



Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

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"The best thing one can do when it's raining is to let it rain." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet, 1807-1882

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MLTC NEWS

1) MLTC Member Meeting September 15 in Hadley, MA

Friday, September 15, 2017

Fish and Wildlife Service Northeast Regional Office, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA

Come join us for our member/steering committee meeting next Friday, September 15 out in Hadley, MA. We will be discussing important updates for the APR program, the MVP program, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Land Trust Alliance, legal updates, and PILOT. Spend your Friday with your colleagues across the state discussing the most pressing issues at hand. Click [here](#) for the agenda and directions.

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2) **FREE Stewardship Workshop at Greenbelt**

Thursday, September 21, 2017, 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Cox Reservation, Essex, MA

Does your municipality or land trust have conservation restrictions that need monitoring? Are you wondering where to start? Attend this FREE workshop hosted by Greenbelt, MLTC, and the Land Trust Alliance. You'll learn:

- The what, when, and how of monitoring CRs
- How to efficiently produce Baseline Reports
- The key to effective landowner relationships
- How to create a volunteer monitoring program

Presenters include Becca Washburn, New England Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance, and Dave Rimmer Greenbelt's Director of Land Stewardship. Contact [Vanessa Johnson-Hall](#) for more information. Click [here](#) to register. RSVP is required.

There will also be a social gathering for MLTC's Young Land Professionals group after the workshop in the barn, from 7:30pm - 9:00pm, with beer provided by Greenbelt!

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3) **Save the Date: Fall Retreat**

October 19-20, 2017

Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

Save the date for the Fall Retreat for Massachusetts land trust and state agency staff. This two-day gathering is a valuable and enjoyable experience for all who attend. Spend this autumn Thursday and Friday away from the noise and busyness of your everyday lives in a museum in the woods with your fellow conservation practitioners. Stay tuned for more information.

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NEWS

4) **"What's Your MA Park Story?" Campaign**

The Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition is proud to partner with the Environmental League of Massachusetts to collect stories from park users and activists from across the Commonwealth to build a collection of images, videos, audio files and short messages that showcase why our state parks matter. **We're looking for your best photos, videos and audio files to tell your personal story about why Massachusetts state parks matter to you.** Submit your story [here](#) to have it featured on social media throughout the fall.

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5) **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Surveys**

The National Park Service requires the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to complete a **Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years to remain eligible for funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program**. Since the program was established in 1965, nearly **\$100,000,000** has been awarded to every county in the state for the acquisition of conservation or park land, development of new parks, or renovation of existing parks.

Three surveys are available - one for [land trusts](#), one for [municipal employees](#), and one for any and all [users of open space](#) in Massachusetts. It should take about 15 minutes to complete each survey. It is critical for us to hear back from as many people as possible regarding conservation and recreation use and demand at your properties to guide how future LWCF funding could be spent most effectively in Massachusetts. Any questions should be directed to Melissa Cryan, LWCF Stateside Coordinator, at (617) 626-1171 or melissa.cryan@state.ma.us.

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6) *The Strange Future Hurricane Harvey Portends*

Excerpts from The Atlantic, August 31, 2017 by Peter Brannen

Our thoughts are with the victims affected by the devastating Hurricane Harvey. After such intense weather events like this one, many begin to question the cause. Many look to climate change. In this article, Brannen writes,

"Humans have begun an international project to move water around the world, far more ambitious than any network of aqueducts or hydroelectric dams ever constructed or conceived. The drivers of this global system are billowing vapors, which trap heat and propel the world's water faster and farther around the globe. The first results of this project may already be seen in the outrageous rainfall totals of storms like Hurricane Harvey, or in landslides on remote mountain hillsides, and even in the changing saltiness of the oceans.

The Earth system is getting warmer. Water is evaporating faster. There's more of it in the air. It's moving through the system faster. As a result, the coming centuries will play out under a new atmospheric regime, one with more extreme rain, falling in patterns unfamiliar to those around which civilization has grown."

Click [here](#) for the full story.

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7) *Help Protect the Endangered Species Act!*

Excerpts from Mass Audubon's Beacon Hill Weekly Roundup, August 28, 2017

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is one of the world's most respected and successful conservation laws. It has a 99% success record and has helped prevent the extinction of some of our most iconic and beloved species. Since January, more than two dozen bills have been introduced in Congress that would weaken the Act. Congress is currently in recess, but they could take up these damaging pieces of legislation as soon as they return in September. Click [here](#) for steps you can take to protect the Act.

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8) *Staff Changes at the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs*

In case you hadn't heard, there will be some staff changes at Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs. **Ned Bartlett**, EEA's Undersecretary of Energy and Environment, is leaving state service for a position as Vice President of Government Markets at Veolia North America. Working with the incredibly talented and committed team at EEA, Ned has designed and implemented many innovative policies and programs to diversify the Commonwealth's energy supply, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance clean energy technologies and protect our environment. During his two and a half years at EEA, Ned has worked on the creation of a statewide climate initiative, passing and implementing landmark energy legislation, and land protection and land stewardship efforts. Ned's last day at EEA is August 31, 2017. Best wishes to Ned.

In addition, **Katie Theoharides**, EEA's Director of Climate and Global Warming Solutions, has been named Assistant Secretary for Climate Change. In her short time with the team, Katie has spearheaded numerous climate initiatives which include the development of a comprehensive approach to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard residents, municipalities and businesses from the impacts of climate change, and build a more resilient Commonwealth, as well as a grant program to provide funding to cities and towns to complete a community-driven process to identify hazards and develop strategies to improve resilience. Congratulations to Katie on her growth.

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9) *Alaska's Permafrost is Thawing*

Excerpts from The New York Times, August 23, 2017 by Henry Fountain

The loss of frozen ground in Arctic regions is a striking result of climate change. And it is also a cause of more warming to come. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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10) *Federal Report Confirms Human-Induced Climate Change*

Excerpts from Mass Audubon Political Landscapes, August 25, 2017 by Daniel Brown

A [draft report](#) by scientists from 13 federal agencies concludes, unequivocally, that Americans are already feeling the effects of climate change and that human activity is the cause. The Climate Science Special Report, currently in final draft form, will guide the Fourth National Climate Assessment. The National Climate Assessment is a comprehensive report required by law every four years that describes where the nation stands in regard to climate change. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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11) *Massachusetts, 8 Other States Step Up Plans to Cut Emissions*

Excerpts from The Boston Globe, August 23, 2017 by David Abel

Massachusetts and 8 other states from Maryland to Maine have announced an

aggressive plan to cut power plant emissions in the next decade, one of the broadest efforts to address climate change since President Trump said the United States would withdraw from the Paris accord. After more than a year of negotiations, states in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a market-based effort considered a model for curbing emissions, agreed to reduce power plant emissions by another 30 percent from 2020 to 2030. The plan, which must be approved by each state, including Massachusetts, would lower these emissions by more than 65 percent since 2009, when the states began setting annual caps. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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12) *Final Month for Mass Audubon's Annual Statewide Photo Contest*

Mass Audubon's popular photo contest, Picture This: Your Great Outdoors, is entering its final month. That means photographers have until **Saturday, September 30** to submit up to 10 images that reflect the natural beauty of the Bay State. Click [here](#) for complete contest rules, submitting images online, and other details.

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TRAININGS

13) *Mass Audubon Fall Workshops*

1. **Working Forests for Birds, Climate Change, and Your Community**

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Hanson, MA

What are working forests? How do communities benefit from forests? What about bird habitat? Timber? Development? Climate change resilience? Learn all these answers-and more at this free workshop. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

2. **Stream Continuity & Resilience**

Monday, October 2, 2017

Norton, MA

Roads and culverts block fish and wildlife passage in thousands of places statewide, but solutions are emerging. Speakers from state agencies and local watershed organizations will explain why stream continuity is important-from municipal budgets to climate resilience and critical habitats-and how to get there. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

3. **Planning for Sustainable Development: Discussion & Tour of Pinehills**

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Plymouth, MA

Learn about sustainable development techniques in action and explore The Pinehills, an innovative smart growth community in Plymouth, MA, that is not only environmentally friendly, but also economically successful. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

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14) *Mass Audubon's Trail Building & Stewardship Training Series*

Mass Audubon presents its second annual trail building and stewardship training series. The workshops are for Massachusetts land managers, conservation professional and volunteer trail stewards and are very low cost (\$25/day) thanks to a grant from the DCR Recreational Trails Education Program. The following three workshops will be offered:

1. Trail Building and Stewardship Skills, Friday and Saturday, October 6 & 7, 2017
At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton and Northampton, MA
2. Cutting, Shaping and Building with Stone, Friday and Saturday, October 20 & 21
At Franklin Land Trust's Guyette Farm in Plainfield, MA
3. Game of Logging Level 3 focused on storm damage removal, Friday, November 10, 2017
At Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary in Williamsburg, MA

Click [here](#) to learn more and to apply.

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EVENTS

15) *OARS Annual River Cleanup*

Saturday, September 16, 2017, 9:00am - 12:00pm

Help collect trash, tires, bottles, and more from the shores and waters of the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers. After a morning of hard work, celebrate with friends, new and old, at a pizza lunch! Cleanup sites will be in Westborough, Northborough, Framingham, Sudbury, Wayland, Marlborough, Hudson, Stow, Maynard, Acton, Concord and Billerica. To volunteer, call (978) 369-3956 or [e-mail](#).

Let OARS know if you can:

- bring a canoe or small flat bottom boat
- help transport a boat
- bring pails or buckets (up to 50-gallon size, kitty litter buckets are great)
- assist with cleanup day logistics

Also let OARS know if there is a section of the river or stream that needs to be cleaned up.

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16) *Antioch Environmental Studies Fall Internship Fair*

Friday, October 6, 2017, 11:00am - 1:00pm

Community Room, Antioch University New England

Antioch University New England invites environmental organizations like yours to their

Environmental Studies Fall Internship Fair. If you expect to offer an internship at any time during the coming year, take this opportunity to meet with our students, and with other agencies and organizations that provide internships (and often jobs for graduates). Reply before **September 22nd** to save your space. Click [here](#) to learn more and to sign up. If you cannot attend, feel free to fill out this [template](#) for an internship position.

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CONFERENCES

17) Land Trust Alliance Rally 2017

October 26-28, 2017

Denver, Colorado

Registration is now open for the Land Trust Alliance Rally: 2017. Rally: The National Land Conservation Conference is a special place where you can gather round with fellow land conservationists from near and far to catch up and find out what's new in land conservation, discuss opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, and get re-energized and inspired by folks who share your passion for conservation. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

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18) 2017 Northeast Wildlife Trackers Conference

October 21 and 22, 2017

Westborough, MA

Join the Northeast Wildlife Trackers at their 9th annual conference. The Trackers are a group of enthusiasts who share a passion for collaborative exchanges on all aspects of wildlife tracking in the Northeastern United States. Their mission is to convene, network, motivate, and inspire wildlife trackers across the Northeast. Through the conference, they aim to develop long-term connections and strategies for inspiring wildlife habitat protection by bringing together a range of issues and experiences connected to wildlife. To register, click [here](#).

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GRANTS

19) Sustainable Forestry Initiative: Conservation & Community Partnerships Grant Program

October 10, 2017 deadline

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative's (SFI) Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program provides grants for projects that support partnerships between organizations interested in improving forest management in the U.S. and Canada and responsible procurement globally. Grants are provided in the following two categories: Community Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 support projects that connect communities to forests and educate the next generation of future forest leaders. Conservation Grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$30,000 support projects that establish

methodologies to demonstrate the conservation-related values of SFI-certified forestlands. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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20) Cedar Tree Foundation: Environmental Education Teacher Professional Development Program

September 30, 2017 deadline

The Cedar Tree Foundation is seeking to communicate the facts and urgency of environmental issues taught in schools in the United States by supporting nonprofit organizations that offer summer professional development opportunities for current K-12 teachers in public, private, or alternative schools. The Foundation's Environmental Education Teacher Professional Development Program provides grants for programs that allow teachers to have an engaging hands-on environmental education experience with a cohort of other teachers, and include networking and follow-up activities that support teachers in building their skills and bringing innovative environmental stewardship education back to their classrooms in the fall. Compelling opportunities for school administrators that translate into impact in the classroom or school community will also be considered. Grants will range from \$20,000 to \$100,000. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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21) Environmental Protection Agency: Reducing Air Pollution

October 18, 2017 deadline

The Targeted Air Shed Grant Program provides support to develop plans, conduct demonstrations, and implement projects to reduce air pollution in heavily polluted areas. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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22) Commission for Environmental Cooperation

September 22, 2017 deadline

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) facilitates collaboration and public participation to foster conservation, protection, and enhancement of the North American environment. The North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA), an initiative of CEC, provides funding to nonprofit organizations, non-governmental organizations, environmental groups, community-based associations, academic institutions, Tribal nations, and indigenous peoples and communities in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Grants of up to \$53,000 support community initiatives focusing on Innovation and Partnerships for Green Growth in order to advance environmentally-responsible economic development while decreasing pressure on natural resources and promoting more sustainable patterns of production and consumption. Strategic priority areas include climate change mitigation and adaptation, green growth, and sustainable communities and ecosystems. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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23) Whole Kids Foundation: School Garden Grant Program

October 31, 2017 deadline

The Whole Kids Foundation is dedicated to supporting schools and inspiring families to improve children's nutrition and wellness. The Foundation's School Garden Grant Program provides support for edible gardens at K-12 schools in the U.S. and Canada. These grants of \$2,000 are awarded to schools as well as nonprofit organizations working in partnership with schools. Consideration is given to new or existing garden projects at any stage of development that help children engage with fresh fruits and vegetables. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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24) Constellation E2 Energy to Educate

October 1, 2017 deadline

The Constellation E2 Energy to Educate initiative provides grants for educational projects in company communities in the Midwest and Eastern U.S. that help foster energy conservation and progress. Priority is given to projects that are designed to enhance students' understanding of science and technology and that inspire them to think differently about energy. The focus is on projects that reach a minimum of 100 students and that align with the following themes: Energy in Transportation, Backyard Generation, and Zero Waste. Grants of up to \$25,000 are available for programs in grades six to 12; higher education programs are eligible for grants of up to \$50,000. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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25) Fish and Wildlife Service: Coastal Habitat Protection Funded

September 30, 2017 deadline

The Coastal Program helps coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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JOBS

26) Conservation Restriction Reviewer - MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

The Division of Conservation Services at the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is seeking candidates for the Conservation Restriction Reviewer position. The Conservation Restriction Reviewer is responsible for providing required EOEEA review of 125-175 Conservation Restrictions (CR's) covering 2- 4,000 acres per year, and recommend to the Secretary of EOEEA whether the Conservation

Restriction are in the public interest. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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27) Conservation Administrative Assistant - Town of Lincoln

The Town of Lincoln, MA seeks qualified candidates for a part-time (30 hours/week) Administrative Assistant to work under the direction of the Conservation Director and the Conservation Commission. Duties include processing wetlands permit applications under both the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the local Wetlands Protection Bylaw, preparing and posting meeting agendas, taking and finalizing meeting minutes, working with office volunteers and student interns, and updating the Conservation Department webpage. The Administrative Assistant is the primary point person for fielding inquiries regarding wetlands permitting and other conservation-related issues from residents, builders, realtors, consultants etc. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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28) Director - Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration

The Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration seeks a Director. The individual leads the Division of Ecological Restoration, one of three Divisions (and one Office) of the Department of Fish and Game. The Director is responsible for all functions and program performance ensuring that the Deputy Director is properly managing the day-to-day operations of the Division and the assistant director is administering annual budgets properly. The Director develops and makes sure the annual and five-year strategic plan goals are implemented and sets procedures and program priorities for the Deputy Director and Assistant Director to administer. The Director oversees development of the operational and capital budgets and manages a diverse staff. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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29) Development Specialist - Merrimack River Watershed Council

The Merrimack River Watershed Council is seeking a part-time Development Specialist. The part-time Development Specialist will be the lead player in MRWC's development and fundraising efforts, with particular focus on building unrestricted support. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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30) Habitat Restoration & Land Trust Director - Washington County, Maine

The Downeast Salmon Federation, based in Columbia Falls, Maine, is seeking a director for its Habitat Restoration and Land Trust programs. This position will report to DSF's executive director. The director will manage DSF's habitat restoration projects. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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