



Sheep Hill
Williamstown Rural Lands



MASSACHUSETTS
LAND TRUST
COALITION

Conservation Partners Meeting

June 20, 2025

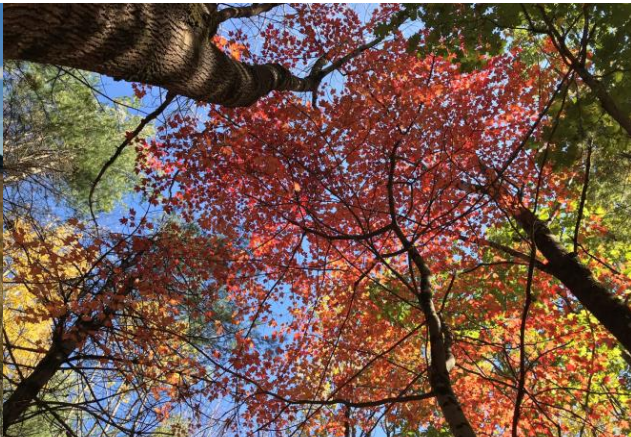
Mass Audubon Brewster's Woods, Concord, and via Zoom

Thank you outgoing Board Members!

Rita Gibes Grossman (2011 – 2025)
Kristen Sykes (2019 – 2025)



Crane Beach, Ipswich, The Trustees



Franklin Land Trust



The Dunn Land, Acton Conservation Trust

Board of Trustees Elections



Zoom participants will use a Zoom Poll to vote on the proposed slate, with the options “In favor” “Opposed” and “Abstain”. We’ll do a show of hands for those in person.

Per our bylaws, only **current land trust members** of MLTC are eligible to vote.

If multiple representatives of your organization are present, please agree which of you will vote.

If not voting, please ignore the poll.

Candidates for Re-Election

For three-year terms beginning July 1, 2025



Cormac Collier
Nantucket Conservation
Foundation



Anna Wilkins
North County Land Trust



Emily Myron
MassWildlife

Candidates for new Three-Year Terms



Laura Johnson is a life-long conservationist with more than 35 years' experience in non-profit management. As President of Mass Audubon, she spent 14 years leading the country's largest independent state Audubon organization. Previously, she worked for 16 years at The Nature Conservancy, both as a lawyer and in positions including Massachusetts state director and northeast region vice president. She is a co-founder and former director of the International Land Conservation.

Laura served on the Board of Directors of the Land Trust Alliance for 10 years, including 3 years as Chair. She has served on the WGBH Advisors Council, the Board of Advisors of the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Board of Visitors of Mount Auburn Cemetery, and as a Corporation member of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. She was a founding member of the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Stewardship Council. She received a BA in history from Harvard and a JD from NYU Law School.

Candidates for new Three-Year Terms



Colin Novick has been staff for the Greater Worcester Land Trust since 1997 and is presently serving as its Executive Director. A native of Worcester, Colin is proud to call the city home, and to have a hand in conservation work there. The opportunity to engage in urban conservation has brought a particular perspective to his approach to public benefit which he enjoys sharing with the broader community.

Colin serves as a deacon at the Cathedral of Saint Paul for the Diocese of Worcester and has ministered there since 2009. Colin also serves as an election warden in the City and has enjoyed this opportunity since 2001. When he gets the chance, he can be found hiking up mountains and backpacking.

Candidates for new Three-Year Terms



Kathy Sferra is Conservation Director for her hometown of Stow where she has worked for the past 12 years. She has served in leadership, land protection, and stewardship roles at various statewide and regional organizations including Mass Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts and the Cape Cod Commission.

She is a member of the Board of the Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals. Kathy has a Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Education from Cornell University and a Masters in Regional Planning from UMass Amherst. She is also a member of the Stow Open Space Committee and an accomplished landscape and nature photographer.

Candidates for new Three-Year Terms

Rob Warren has worked protecting land in Massachusetts for 35 years, in both government and nonprofit sectors. Today he is a land conservation consultant, negotiating land protection projects and advising on funding and partnerships. Rob was Managing Director of Conservation for The Trustees of Reservations for eight years, with oversight of both land acquisition and conservation restriction stewardship.



A graduate of Oberlin College with a focus on plant ecology, he worked for a decade as a cabinet and furniture maker before returning to his conservation roots in 1990. Following a brief internship with the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, he worked for 10 years as Habitat Protection Coordinator with the Department of Fish & Game, then for 14 years with the Massachusetts Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, serving as Director of Protection & Policy. In addition to consulting, Rob spends time on design/build projects in wood and metal.

Next Meeting

- Friday September 12, 10 am – 12:15 pm
- Hybrid: at MassWildlife Field HQ, Westborough, and via Zoom.

massland.org/events to register



Upper Spencer Brook Valley

Concord Land Trust

Photo: Hannah Chevalier

2025 Field Trip Program



- Fridays & Saturdays now through October
- Free but registration required
- massland.org/events to register

Check out the Events Calendar

massland.org/events

JUN
27

Fri, Jun 27 2025, 12 - 4pm

Bog & Beach Field Trip (ECCN)

Meet at the 300 Committee's office Falmouth

JUN
26

Thu, Jun 26 2025, 1 - 2pm

Small-Staffed Land Trusts Quarterly Networking Zoom

via Zoom

JUL
11

Fri, Jul 11 2025, 10am - 12pm

ECCN Mt. Auburn Cemetery Tour

Meet at the Mt. Auburn Cemetery Visitor Center 580 Mt Auburn St, Cambridge, MA

JUL
18

Fri, Jul 18 2025, 12 - 2pm

Field Trip: Pawtucket Farm: An Urban Collaboration Success

AUG
22

Fri, Aug 22 2025, 10am - 2pm

Field Trip: Community Based Urban Agriculture

in-person (Boston)

Land Protection Tools and Techniques

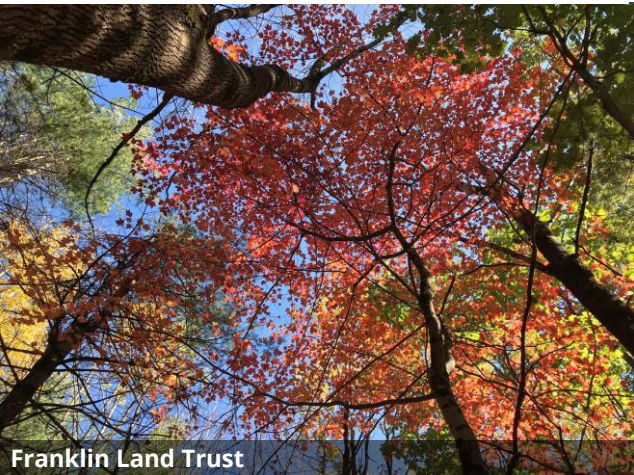
10-week course starts September 2025

- Co-led by Christa Collins and Rob Warren, with guest faculty from around the state

25 enrolled. Wait list for others.



MASSACHUSETTS
LAND TRUST
COALITION



Franklin Land Trust



2024 Land Protection Course Participants



The Dunn Land, Acton Conservation Trust

22nd Annual Land Trust / State Agency Retreat

- October 8-9, 2025 (Wednesday/Thursday)
- Stay tuned for details!



Mass. Land Conservation Conference, 2019



Elm Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Mass Audubon



Pizza Chefs, 2024 Retreat

Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference



Friday • March 13 • UMass Amherst

Special thanks to the Planning Committee --

**Buzz Constable • Tessa Dowling •
Vanessa Farny • Abby Hardy-Moss
Amy Henderson • Cynthia Henshaw
Vanessa Johnson-Hall • Bridget Likely
Nick Rossi • David Santomenna •
Vidya Tikku • Barbara Chrenko •
Robb Johnson • Lauren Berk**

Other Programs in Development

- Indigenous Allyship Initiative
- Land Trust Sustainability Project





MASSACHUSETTS
LAND TRUST
COALITION

Thank you!