



Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

MASSLAND E-NEWS

The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

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"Unless we are willing to encourage our children to reconnect with and appreciate the natural world, we can't expect them to protect and care for it." ~ David Suzuki, Canadian academic, science broadcaster and environmental activist

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1) MLTC News

YOU DID IT!!



Dear Friends,

Success! MLTC has reached and exceeded the \$20,000 fundraising goal for the Challenge Match! Final tally: **\$23,554 raised!** We have attained this goal because of **YOU**, our donors, who made it happen. Your generosity has been overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

We cannot thank you enough for your loyal support. Believe me when I say, "We could not have done it without you!" The raffle will take place shortly and we will notify the winner.

Many thanks also go to the folks at WorthWild, the crowdfunding site who helped us every step of the way. They were a joy to work with.

From the board and staff at MLTC: Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

With gratitude,

Marylynn Gentry
Executive Director

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Local Land Trust News

2) TOPSFIELD VOTES TO PRESERVE HISTORIC DONIBRISTLE FARM

Community residents, working in partnership with Greenbelt, Essex County's Land Trust, successfully championed an effort to conserve Donibristle Farm in Topsfield. A local fundraising campaign energized 100 donors who collectively raised \$400,000 towards the \$900,000 acquisition cost.

At Town Meeting May 2nd, and again at the ballot on May 4th, Topsfield residents resoundingly authorized an allocation of up to \$500,000 for the balance needed to permanently protect 44 acres of beautiful wooded hillside located on Hill Street and Rowley Bridge Road. Once the country estate of renowned historian James Duncan Phillips, the property features towering trees and an extensive trail system.

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Legal/Legislative News

3) SENATE KEEPS AN OBAMA-ERA CLIMATE CHANGE RULE

Excerpts from The New York Times, May 10, 2017 by Coral Davenport

In a surprising victory for President Barack Obama's environmental legacy, the Senate voted on Wednesday to uphold an Obama-era climate change regulation to control the release of methane from oil and gas wells on public land. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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4) BAKER URGES U.S. TO STAY COMMITTED TO PARIS CLIMATE PACT

Excerpts from The Boston Globe, May 17, 2017 by Maddie Kilgannon

The governors of Massachusetts and Vermont are urging the Trump administration to maintain the nation's commitment to the Paris climate accord of 2015. Click [here](#) to read the letter. President Trump has said he would consider backing out of the landmark agreement. In May, the White House announced it would not make a decision on the pact until June. It is encouraging to see these governors striving to influence the federal decision. Stay tuned. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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5) PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT COULD CREATE JOBS FOR RURAL AMERICA

Excerpts from The Huffington Post, May 3, 2017 by Jad Daley, VP for Program Development at The Trust for Public Land

Our country's commitment to the landmark Paris climate agreement is in jeopardy. Due to the nation's politically polarized views on climate change, the new administration is re-examining this historic commitment. Yet, this re-evaluation of the Paris agreement could turn out to be positive in the long run if done right. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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6) GREAT NEWS FOR THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

Late Tuesday night, May 23rd, the Senate adopted Senator Cynthia Stone Creem's [Amendment #286: "CPA Trust Fund Increase."](#) This amendment to the budget would provide a \$25 increase to the recording fees at the State's Registries of Deeds, providing a higher state match to all CPA communities in November of 2018. While it is difficult to make long-term predictions on the exact percentage communities would receive, preliminary estimates indicate that the increase would restore the first round distribution to a level above 30%. The average percentage distribution for the last eight years was 31.2%.

At the end of May, the Senate will approve the final version of their budget. Then in June, a budget conference committee will reconcile differences between the House and Senate budget proposals and issue a final recommendation. The Community Preservation Coalition (CPC) will be advocating for the CPA amendment to be included in that proposal. The final budget will then be presented to Governor Baker in late June or

early July. The CPC is also continuing to advocate for passage of the deeds recording fee increase as stand-alone legislation (H.3662). So there are now two paths to the Governor's desk for CPA- the FY18 state budget and H.3662.

Thank you to the legislators fighting for this amendment, and stay tuned!

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7) ANOTHER REGIONAL NATURAL-GAS PIPELINE PROJECT MOVES FORWARD DESPITE WIDESPREAD COMMUNITY OPPOSITION

Excerpts from ecoRI news, May 20, 2017 by Miranda Willson

The proposed Connecticut Expansion Project spans 13.4 miles in three distinct locations in New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut. The 3.8-mile stretch of pipeline proposed in Berkshire County, Mass., has especially been met with resistance from environmental activists, local and state officials, state agencies, a Native American organization and residents of Sandisfield, the town of 915 through which the pipeline would run.

As a result of multiple legal challenges, the project is more than a year behind schedule. But as the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. (TGP), the subsidiary of Kinder Morgan that is developing the project, finished clearing the 30 affected acres of Otis State Forest last week, the likelihood of stopping or significantly delaying the pipeline's construction is decreasing. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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8) SUBMIT YOUR PUBLIC LANDS COMMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Excerpts from REI Co-op Journal, May 12, 2017

Our country's public lands define who we are. These are the places where we work, where we play and where we connect to our shared history. Now is the time to stand up for these places - places that help us live a life outdoors. Right now, the Department of the Interior, headed by Secretary Ryan Zinke, is undertaking an unprecedented review of 27 national monuments established by presidents from both parties since 1996, including the San Gabriel Mountains in California, Craters of the Moon in Idaho, and Bears Ears in Utah, and the Katahdin Woods and Waters in Maine. More than 11 million acres of national public land are at stake. The Department of the Interior wants to hear from you. Click [here](#) for more information.

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Nature News

9) DOMINO EFFECT: THE MYRAID IMPACTS OF WARMING ON AN EAST COAST ESTUARY

Excerpts from Yale Environment 360, May 17, 2017 by Ted Williams

Delaware Bay provides a case study in how warming oceans, more severe storms, and sea-level rise are impacting estuaries around the world. The effects - from loss of wetlands to steep declines in shorebird populations - cascade throughout the ecosystem. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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News

10) THE DROUGHT IS OVER

Excerpts from Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, May 11, 2017

With above normal precipitation at the end of March, all of April and the beginning of May, all indices across the Commonwealth have recovered fully. However, Secretary Matthew Beaton stresses that we must ensure continued careful conservation measures, especially now that the outdoor watering season has begun. Click [here](#) for the release.

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Events

11) LYME DISEASE & CLIMATE CHANGE: THE CONNECTION BETWEEN INFLAMMATION & GLOBAL WARMING

Thursday, June 1, 2017, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, MA

Using the lens of Chinese medicine, Brendan Kelly, herbalist and author of "The Yin and Yang of Climate Crisis," will discuss how the warming of the planet mirrors a similar overheating within us and within our culture. Supported by research from his book, Kelly will present how the progression of Lyme disease mirrors the progression of climate change and how Lyme is very much a condition of our times. It's his belief that understanding the progression of the disease is essential to not only treating symptoms but also promoting health. Tickets costs \$10. Proceeds will benefit the Marion Institute. Click [here](#) for more information.

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12) METCALF INSTITUTE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

June 5, 2017 - June 9, 2017

University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography's Corless Auditorium, 215 South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI

Join Metcalf Institute at their 20th Anniversary Annual Public Lecture Series, June 5 - 9, addressing a wide range of urgent environmental issues. A former U.S. EPA administrator will share her insights on past and future environmental policies, you'll hear from a scientist involved in assessing the health of our oceans on a global scale and take an intriguing look at science communication in the age of "fake news." Click [here](#) for more information.

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13) ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS EARTH NIGHT 2017

Tuesday, June 6, 2017, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

New England Aquarium, 1 Central Wharf, Boston, MA

Friends, supporters, and colleagues are invited to join the ELM team and Maura Healey for hors d'oeuvres and drinks while enjoying the Aquarium. Click [here](#) to register.

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14) SUASCO WILD & SCENIC RIVER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL'S RIVERFEST 2017 KICK-OFF PARTY

Friday, June 16, 2017, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Wolbach Farm Barn, Sudbury Valley Trustees, 18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury, MA

Join the SuAsCo Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council at the RiverFest 2017 Kick-off Party! RiverFest is an annual celebration of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers, part of America's Wild & Scenic River system. Click [here](#) for the flyer.

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Trainings

15) EPA SOAK UP THE RAIN WEBINAR: RAIN GARDENS TO THE RESCUE

Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Don't miss the next EPA Soak Up the Rain webinar: Rain Gardens to the Rescue: Using plants and natural systems to manage stormwater! Polluted runoff is one of the greatest threats to clean water in the U.S. As we develop our cities and towns, we replace forests and meadows with buildings and pavement. When it rains, the water runs off roofs and driveways into the street. Runoff picks up fertilizer, oil, pesticides, dirt, bacteria and other pollutants as it makes its way through storm drains and ditches - untreated - to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean. Rain gardens provide a cost-effective, attractive and environmentally-sound solution to managing residential and urban storm water runoff. Click [here](#) to learn more. Click [here](#) to register.

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16) CREATING HEALTHY, CLIMATE-RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

June 1 and June 23, 2017, 9:00am - 1:00pm (two-part workshop, plan to attend both dates)

Halifax, MA

Has your town been impacted by drought, floods, or poor water quality? What are local vulnerabilities to weather extremes, how do they interact with development, and how can we be more resilient to climate change? Explore how green infrastructure provides free services that reduces costs and vulnerabilities to our built infrastructure (roads, buildings, utilities). Work together to find solutions for on-the-ground challenges your community faces. 3.5 AICP credits offered per session. Click [here](#) to register.

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17) IMPROVING WATER QUALITY IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

June 7, 2017, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Worcester, MA

Learn how you can improve water quality in our Lakes and Ponds using Low Impact Development (LID) practices in your own home and garden. After the presentation, get your hands dirty in the rain garden at the Knights of Columbus to help to reduce nutrient runoff at Coes Reservoir. Click [here](#) to register.

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18) SUPPORTING POLLINATORS AND SAVING WATER

June 14, 2017, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Worcester, MA

Learn how your own backyard can support pollinators and local stream quality at the same time. This workshop will introduce you to some native pollinators, teach you how to recognize them, and provide some pointers for encouraging sustainable landscape design in your own backyard for a healthy, beautiful, and functional garden. Click [here](#) to register.

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Grants

19) SEVENTH GENERATION FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

August 4 and December 1, 2017 deadlines

The Seventh Generation Fund for Indigenous Peoples is dedicated to promoting and maintaining the uniqueness of Native peoples and the sovereignty of tribal Nations. The Fund's primary grantmaking program areas include the following: Arts and Creativity, Health and Well-Being, Rights of Mother Earth, Sustainable Communities and Economies, Leadership Development, and Rights, Equity, and Justice. Grants from \$250 to \$10,000, with an average of \$5,000, are provided to Native communities that address one or more of the Fund's program areas. The remaining postmark deadlines for 2017 are August 4 and December 1. (Mini-grants of up to \$500 are reviewed throughout the year.) To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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20) THE OAK HILL FUND: DIMINISHED TREE SPECIES GRANTS

The Oak Hill Fund believes that restoring native tree species will directly improve our natural ecosystems, as well as our society. Diminished Tree Species Grants are provided to nonprofit organizations working in the continental United States. The Fund supports the following efforts: active restoration of diminished continental U.S. forest species (examples include Eastern Hemlock, Balsam Fir, American Chestnut, and Longleaf Pine); protection of native tree habitat through forest land preservation (can include property easements, as well as creation of newly preserved lands through either state/federal acquisition); and science-based research, seed orchard development, and other associated expenses involved in species restoration. Online letters of inquiry are accepted throughout the year. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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21) YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA: DISNEY SUMMER OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION GRANTS

June 4, 2017 deadline

Youth Service America (YSA) supports a global culture of engaged children and youth committed to a lifetime of meaningful service, learning, and leadership. Through Disney Summer of Service Organization Grants, YSA will provide awards of \$2,000 each to 26 organizations to incorporate youth-led service projects into summer activities. (The organization that submits the best application will receive a \$5,000 award.) These awards are intended to encourage kids to act as stewards of change in their community and create a brighter tomorrow. Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations, K-12 schools, and colleges and universities that are hosting summer activities for youth ages 5 to 18. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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22) NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FRIENDS GRANT PROGRAM

July 11, 2017 deadline

The National Wildlife Refuge Friends Grant Program, an initiative of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, funds projects that assist organizations in being effective co-stewards of important natural resources within the [National Wildlife Refuge System](#). The program's goals are to help Refuge Friends organizations develop and execute projects, expand their capacity and skills, gain community support, build long-term relationships, increase overall capacity, and encourage the sharing of expertise within the Friends networks. Grants ranging from \$1,500 to \$15,000 are provided for capacity building, project support, and Friends peer-to-peer coaching. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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23) LOWE'S CHARITABLE & EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION: COMMUNITY PARTNERS

August 25, 2017 deadline

The Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in the communities where Lowe's operates stores and distribution centers throughout the United States. The Foundation's Community Partners grant program supports nonprofit organizations and local municipalities undertaking high-need projects such as building renovations and upgrades, grounds improvements, technology upgrades, and safety improvements. Grants range from \$2,001 to \$100,000. Applications for the fall funding cycle will be accepted from July 3 to August 25, 2017. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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24) MERCK FAMILY FUND

July 17, 2017 deadline

One of the Merck Family Fund's goals is to restore and protect the natural environment and ensure a healthy planet for generations to come. The Fund provides grants to

nonprofit organizations that address one of the following four program areas: The Reducing CO2 Emissions Through Energy Efficiency and Carbon Pricing program supports the development of political and economic drivers at the federal and state level in the Northeast and Southeast to establish or expand carbon pricing mechanisms. The Conserving Ecologically Valuable Land program provides grants for land conservation efforts in the Southeast. The Urban Farming and Youth Leadership program supports initiatives in low-income urban areas in the Northeast that help young people to create urban farms and local markets. The Making Paper Production Sustainable program seeks to increase the rates of recycled paper in large paper sectors, reduce sourcing from endangered forests, and maximize clean production nationwide. The final deadline for letters of inquiry this year is July 17, 2017; invited full proposals are due July 31, 2017. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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25) DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Environment Program is to enable communities to protect and manage wildlife habitat and create efficient built environments. The foundation's awareness of climate change as the greatest emerging threat to biodiversity (and the need to aggressively mitigate it without unnecessarily sacrificing wildlife habitat) shapes the Environment Program's grant-making priorities. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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26) SAVING SPECIES

SavingSpecies helps local conservation groups purchase land for conservation and habitat restoration, and may consider projects for restoration of habitat on land that is within an existing protected area. We maximize our effectiveness by providing grants for the purchase and restoration of land that connects existing habitat fragments, or that prevents isolation of habitat that would otherwise continue due to habitat loss. After submitting a Letter of Interest, applicants will be contacted if invited to submit a full proposal. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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27) T.S. & K.D. GLIDE FOUNDATION

August 15, 2017 deadline

Thornton ("Tawny") S. Glide, Jr. and his wife, Katrina ("Scatter") Dangberg Glide, were long-time residents of the T.S. Glide Ranch in Yolo County, California. They owned and operated farms and ranches in and about Northern California. Their interests were horses and other animals, farming, preserving open spaces, and civic endeavors. Upon their respective deaths in July 1995, they established the Thornton S. Glide, Jr. and Katrina D. Glide Foundation, a perpetual California charitable trust. Its purpose is to provide benefits for qualified organizations committed to animal protection organizations, other land and wildlife conservancy groups, agricultural purposes, and preservation of land in its natural state. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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28) LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION PREPARATION GRANTS

Through the Accreditation Preparation Grants Program, the Land Trust Alliance is offering financial and technical assistance for the process of preparing for accreditation. Of the 317 accredited land trusts in 46 U.S. states and territories, 38% of them have received an accreditation preparation grant from the Alliance to help them prepare. Land trusts that have gone through the accreditation application process find it helps focus on practices that otherwise may get overshadowed. It also provides opportunities for teams of staff and/or board members to work together and to streamline or codify internal practices. The Alliance awards grants to support staff time and other expenses related to the accreditation preparation process. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

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29) CONSERVATION ALLIANCE GRANTS

The Conservation Alliance is a group of outdoor businesses that supports efforts to protect specific wild places for their habitat and recreation values. The Conservation Alliance seeks to protect threatened wild places throughout North America for their habitat and recreational values. As a group of outdoor industry companies, we recognize our responsibility to help protect the wild lands and waterways on which our customers recreate and wildlife thrives. To learn and to apply, click [here](#).

Note: Before applying for funding, an organization must first be nominated by one of our [member companies](#). Members nominate organizations by completing and submitting a nomination form. We provide our members with a link to the nomination form in early April and October. We will then send each nominated organization a request for proposal (RFP) instructing them how to submit a full request.

- Applicants can contact only one member per funding cycle for nomination.
- Nominations due May 1 and November 1 annually ("Letter of Inquiry" date above).

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30) SEAL GRANTS

The SEAL (Sustainability, Environmental Achievement & Leadership) Awards launched in 2017 and is an awards-driven environmental advocacy organization. Our core beliefs maintain that environmental progress requires leadership, leadership deserves recognition, and recognition is a form of accountability. Seal Awards are granted to graduate students (master's and PhD students) and postdocs working on advancing environmental policy or the public's understanding of an environmental issue. To learn more, click [here](#). To apply, click [here](#).

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31) FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE NATIONAL COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM

June 30, 2017 deadline

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking proposals for the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program to fund the protection and restoration of coastal wetlands. Projects can include acquisition of coastal lands or waters for restoration, enhancement, or management of coastal wetland ecosystems. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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Jobs

32) COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM MANAGER - WILDLANDS TRUST

Wildlands Trust is looking to hire a Manager for its Community Stewardship Program (CSP). The CSP provides reliable and affordable on-the-ground project planning and land stewardship support for towns, private land owners, and non-profits who own conservation lands. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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33) PROJECT MANAGER - BOSTON CLIMATE POLICY ANALYSIS - BOSTON UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

The Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE) is a university-wide center dedicated to facilitating the transition to a sustainable, climate-safe global energy system. The Project Manager will oversee and coordinate the technical work performed by the sector specific consultants, ensuring that the quality and scope of such work leads to effective and innovative policy recommendations to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in Boston. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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34) TIDMARSH SANCTUARY DIRECTOR - MASS AUDUBON

Mass Audubon seeks a dynamic Sanctuary Director with the vision, knowledge and passion to launch their exciting new Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and chart a course to grow and serve the local and regional community and beyond. This inspiring leader will launch their new Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary in the fall 2017 to create and manage a 21st Century Wildlife Sanctuary that demonstrates the hopeful message of nature's return to a restored 479 acre wetland system in Plymouth Massachusetts. Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary will have a unique focus within the Mass Audubon wildlife sanctuary system on science, environmental learning enhanced through innovative technology, and partnerships with other organizations. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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35) WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST - DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

The Department of Fish and Games seeks applicants for the contractor position of Web and Social Media Specialist. The Web and Social Media Specialist assists in the

management of the Department's social media presence as well as its web content. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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36) VARIOUS MASSACHUSETTS CONSERVATION COMMISSION OPENINGS: SCITUATE, GROTON, NORTHBOROUGH, ANDOVER, MILTON, WILMINGTON

The [Scituate Conservation Commission](#) seeks a Conservation and Natural Resources Officer works with the Conservation Commission in the protection and stewardship of the Town's natural resources.

The [Groton Conservation Commission](#) is accepting applications for a Conservation Administrator. Responsibilities include wetlands protection and general open space/natural resource protection.

The [Town of Northborough](#) seeks qualified applicants for the part-time position of Conservation Agent. This 19-hour/week position is responsible for technical & administrative work coordinating the activities of the Conservation Commission and enforcing federal, state, & local conservation laws & regulations.

The [Town of Andover](#) is looking for qualified applicants for the position of Conservation Agent.

The [Town of Milton](#) seeks an Environmental Coordinator. This individual is responsible for program development within the Department of Public Works relative to environmental stewardship, including NPDES stormwater compliance, stormwater management permit and Conservation Commission field inspections.

The [Town of Wilmington](#) seeks a Conservation Agent. This individual is responsible for providing professional support to the Conservation Commission in administering the Wetlands Protection Act and local policy and protecting the Town's natural resources.

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