



# Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

## MASSLAND E-NEWS

The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

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For more news and information, go to [www.MassLand.org](http://www.MassLand.org)

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**"Rise free from care before the dawn, and seek adventures." ~ Henry David Thoreau**

### Important Dates:

**September 16** - MLTC Steering Committee Meeting

**September 21** - (MLTC Workshop Series) Ending the Chase: Finding Funding and Engaging the Next Generation

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## MLTC News

### 1) MLTC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 16, 2016 - 10:00am-1:00pm

At US Fish and Wildlife Center

300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA

MLTC Members and Friends and all Massachusetts Land Trusts are encouraged to attend and participate. Bring your lunch—we'll provide beverages and snacks. Highlights of the meeting include a discussion on the APR Program current status and proposed changes, an ongoing discussion of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) legislation, and updates on pipeline activity including recent court rulings.

Agenda [here](#).

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## 2) ENDING THE CHASE: FINDING FUNDING AND ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

September 21, 2016 - 5:00pm - 7:30pm

John & Kay Bassett Admissions Center, Clark University, Worcester, MA

In our recent survey, Mass Land Trust Coalition (MLTC) member land trusts listed the top challenges facing their organizations. Two of the top responses were "funding" and "how to involve the younger generation."

We heard you and invite you to attend a workshop on September 21, from 5 to 7:30 at Clark University on understanding the connections between land trusts and 1) funders and 2) aspiring conservationists.

Hear from President and CEO, Ann Lisi, of the [Greater Worcester Community Foundation](#) on what the Foundation offers and what they look for when funding a non-profit.

Following Ms. Lisi will be a discussion on how to message and involve the younger generation. The program will be facilitated by the Executive Director of the [East Quabbin Land Trust](#), Cynthia Henshaw, and Collin Adkins, New England Program Assistant Intern with the [Land Trust Alliance](#). Students from the Clark University Environmental Sciences Program will contribute to this discussion.

This event is co-hosted by MLTC and the Land Trust Alliance. Please RSVP by September 19 to [info@massland.org](mailto:info@massland.org).

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## 3) INTRODUCING MASS LAND TRUST COALITION'S OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Please join us in welcoming our new Outreach Coordinator, Kara Campbell. Kara brings communications and land conservation experience with her to this position. She has previously worked with the Community Preservation Coalition, writing e-newsletters, articles, and success stories, as well as updating the CPA database of land acquisitions for open space and recreation. Kara also works with the Town of Weston Conservation Department, preparing baseline reports of the town's conservation restrictions. Kara is thrilled to join the team at MLTC and become a resource for the land trust community.

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## Local Land Trust News

### 4) FEATURE YOUR LAND CONSERVATION STORIES HERE!

If you have a success story you would like to share with the MassLand Community submit a 200-300 word summary to [info@massland.org](mailto:info@massland.org).

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## Legal/Legislative News

## 5) BAKER STILL WANTS A NEW PIPELINE

*Excerpts from the Commonwealth, August 29, 2016 by Bruce Mohl*

Governor Charlie Baker is continuing to push for a new natural gas pipeline into the region, but at a recent conference with fellow New England governors and Canadian premiers he got some mild pushback. The Baker administration and the state's utilities believe a new natural gas pipeline is needed to bring down gas prices. But Attorney General Maura Healey, most Massachusetts lawmakers, and state environmental groups say a new pipeline isn't needed and electric ratepayers should not be asked to pay for a project that will only increase the state's and the region's reliance on a fossil fuel.

For the full story, click [here](#).

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## 6) OBAMA FORMALLY JOINS U.S. INTO CLIMATE PACT

*Excerpts from The Hill, September 3, 2016 by Timothy Cama and Devin Henry*

On September 3rd, President Obama joined the United States into the Paris climate change agreement, bringing the landmark pact significantly closer to taking effect worldwide. The deal asks countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by amounts chosen by their governments. Even once it takes effect, the emissions cuts prescribed in the deal are non-binding, but it does require countries to report their emissions to the UN's climate oversight board.

For the full story, click [here](#).

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## News

### 7) RESOLUTION ON ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY, ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE, AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION APPROVED

The New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEGEC) held their annual meeting in Boston on August 28th and 29th and approved a "Resolution on Ecological Connectivity, Adaptation to Climate Change, and Biodiversity Conservation" which instructs state and provincial natural resource and transportation agencies to:

- Elevate ecological connectivity, conservation and restoration. Encourage regional collaboration: identify priority connectivity zones and expand existing protected areas and apply resources most effectively. Support land protection and planning, promote sustainable management of public and private lands and aquatic systems
- Improve connectivity in transportation projects; identify appropriate design and size of transportation infrastructure for connectivity
- Develop regional work plans and report back the NEGEC

To view the document, click [here](#).

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## 8) WESTFORD BUILDING PLAN TESTS FARMLAND PROTECTION LAW

*Excerpts from The Boston Globe, September 3, 2016 by Sacha Pfeiffer*

Westford is weighing whether to allow a large restaurant, banquet hall, and parking lot on the property of a permanently protected agricultural site. The developer has a novel argument for why that would not violate the site's protected status: The "farm-to-table" eatery would serve produce grown on the property, making it a legitimate "agricultural use" of the land, he says.

The proposal has infuriated some residents and others who fear making such an exception would raise doubts about whether spending taxpayer money to save farms truly guarantees permanent preservation. They also worry it could unravel other land protection deals covering tens of thousands of acres statewide.

To read the full story, click [here](#).

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## Nature News

### 9) NEW STUDY REVEALS RECENT DEFORESTATION IN NEW ENGLAND

*From Environmental Research Letters, August 19, 2016 by Mike Gaworecki*

A new study finds that the expansion of affluent suburbs in the New England region is a significant driver of deforestation. Researchers found that, while New England did undergo a forest transition phase prior to 1985, it has been in a secondary phase of deforestation ever since.

Read more [here](#).

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### 10) MASS-WILDLIFE AND MASS-DOT WORK TOGETHER TO HELP MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service awarded a \$21,500 grant to MassWildlife and MassDOT to help restore populations of monarch butterflies and other pollinating insects on August 24, 2016. Research has indicated a population decline of the monarch butterfly in the past decade due to habitat loss and degradation. The project involves increasing their habitat by seeding highway median and roadside areas with a mix of milkweed and other native pollinating plants. MassDOT will identify suitable seeding locations while MassWildlife will purchase native seed mixes for the pollinators.

This project is part of a broader partnership between these two organizations called *Linking Landscapes for Massachusetts Wildlife*, which began in 2008. To learn more about the project, click [here](#).

## Workshops

### 11) CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY: CAN THEY WORK TOGETHER?

Thursday, October 13, 2016, 8:30am - 12:15pm

NH Fish and Game Offices, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH

Does your conservation easement language allow alternative energy systems? Will the public view it as a positive or negative? What are the implications for long-term stewardship? What does the balance between alternative energy structures and conservation look like for your organization? Join us for a discussion on how three conservation groups are handling these challenging questions...and bring your challenging questions along too!

For more information, including featured speakers and to register, click [here](#).

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## Trainings

### 12) TRAIL BUILDING AND STEWARDSHIP TRAINING SERIES

Trail Building and Stewardship Skills

September 22 - 24, 2016

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Easthampton and Northampton, MA

Building with Stone

October 7, 2016

Lynes Woods Wildlife Sanctuary

Westhampton, MA

Chainsaw Use, Safety, and Maintenance

October 20 - 21, 2016

Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary

Williamsburg, MA

Mass Audubon, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MA DCR), is sponsoring a trail building and stewardship training series for Massachusetts land managers, conservation professional and volunteer trail stewards.

Participants will learn how to plan, design and construct new trails and bridges for a variety of trail users; how to build trail structures with stone; and how to safely and effectively operate a chainsaw using Game of Logging practices. Additionally, participants will gain hands-on practical experience in trail stewardship and safety practices, build a network within the Massachusetts trail stewardship community, and become a resource for designing and maintaining public trails across the Commonwealth.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

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## Conferences

### 13) 2016 MASSACHUSETTS SOILS CONFERENCE

September 23, 2016 - 8:30am - 4:00pm

Mount Wachusett Community, 444 Green St., Gardner, MA

This one-day conference will focus on investigating soils across a landscape in the field as well as soil information resources available through the USDA Soil Survey. They will provide updates on recent changes to the data and help you understand how to use it. The day will include classroom workshops and field demonstrations.

Natural resource management and environmental protection professionals, agricultural commission and conservation commission members, farmers and other land owners and managers can all benefit from this worthwhile event!

For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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### 14) 2016 MASSACHUSETTS TOWN FOREST CONFERENCE

Sunday, September 25, 2016, 9:00am - 4:00pm

North Brookfield Elementary, North Brookfield, MA

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, join municipal officials, land trusts, foresters, natural resource professionals, and civic groups in celebrating over 100 Years of Town Forests in Massachusetts. Don't miss out on a great day full of engaging speakers; outdoor exhibits; and guided hikes. The event is FREE & LUNCH IS INCLUDED to all that register! Engaging speakers will present a local, historical perspective on forests and farms; including examples of successful town forest projects in North Brookfield, MA. Register online [here](#).

Contact Kate Marquis at [kate.marquis@state.ma.us](mailto:kate.marquis@state.ma.us) or 413-992-8734 for questions.

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### 15) SCALING UP: NEW STRATEGIES FOR LANDSCAPE-SCALE CONSERVATION

October 7, 2016, 8:00am - 5:00pm

Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA

In response to the impacts of globalization, climate change, and environmental degradation, conservationists, resource stewards, and public officials are embracing a much larger, whole ecosystem approach to conserving land and its attendant historic and cultural attributes. This emerging approach requires building complex networks of partnerships and overlapping jurisdictions which work in concert to conserve the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the regional landscape.

Organized by Essex Heritage and hosted by the PEM/Peabody Essex Museum, the symposium is designed for natural, historical, and cultural resource professionals such as municipal officials, regional and local planners, state agency staff, nonprofit resource stewards, and college faculty.

To review the full agenda and register, please click [here](#).

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## Events

### 16) ECO-TOUR: SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS FOR WILDLIFE

September 14, 2016, 10:00am - 12:00pm  
Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, MA

Join the Ecological Landscape Association and tour guide, Paul Kwiatkowski, to learn about the Wildlife Action Plan at Mount Auburn Cemetery. This walking tour will include highlights of the ongoing work to create and sustain important ecosystem functions on this 175-acre property in Cambridge, MA. This multi-year project enhances wildlife habitat while also encouraging visitors to reconnect with the landscape.

Learn more and register [here](#).

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### 17) RIVER DAY

Saturday, September 17, 2016, 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Join Jane Adams, Third Congressional Deputy District Director and Dan Ashe, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director in her tenth annual River Day, celebrating the important role the waterways play in connecting and contributing to the communities of the Third Congressional District.

This year's program will include three stops:

8:30am - Annual Spicket River Cleanup with Groundwork Lawrence and volunteers, Manchester State Park, 75 Manchester Street, Lawrence, MA

10:00am - Canoe Paddle on the Nashua River with Director Ashe and volunteers, Bill Ashe Visitor Facility, 80 Hospital Road, Devens, MA

11:45am - Annual Clean Up with OARS volunteers, Assabet River, Maynard, MA

To join, please RSVP to Jane Adams at her Lowell office by email at [Jane.Adams@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jane.Adams@mail.house.gov) or by calling (978) 459-0101.

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## Grants

## 18) SMALL GRANTS FOR NATIVE PLANTS & OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTERS

October 15, 2016 deadline.

The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program, established by Wild Ones, provides small grants to schools, nature centers, or other nonprofit educational organizations for the purpose of establishing outdoor learning centers. Funded projects should focus on the enhancement and development of an appreciation for nature using native plants. Examples of funded projects include butterfly gardens, nature trails, prairies, woodland wildflower preserves, etc. Projects must emphasize involvement of students and volunteers in all phases of development, and increase the educational value of the site. Grants of \$100 to \$500 are provided for the purchase of native plants and seeds.

Learn more [here](#).

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## 19) SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE GRANT NETWORK

The SFI program is advancing its long-standing commitment to forest research across the United States through its conservation research grants. SFI-funded projects provide the science-based data and tools resource professionals and forest landowners of all sizes need to improve forest management. The work complements existing government initiatives and is directly linked to objectives in the SFI 2015-2019 Standard, including measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat and species at risk, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and to encourage community involvement.

For a full list of grants, visit SFI's [website](#).

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## 20) GRANTS PROMOTING K-12 SCHOOL GARDENS

October 31, 2016 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. Grants of \$2,000 are awarded to schools as well as nonprofit organizations working in partnership with schools. Consideration will be given to new or existing garden projects at any stage of development that help children engage with fresh fruits and vegetables.

To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

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## Jobs

### 21) ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COALITION

The Community Preservation Coalition is seeking an Associate Director. The Associate Director is part of a three person team that helps municipalities understand, adopt, and

implement the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act (CPA). The individual serves as point person for municipal officials, advocacy organizations, legislators, public agencies and citizens seeking information regarding CPA, including providing detailed assistance by phone and email.

For the full job description and to apply, click [here](#).

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## **22) GIS CONSULTANT - COLUMBIA LAND CONSERVANCY**

The Columbia Land Conservancy, in collaboration with the Berkshire-Taconic Regional Conservation Partnership, is seeking a GIS consultant to assist with a collaborative conservation planning effort spanning the Berkshire-Taconic region of NY, VT, MA and CT. Responses are requested no later than September 23, 2016.

For more information, click [here](#).

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## **23) DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE - NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION**

New England Forestry Foundation is seeking applications for a full-time Development Associate. For highly qualified individuals a part-time position could also be considered. This position lies at the core of support for New England Forestry Foundation's development team. The Development Associate will work closely with the development team and other staff to help achieve the organization's overall fundraising goals. This position is directly responsible for maintaining the Member/Donor database including: gift/data entry and the production of acknowledgement letters and related reports. Additional responsibilities include providing general administrative support to the development department.

For more information, click [here](#).

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## **24) ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE AND POLICY - NATIONAL SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL SYNTHESIS CENTER (SESYNC)**

SESYNC is seeking an individual with at least five years of professional experience who can:

- Facilitate collaboration between academic researchers from diverse fields and between researchers and environmental practitioners, managers, and policy experts;
- Recruit researchers and policy experts to SESYNC's projects;
- Engage with postdoctoral fellows;
- Assist with workshops and other center activities as needed.

The ideal candidate will enjoy collaborative projects, understand the inherent difficulties of collaborative work among intellectually diverse experts, have some experience with

public policy issues, and care about linking science to real world policy, decisions, and management.

For full description and to apply, click [here](#).

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### **25) DEPUTY DIRECTOR - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY CENTER**

The Environmental Health Strategy Center is seeking a Deputy Director for their office in Portland, ME. The Deputy Director is responsible for all aspects of staff development and team building inside the organization, and assists the Executive Director in board development and external relations. The Deputy Director ensures that all programs and operations are supported by effective systems for planning, budgeting, evaluation, and reporting. The position will lead internal monitoring and continuous improvement efforts. As part of the Management Team, the Deputy Director shares responsibility for ensuring financial health, maintaining a learning culture, and advancing organizational development.

This is a fantastic growth opportunity with an innovative organization that runs cutting-edge campaigns and programs at the state and national level.

For the Deputy Director job announcement, see the posting on [Idealist](#) or on their [website](#). To apply, send a cover letter and resume to [shunt@preventharm.org](mailto:shunt@preventharm.org), subject header: Deputy Director.

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### **26) FULL TIME TEACHER/NATURALIST - NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST OF EASTON**

The Natural Resources Trust of Easton is currently seeking a full time, year-round teacher/naturalist. The preferred candidate will have a passion for educating children and families about the natural world, wildlife, and the environment as well as a thorough science-based understanding of native species, biodiversity, ecological systems, and current environmental issues.

B.A. or B.S. is required, with a major or concentration in environmental education, environmental interpretation, biology, earth science, natural resource management, environmental studies, forestry, sustainable agriculture, or closely related course of studies. Familiarity with outdoor education and class management techniques are desirable. Excellent verbal and written communication skills required. Broad working knowledge of native wildlife, ecology, and natural history, and a willingness to learn specific local information is also needed.

View the full job description and learn how to apply [here](#).

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### **27) LEGAL FELLOW - CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION**

This legal fellow position supports Conservation Law Foundation's (CLF) Healthy

Communities and Environmental Justice (HCEJ) program. CLF's HCEJ program works to ensure that New England's communities, both urban and rural, are thriving, healthy places for all people. Legal fellows will contribute to all areas of work in CLF's HCEJ program, and in particular will provide support to CLF's Farm and Food Initiative and CLF's transportation and environmental justice advocacy. CLF serves as an ally to environmental justice communities, offering our law and policy skills to help communities achieve their goals.

Ideal candidates are third-year law students, judicial clerks, or recent law graduates with a demonstrated interest in environmental protection and healthy communities. Applicants should be interested in public policy work as well as litigation. Applicants must be admitted to a state bar or planning to take the bar exam for the appropriate CLF state at the next sitting. Applicants must have excellent legal advocacy and writing skills, and must be willing to interact and build effective working relationships with community organizations and government agencies.

Learn more and apply [here](#).

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### **28) MASSACHUSETTS OFFSHORE WIND POWER CAMPAIGN FALL 2016 INTERN - ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS**

The Environmental League of Massachusetts is seeking a fall intern to work on their joint campaign with the National Wildlife Foundation to advance carbon-free offshore wind power in Massachusetts. The Offshore Wind Campaign intern will undertake a number of outreach, advocacy, and administrative tasks in support of the campaign. The intern will represent the program via phone calls, event support and attendance and email correspondence. This is a 12-hour a week position, with a duration of September 27 - December 23. The stipend is \$2,000. Interested candidates should submit both a cover letter and resume to Amber Hewett ([hewetta@nwf.org](mailto:hewetta@nwf.org)) by September 15 with subject line, "Offshore Wind Intern Application." This Internship is based at the Environmental League's Boston office.

To read the full job description, click [here](#).

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### **29) SENIOR CONSERVATION SPECIALIST - THE TRUSTEES**

The Trustees are looking for a Senior Conservation Specialist to lead and expand the land conservation work of The Trustees. She/he will help to drive strategic plan priorities, encourage teamwork and collaboration on the land conservation team and help The Trustees to achieve/maintain a high level of practice.

Informed by organization planning, the Senior Conservation Specialist will identify conservation priorities through outreach to landowners and community leaders; inform and provide input into The Trustees' land conservation strategies, and will manage individual land conservation projects from inception to completion. Click here to see the full posting and to apply for this opportunity!

The Trustees offers a competitive salary and benefits package, including medical, dental, and vision insurance, life and disability insurance, flexible spending accounts, vacation, sick and personal time, as well as the option to participate in our 401(k) and 529 savings plans.

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