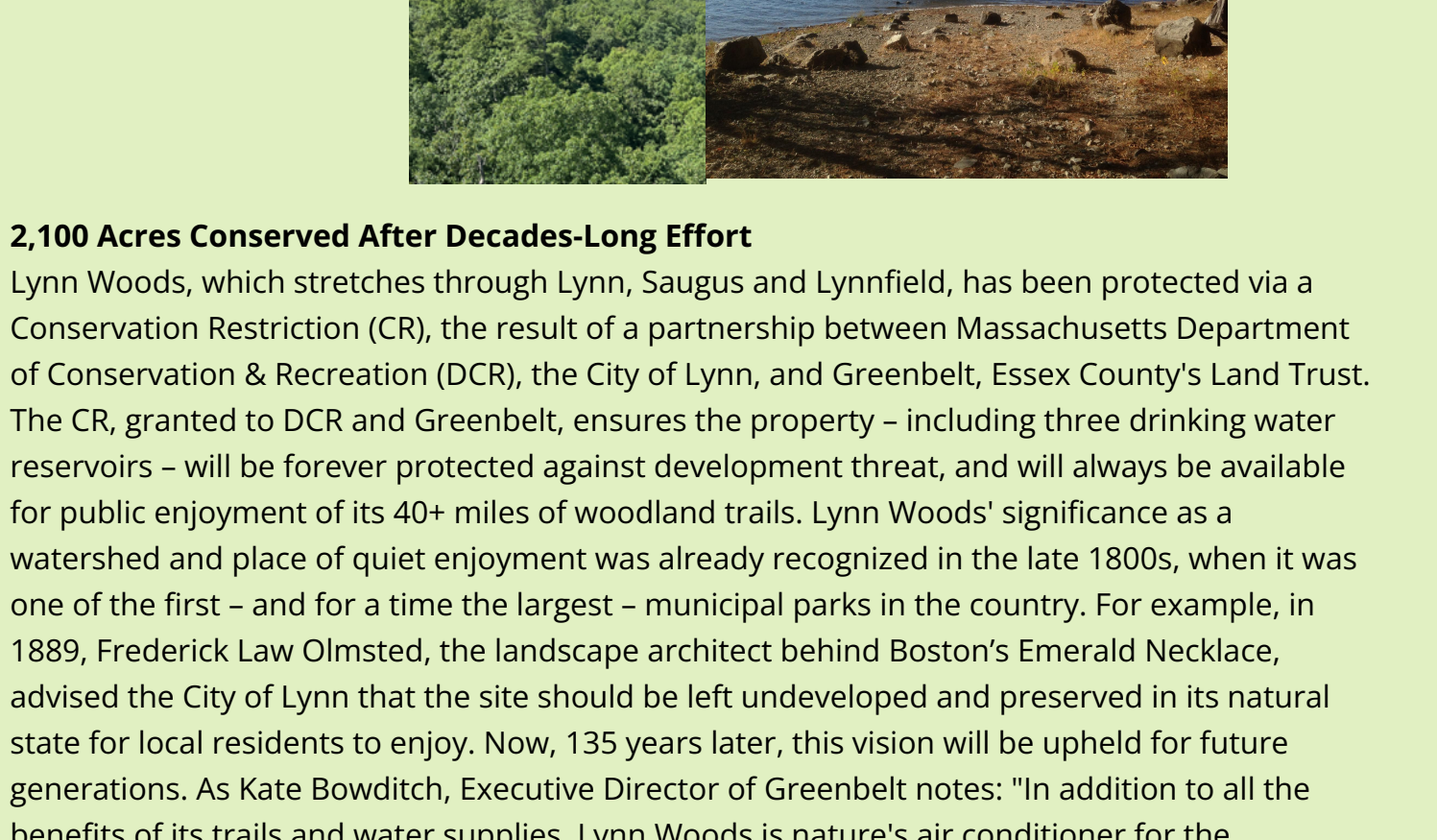




The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

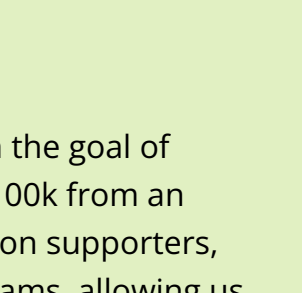
January 18, 2024, Volume 22, Number 1



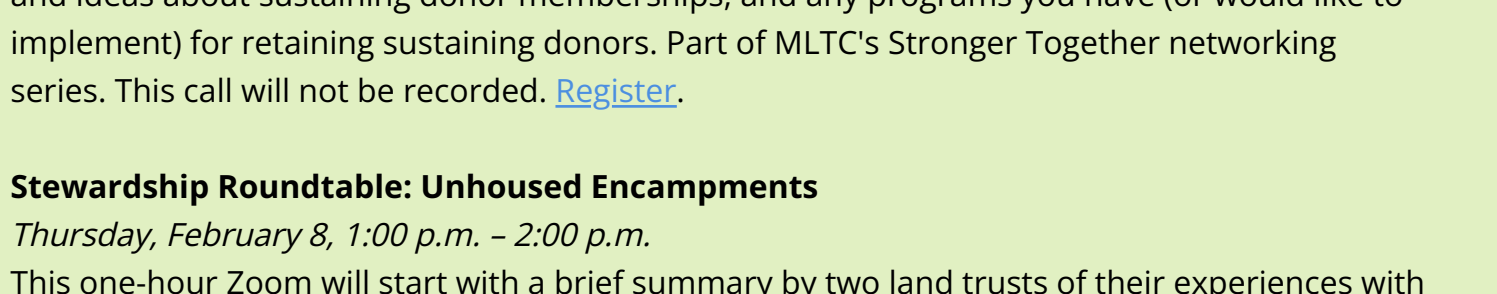
2,100 Acres Conserved After Decades-Long Effort

Lynn Woods, which stretches through Lynn, Saugus and Lynnfield, has been protected via a Conservation Restriction (CR), the result of a partnership between Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR), the City of Lynn, and Greenbelt, Essex County's Land Trust. The CR granted to DCR and Greenbelt, ensures the property – including three drinking water reservoirs – will be forever protected against development threat, and will always be available for public enjoyment of its 40+ miles of woodland trails. Lynn Woods' significance as a watershed and place of quiet enjoyment was already recognized in the late 1800s, when it was one of the first – and for a time the largest – municipal parks in the country. For example, in 1889, Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect behind Boston's Emerald Necklace, advised the City of Lynn that the site should be left undeveloped and preserved in its natural state for local residents to enjoy. Now, 135 years later, this vision will be upheld for future generations. As Kate Bowditch, Executive Director of Greenbelt notes: "In addition to all the benefits of its trails and water supplies, Lynn Woods is nature's air conditioner for the neighborhoods of Lynn...and its permanent protection will mean those benefits will be there for future generations, who may need Lynn Woods even more than we do now". [Read more.](#)

Consider supporting MLTC's efforts to inform, connect, and advocate for the Massachusetts land conservation community. Your monthly or one-time tax-deductible donation of any amount is appreciated. Thank you! [Learn more / more options.](#) [Membership benefits.](#)



MLTC News and Programs



Schedule Available for 2024 Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference

Join the Massachusetts conservation community on Saturday, March 23 in person at UMass Amherst and Friday, April 26 as field trips around the state. View the schedule of workshops and field trips [here](#). Registration will open in late January. Featuring **Keynote speaker Darren Ranco**, Chair of Native American Programs, University of Maine Orono, on "**Centering Indigenous Peoples and Nations in Land Protection and Conservation: Wabanaki Possibilities**". Dr. Ranco's address will reflect perspectives from his work with the Wabanaki Commission on Land and Stewardship, which you can learn more about [here](#).

Thank You! –The Video Clip, Starring MLTC Board and Staff

This [1.5 minute video](#), is our enthusiastic "thank you" to all who helped us reach the goal of raising \$100k in new or increased donations over the past 14 months to earn \$100k from an anonymous foundation. Thanks to the generosity of over 140 of land conservation supporters, we did it! Your contributions are already fueling our growth in people and programs, allowing us to do more than ever to support the Massachusetts land trust community.

Development Staff: Sustaining Donor Membership
Thursday, January 25, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Share your development colleagues from across the state your success stories, questions, and ideas about sustaining donor memberships, and any programs you have (or would like to implement) for retaining sustaining donors. Part of MLTC's Stronger Together networking series. This call will not be recorded. [Register.](#)

Stewardship Roundtable: Unhoused Encampments
Thursday, February 8, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This one-hour Zoom will start with a brief summary by two land trusts of their experiences with homeless encampments, then open the discussion to the group for insights, questions, and sharing their own strategies, successes and challenges. We'll also gauge if there's interest in holding regular topic-based stewardship calls. Part of MLTC's Stronger Together networking series, intended for staff and board members of land trusts and their conservation partners. Facilitated by MLTC. This discussion will not be recorded. [Register.](#)

Endowments and Board-Designated Funds: Does Your Land Trust Need One?
Thursday, February 29, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

This free educational webinar presented by Matt Goward CFP, UBS Wealth Management, will address how to create, fund and appropriately manage an endowment, and how endowments enhance a Resource Center's fund. It may fit into managing your organization's financial sustainability. Hosted by MLTC. [Register.](#)

Topics of Interest to All Volunteer Land Trusts
Tuesday, March 5, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The focus of this call will be "Membership Programs: Yes! No! Alternatives?". Some organizations have membership programs, others don't. Some are moving away from a membership model. Why? What alternatives are there? Come share your experiences, questions, and suggestions. Part of MLTC's Stronger Together networking series. This discussion will not be recorded. [Register.](#)

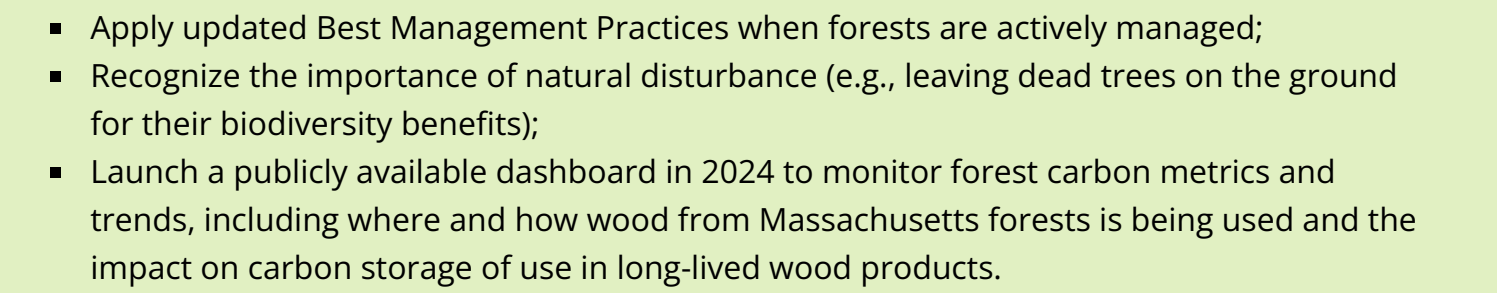
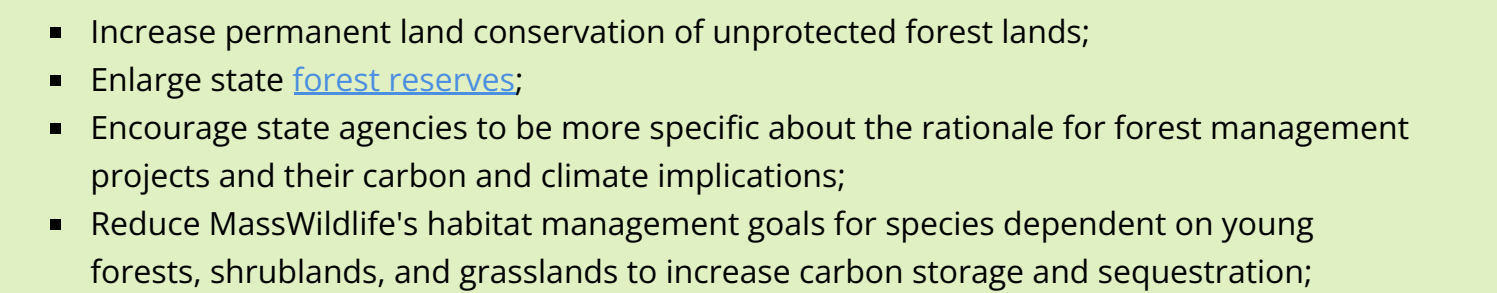
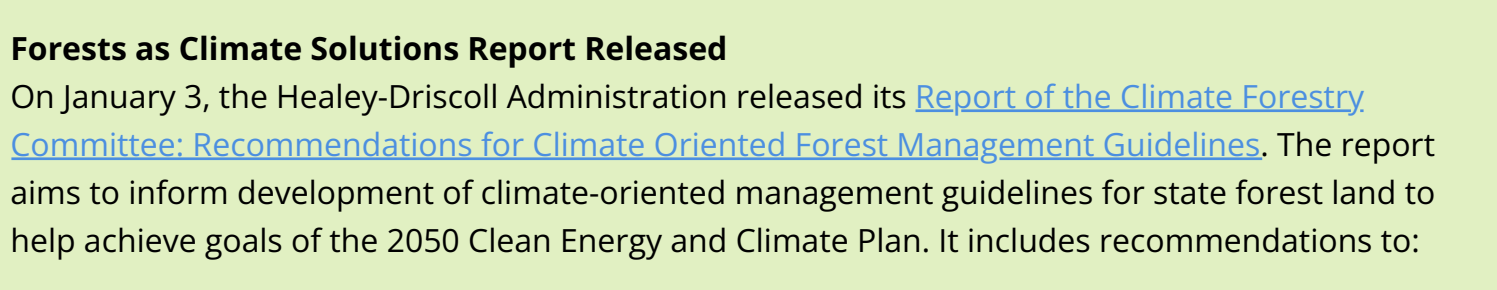
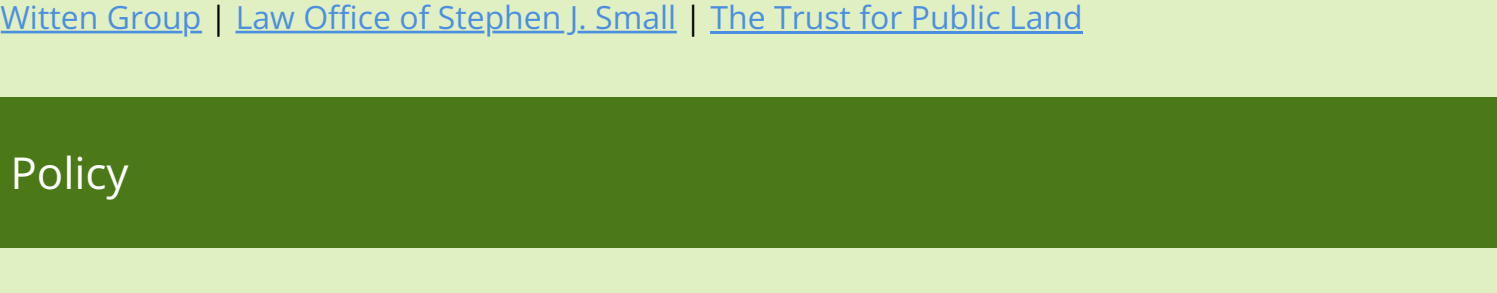
MLTC Conservation Partners Meeting (formerly known as "Steering Committee")
Friday, March 8, 10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Land trust staff and board members as well as conservation partners are welcome to this quarterly meeting, featuring relevant news from state agencies, a timely update on state and federal policy matters, and announcements. Katie Theoharides, new President and CEO of The Trustees, will be the featured speaker, discussing her vision for The Trustees. [Register.](#)

Conference Exhibitor & Sponsorship Opportunities

Promote your business to a live audience of over 400 members of the Massachusetts conservation community plus thousands more through Conference online publicity. Details [here](#) and [here](#).

Thank you to the generous sponsors who have joined us so far!



Policy

Forests as Climate Solutions Report Released

On January 3, the Healey-Driscoll Administration released its [Report of the Climate Forestry Committee: Recommendations for Climate-Oriented Forest Management Guidelines](#). The report aims to inform development of climate-oriented management guidelines for state forest land to help achieve goals of the 2050 Clean Energy and Climate Plan. It includes recommendations to:

- Increase permanent land conservation of unprotected forest lands;
- Enlarge state [forest reserves](#);
- Encourage state agencies to be more specific about the rationale for forest management projects and interests. When Kelly and I were considering moving to Williamstown for my position at Rural Lands, I knew we would be living at the furthest reaches of Massachusetts but not beyond. That meant continuing to be part of the greatest land trust community in the country. Since Kelly passed last month, my mailbox has been full with your cards and letters expressing your condolences. Your outpouring of affection has provided comfort and connection during a difficult time. I am blessed. Thank you, David"
- Reduce MassWildlife's habitat management goals for species dependent on young forests, shrublands, and grasslands to increase carbon storage and sequestration;
- Apply updated Best Management Practices when forests are actively managed;
- Recognize the importance of natural disturbance (e.g., leaving dead trees on the ground for their biodiversity benefits);
- Launch a publicly available dashboard in 2024 to monitor forest carbon metrics and trends, including where and how wood from Massachusetts forests is being used and the impact on carbon storage of use in long-lived wood products.

Public comment is invited through January 24th via [this form](#). To share longer comments or share attachments, send materials to [guidelines@mass.gov](#).

In conjunction with the report, [EEA announced allocation of \\$50 million](#) in funding for forest conservation and incentives that encourage municipal and private landowners to adopt climate-oriented management approaches.

Comment on Revised Wetland, Stormwater and Water Quality Regs

On December 22, DEP released a [suite of proposed revisions to existing regulations](#) related to wetlands protection, stormwater management, Chapter 91 public access to waterways, and Section 401 Water Quality Certification. **Public comments** on the draft regulations are **due March 1**. DEP is hosting a series of public information sessions and hearings from January 18 – February 1. Learn more and register for those [here](#). MACC is hosting a free Lunch & Learn **webinar to discuss reactions and comments on the draft regs** on Wednesday, January 24, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. [Register.](#)

News

ARPA Funds to Support Trail Projects

On December 19, the Healey-Driscoll administration [announced](#) allocation of \$24 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to fast-track long-planned trail projects, with a focus on environmental justice communities. Supported projects include: \$6 million for next year's round of MassTrails grants; \$3 million for maintenance of existing trails in state parks and forests; \$1.4 million for reconstruction of a 0.5-mile section of the Charles River Greenway in Waltham; \$4 million for a missing link in the Mystic River greenways network in Medford; \$6 million for a 0.5-mile extension of the Blackstone Greenway in Blackstone to connect to a riverfront greenway in Woonsocket, Rhode Island; and \$2.4 million to construct rail and freeway crossings that will close the Weston-to-Waltham gap in the Mass Central Rail Trail.

Important Terrafirma Announcement

Current Terrafirma policies end March 1, 2024. Coverage continues only if you reconfirm eligibility and pay for a 2024 policy [on the Terrafirma website](#). File a claim for any possible problems that you discovered this policy year, even if you're unsure about the issues. [Email Terrafirma](#) with any questions.

In Memorium

With sadness we share that [Kelly Ryan](#) passed away in December. Kelly was the wife of David McGowan, longtime member of the land conservation community and past Executive Director of Williamstown Rural Land Foundation. David asked to share this message with our readers: "To my friends and colleagues, When Kelly and I were considering moving to Williamstown for my position at Rural Lands, I knew we would be living at the furthest reaches of Massachusetts but not beyond. That meant continuing to be part of the greatest land trust community in the country. Since Kelly passed last month, my mailbox has been full with your cards and letters expressing your condolences. Your outpouring of affection has provided comfort and connection during a difficult time. I am blessed. Thank you, David"

Webinars and eLearning

Dam Busters 101: Monthly Lunchtime Webinar Series
First Wednesday of each month starting November 1, noon – 1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by DER, Massachusetts Rivers Alliance and CRWA, each webinar focuses on a dam removal topic, featuring an expert, and offers time for questions and discussion. The goal is to give municipal and NGO dam removal project managers the knowledge they need to successfully manage and carry out a dam removal projects. Attend one or all. An in-person site visit is planned at the end of the series in the fall of 2024. [Register. View previous sessions.](#)

Tribal Forestry: Understanding Current Issues and Challenges
Thursday, January 18, April 25, noon – 12:55 p.m. (for March 14 and 21)

This series will focus on the current state of tribal forest management and Indigenous stewardship, with speakers from different tribes, universities, non-profits, and agencies. Topics will include: the history of forest stewardship on tribal lands in North America, federal laws and tribal forestry, contemporary uses of plants and wildlife stewardship, fire, conclusions from the Indian Forest Management Assessment (IFMA), tribal co-management, and the future of tribal forestry in the face of climate change. Free. CEUs available for attending foresters. Co-developed and co-hosted by the Forest School and the Yale Center for Environmental Justice at Yale School of the Environment, and Salish Kootenai College. [Learn more and register.](#)

Free Farm Succession Planning Webinar Series
Wednesdays, January 24, 31, February 7, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Learn the basics of succession planning, like how to get started and where to find support. Intended for transitioning and junior generation farmers. Hear directly from farmers recently in transition. [Learn more and register.](#)

MACC Lunch and Learn: MassDEP's Proposed Climate Resiliency Regulatory Package
Wednesday, January 24, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

This informational roundtable will discuss the three sets of proposed regulation changes, plus a new Stormwater Manual. [Learn more. Register.](#) Comments on the package are due to MassDEP by March 1.

Forest Adaptation Tool Talk
Wednesday, January 24, 1:00 p.m.

To help researchers better understand the needs of forest managers, and to help managers more efficiently navigate their overflowing toolboxes, Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (NE CASO) is offering a series of Tool Talks for the climate adaptation community. [Learn more and register.](#)

Northeast Bird Habitat Conservation Initiative Mapping Tool Webinar
Wednesday, February 14, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

This [tool](#) uses bird data to support activities such as habitat management and stewardship plan development, land prioritization and acquisition, and landowner and community engagement, all through the lens of forest conservation. This webinar will provide an overview of the tool's data and layers, explore the tool's functions, and showcase ways the tool is serving land conservation professionals. [Register.](#) Created in partnership with the Northeast Bird Habitat Conservation Initiative (NBHCI).

Making Land Available for Farming
Thursdays, February 22 & 29, noon – 1:30 p.m.

These two webinars are intended to help farmland owners and their representatives explore motivations, strategies, and mechanics for making any amount of land available to a farmer. [Learn more and register.](#)

Understanding Watershed Forestry Management
Sunday, February 25, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., virtual Via Zoom and in-person at the Quabbin Reservoir Visitor Center

DCR Quabbin-Ware Region Chief Forester Ken Canfield will explain the benefits of a managed forest, and the objectives and conditions that when, where, and how trees are harvested. In-person seating is limited. Free, but [registration is required](#) for both Zoom and in-person attendance.

Northeast Regional Invasive Species & Climate Change Symposium
February 27 & 28 (Tuesday & Wednesday)

Learn about and discuss challenges and solutions to dually managing invasive species and a changing climate. Details forthcoming [here](#).

ACEP-ALE Program Sub-Committee Spring Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

At this spring meeting of the ACEP-ALE Program Sub-committee of the MA NRCS State Technical Committee, learn about ACEP-ALE and WRE programs as tools for farmland protection, participate in making recommendations to the State Technical Committee, and help shape the role and scope of this sub-committee to advance farmland protection efforts across the state. This group will plan to meet quarterly. All interested parties welcome. [Register.](#) Contact Jamie Potters [jpotters@farmland.org](#) with questions.

In-Person Events and Outings

Farm Succession School – Berkshires
Application deadline: Friday, January 19 (or until filled)
Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, MA
January 31 | February 28 | March 27

This three-day, in-person course is an opportunity for retiring farmers to talk with peers, learn from advisors, and get support on the challenging process of farm succession and transfer planning. Farmers do not need to have an identified successor to participate in this course. Cost: \$100 per farm. [Learn more.](#)

Massachusetts Environmental and Energy Agenda for 2024 and Beyond
Application deadline: Thursday, February 15, 4:00 p.m.
Location: Nutter-McClenen & Fish LLC, Seaport District, Boston

This event, hosted by the Environmental Business Council of New England, will feature EOEAA Secretary Rebecca Tepper with a presentation on EOEAA accomplishments, and the Healey-Driscoll Administration's environmental, energy, and climate goals for 2024. [Learn more and register.](#)

Wetlands Assessment and Field Techniques Lecture Course
Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 1 – April 4, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: in-person at UMass Amherst or remote

Natural resource professionals and conservation commissioners are invited to participate in the lecture portion of this course, which offers in-depth information about Massachusetts wetland regulations, wetlands classification and mapping, functional assessment, condition assessment, wetland delineation, road-stream crossing assessment, vernal pool identification, and wildlife habitat evaluation. The cost for this non-credit, lectures-only opportunity (no field labs) is \$300. [Learn more.](#) To register, contact Scott Jackson at [sjackson@umass.edu](#).

MACC's 2024 Annual Environmental Conference
Saturday, March 2, The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester

Join more than 700 conservation commissioners and agents, environmental officials, consultants, attorneys, students, activists, and others at this all-day conference featuring 29 workshops with updates and insights on laws, regulations, policies and technologies important to natural resource protection and climate change mitigation. Note that four workshops will be livestreamed for virtual participants. [Schedule overview. Workshop descriptions. Learn more and register.](#)

2024 Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference
Saturday, March 23, 2023 in person at UMass Amherst and Friday, April 26, field trips around the state. See more above, under MLTC News and Programs.

Grants

Healthy Soils Challenge Grants
Application deadline: Friday, January 19

This EOEAA (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs) program will award up to \$100,000 over 6 – 18 months for projects that implement the Healthy Soils Action Plan by improving soil health and undertaking sustainable land management practices, as well as refining tools for municipal soil mapping, assessment, and planning. [Learn more.](#)

NEW! Five Star and Urban Wetlands Restoration Program
Application deadline: Wednesday, January 31

This National Fish and Wildlife program focuses on the stewardship and restoration of coastal, wetland, and riparian ecosystems. The program requires the establishment and/or enhancement of diverse partnerships and an education/outreach component that will help shape and sustain behavior to achieve conservation goals. [Learn more.](#)

Farmland Access, Succession, and Transfer Support Grants
Application deadline: Wednesday, January 31

These grants provide up to \$5,000 to farmers looking to purchase or lease land, or pass their farms on to other farmers. Farmer applicants must be located in Maine, Rhode Island, or eastern Massachusetts. A program of American Farmland Trust. [Learn more and apply.](#)

MassTrails Grants
Application deadline: Thursday, February 1

These grants provide funding and technical expertise for project development, design, engineering, permitting, construction, maintenance of recreational trails, shared-use pathways, and the amenities that support trails. These are reimbursement grants with a match requirement. [Learn more and apply.](#)

NOAA Climate Adaptation Partnerships (CAP) Program
Application deadline: Monday, February 5

CAP is an applied research and engagement program which supports sustained, collaborative relationships that help communities build lasting and equitable climate resilience. It seeks to support new creative, solution-oriented approaches that are both responsive to communities and that integrate across silos of scientific knowledge and expertise. Funded by five-year cooperative agreements. [Info sheet. Learn more.](#)

Inclusive and Accessible Outdoor Recreation Events Support Grants
Application deadline: Friday, February 23

This program, the first offered by the new Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation (MOOR), aims to make outdoor recreational activities more accessible to low-income residents, communities of color, and people living with disabilities. Grants of up to \$10,000 will support events that encourage new and returning audiences to the great outdoors. [Learn more.](#)

NEW! Resilient and Connected Appalachians Grants
Application deadline: Saturday, February 24

This new program funded by The Nature Conservancy awards up to \$50,000 to support projects that result in the permanent protection of resilient and connected lands in pivotal landscapes. Projects should focus on the intersection of connectivity, climate resilience, and community engagement, especially with vulnerable or affected groups. [Learn more.](#)

NEW! 2024 Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Technical Assistance Opportunity
Application deadline: Friday, March 1

The National Parks Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (NPS-RTC) helps communities and public land managers evolve climate resiliency strategies, develop or restore parks, conservation areas, rivers, and wildlife habitats, as well as create recreation opportunities and programs that engage future generations in the outdoors. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Cornell Land Trust Small Grants
Application deadline: Friday, March 1

Cornell Labs' [Land Trust Bird Conservation Initiative](#) grant program will award around \$230,000 to as many as 14 projects in two categories: Capacity and Partnership Projects – up to 6 grants of \$5,000 each, and Management and Restoration Projects – 8 grants of \$25,000 each. Funds to be dispersed in late May. [Learn more.](#)

Drinking Water Supply Protection Grants
Application deadline: Friday, March 8, 3:00 p.m.

This program provides financial assistance for the purchase of land in existing Department of Environmental Protection approved drinking water supply protection areas, or land in estimated protection areas of identified and planned future water supply wells or reservoirs. Grants of up to \$350,000 are available. [Learn more.](#)

Funding for MA Forest Landowners to Improve Native Wildlife Habitat
Application deadline: Friday, March 8 (also May 10)

Offered through the Massachusetts Collaborative for Private Forestland – Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), these funds support improved and protecting wildlife habitat on private forest land in the Massachusetts. Eligible landowners must own forestland in Massachusetts that is at least 10 acres. Applications received by March 8 (or May 10) will be ranked and considered for funding in fiscal year 2024. [Learn more.](#)

Innovation and Capacity-Building Grants
Application deadline: rolling through Wednesday, April 3

These grants, part of the Empower Program of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, provide seed funding for the exploration of innovative ideas for potential program models or projects that will provide access to the benefits of clean energy, or reduce energy burden for previously underserved or vulnerable populations in the state. [REP. Learn more.](#)

NEW! Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants

Awarded on a rolling basis through November 21, 2024, these U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grants will award up to approximately \$2 billion to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. Eligible applicants are partnerships between two community-based non-profit organizations, and partnerships between such organizations and local governments or higher education institutions. [Learn more and apply.](#)

List of Federal Funding Opportunities

Compiled by Land Trust Alliance (LTA), this list of [current federal conservation program funding opportunities for land trusts](#) is organized by deadline date. For a complete list of funding, visit [grants.gov](#).

Solar Moonshot Program

This program helps non-profits afford the switch to clean energy. Grant priority is given to solar projects that have additional funding sources and community support. Grants are typically awarded up to \$25,000, with amounts dependent on various factors. The program is managed by Hammond Climate Solutions Foundation, and grants are funded by generous philanthropists and foundations. Questions? Contact [solarmoonshot@hcs foundation](#). Learn more and apply.

Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Partnership Grants
Application deadline: accepted on a rolling basis starting October 1 until funding is exhausted

This program serves as a catalyst for new, creative programs and projects within [45 communities](#) of the Heritage Area. Reimbursable matching grants are offered in support of the goals and objectives outlined in the [Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Management Plan](#) and summarized as: inclusive Storytelling, Education, Interpretation & Curation; Community Planning & Resource Conservation; Historic Preservation; and Regional Cultural Events. Funding ranges from \$1000 to \$7500. Discussion of your proposal with a grant specialist before applying is highly recommended. Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).

Land Conservation Networking Mini Grants

Applications accepted on a rolling basis, but applying in the fall is recommended
Projects must be complete by April 15, 2024

Recognizing that many land conservation projects require partnerships among community leaders and other conservation partners, this mini grant program focuses on creating intentional opportunities for networking and relationship building. The ideal proposal will bring together people from a shared geography to build or strengthen relationships in service of community conservation. [Learn more.](#)

Neighborhood Outreach Project
Applications accepted on a rolling basis, but applying in the fall is recommended

Landowner decisions are often informed by advice and stories of friends and neighbors. The goal of this grant is to use neighborhood-scale social networks to help landowners make decisions about the future of their land. Past projects include direct mailings to high-priority landowners, videos, workshops, potlucks, site visits, and individualized follow-up with interested landowners. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Supporting Underserved and Small-Acreage Forest Landowner Participation
Application deadline: reviewed quarterly with final deadline Wednesday, August 21

These grants, funded by the US Forest Service, support the participation of underserved or small-acreage forest landowners in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Resources and Opportunities

New England Farmer-to-Farmer Soil Health Cohort Program
Application deadline: Thursday, February 15

This one-year peer-to-peer soil health planning program is for vegetable producers in Massachusetts of a range of scales and operation types. Participants will learn new techniques for improving soil health directly from peers, with support from AFT's professional network. This program is not limited to, but will prioritize, farmers who have been [historically underserved by USDA programs](#). A program of American Farmland Trust. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Rally 2024: Call for Presentations
Proposal deadline: Tuesday, February 20

Rally, the annual meeting of U.S. land conservation professionals, will be held in Providence this September. They're looking for proposals that integrate themes of diversity, equity and inclusion, climate change, and water. Presentations can tell stories of challenges or experiences in carrying out conservation work, or about great partnerships, fundraising successes, board matters, or stewardship practices. [Learn more and submit a proposal.](#)

Ecological Landscape Alliance Annual Conference
February 21 & 22 (Wednesday & Thursday), virtual

This conference celebrates ELA's 30th year, with topics focusing on lessons learn and how far they've come. [Learn more and register.](#)

Need Help Building a 5-Year Conservation Plan?
Application deadline: Friday, March 8

This service of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services' (NRCS) Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), assists private forest landowners, land trusts, sportsmen clubs, and others by designing a 5-year conservation plan that provides financial assistance for active conservation measures already being conducted on the land units enrolled such as forest thinning, invasive species control, installing wildlife structures, etc. Minimum annual payments to participants start at \$4,000/year (\$20,000 over the 5-year contract). [Learn more. Contact John Dooly, Forestry and Wildlife Implementation Specialist, or your local NRCS Field Office for more information.](#)

Farm Succession Planning Assistance

Land for good can help clarify farm succession goals and next steps; develop a farm transfer plan; build a team of advisors; obtain information from experts and educational resources; identify or recruit a farm successor, if necessary; explore financial, legal, and management considerations; and work with stakeholders and/or successor toward a smooth transition. [Get in touch through the Farm Succession Forum.](#)

Open Space Conference Webinars Are Accessible Year-Round

Topics include: Open Space and Recreation Plans, from Writing to Action – [video](#); Tips and Tools for Landowner Outreach – [video](#); Initiatives for Climate Resilience – [video](#); and BoKnap – [video](#). Collaboratively organized by the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, and The Trustees of Reservations.

New Online Tool Offers Guidance on Nature-Based Solutions

The U.S. Department of the Interior's [National](#) is designed to provide guidance on the implementation of nature-based solutions. The tool includes implementation strategies, project planning resources, and successful example projects.

New Peer Groups Forming

The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) is forming three new peer groups, which offer the opportunity to discuss common interests. Click the links to learn more and apply. They are: [Jewish Diaspora Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Peer Program](#) (apply by January 19); and [accreditation renewal support groups](#) (must already be accredited). Note that participants must be from LTA member organizations.

Converting Vacant Lots into Open Space and Housing

A new tool by the Center for Community Progress and Land Trust Alliance helps local community and conservation groups identify places where cross-sector partnerships may intersect to transition vacant properties into housing and open space. [Learn more.](#)

Breaking Ground: An Affordable Housing Resource Guide for Land Trusts

This free report from Land Trust Alliance provides a foundation for land trusts to gain literacy in the world of affordable housing, while encouraging cross-movement conversation and collaboration. [Read the guide.](#)

Microhabitat Program Incubator

Whether it's called a "microhabitat" or "microhabitat," the concept is the same: to convert small fragments of land into useful habitat. The incubator is a gathering place and central resource for established and emerging microhabitat programs to share ideas, lessons, and expertise. [Learn more.](#)

Dam Removals Helping Wildlife

MassWildlife plans to remove seven aging dams to restore natural stream flow, which will reduce flood risks and improve water quality and fish habitat. [Learn more.](#)

Jobs

Post your job openings on the MLTC [self-serve Job Board](#)! Add one anytime. They are [posted throughout the month](#).

All jobs are new this month (except Events Coordinator)

[New England Program Coordinator](#) - Land Trust Alliance

[Development & Communications Associate](#) (Full-Time) - The 300 Committee Land Trust (T3C)

[Ecological Restoration Grants Manager](#) - Division of Ecological Restoration

[Events & Admin Coordinator](#) - Essex County Greenbelt Association

[Conservation Science Program Manager](#) -MassWildlife

[Senior Trails and Greenways Planner](#) - Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation

[Hopkins Memorial Forest Manager](#) - Williams College

[Outreach Manager for Climate-Smart Forestry](#) - New England Forestry Foundation

[Senior Forester](#) - New England Forestry Foundation

[Staff Forester](#) - New England Forestry Foundation

[Stewardship Field Assistant](#) (Seasonal) - Sudbury Valley Trusts

[Plant Propagation and Horticulture Internship](#) - Native Plant Trust

[Summer Internship NextGen Forest Program](#) - Forest Stewards Guild

Our Contact Information
{(Organization Name)}
{(Organization Address)}
{(Organization Phone)}
{(Organization Website)}
{(Unsubscribe)}

