

# Grants aim to assist in answering questions on climate

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**PITTSFIELD**— Anyone who shoveled 30 inches of snow this March might want to know: How often is this going to happen?

A handful of Berkshire communities just won grants to answer such questions — and to help them understand their vulnerabilities to climate change. Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton said the winter's nor'easters — like the one that covered North Adams in 30 inches of snow March 7 — proved how important it is to be prepared for a changing climate.

“We applaud the leadership and initiative of these 82 communities” Beaton said of participating communities. Pittsfield, North Adams, Dalton, Sandisfield and Sheffield all won funding through the state's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program.

The communities will assess the ways in which they are susceptible to climate change and develop resiliency plans, according to a May 29 release issued by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

**The awards were \$22,000 to Dalton, \$30,000 to North Adams, \$35,500 to Pittsfield, \$20,000 to Sandisfield and \$22,000 to Sheffield.**

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