



Land Trust Alliance Updates

Jen Plowden

New England Senior Program Manager

Land Trust Alliance

Massachusetts Conservation Partners Meeting June 20, 2025

Advocacy Days 2025

- **168** advocates representing **40** states including Massachusetts.
- More than **200** congressional meetings including several meetings with Massachusetts legislators.
- Participants included:
 - Greater Worcester Land Trust
 - Kestrel Land Trust
 - Berkshire Natural Resources Council
 - Barnstable Land Trust
 - North County Land Trust
 - Sheffield Land Trust
 - Sheriff's Meadow Foundation



Advancing Conservation Excellence

Leadership Development Training Program

- Congrats to the 11 leaders that recently completed this program to enhance their leadership and management skills and bolster organizational effectiveness!
- Participants attended eight virtual sessions and an in-person retreat between January and June 2025.
- Thanks to Greater Worcester Land Trust for hosting at their beautiful Patch Reservoir Environmental Field Station.



Advancing Conservation Excellence

Organizational Assessments & Implementation Grants

- 10 Land Trusts will be selected to participate
 - Requirements Manual Assessment
 - Terrafirma Eligibility Assessment
 - Organizational Capacity Assessment
- These land trusts will also receive up to \$10,000 in implementation grant funding and coaching support



Advancing Conservation Excellence

Targeted Microgrants

- Modest grants (\$1,000-\$2,500) to initiate specific projects to assist with organizational development and activities to sustain their work.
- This program is an ideal resource for land trusts looking to make strategic, low-cost improvements.
- No match requirement.
- Applications will open in early August and close in September. Stay tuned for the announcement.



Advancing Conservation Excellence

Building the Bench: 2026 Staff Leadership Summit

- A one-day summit for MA land trust leaders
- We need your input on what is most meaningful for you. Please tell us in the survey!
- Interested or have questions? Email Jen Plowden at jplowden@lta.org



Use QR code or visit menti.com and enter **4140 2189**

RALLY 2025

Join us at Rally 2025 in Cleveland, Ohio!

Rally is where people who share a passion for conservation will re-energize and inspire you.

Join us in Cleveland September 3-6 at the Huntington Convention Center for a gathering packed with diverse topics to explore and great colleagues and friends to learn and share with. Rally has all of the resources you want to take your conservation skills further. There's no better way to invest in your future.

Early bird prices end July 21!

Learn more:

<https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/connect/rally-the-national-land-conservation-conference>



Land Trust Alliance Job Board

landtrustalliance.org/job-board

Submit a job [here](#).

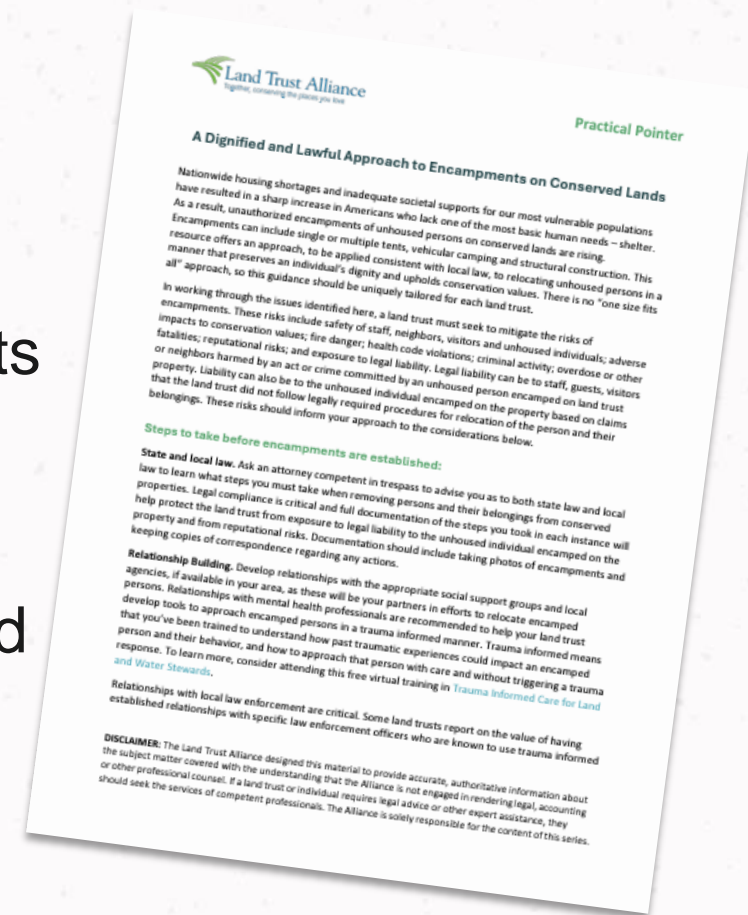
- Associate Director, Native Land Conservancy
- Land Conservation Projects Manager, Berkshire Natural Resources Council
- Youth and Volunteer Coordinator, Kestrel Land Trust
- Conservation Project Associate, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust
- Manager of People and Culture, Vermont Land Trust
- Vice President of Advancement, Buzzards Bay Coalition
- Director of Advancement, Southeast Land Trust of NH
- Business and Office Administration Manager, Joshua's Trust
- **And more!**

New Practical Pointer

A Dignified and Lawful Approach to Encampments

Nationwide housing shortages and limited social supports have led to a rise in unauthorized encampments on conserved lands. These encampments—ranging from tents to vehicular camping—present safety, legal and conservation challenges

This [resource](#) outlines an approach to relocating unhoused individuals with dignity while protecting conservation values.



New Appraisal Resources

Best practices when engaging appraisers

This checklist has been developed to guide land trust practitioners on how to engage with appraisers on conservation projects and provide the essential information to ensure a successful interaction.

<https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/explore/best-practices-when-engaging-appraisers>



New Appraisal Resources

Conservation Easement Valuation Appraiser Checklist

This checklist was developed by experienced appraisers, with a focus on the essential components of a conservation valuation assignment. It is intended to help appraisers, particularly those who are new to conservation, understand the requirements of this work and increase their capacity to take on these assignments.

<https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/explore/conservation-easement-valuation-appraiser-checklist>



New Land Access and Return Resource

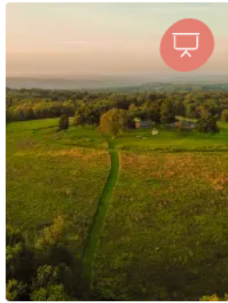
Partnerships for Indigenous Land Access and Return: A Summary of Legal and Relational Pathways

Introduces a spectrum of approaches to land access and return, focusing on strategies and solutions that have been developed in partnership by land trusts and tribes or Indigenous-led organizations.

<https://landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/explore/partnerships-for-indigenous-land-access>



Upcoming National Webinars



STEWARDSHIP •
STANDARD 12: FEE LAND STEWARDSHIP

Strategies for Conflict Management and De-Escalation in the Field

JUNE 24, 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. EDT •
LAND TRUST ALLIANCE • ZOOM •
ANN ROMOSZ, PHD

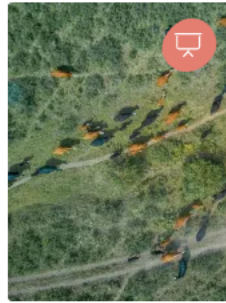
Are you prepared to handle difficult conversations and de-escalate conflicts in the field? Join us for an...



Basic

[VIEW WEBINAR](#)

2025 Webinar Pass holders: Free
Alliance members: \$75.00
Non-members: \$140.00



ACQUISITION •
STANDARD 02: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS •
STANDARD 05: FUNDRAISING •
STANDARD 11: CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP

Build Your Tax Foundation: Six Land Conservation Topics

OCTOBER 30, 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. EDT •
LAND TRUST ALLIANCE • ZOOM •
DIANA NORRIS

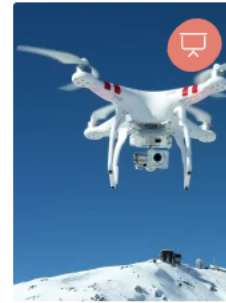
Donee organizations have important responsibilities when it comes to meeting requirements. Learn about th...



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ACQUISITION •
STANDARD 11: CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP •
STANDARD 12: FEE LAND STEWARDSHIP •
STEWARDSHIP

The What, How and Why of Drones for Land Trusts

NOVEMBER 6, 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. EST •
LAND TRUST ALLIANCE • ZOOM •
RORY THIBAUT, DIRK RUFF, CHRIS LONG

Learn the basics of what drones are, how to include them in your budget, and how they can be an asset to...



Basic

[VIEW WEBINAR](#)

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landtrustalliance.org/resources/learn/ways-to-learn/webinars

Thank you

We'd love to connect. Please reach out!

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