



MASSACHUSETTS LAND TRUST COALITION

MassLand E-News
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Land Conservation Community

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"I only went out for a walk, and finally concluded to stay out until sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in." ~ John Muir

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MASSLAND NEWS

1) MassLand Young Land Professionals Summer Gathering Tonight at Greenbelt

Celebrate summer with a fun social and networking event at Greenbelt, Essex County's Land Trust. The evening will include a guided walk, a barbecue, a campfire with s'mores, and the option to stay overnight at the Cox Reservation, 82 Eastern Avenue, Essex, MA. For more information and to RSVP, contact Jane at jane@ecga.org. Rain or shine - please dress appropriately.

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LOCAL LAND TRUST NEWS

2) Lentowski Reflects on 47 Years Leading Conservation Foundation - With Correct Link

Excerpts from The Inquirer and Mirror, June 28, 2018 by Joshua Balling

Jim Lentowski, a long-time hero of conservation on Nantucket, is officially retired, after 47 years leading the organization that today protects more than 9,000 acres of open space across the island, including Sanford Farm, Tupancy Links, Squam Farm and Swamp, the Milestone and Windswept cranberry bogs, Norwood Farm and the University of Massachusetts-Boston's Nantucket Field Station in Quaise.

"What's next? After 47 years of working to create, from the bottom up, a one-of-a-kind program that reflects the founders' goal to preserve Nantucket's unique natural character, it's time to stop, wind down and consider how best I can use my experience, contacts and interests in the years ahead," Lentowski, 71, said. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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NEWS

3) The New Development That Promises to Transform Boston's Waterfront

Excerpts from Metropolis, July 12, 2018 by Zachary Edelson

Countless cities across America have sprawling, empty waterfront sites that once hummed with factories, trucks, and trains. For Boston, it was its Seaport District—a swathe of land approximately a mile deep and long, located east of the city's downtown. And while the Seaport District still features its fair share of industrial buildings and surface parking, a 23-acre development situated right next to downtown Boston is sprouting new towers: around eight blocks have complete buildings, with one block under construction and nine blocks awaiting development. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE NEWS

4) Conservation Land Tax Credit Update

The proposed changes to the Conservation Land Tax Credit (CLTC) program were not included in the state's House-Senate Conference Committee's budget during this legislative session. The proposed changes would have raised the annual credit cap from \$2 million to \$5 million per year by gradually increasing the cap over the next three years. Currently, new landowners wishing to apply for the tax credit will not be eligible for funding until 2020 or later, as the cap has already been reached for the next two years. This has delayed the conservation of important natural resources and complicated projects that are funded by grants with specific time constraints. MassLand and our partners will be meeting this fall to discuss plans for the next legislative session. Thanks to all of our members who contacted their legislators in

support of the CLTC program, and to those legislators who advocated strongly for the proposed changes.

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5) *Endangered Species Act at Risk*

Excerpts from Mass Audubon, July 23, 2018 by Christina Wiseman

Over the past few weeks, the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) has come under unprecedented threat. For 45 years the law has successfully protected wildlife, including species like the Bald Eagle, which the ESA helped bring back from the brink of disappearing in the US. In fact, thanks to the ESA, more than 99 percent of the nearly 1,800 animals and plants protected by it have been saved from extinction.

Now, the ESA is under attack. In the past two weeks, more than two dozen pieces of legislation, policy initiatives, and amendments designed to weaken the law have surfaced. Many of these proposed changes have been under the guise of "updating" or "reforming" the Act, but in reality would undermine its core principles and gut its scientific basis for protecting wildlife.

Earlier this month, Mass Audubon and 420 other national, state, and local conservation groups sent a letter to US Senate and House leadership voicing our overwhelming support for the ESA. The Massachusetts environmental community will be continuing to follow this issue closely, and will keep you updated with actions you can take to keep the ESA firmly in place.

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6) *Environmental Bond Bill Update*

Excerpts from Mass Audubon's Beacon Hill Weekly Roundup, July 23, 2018

The [environmental bond bill](#), which will fund conservation and climate change programs, and includes components of Audubon's priority [adaptation bill](#), is still being reviewed by a House-Senate conference committee. Click [here](#) for a letter from the Commonwealth Conservation Council to the conference committee describing priorities for Mass Audubon, MassLand, and other members of the Council; click [here](#) to review the letter from the Climate Change Adaptation Coalition.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

7) *Become a TerraCorps Service Site!*

Build capacity for your organization while supporting an emerging conservation leader-- Apply to be a TerraCorps Service Site today! Each year, TerraCorps partners with nonprofit organizations across Massachusetts that host TerraCorps members for their full 11-month term of service. As a host site, or partner organization, you provide ongoing mentorship and support to your member and in turn, they complete 1,700 hours of service (38 hours/week) for your organization and community.

Non-profit organizations in MA with land conservation or land revitalization (including urban conservation and gardening efforts) in their mission interested in hosting TerraCorps members are welcome to apply. New and prior organizations, as well as collaborations between staffed and unstaffed organizations, are encouraged to apply. More information, and the application to host TerraCorps members for the 2018-2019 program year is available [HERE](#) on the website. Service site selections will be made on a rolling basis.

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EVENTS

8) Celebration of 500,000 Protected Acres of Private Forest

Monday, July 30, 2018, 10:00am

586 Briggs Road in Athol (300 acre private woodland owned and cared for by Ben and Susie Feldman)

Please join Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Matthew Beaton and special guests to announce the reaching of a major milestone in improved care of two million acres of private forests in the Commonwealth. Through many years of work by a partnership of forest conservationists, Massachusetts now has over 500,000 acres under the care of professional private foresters who are working with thousands of landowners to implement the highest care of their forests.

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9) Protect Land and Water Conservation Fund with the Environmental League of Massachusetts Action Fund and Congressman Joe Kennedy

Wednesday, August 1, 2018, 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Fisher Hill Reservoir Park, 78-144 Fisher Avenue, Brookline, MA

For 52 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has protected national parks and open spaces in every corner of the United States. Massachusetts alone has received more than \$223 million from the LWCF to protect everything from wildlife refuges and working forests to community parks and baseball fields.

LWCF is about to expire. To continue protecting land and water across the nation, Congress must re-authorize the fund when it expires in September. Join the Environmental League of Massachusetts' Action Fund to hear from Congressman Joe Kennedy about the importance of protecting our natural spaces for future generations. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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10) Pollinator Habitat Conservation for Crop Producers

Tuesday, August 7, 2018, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Astarte Farm, Hadley, MA

Hampden Hampshire Conservation District invites farmers to a Twilight Tour at Astarte

Farm in Hadley to discuss "Pollinator Habitat Conservation for Crop Producers." Join Emily May, a Xerces Society biologist, as she speaks about mitigating pesticide risk to pollinators in crop systems; and certified organic producers Jim, Dan and Annalise from Astarte Farm as they share their success increasing pollinator and beneficial insect habitat while touring the farm. NRCS Soil Conservationist Michelle Cozine will also be on hand to discuss the conservation practices installed at Astarte and the natural resource concerns they addressed, including reducing pest management while increasing crop yield. This workshop is aimed at Western Mass. crop producers but all are welcome. RSVP to Hampden Hampshire Conservation District at 413trees@gmail.com or 413-923-3238.

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11) Untangling the State Legislative Process and Making it Work for You

Tuesday, September 18th, 10:00am - 1:00pm

MassDFW Wildlife Headquarters, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough

Do you think you have an issue that needs legislation - but you're not sure where to start? Are you confused by arcane legislative procedures? Need help filing an earmark for a land or watershed-specific initiative? Are you uncertain of the state budget timelines? Do you want to know which legislators are water-friendly? Whether you're new to the state legislative process or need a refresher, this information will help you protect your land and river(s). Come have these questions answered and more. Click [here](#) to RSVP. Hosted by the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance.

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12) Invasive Plant Identification and Management

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 9:00am - 1:00pm

The Great Hall at Cedar Hill, 265 Beaver Street, Waltham, MA

Invasive plants pose a major threat to our ecosystems, and the challenge of tackling them can often seem formidable. Restoration ecologist Chris Polatin will teach us how to confidently confront invasive plants with effective management and monitoring techniques. There are many possible manual and chemical control methods- Chris will describe how to choose the most effective measures given the size and scale of an invasion. He will also detail how to devise a realistic treatment plan that will facilitate the long-term success of a project. And of course, we will learn how to identify and remove common offenders, including Oriental bittersweet, glossy buckthorn, black swallow-wort, and more. This program starts with observations and hands-on demonstrations in the field, followed by additional lessons in the classroom. Homeowners, gardeners, and landscapers looking to get the upper hand on invasive plants- this is the class for you! For more information and to register, click [here](#). Hosted by Grow Native Massachusetts.

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CONFERENCES

13) Northeast Organic Farming Association Summer Conference

August 10-12, 2018

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA

During the weekend of August 10-12, 2018, come gather at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts for the 44th Annual Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) Summer Conference. This immersive annual gathering is an opportunity to come together as the regional organic community from the seven NOFA states - NY, NJ, VT, MA, RI, NH, CT. The conference is a three day event packed with amazing education programming for adults and children, an array of fun spirited activities and the opportunity to be nourished by the collective wisdom and knowledge of decades of farming, gardening and activism that makes up the work of NOFA chapters. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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14) Land Trust Alliance Rally

October 11-13, 2018

Pittsburg, MA

Early-bird registration deadline - August 13, 2018

Don't forget to take advantage of the early-bird discount for registration for this year's Land Trust Alliance Rally. Rally is the exciting annual gathering of nearly 2,000 inspired and passionate land conservation practitioners from the US, Canada, South America and beyond, who are dedicated to conserving cherished places in local communities. The Land Trust Alliance is proud to be hosting its 31st year of Rally: The National Land Conservation Conference, being held this year in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11-13, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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15) New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference

November 1-3, 2018

Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont

Wellborn Hub, Vermont SWEEP, and New Hampshire Environmental Educators are Coming Together to present this year's New England Environmental Education Alliance (NEEEA) Conference. The Wellborn Hub will host sessions on Thursday, November 1 that are aligned to their mission of working to ensure all Upper Valley schools have access to high-quality place-based ecology education. NEEEA hosted sessions will begin on Thursday afternoon with field trips, and will continue on Friday and Saturday with concurrent sessions being offered both days. Participants will register for one day, two days, or all three days. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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16) Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo

November 7-8, 2018

Boxboro Regency Hotel, Boxborough, MA

The biennial Northeast Greenhouse Conference & Expo is co-sponsored by New England Floriculture, Inc. - a group of grower representatives from the Northeast, augmented by University and Cooperative Extension staff in each state who specialize in greenhouse crops and management. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn, share and connect with other industry professionals! For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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GRANTS

17) Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program

September 10, 2018 deadline

The Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program is now accepting project proposals for consideration in the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 application process. The Forest Legacy Program is a partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the USDA Forest Service to protect environmentally important forests from conversion to non-forest uses. The Federal government may fund up to 75% of project costs, with at least 25% coming from private, state or local sources. The MA Forest Legacy Program FY 2020 Request for Proposals application instructions are posted [here](#). Additional background information on the Forest Legacy Program is available [here](#). Proposals must be submitted by 5:00 pm on September 10, 2018. For more information please contact Lindsay Nystrom, MA Forest Legacy Program Coordinator at lindsay.nystrom@state.ma.us or 508-792-7714 x114.

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18) 2018 National Coastal Resilience Fund - National Fish & Wildlife Service

August 7, 2018 deadline

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is pleased to announce the National Coastal Resilience Fund. Projects funded under this national program will provide benefits to communities, as well as for fish and wildlife. In partnership with NOAA, NFWF will make investments to advance identified priorities for restoring and strengthening natural systems so they can protect coastal communities from the impacts of storms and floods and enable them to recover more quickly, while also enhancing habitats for important fish and wildlife populations.

NFWF will award up to \$30 million in grants to create, expand and restore natural systems in areas that will both increase protection for communities from coastal storms, sea and lake level changes, flooding, and coastal erosion and improve valuable habitats for fish and wildlife species. NFWF will invest in projects in two focus areas:

- Project Planning and Design
- Project Implementation

For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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19) Source Reduction Assistance Grant Program - Environmental Protection Agency

August 23, 2018 deadline

The Source Reduction Assistance Grant Program supports pollution prevention approaches that reduce or eliminate pollutants from entering any waste stream or being otherwise released into the environment. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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20) Green Stormwater Infrastructure Projects in Parks - National Recreation and Park Association

August 3, 2018 deadline

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is pleased to announce the availability of grant funds to support the implementation of green stormwater infrastructure projects in parks to positively affect environmental and social change in underserved communities, and to empower residents to be actively engaged in projects that address community needs and meet local stormwater management goals. The goal of the grant opportunity is to create replicable model projects that provide strategies and lessons learned that advance the implementation of green stormwater infrastructure projects in parks as a resiliency strategy for communities across the country. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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21) FY19 Landscape Partnership Grant Program

October 18, 2018 deadline

The Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs' Division of Conservation Services (DCS) is seeking applications for the FY 2019 Landscape Partnership Grant. This program seeks to protect large blocks of conservation land. Local, state, and federal government agencies and non-profit groups can use this grant to work together to protect at least 500 acres of land.

One information session will be held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 from 10 am to 12 noon at Fisheries and Wildlife Field Headquarters at Westboro. Please RSVP to Emmanuel to Emmanuel.Owusu@mass.gov. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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JOBS

22) Community Conservation Specialist - Sudbury Valley Trustees

Sudbury Valley Trustees is seeking a Community Conservation Specialist to help build community support for conservation by liaising with municipal boards and committees

and representing SVT on certain conservation issues. The position will involve community outreach and engagement. It requires a bachelor's degree and three years experience in related work, or a master's and one year of experience. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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23) Beginning Farmer Coordinator - MA Department of Agricultural Resources

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources is seeking Bidders for a Beginning Farmer Coordinator to serve as an independent contractor to the Department to assist in the administration, coordination, implementation and evaluation of beginning farmer programs. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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24) Manager of Membership and Operations - Grow Native Massachusetts

Grow Native is seeking a person to build membership and promote member engagement with our programs. This job is focused on fundraising, member services, managing events, and day-to-day nonprofit management. S/he will work collaboratively with our Manager of Programs with a special focus on supporting the ecological work of members in their local communities. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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25) Science & Restoration Program Director - Ipswich River Watershed Association

The Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) seeks a Director for the Ipswich River Science & Restoration Program. The program includes a variety of activities designed to restore aquatic habitat in the Ipswich, Parker and Essex Rivers through flow restoration, water quality improvement, fisheries restoration and physical habitat improvement projects. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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26) Seasonal Conservation Planning Assistant - MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

The Department of Conservation and Recreation seeks qualified applicants for the position of Seasonal Conservation Biologist I -Shorebird Monitor. This position collects, analyzes, and reviews biological data through field, and literature work on endangered and threatened species and other features of biological diversity; provides technical assistance and information to public and/or private groups; helps the agency in maintaining liaison with various public and private agencies; and performs related work as required. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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