



Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

MASSLAND E-NEWS

The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

October 6, 2016

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"...in all things of nature there is something of the marvelous..." ~ Aristotle 350 B.C.

Important Dates:

October 14 - Deadline for Submitting CRs that Must Close by Year End. Details [here](#).

October 29 - Massachusetts Dinner at LTA Rally

November 14 - MLTC Workshop - Keeping an Eye on Stewardship

November 18 - MLTC Steering Committee Meeting

October 28-30 - Land Trust Alliance Rally 2016

In this issue:

[1\) MLTC News - Massachusetts Dinner at LTA Rally - October 29](#)

[2\) MLTC News - Save the Date - Free MLTC Stewardship Workshop](#)

[3\) MLTC News - MLTC Steering Committee Meeting - November 18](#)

[4\) MLTC News - Land Trust Alliance Rally 2016 - October 28-30](#)

[5\) Local Land Trust News - Opacum Land Trust Protects 315 Acres with Town of Sturbridge](#)

[6\) Legal/Legislative News - Comment Period for Amending APR Program Extended - 10/14](#)

[7\) Legal/Legislative News - Westford Restaurant Vote Canceled after State says Plan Not Permitted - MLTC Weighs In](#)

[8\) News - Trustees Secure 20.5 Acres in Fight for Steep Hill](#)

[9\) News - Massachusetts Named Most Energy Efficient State for Sixth Consecutive Year](#)

[10\) News - Next Solar Incentive Straw Proposal](#)

[11\) Nature News - Restoration of Massachusetts' Loons with Maine Chicks](#)

[12\) Nature News - Can the Selfie Generation Unplug & Get Into Parks?](#)

[13\) Workshops - Working Farms & Forests - October 19](#)

[14\) Conferences - MACC Fall Conference - October 29](#)

[15\) Conferences - Greenbelt Open Space Conference - November 12](#)

[16\) Conferences - Ecological Landscape Alliance Conference & Eco-Marketplace - March 8 & 9](#)

[17\) Events - Cranberry Festival - October 8](#)

[18\) Events - Northeast Drought & Climate Outlook Forum - October 11](#)

[19\) Events - 350.org Central Mass Forum on West Boylston Lateral](#)

[20\) Events - Mass Audubon's 36th Annual Farm Day - October 15](#)

[21\) Events - Tour of Pinehills: A Case Study of LID in Plymouth - October 17](#)

[22\) Trainings - EPA Soak up the Rain New England Webinar Series on Green Infrastructure - October 15](#)

[23\) Trainings - Climate Resilience Data Update Webinar - October 20](#)

[24\) Grants - Surdna Foundation: Sustainable Environments Program](#)

[25\) Grants - Temper of the Times Foundation: Advertising for the Environment](#)

[26\) Grants - National Park Service - Historic Preservation Grants](#)

[27\) Grants - National Science Foundation - STEM Learning Supported](#)

[28\) Jobs - General Managers - Appleton Farms & Fruitlands Museum - The Trustees](#)

[29\) Jobs - Executive Director - Hoosic River Revival](#)

[30\) Resources - Interactive Massachusetts Clean Water Tool Kit](#)

[31\) Resources - Greenbelt October Instagram Photo Contest](#)

MLTC News

1) JOIN US FOR DINNER AT LTA RALLY

October 29, 2016

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Going to Rally? Connect with friends! Join us for the Massachusetts Dinner at Rally on Saturday, October 29th. To save your place at the table, send your rsvp to info@massland.org. Details on dinner time and location to follow. Our thanks to Colin Novick for organizing.

~ All of us at MLTC

[Back to top](#)

2) SAVE THE DATE - FREE MLTC WORKSHOP - KEEPING AN EYE ON STEWARDSHIP

November 14, 2016

Stockbridge Town Hall - Community Room - Stockbridge, MA

MassLand's next workshop will be coming to Western Massachusetts with the focus of overcoming stewardship challenges. Brought to you by the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition, the Land Trust Alliance, Berkshire Natural Resources Council and Great Barrington Land Conservancy, this workshop will address tackling that mountain of baseline documentation and annual monitoring visits by offering guidance and resources for growing a volunteer monitoring programs and strengthening your conservation restriction enforcement.

Our discussion will be led by the Land Trust Alliance's New England Program Manager, Becca Washburn. *The evening will include many opportunities for problem solving your specific stewardship needs so come armed with questions!* Bring one of your real life stewardship challenges to discuss. We will conclude with handouts and direct you to the resources available to make stewardship a manageable and fun process.

Free pizza, salad, and refreshments will be served at 5:00pm. RSVP by emailing your name to info@massland.org with the subject "Stewardship Workshop." Click [here](#) for the flyer.

[Back to top](#)

3) SAVE THE DATE - MLTC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 18, 2016

Time & Place To Be Announced

MLTC Members and Friends and all Massachusetts Land Trusts are encouraged to attend and participate. These valuable gatherings host a wide range of topics that help promote land protection and stewardship for your land trust. Look for an agenda in an upcoming E-News and plan to attend! You will not be disappointed.

[Back to top](#)

4) LAND TRUST ALLIANCE RALLY 2016

October 28-30, 2016

Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Land Trust Alliance is hosting this year's Rally - where 2,000 people who share your passion for conservation will re-energize and inspire you. Gather to learn about diverse conservation topics in more than 100 workshops and seminars, share with friends and colleagues from across the country, and gain the skills you need to take your conservation work further. Register today - because there's no better time or place to invest in your future. Online registration has closed, but walk-in registration is still

available. See event details [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

Local Land Trust News

5) OPACUM LAND TRUST PROTECTS 315 ACRES WITH TOWN OF STURBRIDGE



Photo of Long Pond, courtesy of Ed Hood, Executive Director, Opacum Land Trust

Opacum Land Trust and the Town of Sturbridge have successfully conserved another 315 acres of land by placing Conservation Easements on four Town properties: Long Pond, Riverlands, Heins Farm and the Shepard Parcel. All four parcels were previously purchased by the Town of Sturbridge in part with Community Preservation Act funds: Long Pond in two parts - one in 2004 and the other in 2014; the Shepard Parcel in 2005; Heins Farm in 2006; and Riverlands in 2007.

Use of CPA funds for the acquisition of land for open space requires that a qualified outside party, such as Opacum Land Trust, holds a conservation restriction on the property. Since the Fall of 2014, Opacum's Executive Director, Ed Hood, worked persistently with the Town of Sturbridge to settle final negotiations on the terms of the CRs, and the final document was signed this fall.

The success of securing the conservation easements on these four Town properties brings Opacum's total land conservation responsibilities in Sturbridge to 934 acres, a major accomplishment. Thank you and congratulations to THE Opacum Land Trust and the Town of Sturbridge for all of their hard work and dedication to land conservation.

If you have a success story you would like to share with the MassLand Community submit a 200-300 word summary to enews@massland.org.

[Back to top](#)

Legal/Legislative News

6) COMMENT PERIOD FOR AMENDING APR PROGRAM EXTENDED UNTIL 10/14

By John Lebeaux, Commissioner

Oral testimony was accepted at the meeting noted above; written testimony was accepted until September 21, 2016. However, on September 21, 2016, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources held a public hearing to amend the following regulation: 330 CMR 22.00, Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program ("Regulation") at Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Richard Cronin Building Room 110, Westborough, MA. The purpose of this Regulation is to provide guidance for persons who apply for the Agricultural Preservation Restriction ("APR") program and owners of

land who have sold an APR to the Commonwealth. The Regulation includes procedures for: the Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee ("ALPC") review and approval of the acquisition of APRs; APR applications; project eligibility; project review criteria; MDAR approvals; notification procedures; and enforcement of APRs. MDAR is proposing to amend the Regulation to be consistent with statutory amendments and United States Department of Agriculture funding requirements. The public will benefit from these amendments as it clarifies roles, obligations, and responsibilities.

All persons who desired to provide oral testimony were hereby notified to appear at the designated location noted above. In addition to oral testimony, written comments were to be submitted by September 21, 2016, at 5:00 P.M. However, MDAR's believes that it is in the public interest to extend the written comment period and accept comments until October 14, 2016 at 5:00 P.M. Written comments should be addressed to Gerard Kennedy, Director, Division of Agricultural Conservation & Technical Assistance, Department of Agricultural Resources, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114.

The full text of the regulations and background information is available [here](#). A hard copy of the full text of the regulation and background information are also available upon written request made to at the address set forth above. To review the edits thus far, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

7) WESTFORD RESTAURANT VOTE CANCELED AFTER STATE SAYS PLAN NOT PERMITTED - MLTC WEIGHS IN

Excerpts from The Lowell Sun, September 28, 2016 by Chris Lisinski

A controversial vote on whether to allow a plot of farmland to host a restaurant will not take place at Special Town Meeting this fall as initially planned. A draft of the Town Meeting warrant included a proposal to amend the Drew Gardens property's agricultural preservation restriction and allow a farm-to-table restaurant to be constructed on three of the nine acres. But following opposition from MLTC, community members, concerns from state officials and a request from the developer to defer consideration of the restaurant, selectmen voted to scratch the article from Town Meeting.

To read MLTC's letter, click [here](#).

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

[Back to top](#)

News

8) TRUSTEES SECURE 20.5 ACRES IN FIGHT FOR STEEP HILL

Excerpts from the Ipswich Chronicle, October 3, 2016 by Barbara Erickson, President & CEO, The Trustees



A major and inspiring act of conservation has been achieved through the will, spirit, and work of many who rallied and supported the Complete the Beach campaign to save Steep Hill on

Crane Beach. 650 local residents of Ipswich, the North Shore, and beyond came together over the last four months to support the Trustees' efforts to purchase, and permanently protect from development, the 20.5 acre Steep Hill inholding on Castle Hill at the Crane Estate. For the full story, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

9) MASSACHUSETTS NAMED MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT STATE FOR SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Excerpts from the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, September 27, 2016

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that the Commonwealth has been named the most energy efficient state in the nation by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) for the sixth consecutive year. This year, Massachusetts is joined by California at the top of ACEEE's annual [scorecard](#) that ranks states on their energy efficiency policies and programs. For the full story, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

10) NEXT SOLAR INCENTIVE STRAW PROPOSAL

On September 23, 2016, the Department of Energy Resources presented its vision for the next generation of solar incentives to the public. The meeting took place at the Federal Reserve Building. Over the next couple of months, DOER will continue to engage with stakeholders in working towards the final design of the program. To view the presentation, click [here](#). To listen to an audio recording of the meeting, click [here](#).

DOER will be accepting written comments on the proposed program design until October 28, 2016. Please submit all comments via email to DOER.SREC@state.ma.us.

[Back to top](#)

Nature News

11) RESTORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS' LOONS WITH MAINE CHICKS

Excerpts from the Maine Public, September 30, 2016 by Susan Sharon



There's an unusual conservation effort underway involving loons from maine called Restore the Call. Biologists from the Biodiversity Research Institute have been capturing loon chicks from places with healthy loon populations and transporting them to a lake in southeastern Massachusetts, where they were wiped out more than a century ago. The hope is that by the time the chicks migrate for the winter, they'll have imprinted on the new lake and will eventually return to

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

[Back to top](#)

12) CAN THE SELFIE GENERATION UNPLUG & GET INTO PARKS?

From National Geographic, October 2016 by Timothy Egan



Raft down the Grand Canyon with a father and son in Joshua Tree, as they reveal the rewards that even millennials can find in our most treasured places.

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

[Back to top](#)

Workshops

13) FREE WORKSHOP ON WORKING FARMS AND FORESTS

Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary, Attleboro

The decisions we make about land use are complicated. Between "working" woodlands, farmlands, unmanaged "wildlands," and room for needed jobs and housing, it can be difficult to plan in a way that benefits everyone.

Join Mass Audubon's Shaping the Future of Your Community program and the Narragansett Bay Research Reserve at one of our free workshops to explore regional visions and local goals. Learn about tools to get us there and ways to keep our landscape and waterways healthy! Featuring speakers Brian Donahue of Harvard Forest and Scott Millar of Grow Smart RI.

Light refreshments provided. Registration is required. Learn more and register [here](#). Contact scovino@massaudubon.org with questions.

[Back to top](#)

Conferences

14) MACC FALL CONFERENCE 2016 : MANAGING MASSACHUSETTS FORESTS

Saturday, October 29, 2016, 9:00am - 4:00pm

Holyoke Community College, Kittredge Center, Holyoke, MA



The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions is hosting their Fall 2016 Conference, Managing Massachusetts Forests: Conservation, Stewardship, and Regulation. This is the conference for conservation commissions, foresters, timber harvests, forest land owners, land trusts, watershed associations, and anyone who cares for or about forests. Learn about Wetlands Protection Act requirements for forestry, Forest Cutting Practices Act, working with foresters and conservation commissions, forest management, forest best management practices, and more. Keynote Address by David R. Foster, noted author, director of Harvard Forest.

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

[Back to top](#)

15) GREENBELT OPEN SPACE CONFERENCE

Saturday, November 12, 2016, 8:00am - 2:30pm

Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA

Please join Essex County Greenbelt Association for the first-ever Essex County Open Space Conference on November 12, 2016! Municipal staff, board & committee members and other volunteers engaged in land preservation & management should attend. Learn from your peers and colleagues as they discuss real life examples of land conservation, property management and trail projects from across Essex County.

Workshops include:

- Prioritization of open space acquisitions by the Ipswich and Beverly Open Space Committees
- Overview of Land Conservation Tools & Techniques by Essex County Greenbelt Association
- Using OLIVER and MAPPR, free online tools for mapping natural resources and landscape resilience presented by MassGIS and MassAudubon
- Planning, building and mapping trails by the Friends of North Andover Trails, Amesbury Trails, and West Newbury Open Space Committee
- Grassland bird habitat management by MassAudubon
- State grants for Land Conservation by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Registration is free! RSVP required. Includes breakfast & lunch.

For more information and to register, click [here](#) or call Andrew Mahoney at 978-768-7241 x 22

[Back to top](#)

16) ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE ALLIANCE CONFERENCE & ECO-MARKETPLACE

March 8 & 9, 2016

University of Massachusetts Amherst

At the 23rd Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace, explore topics ranging from the role of aesthetics in ecological restoration to the carnivore's role in the soil foodweb as we look for ways to design, build, and restore the landscape.

March 8 includes:

- Two workshops: The Power of Plants and Artful Stormwater Design
- Keynote speaker: Noel Kingsbury, international, master plantsman and author
Keynote address: *The Evolution of the Ecological Planting Design*

March 9 features eight Sessions and four Idea Exchanges covering a range of ecological topics including:

- Landscapes as a Source of Environmental Change
- The Art of Gardening - Techniques from Chanticleer
- The Science of Soil Biology During Extended Drought
- Native Grass and Wildflower Seeding

Immerse yourself in this two-day exploration of principles and practices that support the living landscape. Full conference brochure available after December 1st at

www.ecolandscaping.org

Attendees: (617) 436-5838

Exhibitors: (617) 308-7063

[Back to top](#)

Events

17) MILESTONE CRANBERRY BOG & NANTUCKET CONSERVATION FOUNDATION'S 13TH ANNUAL CRANBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 8, 2016, 11:00am - 4:00pm



Come out to the Festival grounds and watch the berries being harvested, learn about the history of cranberry farming on Nantucket, participate in the family activities or just kick back and enjoy the music and the spectacular autumn scenery of one of the most unique and beautiful places on our Island. Don't forget to bring home a pound, or two, of Nantucket Cranberries for the Holidays!

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

[Back to top](#)

18) NORTHEAST DROUGHT & CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 8:30am - 4:30pm
UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd, Boston, MA

NOAA, in partnership with the Northeast Regional Climate Center, the National Integrated Drought Information System, and others, invites you to attend the Northeast Drought & Climate Outlook Forum. The purpose of the forum is to discuss the current status of drought conditions in the region, how conditions might change in the coming fall and winter seasons, and what this might mean for the drought to continue into the spring and summer of 2017.

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

[Back to top](#)

19) 350.ORG CENTRAL MASS FORUM ON WEST BOYLSTON LATERAL

Saturday, October 15, 2016, 11:00am - 3:25pm
Ghosh Science Center, Worcester State University

350.org Central Mass is organizing an educational Forum on Spectra Energy's proposed West Boylston Lateral. Speakers from the AGs office, the Sierra Club, a state representative, and many others will be featured. Light refreshments will be provided.

[Back to top](#)

20) MASS AUDUBON'S 36TH ANNUAL FARM DAY

Saturday, October 15, 2016, 10:00am - 4:00pm
Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, Marshfield, MA

Join Mass Audubon in their biggest celebration of the year. The event will feature tractor-drawn hayrides through beautiful fields, live bluegrass music from the Reiner Family Band, educational presentations from Eyes on Owls, delicious food, games, crafts and artisan demonstrations. This event began as and remains an important fundraiser. It helped Mass Audubon acquire the 500 acres of important habitat known as the Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, saving the area from development. Farm Day continues as a celebration of this success, while continuing to support Mass Audubon's land protection and educational programming of all ages across the South Shore. For more information, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

21) TOUR OF PINEHILLS: A CASE STUDY IN LOW IMPACT DESIGN IN PLYMOUTH

Monday, October 17, 2016, 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Learn 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. Join the Shaping program and featured speakers Scott Horsley (Principal, Horsley Witten Group, Inc) and Tony Green (Managing Partner of the The Pinehills) to learn about the site's low impact development (LID) and sustainable development features.

The site features over 2,000 acres of open space surrounding a mixed use, walkable community featuring compact zoning, narrow roads, bioswales, nutrient recycling, and the preservation of America's oldest continuously used road. This event will feature a short presentation about LID and the how the site was created followed by a tour of the homes and site design.

Light lunch provided. Participate in an optional hike to explore the Pinehills trails after the tour! For more information, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

Trainings

22) EPA "SOAK UP THE RAIN" NEW ENGLAND WEBINAR SERIES ON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Thursday, October 6, 2016, 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Participate in the third webinar in the 2016 series: *Back To School: Soaking up the Rain at K-12 Schools - Making Connections with Teachers and Students on Green Infrastructure*.

Presentations include:

Peter Coffin, Coordinator of both the Blackstone Headwaters Coalition and the Blackstone River Coalition. Peter will highlight green infrastructure projects in public schools in Worcester, MA and Woonsocket, RI.

Peter Hinrichs, Learning Prep School in Newton, Massachusetts. Peter will talk about connecting green infrastructure and sustainable horticulture practices with academic subjects through experiential learning opportunities and getting teachers to think 'outside the box' through lesson plan development.

Molly Allard, Water Resources & Outreach Coordinator, Northern Rhode Island Conservation District & the Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program (SRWEP). Molly will present how green infrastructure projects & education have been integrated into SRWEP's educational efforts at both the elementary and high school levels.

To register, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

23) CLIMATE RESILIENCE DATA UPDATE WEBINAR

October 20, 2016, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Land trusts have a critical role to play in addressing climate change. We protect land for a variety of reasons: recreation, biodiversity, view sheds, water quality or community values. But does your land protection strategy consider climate change?

On October 20th from 1:00-2:30 pm, join Mark Anderson, lead scientist for The Nature Conservancy in developing this science, to learn about new datasets and data improvements that are currently being released. New data includes improved regional

flow maps that incorporate riparian climate corridors; data revisions include new local connectedness maps that incorporate feedback from the field. The data can be previewed below:

- [Maps](#)

- [Datasets](#)

To register, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

Grants

24) SURDNA FOUNDATION: SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

The Surdna Foundation is dedicated to fostering just and sustainable communities throughout the United States. The Foundation's Sustainable Environments Program works to overhaul our country's outdated and crumbling infrastructure with an approach that will foster healthy, sustainable, and just communities. By focusing on urban areas and their surrounding suburbs, the Foundation seeks solutions that connect and improve these infrastructure systems in ways that maximize positive impacts and minimize negative environmental, economic, and social consequences. The four main categories of work in this program area include the following: Sustainable Transportation Networks and Equitable Development Patterns, Energy Efficiency in the Built Environment, Urban Water Management, and Regional Food Supply. Nonprofit organizations may submit online letters of inquiry at any time.

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

[Back to top](#)

25) TEMPER OF THE TIMES FOUNDATION: ADVERTISING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Temper of the Times Foundation promotes the use of standard marketing concepts to increase awareness about environmental issues. Recognizing that organizations working to protect the environment often have limited access to paid media, the Foundation provides funds to underwrite advertising designed to promote the conservation and restoration of native wildlife, plants, and ecosystems in the United States. Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 may be used to fund the production of print, radio, or television ads; to pay for advertising space or airtime; or to produce or distribute pamphlets, books, videos, or press packets. The application deadline is December 15, 2016. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the application process.

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

[Back to top](#)

26) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS

November 3, 2016 deadline

The Preservation Technology and Training Grants program provides support to create better tools, materials, and approaches to conserving buildings, landscapes, sites, and collections.

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

[Back to top](#)

27) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION - STEM LEARNING SUPPORTED

November 8, 2016 deadline

The Advancing Informal STEM Learning program provides support to advance the design and development of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning opportunities for the public in informal environments. AISL program investments should be of interest and utility to public audiences, informal STEM practitioners, and decision-makers. The products of AISL investments may include, but are not limited to, exhibitions and programs in museums, zoos, aquaria, planetariums, nature centers, parks, libraries, and other environments; science communication; on-line experiences (e.g., games, simulations, social media, mobile computing, distributed networks, and massive online open courses); and research findings that articulate what works, why, and in what contexts.

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

[Back to top](#)

Jobs

28) GENERAL MANAGERS - APPLETON FARMS & FRUITLANDS MUSEUM - THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees of Reservations-Appleton Farms in Ipswich, MA and Fruitlands Museum, the Old Manse and Farandnear Portfolio in Harvard, MA are seeking General Managers to lead the day-to-day management of The Trustees natural and cultural special places, performing as a manager of a small team.

The General Manager (GM) reports to the Region Vice President and serves as a member of the Regional Leadership Team. The GM is accountable for the day-to-day management of The Trustees' significant natural and cultural special places, performing the role as an entrepreneurial senior leader and manager of a diverse team.

For more information on The Trustees of the Reservations, please visit www.thetrustees.org.

For more information on these important leadership opportunities, please visit: [Appleton Farms](#) or [Fruitlands Museum](#).

[Back to top](#)

29) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - HOOSIC RIVER REVIVAL

The Hoosic River Revival, based in North Adams, Massachusetts, seeks an Executive Director to lead our river restoration efforts. They are a community-based nonprofit working to contribute to North Adams' urban renaissance by transforming an unattractive concrete-walled section of the Hoosic River into a beautiful, ecologically-sound and publicly-accessible riverscape. This full-time position provides an opportunity to live in the beautiful New England Berkshires and oversee a project that will benefit local ecosystems and economies. No previous experience with river ecology is required. The ideal candidate will have strong experience with project management and working closely with a board, as well as navigating government processes. To read the full job description, click [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

Resources

30) INTERACTIVE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TOOL KIT

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) announces the launch of a new **Massachusetts Clean Water Tool Kit** website, which serves as the state's primary public education resource related to nonpoint source pollution.

The Toolkit, developed for MassDEP by Geosyntec Consultants, includes sections focused on the major categories of nonpoint source pollution, 127 fact sheets on best management practices to reduce pollution, and a collection of "Interactive Scenarios" based on Massachusetts landscapes.

The Interactive Scenarios allow users to explore ways to reduce pollution and improve water quality in a variety of highly detailed landscapes that are typical in Massachusetts, including residential, agricultural, urban, roads, construction, and shoreline restoration.

To view the Clean Water Toolkit, click [here](#). For more information, contact Malcolm Harper at Malcolm.harper@state.ma.us.

[Back to top](#)

31) GREENBELT OCTOBER INSTAGRAM PHOTO CONTEST

October 1 - October 31

Any Greenbelt Reservation



Post your favorite photo of our glorious natural world taken at any Greenbelt reservation. Landscapes, beautiful details, people having fun outdoors all welcome! You must use the hashtags **#wearegreenbelt** and **#greenbeltbeauty**.

Prize: The contest winner will receive a Greenbelt Swag Bag, and their credited photo will be posted on our e-platforms. (And in print if the resolution of the picture is high enough).

Contact [Andrew](#) with any questions, or click [here](#) for a more detailed description.

[Back to top](#)

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Edited by Kathy McGrath and Kara Campbell
enews@MassLand.org Tel: 978-443-2233

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