

# Nature for Massachusetts

Funding Our Climate and  
Biodiversity Goals

MLTC Conservation Partners Meeting  
September 12, 2025



# What is Nature For Massachusetts?

**Our goal:** Create a **permanent, consistent, equitable** *Nature for All* fund for protecting, restoring, and stewarding our forests, farms, wildlife habitat, parks, and water resources, especially those in EJ communities.

**\$100M** Fully dedicated to nature **each year**

***No new taxes involved***

**Who's eligible for the funding?**

- State agencies
- Cities, towns, and regional governments
- Land trusts
- Watershed associations
- Community groups



# Massachusetts' Conservation & Climate Goals

- Protect 30% of MA's lands and water by 2030, 40% by 2050
- Steward these lands to effectively support biodiversity, carbon, and other ecosystem services
- Increase access to nature for environmental justice communities
- Secure 11% of MA's carbon emissions removed by natural lands each year, while improving resilience to climate impacts





# Our Coalition



as of Aug. 2025

# Pathways to Success for Nature for MA

## Legislative

### *An Act Providing Nature for All (H. 901/S. 597)*

sponsored by Sen. Feeney, Reps. Blais and Montañó, now has over 40 co-sponsors. Senate bill was reported favorably from the Environment committee.

## Ballot Initiative

Go directly to registered voters with a referendum to **vote Yes on Nature for MA** on Nov. 3, 2026



**YES**

# Ballot Question Timeline

**Fall 2025**

July

August

September

October

November

December

WE ARE HERE

## AGO Filing

In **July**, we identified top 10 signatories and finalized initiative petition language

File ballot initiative petition with Attorney General by **August 6**

## Fall Signature Drive

Deliver approved petition to SOS on **September 3**

Begin signature collection on **September 5**

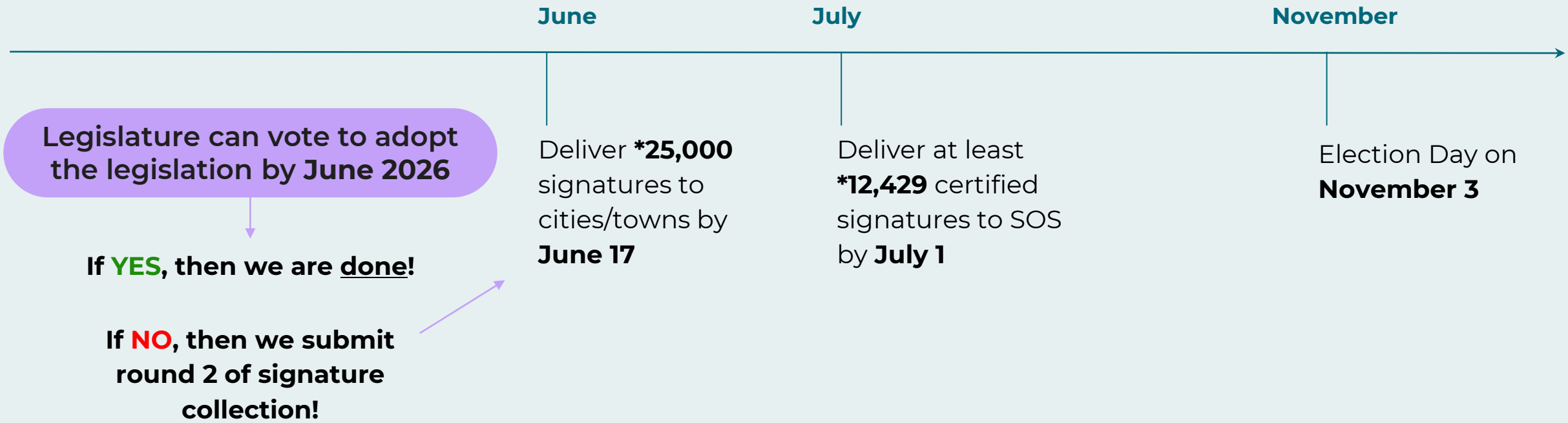
Deliver **\*130,000** signatures to cities/towns by **November 19**

Deliver at least **\*74,574** certified signatures to SOS on **December 3**



# Ballot Question Timeline

**2026**





# Can this Win at the Ballot?

A summer poll of likely MA voters from across the state showed very strong support:

- **Nearly 70% would vote yes today** for a ballot question to increase funding for nature
- Even when presented with arguments against, support stays in mid-to-high 60%
- Clean water polls as the most popular of the benefits of conserving land





**Let's Go!**

