



MA State Gathering at Land Trust Alliance Rally  
Denver, Co, September 18, 2025



MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND TRUST  
COALITION

# Conservation Partners Meeting

September 25, 2026 and via Zoom

# Welcome!



Welcome, call to order and chair report – Kathy Orlando,  
Partner Engagement Chair

- Meeting logistics and introductions
- Review of June 12, 2026 Minutes
- Next meeting: Friday, December 11, 10 a.m. via Zoom only

# Next Meeting



December 2026 Conservation Partners meeting  
Friday, Dec 11 2026, 10am - 12pm  
Zoom Only

**[Register at massland.org/events](https://massland.org/events)**

# Land Trust / State Agency Retreat

Wednesday October 7, 9am - 5pm

Saima Park, Fitchburg, MA



Thanks to our Planning Committee!

Lisa Primiano • Katy Coburn  
Felicia Bakaj • Melissa Cryan  
Mariah Fogg • John Gioia  
David McGowan • Colin Novick  
Stephen O'Grady • Katharine Otto  
Johnny Robinson • Tyson Neukirch  
Barbara Chrenko

# Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference



Friday, March 19th, 2027  
UMass Amherst

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 4!

Thanks to our Planning Committee!

Rachel Bruce • Tessa Dowling • Vanessa Farny •  
Abby Hardy-Moss • Amy Henderson •  
Cynthia Henshaw • Vanessa Johnson-Hall •  
Nick Rossi • David Santomenna • Vidya Tikku •  
Barbara Chrenko • Katy Coburn • Lauren Berk



# Land Trust Alliance Updates

Reggie Hall

New England Program Manager

Land Trust Alliance

## Rally 2026

- Sept 16-19, Denver, CO
- Nearly 2,200 attendees
  - Over 200 from New England
  - Nearly 80 from Massachusetts
- Awarded scholarships to all Massachusetts land trusts that applied
- Massachusetts gathering



# RALLY 2026



# Groundswell: Advancing the Next Era of Conservation

## Strategic Plan 2027-2037

- Launched at Rally
- 10-year plan
- PEOPLE. Cultivate land trust leadership
- SYSTEMS. Strengthen conservation infrastructure
- PRESENCE. Amplify our collective impact
- STRENGTH. Build the Alliance's resilience

# Advancing Conservation Excellence

## Strategic Planning for Small Organizations Short Course

- **Three-part Zoom series:** October 15, 22, and 29 (Thursdays)
- For **small land trusts** exploring strategic planning
- For both **board and staff**
- Guest speakers:
  - Karen Grey, Wildlands Trust
  - Adam Moore, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation
  - Emma Ellsworth, Mount Grace Conservation Land Trust
  - Davnet Conway, Sudbury Valley Trustees
  - Jenny Hansell, Berkshire Natural Resources Council
- **Cost:** \$50 members | \$75 non-members
- [Register here](#)

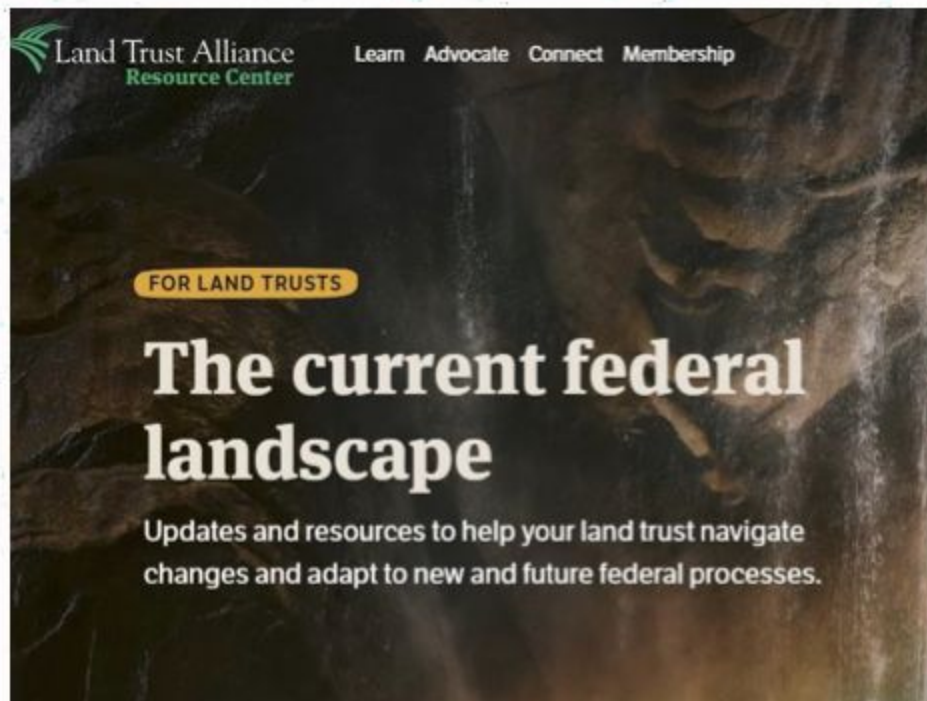
# Advancing Conservation Excellence

## Many Hands in Action: Strategies for Managing Stewardship Volunteers

- **Webinar:** November 15, 4-5 pm
- Practical strategies for **building and sustaining stewardship volunteer programs**
- Connect with peers and share ideas
- **Real-world examples from Massachusetts land trusts**
- Guest speakers:
  - Kelly Barber, Barnstable Land Trust
  - Sonja Wadman, Waltham Land Trust
- **Cost:** \$20 members | \$35 non-members
- [Register here](#)

# Federal updates

- NRCS & USFS Funding Opportunities
- New Farm Bill Update
- Federal updates are ongoing!
  - Check out [our website](#) for the latest details and positions



# New and Updated Practical Pointers

- Addressing Trespass and Encroachments: Prevention, Monitoring and Resolution
  - Trespass Part I: Early Detection and Intervention
  - Trespass Part II: Boundary Monitoring for Timely Intervention
  - Trespass Part III: Conservation Positive Resolution



# Upcoming Webinars

- Addressing Encampments on Conserved Land Oct 8
- Get to Know Eastern Trees Oct 14
- Building Relationships with Landowners Across Generations Oct 29
- ArcGIS Fundamentals for Land Trusts Nov 4
- Understanding Rights of Way for Land Conservation Practitioners Nov 17
- New Guidance for Digital Recordkeeping Nov 18



# Stewarding Land and Conservation Easements/Restrictions

Nov 9-13 | National Conservation Training Center | Shepherdstown, WV

- Immersive, **in-person course** covering the essentials of land and conservation restriction stewardship
- Combines **practical instruction with hands-on field experience**
- Great for **new staff, those seeking a refresher, volunteers, and board members** overseeing stewardship
- **Space is limited** — [registration is open](#)



# Land Trust Alliance Job Board

Check out the openings [here](#)!

Submit a job [here](#).

- Assistant Director of Development, Essex County Greenbelt Association
- Development Manager, Manchester Essex Conservation Trust
- Land Protection Manager, Wildlands Trust
- Director of Advancement, Berkshire Natural Resources Council

**And more!**

# Thank you!



**Reggie Hall**

New England Program Manager  
Land Trust Alliance

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**Mariah Fogg**

New England Program Coordinator  
Land Trust Alliance

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**We'd love to connect.  
Please reach out!**

# Massachusetts State Agency Updates



- Lisa Primiano, Director, Division of Conservation Services, EEA
- Katharine Otto, MDAR Farmland Action Plan Coordinator
- Other Updates

# Coming Soon! Open Space Data Project



- Lisa Primiano, Director, Division of Conservation Services, EEA
- Katy Coburn, MLTC

# MLTC Policy Priorities Updates



Heather Clish, Policy Director, The Trustees

# Early Conservation Career Network



Julia Fitzpatrick, Essex County Greenbelt Association

# Legal Advisory Council Updates

Buzz Constable, MLTC Legal Advisory Council,  
MLTC Conservation Advisory Council



# Recent Legal Cases

Landmark Decisions to Know About (NEFF v. Hawley, 2014) – Mark Robinson, The Compact & MLTC Conservation Advisory Council



# Agriculture Committee



Kathy Orlando,  
Sheffield Land Trust

# Other Business?



Thank you!