



Land Trust Alliance Updates

Mariah Fogg

New England Program Coordinator

Land Trust Alliance

Massachusetts Conservation Partners Meeting February 27, 2026

Advancing Conservation Excellence 2026

Stewardship Short Course Recap

- 39 organizations, 120 registrants, 70 live participants on average
- Thank you to our guest presenters:
 - Dan Ewald, Ashby Land Trust
 - Sally Loomis, Hilltown Land Trust
 - Mariel Hohmann, Hilltown Land Trust
 - Doug Brown, Berkshire Natural Resources Council
 - Mark Gerath, Groton Conservation Trust
 - Katy Coburn, Groton Conservation Trust
 - Linda Vanderveer, Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust
 - Kathy Pappalardo, Wareham Land Trust
 - Steve O'Grady, Orleans Conservation Trust

Pathways to Conservation Excellence

Grant Program

- For Massachusetts land trusts to address organizational fundamentals, advanced risk management, or accreditation preparation
- Grants between \$10,000 to \$15,000
- Application period: March 30 – May 8, 2026

Advancing Conservation Excellence 2026

Stay tuned for more information!

- Leadership Summit – June 24, 2026
 - A one-day summit for MA land trust leaders – including executive directors, members of staffed leadership teams, and board members.
 - Strengthen skills, build your network, discuss critical issues shaping conservation
 - Wildlands Stewardship Training Center, Plymouth, MA
- A Strategic Planning Short Course – Fall 2026
- A Stewardship Volunteer Management Webinar – Fall 2026

Federal updates

- Federal updates are ongoing; resources are kept current on [our website](#)



Upcoming Courses & Peer Learning

- Acquisition course – sold out!
 - March 2-5 Albuquerque
- Stewardship Offerings
 - [Baseline course](#) (starting March 3rd)
 - Long format stewardship course
November 9-13 @NCTC
- New Executive Director Peer Group
 - For EDs in their job for three years or less
 - First session is Thursday, February 5th
 - 90-minute monthly calls generally on the first Thursday of the month running through January 2026



Updated Practical Pointers

- [What You Need to Know from Tax Cases \(Shorn of Nuance\)](#)
- [Drafting Pointers for Risk Balancing in Conservation](#)
- Reach out to [Diana Norris](#) with any questions about these resources.





TOOLKIT

Energy Infrastructure Siting

This toolkit will help land trusts engage productively in the regulatory and legislative processes of siting new energy infrastructure in their areas.

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April 13 - 16, 2026

ADVOCATE

Advocacy Days

The mission of the Land Trust Alliance's annual Advocacy Days is to advocate and advance important land trust policy priorities. As part of the event, the Alliance provides land trust leaders with advocacy trainings and helps to facilitate relationships with key legislators to build the political influence of the land trust community.

Land Trust Alliance Job Board

landtrustalliance.org/job-board

Submit a job [here](#).

- Maine Land Steward, Northeast Wilderness Trust (ME)
- Executive Director, Connecticut Farmland Trust (CT)
- Seasonal Land Stewardship Technician, Essex County Greenbelt Association (MA)
- Legal Project Manager, Vermont Land Trust (VT)
- Summer Land Stewardship Intern, Chatham Conservation Foundation Inc. (MA)
- Land Stewardship Summer Intern, Buzzards Bay Coalition (MA)
- Southeast Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance

And more!

New England Program Manager

- We are posting the position description next week.
- We are planning for a June 1st start date.
- In the interim, please contact Mariah Fogg (mfogg@lta.org) or Rex Linville (rlinville@lta.org).



Thank you

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We'd love to connect. Please reach out!

