MASSACHUSETTS LAND TRUST COALITION

EARLY CONSERVATION CAREER NETWORK

Training Resources for the Early Conservation Career Network

Explore these training opportunities to build your skills, expand your network, and grow your career in conservation. Options range from free, self-paced courses to immersive, in-depth certificate programs.

Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions

Overview: Provides practical training on wetlands protection, conservation regulations, and working with local conservation commissions. Especially useful for understanding permitting and municipal processes.

- **Experience Level:** Beginner to Intermediate
- **Format:** Workshops and webinars
- **Cost:** Low to Moderate (many affordable trainings; some free webinars)

Mass Audubon – Field Naturalist Certificate Program

Overview: A well-established, immersive program combining classroom instruction with extensive fieldwork in ecology, conservation biology, and natural history. Strong emphasis on community learning and professional networking.

- **Experience Level:** Beginner to Early-Career Professionals
- **Format:** In-person with field components
- **Cost:** $1,895 (scholarships may be available)

Programs at Wildlands Trust Stewardship Training Center, Plymouth

Overview: Advance land conservation through skill-building for volunteers and continuing education for professionals. Annually offer Basic Chainsaw Training for Trails

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& Seasonal Land Steward Training, Wilderness First Aid (WFA), and Basic First Aid & CPR

- **Experience Level:** Beginner to Intermediate
- **Format:** In-person
- **Cost:** Range depending on membership and training, $225-$260 with overnight lodging for a nightly fee

The Nature Conservancy Conservation Training

Overview: A broad library of online courses on topics such as climate change, GIS, project management, and leadership. Flexible, self-paced, and includes offerings in Spanish.

- **Experience Level:** Beginner to Advanced
- **Format:** Online, self-paced
- **Cost:** Mostly free; some low-cost certificate options

Wild Med – Wilderness Medicine Training

Overview: Offers Wilderness First Aid (WFA), Wilderness First Responder (WFR), and recertification courses. Ideal for those working in remote or field-based environments where emergency response skills are critical.

- **Experience Level:** Beginner to Advanced (varies by course)
- **Format:** In-person/hybrid and online
- **CPR & First Aid Cost:**
    - CPR $62/person
    - First Aid $72/person
    - Combined $130/person
- **Wilderness First Aid Cost:**
    - **In-person/hybrid:** WFA is typically $250; WFA + CPR is typically $300. The cost can vary based on the host site. Discounts are available for large groups.
    - **Online:** WFA Essentials + CPR is $197