions in Greenwood?		
	Count, from 27 responses	Percentage, out of 27
I am sometimes unable to sleep, study, work, or normally function because it's too hot	5	18.5
I am sometimes unable to commute/travel because it's too hot	0	0
I have experienced new or worsening heart, breathing or other ailments during heat waves	3	7.5
I have sought medical attention due to heat-related illness	1	3.7
I have used a cooling center or other air-conditioned space (please specify below) because my home is too hot	2	7.4
I can't afford or struggle to afford air conditioning during the summer	1	3.7
I am sometimes unable to enjoy outdoor and recreational activities because it's too hot	9	33.3
I am sometimes unable to enjoy outdoor spaces because of drought	7	25.9
I am sometimes unable to enjoy the outdoors, work or normally function due to air quality concerns	5	18.5
No, I have not experienced these heat-related disruptions	14	51.9
Other: Unable to stay outdoors because it's too hot		
Other: Build my new home with an AC because of the heat		

7. Have you experienced any of the following cold-related disruptions in Greenwood?

Have you experienced any of the following cold-related disruptions in Greenwood?		
	Count, from 27 responses	Percentage, out of 27
I am sometimes unable to sleep, study, work, or normally function because my home is too cold	3	11.1
I have been increasingly unable to commute/travel because it's too cold or the roads are too icy	4	14.8
I have been increasingly unable to enjoy outdoor and recreational activities due to melting snow or ice	6	22.2
My home has flooded due to burst pipes	0	0

I am sometimes unable to remove snow or hire someone else to remove snow after a snowstorm	4	14.8
I struggle to afford my heating or utility bills in the winter due to increased heating costs	3	11.1
I have used a warming center or other heated space (please specify below) because my home is too cold	0	0
No, I have not experienced these cold-related disruptions	14	51.9

8. Have you experienced any of the following storm-related disruptions in Greenwood?

Have you experienced any of the following storm-related disruptions in Greenwood?		
	Count, from 27 responses	**Percentage, out of 27**
My home or business has been more prone to flooding or storm damage	5	18.5
I have been displaced from my home or business due to flooding or storm damage	0	0
I am sometimes unable to enjoy outdoor or recreational spaces due to flooding or storm damage	5	18.5
My property or private road has eroded or a sinkhole has formed	6	22.2
I have had to call emergency services during a storm	0	0
I have more frequently lost power due to severe storms	7	25.9
No, I have not experienced these storm-related disruptions	9	33.3
Other: Yes, have had power outages in summer		
Other: Storm water run off and erosion are huge issues		
Other: Lake has almost come over road from spring rain storm		

9. Have you experienced any of the following public health-related disruptions in Greenwood?

Have you experienced any of the following public health-related disruptions in Greenwood?		
	Count, from 27 responses	**Percentage, out of 27**
I have experienced new or worsening seasonal outdoor allergies	6	22.2
I have experienced new or worsening heart, breathing or other ailments due to poor air quality	2	7.4

I have experienced mental health challenges due to extreme weather impacts or climate anxiety	3	11.1
I have experienced disease and/or illness from insects such as tick, mosquito and/or others	1	3.7
Trees/vegetation on my property or neighborhood have died or are stressed from invasive pests	4	14.8
Myself or my pets have been unable to swim or were made ill by poor water quality	4	14.8
No, I have not experienced these public health-related disruptions	15	55.6
Other: In the last few years, I have had to scoop algae out of shoreline at property. I grew up on Twitchell Pond, we never had algae before.		
Other: Dried up well, poor water quality, have to purchase drinking water		

10. Have you experienced any of the following climate-related financial disruptions in Greenwood?

Have you experienced any of the following climate-related financial disruptions in Greenwood?		
	Count, from 26 responses	**Percentage, out of 26**
I have lost shifts or missed work due to one of the hazards described above (e.g. extreme temperatures, flooding, insect-borne illness, etc.)	1	3.8
I have increased medical bills due to one of the hazards described above (e.g. extreme temperatures, flooding, insect-borne illness, etc.)	1	3.8
My home, car, belongings, land, or other property has been damaged by an extreme weather event	6	23.1
My business has closed for more than one day, had reduced foot traffic, or experienced other losses (please describe below) due to climate-related impacts	0	0
My crops or other agricultural activity has been damaged by extreme or erratic weather events or drought	2	7.7
No, I have not experienced these climate-related financial disruptions	19	73.1

11. Are there any other details that you would like to share about climate-related disruptions you have been experiencing?

Are there any other details that you would like to share about climate-related disruptions you have been experiencing?
Drought has caused area wells to go dry.

Looking at Elwell & Tibbetts mountains I see logging. Are they replacing with new trees? Air quality? Bird and other animals need their home too. Greenwood is becoming commercial. The moose and other wildlife are disappearing.
Bridge erosion

12. In general, how concerned are you about the following hazards in Greenwood?

In general, how concerned are you about the following hazards in Greenwood?				
	Not at all concerned	Not very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Very concerned
Flooding and storm damage	3	1	16	8
Extreme heat	4	5	12	6
Extreme cold	4	9	8	5
Drought	2	2	12	12
Pests and vector-borne illnesses	3	1	16	7
Poor air quality (e.g. from wildfire smoke)	2	8	14	4
Poor water quality in lakes, streams, & other water bodies	2	7	10	8

13. In general, how prepared do you feel for the following hazards in Greenwood?

In general, how prepared do you feel for the following hazards in Greenwood?					
	Not sure	Very prepared	Somewhat prepared	Not very prepared	Not prepared at all
Flooding and storm damage	1	4	17	6	0
Extreme heat	0	8	19	1	0
Extreme cold	0	10	18	0	0
Drought	0	3	14	11	0
Pests and vector-borne illnesses	0	2	13	13	0
Poor air quality (e.g. from wildfire smoke)	0	2	6	15	4
Poor water quality in lakes, streams, & other water bodies	1	2	6	15	1

14. What physical spaces, infrastructure, resources, or community members in Greenwood do you think are especially vulnerable to environmental degradation and extreme weather events?

What physical spaces, infrastructure, resources, or community members in Greenwood do you think are especially vulnerable to environmental degradation and extreme weather events?
Mount Abram
Elderly and children are most vulnerable
Folks living year round in trailers, elders living alone
Our crappy road conditions.
Local lakes and ponds
I would like to see signs put up on Greenwood Road. Signs about throwing trash out on the side of the road. Trash happens every year and every year someone has to pick up after those litter bugs, start fining them.
The ponds that get runoff water only feet from heavily traveled roads, railroad tracks, and the transfer station.
Road systems from washouts.
Drought/plants/ability to grow one's own food.
Older folks or folks with mobility issues that have been meeting their needs in ways that require a lot of manual labor but are no longer able to do that manual labor (hand pumping water, splitting wood etc).
Folks that rely on camp roads or not town maintain roads that become inaccessible due to extreme weather.
Elderly and low income families when it comes to hot/cold weather extremes, and their access to basic necessities during storms and outages. Big, big concern for lake and river water quality not just for people but for animals, trees, plants, all life forms as well.
Greenwood road in certain areas, Greenwood Beach, anywhere near the lakes and ponds older folks
elderly
Highway department, fire rescue, elderly residents

15. What physical spaces, infrastructure, resources, or community members in Greenwood do you think are especially resilient or points of strength in the face of Maine's changing long-term weather patterns? What strengths, resources, or passions do you and other community members bring to the table to help make Greenwood more resilient?

What physical spaces, infrastructure, resources, or community members in Greenwood do you think are especially resilient or points of strength in the face of Maine's changing long-term weather patterns? What strengths, resources, or passions do you and other community members bring to the table to help make Greenwood more resilient?
It is not populated Southern Maine incompetents
Greenwood has many community members who are conscious of the changing weather patterns and who enjoy outdoor activities. Mt Abram solar farm is a resource. Someone in leadership must be coordinating with cube [CEBE] to conduct this survey- that's a start.
Good neighbors, people with niche/specific skills
My personal opinion is when you let the coal burnt spoon start trashing the mountains for money, they disrupt the ecosystem. The Greenwood area is being solicited for vacationers. There's no more privacy. There goes the neighborhood.
I think Greenwood residents have a strong commitment to the place they live and a lot of pride that can translate into community mutual aid. Neighbors are often very available and helpful.
Greenwood town beach for cooling off is great.
Lots of green space, hiking, outdoor access and lots of natural water/spring/swimming resources. The Lakes Association is fabulous! And the strong collaboration with the nearby trails, outdoor recreation, and land trust.
The transportation department is wonderful and keep the roads well maintained
Maine people
Highway department, fire rescue, middle aged residents

16. What communications systems are already in place to alert Greenwood community members of important announcements or emergencies?

What communications systems are already in place to alert Greenwood community members of important announcements or emergencies?
None. Just neighbor to neighbor
Facebook announcements
I don't think there are any that I know of
None that I'm aware of
Website, social media
None that I'm aware

None that I know of. Fire department came door to door during extended outage in winter
Oxford RCC (Radio), TVs, law enforcement, fire and highway crews, online services website, social media

17. What communications systems would you like to see in place to alert Greenwood community members of important announcements or emergencies?

What communications systems would you like to see in place to alert Greenwood community members of important announcements or emergencies?
I don't know what the options are. Seems like cell phone alerts would be the most effective. Southern states also have sirens for tornado warnings
Text alerts
Township wide text notification
Town Office is presently working on TextmyGov program so we can send out text alerts
Something other than Facebook for those who do not use it
Email or text system to residents
This survey is making me realize I should see if greenwood already has a text alert system and sign up for it.
Text or email alert perhaps? Fire house alarm - old fashioned but free :)
A text alert system
Large lighted highways, programmable signs

18. How could the town of Greenwood help the community be more resilient to environmental and weather hazards?

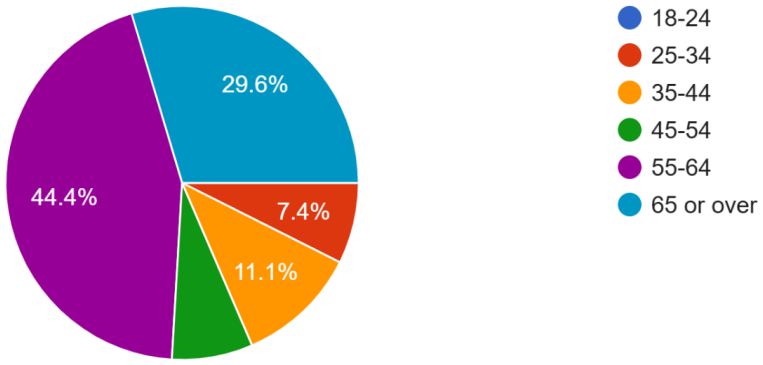
How could the town of Greenwood help the community be more resilient to environmental and weather hazards?
Identify and protect clean water sources, monitor water quality at local beaches, be sure the dams can be well controlled to manage water flow, remove roadside hazards like overhanging limbs, dead trees, establish local emergency sites for heat or cooling centers.
Do a better job in road infrastructure they're horrible
Plant more trees! Stop the people buying up the land like candy. More people, less value, let's keep Greenwood beautiful.
Having a reliable public source of clean (tested) drinking water available 24/7
Find out where there are medically fragile people, young children or elderly and make their safety a priority.
Large info programmable signage

13. Is there anything else you would like to share related to the topic of climate vulnerability?

Is there anything else you would like to share related to the topic of climate vulnerability?
Let community members know about ways they can reduce energy demand during peak hours or anytime. Let property owners know what they should be doing to reduce hazards or vulnerability on their property.
Save the water, make rules about boats on ponds. There are too many gas boats on the ponds.
The ponds are dumping grounds for trash, tires, construction debris, old docks, etc. New construction too close to the water. Trees being cut on the ponds to open views. High suspicion that old camps on the water which have not had their plumbing checked/fixed/replaced in years may be putting gray water and/or sewage directly into the swimming ponds.
Thank you for this survey. It really got me thinking! I know my situation is not the "norm" per say but I think there are an increasing number of "owner built homes" in greenwood that rely on more labor to maintain rudimentary systems (carrying water, chopping wood). The reason I chose these systems is partially for environmental reasons, partially bc of cost, and partially bc I could do them myself but I worry that I won't get them where they need to be by the time a climate related event happens. I know in my situation I am limited by money and time. I also worry that if I get injured I won't be able to get where I need to get. I see a lot of my neighbors in this situation, very resilient, hard working, determined but limited by resources that make it hard for them to have more robust systems (example living off grid so having to heat with wood or propane/no heat pumps). I think the way greenwood can meet these challenges has to take into account that not everyone has a house with running water and electric esp in greenwood.
As a single woman I often feel vulnerable when the weather is severe as we've seen often. I have few resources, but I've managed. I worry about others who can't do for themselves, have few resources and don't get support from the community or family.

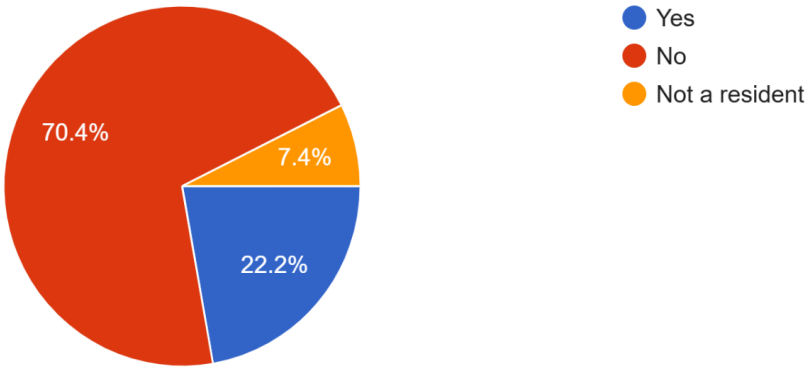
14. What is your age?

27 responses



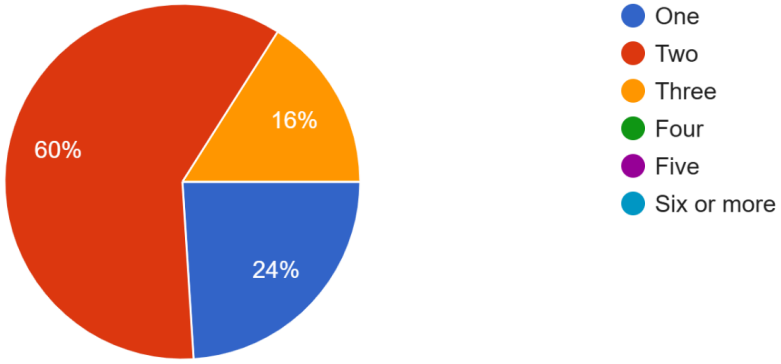
15. Do you live in a densely populated area in Greenwood?

27 responses



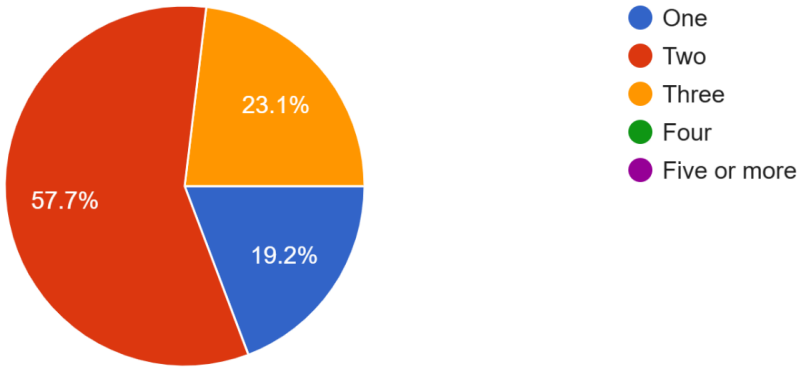
16. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?

25 responses



17. How many working vehicles are in your household?

26 responses



18. In an emergency, where would you go to get reliable information? Select all that apply.

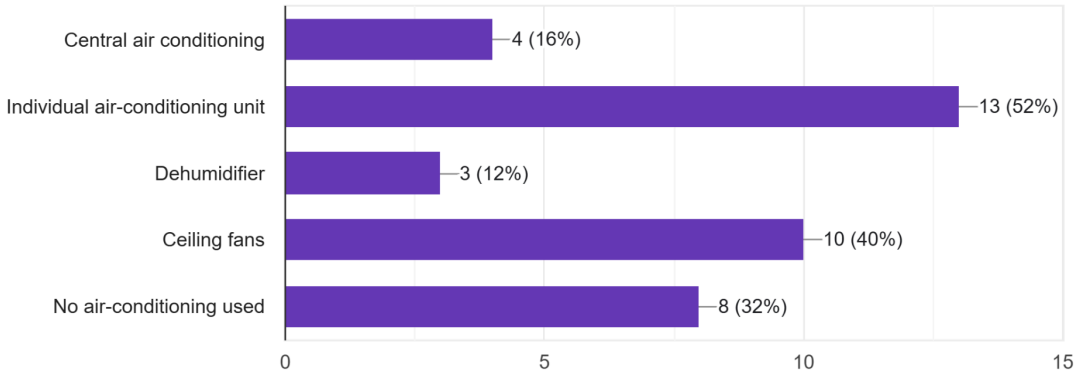
In an emergency, where would you go to get reliable information? Select all that apply.		
	Count, from 26 responses	Percentage, out of 26
Greenwood Website	7	26.9
Greenwood Facebook Page	11	42.3
Oxford County EMA Facebook Page	8	30.8
Other Social Media	7	26.9
Word of Mouth	11	42.3
Community-based Organizations	5	19.2
Newspaper	1	3.8
News - Radio	10	38.5
News - Television	11	42.3
Internet generally	13	50
211/911	0	0

19. Would you like to name your source for reliable information? (E.g. a specific church, Facebook group, website, etc.).

Would you like to name your source for reliable information? (E.g. a specific church, Facebook group, website, etc.).
Neighbors
Neighborhood text group
Team Bethel
The Town of Greenwood Facebook page is what is currently used but I am on most social media platforms and receive town and local newsletters to my email address.
Facebook, or a news site
Face to face with neighbor

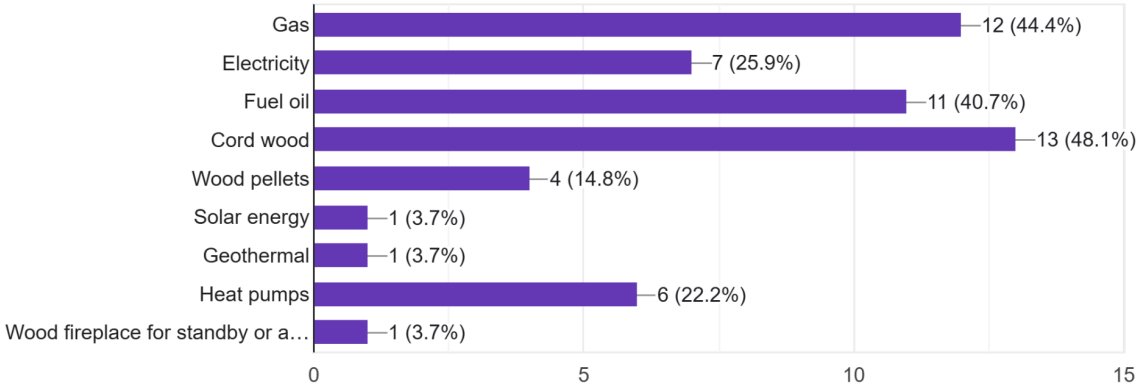
20. Which air-conditioning equipment do you use to cool your home?

25 responses



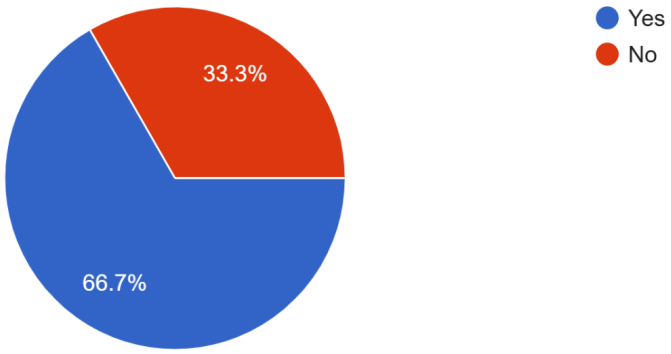
21. Which fuel(s) do you use to heat your home? Select all that apply.

27 responses

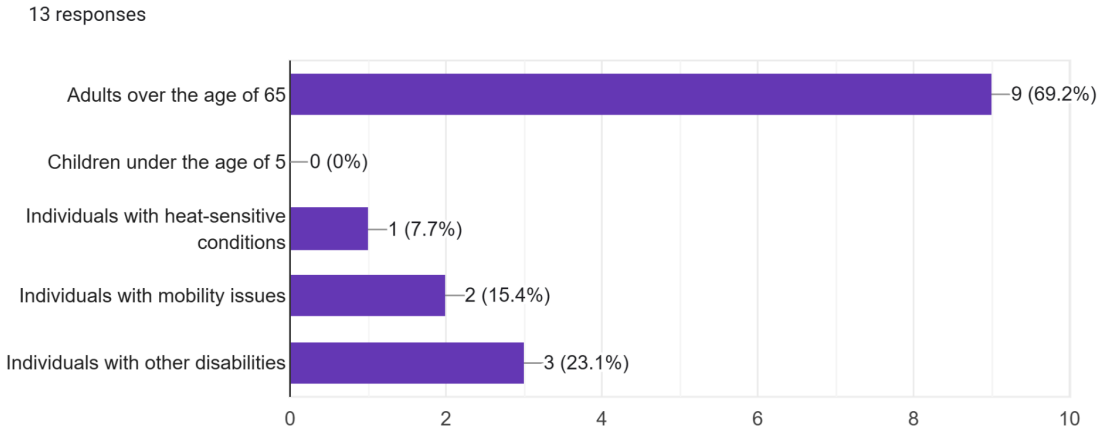


22. Do you own a generator for your home?

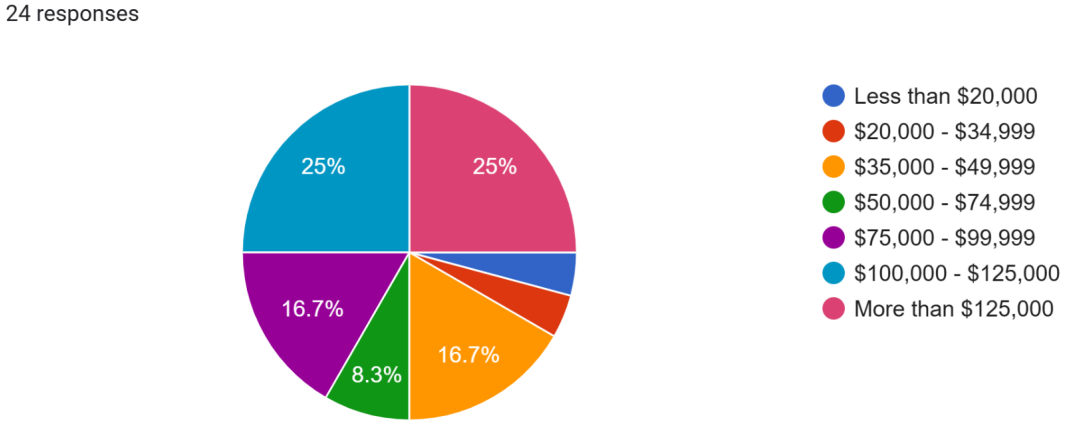
27 responses



23. Including yourself, does your household include any of the following individuals?



24. What is your annual household income?



25. Is there anything else you would like to add?

Is there anything else you would like to add?
Greenwood is rapidly filling up with people. Please keep Greenwood beautiful. Maybe put out more trash receptacles by Greenwood Beach and other areas so we don't see it on the side of the roads. Thank you.