

Town of Acton

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Towns of Acton, Arlington, and Lexington Share Information on New Website Outlining Specialized Opt-In Stretch Code and Fossil Fuel Free Bylaw

ACTON — The Town of Acton announces that it has partnered with the Towns of Arlington and Lexington in developing a new website that provides information on the Opt-In Specialized Stretch Energy Code and Municipal Fossil Fuel Free Demonstration Program, which is now available to the public.

The three towns collaborated on a new [website](#) designed to provide permit-seekers, members of the development community and the public with information on Energy Efficient and Fossil Fuel Free building requirements.

The website outlines both the Municipal Opt-In Specialized Stretch Energy Code and the Municipal Fossil Fuel Free (FFF) Building Demonstration Program.

[The Specialized Code](#) was developed by the Commonwealth in 2022 as an option for municipalities and applies only to new construction. It requires builders to meet high performance standards and prepare buildings for all-electric heating and cooling.

[The Demonstration Program](#) allows 10 municipalities to adopt and amend general or zoning ordinances or by-laws requiring new building construction or major renovation projects to be fossil fuel-free. The Town of Acton received authorization to implement its

local bylaw on March 21, 2024.

More information on both initiatives can be found on the website here: [Energy Efficient and Fossil Fuel Free Building Requirements](#).

The Towns will continue to expand the site and add additional information to the FAQ as more questions arise.

Questions regarding Acton can be directed to the Acton Sustainability Office at sustainability@actonma.gov or 978-929-6515, or the Acton Building Department at building@actonma.gov or 978-929-6633.

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