



Land Trust Alliance - Updates

Jen Plowden

New England Senior Program Manager
Land Trust Alliance

New staff in New England

More capacity to support you

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Advancing Excellence Program

An Alliance and MLTC program to increase capacity and impact

- Advancing conservation by helping land trusts identify and take the next steps towards excellence
- Program discovery and needs assessment nearing completion
- Key elements:
 - Leadership development
 - Organizational assessment and implementation support
 - Grants
 - Training on key topics

Build a Strategic Fundraising Program

- 42 people from 20 MA land trusts participated in the short course in May.
- Three optional peer sessions this summer.
- Participants can apply for development assessment. Applications due June 28.



Rally 2024





- September 25th – 28th
- Scholarships are available for New England land trusts.
PLEASE APPLY BY JUNE 28!
- <https://alliancerally.org/scholarships-and-stipends/>
- Early bird ends August 12th
- Rally 2025 will be in Cleveland, OH (Sept 3-6, 2025)

Board Member Summit



- Focus on small and mid-sized land trusts
- Registration is open
- \$50 per person, includes lunch and light breakfast
- Peer learning, networking, board leadership topics
- Click here to learn more: <https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/explore/land-trust-board-summit-at-rally-2024>

 **EVENT DATE**
September 26, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT

 **SOURCE**
Land Trust Alliance

 **LOCATION**
Rhode Island Convention Center

NRCS Conservation Acquisition Team

Helping Land Trusts Access Federal Easement Funding through ACEP-ALE and RCPP

- [Justin Merrifield](#), Senior Project Manager
NRCS Easement Acquisitions
- Interested in these programs but have concerns about staff capacity, knowledge and understanding or the bureaucratic lift that can come with the programs?
- This team offers one-on-one support, knowledge sharing, and document assistance to get these critical federal dollars on the ground to protect our nation's food and fiber system.
- “Meet the team” webinar on June 24. Register [here](#).



Government Relations Update

Federal policy updates can be found on MLTC's website

- Learn more about federal funding opportunities on the Alliance's [new site](#) listing current federal funding opportunities
- USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service announced 2024 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). \$1.5 billion available during current sign-up period which ends July 2nd
- [Jeremy Lougee](#), Regional Conservation Partnership Program Manager
- Free webinar recording: [Writing a successful RCPP-proposal](#)



DOCUMENT

FEATURED

Federal Funding Opportunities

Posted September 29, 2023

✓ Updated May 3



SOURCE

Land Trust Alliance



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The federal government is a vital source of funding for land and natural resource conservation in the United States. Parks and public lands, product farms and ranches, vital wildlife habitat, healthy watersheds and more all receive federal dollars. Listed below are current federal conservation program funding opportunities that might be the right match for your next conservation project. Opportunities are organized by deadline date and include opportunities from the Inflation Reduction Act, Bipartisan Infrastructure De and other sources. For a complete listing of current federal funding

opportunities available to land trusts, please visit [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

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Land Trust Alliance Job Board

<https://landtrustalliance.org/job-board>

Submit a job [here](#).

LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

Training Associate

MIDCOAST CONSERVANCY

Land Conservation Manager

HILLTOWN LAND TRUST

Development Manager

BERKSHIRE NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL

Director of Advancement

BUZZARDS BAY COALITION

Watershed Restoration Project Manager

NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT LAND CONSERVANCY

Communications Manager

Executive Director, Middlesex Land Trust, Inc.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FORESTS

Membership Assistant

MAINE FARMLAND TRUST

Farmland Protection and Stewardship Administrative Assistant

MAINE FARMLAND TRUST

President & CEO

MAINE FARMLAND TRUST

Farmland Protection Project Manager/NRCS Easement Specialist

Upcoming National Webinars

- <https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/explore/all-access-pass-for-2024-webinars>



WATER AND MINERALS -
EVALUATING AND SELECTING
PROJECTS

**Beyond Easements
and Fee Title:
Protecting Water
Quality**

JUNE 25, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.



STANDARD 07: HUMAN RESOURCES

**Keep Your Staff:
Retention Strategies
for Land Trusts**

JUNE 26, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.



TAX BENEFITS -
UPHOLDING CONSERVATION
EASEMENTS

**Federal Tax Issues:
Fall 2024 Update**

OCTOBER 10, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.



COMMUNICATIONS -
RISK MANAGEMENT

**Red Alerts and Red
Herrings:
Communicating
During Crisis**

OCTOBER 31, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.



WORKING WITH LANDOWNERS -
EVALUATING AND SELECTING
PROJECTS -
PROJECT PLANNING

**Effective
Communication with
Landowners and
Neighbors**

NOVEMBER 19, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

An **all-access pass** gives you and your entire team the keys to **30** webinars on critical topics in land conservation, so you can learn from the best right at your desk

Resource Center – Learning Paths



STEWARDSHIP

Conservation easement stewardship

Alliance resources to help your land trust steward its easements



STEWARDSHIP

Fee land stewardship

Alliance resources to help your land trust steward the properties it owns



LAND PROTECTION

Acquisition

Understand the steps in acquiring land or conservation easements



FINANCE

Financial management

The nuts and bolts of managing your land trust's finances



ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

For Board Members

Alliance resources specifically for land trust board members

WAYS TO LEARN

Practical Pointers

The Practical Pointer Series contain practical tips to help land trusts stay informed and navigate the risks associated with specific legal challenges in land conservation. Topics range from mortgage subordination to managing neighbor disputes.



EASEMENT MODIFICATION AND EXTINGUISHMENT · TAX BENEFITS



[VIEW PRACTICAL POINTER](#)

Pointers for Drafting the Proceeds Clause in Conservation Easements

AUGUST 17, 2021 ✓ [UPDATED MAY 30](#) · LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

For more than three decades, many land trusts have used certain proceeds allocation language in conservation easement deeds. In the last few years, the Internal Revenue Service began disallowing easements with long-used language in the proceeds clause—and courts have backe...

Intermediate



PRACTICE 9C: ENVIRONMENTAL DUE DILIGENCE · ACQUISITION · SAFEGUARDING CONSERVATION



[VIEW PRACTICAL POINTER](#)

Hazardous Material Liability Under Federal Law for Conservation

2018 ✓ [UPDATED APRIL 9](#) · LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

Whether CERCLA liability applies to conservation easement holders remains unsettled and must be addressed on every property. Several tools exist to manage CERCLA liability risk. Practice 9C of Land Trust Standards and Practices addresses CERCLA risk.

Advanced



LEGAL REVIEW AND ADVICE · PRACTICE 9A: LEGAL REVIEW AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE · PRACTICE 11A: FUNDING CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP



[VIEW PRACTICAL POINTER](#)

Standing Approved or Denied: Who Has the Legal Right to Sue in Easement Cases

MARCH 4, 2022 ✓ [UPDATED MAY 24](#) · LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

Who has the legal right to sue in conservation easement cases? The Alliance's Conservation Defense team has compiled this list of cases where standing was approved or denied.

Advanced



FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS · OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE · EASEMENT MODIFICATION AND EXTINGUISHMENT · PRACTICE 2A: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS · PRACTICE 2C: FEDERAL TAX EXEMPTION · STANDARD 11: CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP



[VIEW PRACTICAL POINTER](#)

Private Inurement and Impermissible Private Benefit

2018 ✓ [UPDATED APRIL 3](#) · LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

This resource outlines the key elements of private inurement and impermissible private benefit and provides examples in the conservation context.

Basic

Please reach out any time!



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