



MASSACHUSETTS LAND TRUST COALITION

**MassLand E-News**  
**The Newsletter of the Massachusetts**  
**Land Conservation Community**

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## MASSLAND NEWS

### **1) Young Land Professionals Spring Networking Event May 22nd**

Please join us for the spring Young Land Professionals networking event on **May 22nd** in Ipswich from **2:30-6:00 p.m.!**

Meet other Young Land Professionals as we explore Ipswich with the Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) and True North Ale Company. First enjoy a presentation from IRWA staff centered around their history, current work, and examples of partnerships with land protection organizations and other partners around the watershed. Then take a quick tour of the property (weather dependent), and finally

join us for a networking hour at True North Ale Company with complimentary pizza and beer for purchase.

For more information, directions, and registration information, please click [here](#). Please register by May 20th as a courtesy to IRWA. Our thanks to Greenbelt, the Ipswich River Watershed Association, and True North Ale Company for hosting!

## **2) Value of Open Space Workgroup Meets June 3rd**

Are you interested in discussing ways to quantify the economic, health, and myriad of other benefits that open space offers? Please join us on June 3rd from 1:00-2:30 to discuss existing research, brainstorm plans for the group, and explore ways that these benefits can be articulated in communities across Massachusetts when discussing land conservation projects. Please email [admin@massland.org](mailto:admin@massland.org) if you're interested in attending. Attendees are invited to join in person at the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition office (18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury, MA 01776) or join via Zoom (link provided to attendees in advance).

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## **3) Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition Steering Committee June 11th**

Please join us for the quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition Steering Committee on Tuesday June 11th from 10:00-12:45pm at the Great Meadows NWR conference room, 73 Weir Hill Rd, Sudbury, MA. Join us for land conservation updates from around the state, the latest conservation policy news and how you can help, the statewide Resilient Lands Initiative, news from the Land Trust Alliance, and to network with your peers. All are welcome. Minutes from the last meeting are available to members [here](#) by logging in and navigating to "Other Content for Members."

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## **4) Save the Date: Climate Change Communication for Land Trusts Workshop September 12th**

Please save the date! In this half-day workshop, participants will learn how to communicate more effectively about climate change to target audiences using research-based guidance developed specifically for land trusts in partnership with the Land Trust Alliance. The workshop will include discussion of climate-communication pitfalls and recommendations, opportunities to practice communication skills through hands-on activities, and structured time to workshop one of your own communication products with feedback from peers.

This workshop is held in partnership with the Mass ECAN-affiliated Climate

Communications Expert Work Group (including UMass Amherst, Mass Audubon, New England Forestry Foundation, Harvard Forest). Please check back [here](#) in July to register.

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## POLICY

### **5) Action Alert: Support the Conservation Land Tax Credit**

Please contact your Massachusetts State Senator ASAP and ask him/her to support Amendment #1 to the State Operating Budget, which would increase the annual cap for the Conservation Land Tax Credit (CLTC) program. Filed by Senator Bruce Tarr, Minority Leader, this amendment is identical to the one that was adopted unanimously, through roll call vote, in the House just a few weeks ago.

Senate budget debate begins the week of May 20th, so the land community needs to make contact now. The sooner you can make your call, the more momentum we can build for the amendment!

All it takes is a quick call or email to their office (under five minutes). Contact information for your legislator (searchable by municipality) can be found [here](#). For a fact sheet on the CLTC program, the latest numbers, and proposed changes, please click [here](#). Below is a sample call "script" and email that you can send to your State Senator (feel free to augment it with the additional information in the [fact sheet](#) or a story about a landowner you worked with who has been able to take advantage of, or is on the wait list for, the tax credit).

*Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_: As part of [land conservation organization] in your district, I am contacting you to ask you to co-sponsor and support Amendment #1 to the Senate budget for the Conservation Land Tax Credit program, filed by Senator Bruce Tarr, the Minority Leader. The amendment would increase the annual cap to eliminate the backlog of this successful program and enable our organization to collaborate with private landowners to conserve land for farming, forestry, wildlife and clean water.*

*Thank you for your consideration of this request.*

*Your Name and Org/Group [Give your home address or org address, whichever is in their district]*

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### **6) Action Alert: Co-sponsors needed for Community Preservation Act Budget Amendment**

Please contact your Massachusetts State Senator and ask him/her to support Amendment #3 to the State Operating Budget which would increase funding for the Community Preservation Act! Amendment #3, filed by Senator Cynthia Stone Creem, has the same language that was used to support the funding increase in the House (\$30 increase for most documents which raises the total CPA fee to \$50).

In late April, the House approved language in its budget to increase fees on certain real estate transactions to generate matching funds for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Trust Fund. The fees for these transactions have not increased since the CPA was enacted in 2000. The proposed changes would increase fees by \$20-\$50 for most documents and \$10 to \$25 for municipal lien certificates. While approved in the House, the Senate Ways and Means budget did not include language raising the CPA registry recording fees, so Senator Creem filed amendment #3. This fee increase would generate approximately \$36 million for the CPA Trust Fund beginning in the fall or 2010.

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## **7) Green Budget Coalition Update**

The environmental community has called for 1% of Massachusetts' budget to go towards environmental agencies. While we are still short of that goal (0.61%) we have seen significant increases to key agency line-items including the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation and Recreation Watershed, and the Division of Ecological Restoration. We hope to see further increases to DCR's administrative line-item as the Senate debate kicks off. If you'd like more information, please contact Casey Bowers: [cbowers@environmentalleague.org](mailto:cbowers@environmentalleague.org)

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## **8) Policy Hearing May 14th: An Act to Sustain Natural and Working Lands Carbon in Communities**

On Tuesday, May 14th, the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture held a public hearing on H842, An Act to Sustain Natural and Working Lands Carbon in Communities.

This legislation would:

- Enable the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to accurately measure carbon stored by, and released from, natural and working lands
- Set a goal for increasing the size of our natural carbon sink, and develop a plan to reach it with public and private lands
- Establish the Communities for a Sustainable Climate Program for municipalities (similar to the Green Communities Program) to provide technical assistance and funding to communities that opt in and adopt carbon-friendly local policies and practices

For a fact sheet on An Act to Sustain Natural and Working Lands Carbon in Communities click [here](#).

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## **9) An Act to Protect Pollinator Habitat**

A bill in the Massachusetts state legislature would establish a commission to address

pollinator habitat loss and population declines in the Commonwealth. Pollinators are estimated to contribute \$24 billion to the U.S. economy, and are vital for supporting natural ecosystem processes. Sponsored by Representative Mary Keefe (D-Worcester) and Senator Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), An Act to Protect Pollinator Habitat (SD.61/HD.1857) would help protect the interactions between plants and their insect, bird, and bat pollinators, many of which are threatened by habitat loss, invasive species, pesticide use, and climate change. This bill makes Massachusetts the 19th state to introduce legislation to aid pollinators by protecting habitat and increasing research and public awareness programs. For more information, read [here](#).

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## NEWS

### **10) Sonoma Land Trust Upholds Lasting Conservation against Determined Opponent**

By Dave Koehler, Sheri Cardo, Sarah Sigman, May 2019

In 2009, Katherine and Peter Drake donated a conservation easement to the Sonoma Land Trust that called for keeping their environmentally sensitive and visually stunning property in its natural state in perpetuity. After the Drakes sold their property to new landowners, the land trust fully apprised the new owners of the conservation easement. Unfortunately, they ignored it: they moved several heritage oak trees, killing them in the process, built a haul road across the land and damaged other parts of the land.

For several years, the land trust tried to work with the landowners to create a plan to repair the damage but to no avail. Duty-bound to find a remedy, the land trust was forced to take legal action to restore the property when all other reasonable means of negotiation failed. The trial court's ruling unequivocally upheld the land trust's authority to protect the natural resources on this property. This judgment also directed the landowners to address the destruction and restore the land. For the full story, visit [here](#) and for coverage in the Press Democrat, visit [here](#).

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### **11) New Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

Paraphrased from the Framingham Source, by Susan Petroni, April 29, 2019

Governor Baker announced the appointment of Kathleen Theoharides as the new Secretary for the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA). Under the previous Secretary Matthew Beaton, a major focus of the EEA was preparing the state for climate change and developing a record-setting amount of offshore wind and hydropower to reduce Massachusetts' carbon footprint. Secretary Theoharides stated "I look forward to working with residents, stakeholders, and communities to continue the Commonwealth's national leadership on climate change and clean energy, building upon efforts to protect our most valuable environmental resources and expand access to open space, and sharing my lifelong passion for nature and the great outdoors."

For more information, read [here](#).

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## **12) The Importance of Green Spaces and Gardens to Human Wellbeing**

Excerpt from the New York Times, Published posthumously By Dr. Oliver Sack, April 18, 2019

"Clearly, nature calls to something very deep in us. Biophilia, the love of nature and living things, is an essential part of the human condition. Hortophilia, the desire to interact with, manage and tend nature, is also deeply instilled in us. The role that nature plays in health and healing becomes even more critical for people working long days in windowless offices, for those living in city neighborhoods without access to green spaces, for children in city schools or for those in institutional settings such as nursing homes. The effects of nature's qualities on health are not only spiritual and emotional but physical and neurological. I have no doubt that they reflect deep changes in the brain's physiology, and perhaps even its structure."- Dr. Oliver Sack, neurologist and author. For more excerpts from his writings on the importance of gardens, read [here](#).

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## **13) Endangered Species of Massachusetts and Public Involvement**

Paraphrased from WGBH News, by Kaitlyn Locke, April 22, 2019

While the Endangered Species Act protects threatened and endangered plant and animal species at a federal level, species within the commonwealth also receive protection from the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA). Enacted in 1990, MESA protects 215 endangered plant and animal species within the commonwealth, including 11 mammal, 9 bird, 30 invertebrate, and 153 plant species. Once a species is added to the MESA list, the MA Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP) becomes responsible for protecting the species by supporting research, land protection, and habitat management. However, citizens of Massachusetts can also support threatened and endangered species across the state by aiding state biologists in tracking and monitoring the distribution of these species. NHESP maintains a website where residents can report observations of state-listed species and other species of conservation concern. For more information on how you can help state biologists protect the plants and wildlife of Massachusetts, visit [here](#). For more information on MESA, read [here](#).

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## **14) 20,000th Tree Planted Under Department of Conservation Program**

Paraphrased from Mass.gov Press Release, April 23, 2019

Governor Baker joined foresters and officials from the City of Quincy for the planting of the 20,000th tree under the Greening the Gateway Cities Program. This program

plants trees in cities across the state, increasing urban forest cover to reduce household energy use by shading homes. These trees also provide other environmental benefits including improved air quality, reduced stormwater runoff, increased wildlife habitat, and improved neighborhood aesthetics. Trees are planted free of charge on private property and public parks, with a goal of increasing canopy cover 5-10% in participating neighborhoods. Interested land owners can learn more [here](#). For more information on the event, read the press release [here](#).

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### **15) Community Preservation Act Hampered by Limited State Funds**

Paraphrased from The Boston Globe, April 25, 2019

Since 2000, the Community Preservation Act (CPA) has been an important tool for communities working towards smart development that benefits residents and protects historic sites and open space. Under the CPA, the State of Massachusetts agrees to provide a 100 percent match for participating communities working on community improvement projects. Using CPA funds, participating communities (which represent 50 percent of the cities and towns in the Commonwealth) have protected 29,289 acres of open space, built 5,700 affordable housing units, made over 5,100 appropriations for historic preservation, and built community buildings like senior centers and dog parks. However, as more communities join this program, the state's CPA trust fund has become severely limited in its ability to match the contributions made by communities. In fiscal year 2018, the state provided only a 17.2 percent match on CPA projects, far less than promised under the Act. With the state unable to provide its fair share of CPA funds, lawmakers on Beacon Hill must work on alternative funding sources to support the success of the CPA program. Already, increased fees in the House fiscal year 2020 budget would provide an additional \$36 million per year to the CPA trust fund. However, state legislature must continue to develop funding sources to support this highly successful program as it continues to grow. For more information on the CPA, read an article on the importance of the program [here](#) and visit the Community Preservation Coalition [website](#).

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### **16) Jet-Set Offset An Option to Help Offset Environmental Costs of Flying**

Jet-Set Offset acts as an environmental fundraising tool that helps to generate money for environmental organizations working to combat climate change. When you sign up through Jet-Set Offset, you help to make air travel a little greener by automatically donating one cent per mile flown to an environmental organization. Mass Audubon, a member of the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition, is one of the partnering environmental nonprofits. For more information, read [here](#).

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### **17) Culvert and Small Bridge Working Group Request for Input**

The Culvert and Small Bridge Working Group has been established to identify and

evaluate the costs and benefits of existing environmental rules and regulations, engineering standards, and permitting processes, and their impact on the replacement or repair of deteriorated or substandard culverts & small bridges; make recommendations to implement cost-effective policies, procedures, and guidelines for the replacement or repair of such structures, in an expedited manner; and make improvements in storm resiliency and natural resource connectivity, which consider degrees of risk, ecological value, cost, and efficient permitting. The Culvert and Small Bridge Working Group is soliciting input from stakeholders to inform its final report to the state legislature. At a minimum, please respond to the following questions: 1) What challenges have you faced in repairing or replacing culverts and/or small bridges in your communities? 2) What opportunities do you see for improvements to engineering standards, permitting processes, or funding availability for these types of projects?

Comments, suggestions, and responses to the above questions regarding culvert or small bridge repair or replacement should be sent to [massdotenvironmental@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:massdotenvironmental@dot.state.ma.us) by May 24, 2019. Please include "Culvert Working Group" in the subject line of the email. For more information, read [here](#).

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## EVENTS

### **18) Department of Fish and Game State House Day**

Wednesday May 22, 10:30am-12:30pm  
State House Grand Staircase

Discover the wild side of Massachusetts and learn about the MA Department of Fish and Game. Learn about the programs, projects, and initiatives of the Department and its four divisions: Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Division of Marine Fisheries, Division of Ecological Restoration, and Office of Fishing and Boating Access. Please RSVP by emailing [eileen.garcia-smith@mass.gov](mailto:eileen.garcia-smith@mass.gov), and learn more about the Department of Fish and Game on its [website](#).

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### **19) MassLand Young Land Professionals Spring Networking Event**

Wednesday May 22, 2:30-6:00pm  
Ipswich, MA

Please join us for the spring Young Land Professionals networking event of the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition on **May 22nd** in Ipswich!

Meet other Young Land Professionals as we explore Ipswich with the Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) and True North Ale Company. First enjoy a presentation from IRWA staff centered around their history, current work, and examples of partnerships with land protection organizations and other partners around the watershed. Then take a quick tour of the property (weather dependent), and finally join us for a networking hour at True North Ale Company with complimentary pizza and beer for purchase.

For more information, directions, and registration information, please click [here](#). Please register by May 20th as a courtesy to IRWA. Our thanks to Greenbelt, the Ipswich River Watershed Association, and True North Ale Company for hosting!

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## **20) Spotlight on Natives Photo Contest-- Ecological Landscape Alliance**

Deadline Friday May 31.

The Ecological Landscape Alliance (ELA) is hosting a photo contest to highlight the beauty of native plants. Participants are encouraged to submit photos of local native plants in a natural or garden setting. Plants must be native to the region where the photo is taken, and the species and location must be included in the submission. The photo contest deadline is Friday, May 31, and the winner will receive a one-year ELA membership. For rules and submission information, read more [here](#).

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## **21) TrailFest-- Appalachian Mountain Club**

Saturday June 1, 8:30am-5:00pm  
Wachusett Mountain Ski Center

Join the Appalachian Mountain Club for a day celebrating all types of trails- hiking trails, rivers, bike paths, and more. Wachusett Mountain Ski center will be home to a full day of outdoor activities, including hiking, trail maintenance, outdoor art classes, children's activities, and birding. The day will also have a presentation by John Judge, the President & CEO of Appalachian Mountain Club, food trucks, and music. A wide range of state and local land conservancies and outdoor organizations will also be present. The event is free, and more information can be found [here](#).

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## **22) Audubon Nature Festival-- Mass Audubon**

Sunday June 2, 10:00am-4:00pm  
Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

Mass Audubon will host an event connecting the citizens of Massachusetts with the natural world around them. Events include a plant sale, owl demonstrations, insect, reptile, and amphibian exhibits, naturalist-guided walks, and live music. Cost is \$20 per car. For more information, visit [here](#).

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## **23) Value of Open Space Workgroup-- Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition**

Monday June 3, 1:00-2:30pm

Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition office, Sudbury, MA (or via Zoom)

Are you interested in discussing ways to quantify the economic, health, and other benefits that open space offers? Please join us to discuss existing research, brainstorm plans for the group, and discuss ways that these benefits can be articulated in communities across Massachusetts as another way of supporting further land conservation efforts. Please email [admin@massland.org](mailto:admin@massland.org) if you're interested in attending. Attendees are invited to join in person at the Mass Land Trust Coalition office (18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury, MA 01776) or join via Zoom (link provided to attendees in advance).

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## **24) Join the Boston Pride Parade-- The Nature Conservancy**

Saturday June 8, 10:00am-2:00pm

For the third year The Nature Conservancy will be marching in the Boston Pride Parade, and invites other conservation partners to join them. If you have marched with The Nature Conservancy in previous years, please wear your TNC pride t-shirt as you support LGBTQ+ rights and help all feel welcome as colleagues, volunteers, and partners in conservation. The parade route is 2.27 miles long and will take approximately 1.5 hours to complete. Please RSVP [here](#) to be included in updates on meeting location and time.

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## **25) Rich Hubbard's Retirement Celebration**

Saturday, June 15, 1:00pm-4:00pm

Apex Orchards, 225 Peckville Rd, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

Please join the Franklin Land Trust in celebrating Rich Hubbard and his many meaningful accomplishments as FLT's Executive Director and a conservation practitioner in Massachusetts. Attendees will gather at beautiful Apex Orchards in Shelburne on June 15th from 1-4pm to celebrate Rich's legacy of land conservation over drinks and appetizers. Enjoy the stunning view and raise a glass to a man who has devoted his career to protecting the land we love. For more information and to RSVP visit [here](#). Can't attend but would love to honor Rich's accomplishments? Send stories and photographs to: [mlsabourin@franklinlandtrust.org](mailto:mlsabourin@franklinlandtrust.org).

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## **26) Riverfest 2019**

Saturday June 22- Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge

Sunday, June 23- Old Manse in Concord

Join the River Stewardship Council for a weekend of celebration on and along the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers. Enjoy a weekend of over 40 free events for all ages. With hikes, paddles, kids events, art, and history, there is something for everyone. River Stewardship Council friends and colleagues are invited to the kick-off party at Wolback Farm on Friday, June 21st. More information available at [here](#).

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## CONFERENCES

### **27) Annual Meeting-- Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals**

Wednesday May 22, 9:00am-3:30pm  
Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston, MA

The Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals (MSMCP) will host its Annual Meeting in Boylston, where attendees will have the chance to learn and network with conservation staff from across the commonwealth. Events at the meeting will include a discussion of the importance of protecting buffer zones, a talk on the conservation of the varied landscapes of New England, and a tour of Tower Hill Botanical Garden. Cost is \$35 for MSMCP members and \$50 for non-members. Read more information [here](#) and register [here](#).

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### **28) Annual Meeting-- Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc**

Thursday June 6, 5:30pm  
West Falmouth Library, 575 West Falmouth Hwy., West Falmouth, MA

Members, guests, and the public are invited to attend Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc's annual meeting. Dr Katherine Parsons, director of Mass Audubon's Coastal Waterbird Program, will deliver a presentation on Piping Plover ecology, management, and conservation. For more information visit [here](#), and please RSVP at (508)548-8484 or spabsfal@verizon.net.

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## WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS

### **29) Naturescaping Your Yard-- Wildlands Trust**

Sunday May 19, 2:00pm-3:30pm  
Wildlands Trust, 674 Long Pond Road, Plymouth, MA

Join Wildlands Trust and learn how to create a landscape that is beneficial to wildlife and welcoming to humans. Landscape designer Michael Talbot will lead a class on how to restore landscapes, create habitat for birds and pollinators, and protect water quality by creating year-round habitat. This program is being hosted by a partnership with the Herring Ponds Watershed Association, and is offered free of charge. For more information and to register, visit [here](#).

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### **30) Spring Greetings from Woodland Wildflowers-- Grow Native Massachusetts**

Thursday May 23, 2019, 5:30pm-7:45pm  
Middlesex Fells Reservation, Medford, MA

Meredith Gallogly, Manager of Programs at Grow Native Massachusetts, will host a training on the importance and use of native flower species. Wildflower species play an important role in the woodlands of Massachusetts and have a rich diversity. This training will cover identification of these plants and best practices for incorporating wildflowers into restored landscapes. This program will be conducted outdoors, and is \$28 for members and \$38 for non-members. For more information and to register, visit [here](#).

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### **31) Landscaping for Bird Diversity-- Grow Native Massachusetts**

Saturday, June 8, 9:30am-11:30am

Jennison Hall at Bentley University, 175 Forest St, Waltham, MA

Grow Native Massachusetts will host a training event on how habitat management and landscaping can be used to create and improve avian habitat. Claudia Thompson, the founder of Grow Native Massachusetts, will lead the training, which will cover topics including the role of native plants, planting strategies, techniques for making water sources accessible to birds, ways to support active ecological services, and human interactions with birds such as feeding and building bird boxes. Cost is \$32 for members and \$42 for non-members. For more information and to register, visit [here](#).

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### **32) The Diversity and Ecological Value of Native Shrubs-- Grow Native Massachusetts**

Saturday June 15, 10:00am-12:15pm or Wednesday June 19, 5:30pm-7:45pm

Stony Brook Reservation, Hyde Park, MA

This training session with Grow Native Massachusetts will discuss the importance of native shrubs in landscape management, focusing on the species present at Stony Brook Reservation. Discussion topics will include plant identification, underutilized species, and important host plants for insect species. The training will have two available sessions, and registration is \$28 for members and \$38 for non-members. For more information and to register, visit [here](#).

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### **33) Falmouth STEAM Week-- Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc**

June 24-28

Cape Conservancy, Falmouth, MA

Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc invites students ages 9-12 to embark on a five-day hands-on adventure with some of the Cape's most fascinating organizations. Guided by teachers and local experts, students will spend a day with each of the host organizations, exploring the important concept of Symbiosis: Humans and the Sea and how it influences science, technology, art, music, history. This program is offered in

collaboration with the Cape Conservatory, Falmouth Art Center, Falmouth Museums on the Green, Falmouth Public Schools, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole Sea Grant and Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc.. The tuition is \$175 per student. Registration is limited to 25 students. Call the Cape Conservatory at 508-540-0611 or email [info@capconservatory.org](mailto:info@capconservatory.org) for registration information.

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## WEBINARS

### **34) Practical Pointers-- Land Trust Alliance**

[Online Web Resource](#)

Land Trust Alliance has compiled an online educational series to assist land conservation staff in navigating the challenges and laws associated with conservation restrictions. The Practical Pointers education program covers topics including significant challenges and court decisions related to conservation restrictions, drafting tips, building envelopes, and recent tax and appellate court decisions. This information is key for attorneys working in land conservation, and valuable for land trusts and landowners interested in conserving their land. This program is offered to Alliance member land trusts and affiliates, and to individual members at the \$500 level and above. Access Practical Pointers [here](#) or contact Land Trust Alliance at [tlc@lta.org](mailto:tlc@lta.org).

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### **35) Fundamentals Unit 101- Overview of Conservation Commissions-- MA Association of Conservation Commissions**

Wednesday June 5, 6:00-8:30pm

The MA Association of Conservation Commissions is hosting an online class on the roles and responsibilities of conservation commissions in the commonwealth. Topics include key responsibilities of conservation commissions, funding sources, organizational structure, and building relationships with municipal and state/federal agencies. Cost is \$55 for members and \$75 for non-members. Registration is open until June 1, and is available [here](#).

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## GRANTS

### **36) National Coastal Resilience Fund**

Deadline: May 20, 2019

The National Coastal Resilience Fund is accepting applications from organizations working to improve habitat and coastal communities by enhancing the ecological integrity of coastal and inland aquatic water ecosystems. Non-profit organizations, state and local governments, education institutions, and commercial organizations are eligible to apply for project awards of \$125,000 to \$3 million. Eligible projects should focus on wetland, dune, beach, reef, or in-stream restoration, and should benefit local

communities. For more information, visit [here](#).

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### **37) Wetland Program Development Grants-- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

Deadline: May 24, 2019

The EPA is accepting applications for a grant to help state, tribal, and municipal organizations develop programs to restore, manage, and protect wetlands. Please note, this grant is only to develop these conservation programs, and will not fund their implementation. Applying programs should focus on four core elements: wetland monitoring and assessment, restoration and protection, regulation, and water quality protection. Grants will range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. For more information and to apply, read the announcement [here](#).

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### **38) Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program-- Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

Deadline: May 31, 2019

The MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is accepting applications for the Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program, which funds agricultural conservation practices to protect the Commonwealth's natural resources. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded to projects that protect water or air quality, increase the efficiency of water use, or address other environmental issues related to agriculture. Agricultural operations that have been in use for at least three years are eligible to apply. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **39) Coastal Resilience Grant Program FY20-- Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs**

Deadline: June 3, 2019

The Office of Coastal Zone Management, part of the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, is accepting applications for a program providing financial and technical assistance to projects addressing coastal resilience and climate change on the coast of Massachusetts. Eligible programs must address storm-damage protection techniques, vulnerability and risk assessments, public education focusing on coastal resilience and climate change, or local bylaw management options. Grants are open to towns and cities along the coast of Massachusetts, and non-profit organizations that own property in vulnerable coastal areas. For more information and to apply, read [here](#).

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### **40) National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program-- U.S.**

## **Department of the Interior**

Deadline: June 28, 2019

The U.S. Department of the Interior is awarding grants of up to \$1 million to assist in the acquisition, restoration, management, or enhancement of coastal wetlands for long-term conservation. State agencies are eligible for this grant. For more information and application procedures, visit [here](#).

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## **41) Agricultural Preservation Restriction Grant Programs-- MA Department of Agricultural Resources**

Deadline: June 28, 2019

The MA Department of Agriculture is currently accepting applications for the [Agricultural Preservation Restriction \(APR\) Program](#). The Program purchases the non-agricultural value of the farmland in exchange for a permanent deed restriction which prevents uses and activities that may impact the present or future agricultural use and viability of the property. Through purchases of APRs, the APR Program preserves and protects agricultural land, including designated farmland soils- a finite natural resource, from being built upon for nonagricultural purposes or used for any activity detrimental to agriculture. This is a voluntary program which offers a non-development alternative to farmers and other owners of "prime" and "state important" agricultural land who are faced with a decision regarding future use of their farms. To date, the program has protected over 900 farm properties across the Commonwealth. Read more [information](#) and download the application [here](#).

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## **42) Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant Program-- MA Division of Conservation Services**

Deadline: July 11, 2019

The Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant Program is accepting applications for municipalities seeking funding to purchase and develop land for park and outdoor recreation programs, or make improvements to existing parks. Any city with a population of 35,000 or more, or a park/recreation commission, is eligible to apply for a grant of up to \$400,000. Grant deadline is July 11, 2019, and two grant workshops will be held on May 15 and 16. Read more [here](#).

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## **43) Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity Grant Program-- MA Division of Conservation Services**

Deadline: July 11, 2019

The Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity Grant Program reimburses Massachusetts communities purchasing land for conservation use. Municipal conservation and

agricultural commissions may use the grants for the purchase of land or purchase of a conservation restriction on forests, fields, wetlands, wildlife habitat, or unique natural, cultural, or historic resources. Grants are up to \$400,000. Grant deadline is July 11, 2019, and two grant workshops will be held on May 15 and 16. Read more [here](#).

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#### **44) Conservation Partnership Grants-- Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

Deadline: July 15, 2019

The Conservation Partnership Grant Program provides funds to non-profit organizations acquiring land or conservation restrictions, or to perform due diligence for land donated to the organization. Preference will be given to projects that would provide multiple recreational opportunities or would protect rare habitats and ecotypes. The maximum grant award is \$85,000, which can comprise no more than 50% of the funding needed to acquire the property. For information and eligibility, read [here](#).

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#### **45) Land Conservation Grants-- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**

Deadline: Rolling

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is awarding grants of \$7,500 to \$4 million to organizations focusing on land conservation or energy development. Eligible projects should focus on habitat conservation planning, acquisition of conservation easements, and management of protected lands. Grants will also be awarded to projects that minimize the impact of clean-energy facilities on wildlife habitat. U.S. non-profit organizations are eligible for these grants. Learn more [here](#).

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## **JOBS**

#### **46) Regional Conservation Planner-- MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Trust**

The MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is looking for a new member of their team. The Regional Conservation Planner is responsible for administering the Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity, Landscape Partnership, Drinking Water Supply Protection, and Small Communities grant programs. In addition to the grant responsibilities, this position will assist with the Greening the Gateway Cities tree planting program and the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership, along with other duties. The job posting can be found [here](#).

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#### **47) Land Stewardship Coordinator-- Orleans Conservation Trust**

Orleans Conservation Trust (OCT) is seeking a highly motivated individual to serve as its Land Stewardship Coordinator at 20 hr/wk. The coordinator will work in conjunction with the Director and the Land Management Committee to coordinate all land stewardship activities on the organization's 600+ acres. The Stewardship Coordinator will develop and oversee OCT's volunteer land steward program and will be responsible for recruiting, training, and supervising volunteers. The Stewardship Coordinator will ensure regular monitoring of OCT conservation restrictions and regular field maintenance tasks.. The coordinator will supervise an AmeriCorps member 1-2 days a week and will be responsible for organizing volunteer events to manage OCT lands. Willingness and availability to work some evenings and weekends is required. Full job description and how to apply can be found [here](#).

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#### **48) Berkshire Watershed Director-- Housatonic Valley Association**

Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) seeks a dynamic, strategic-thinking, self-starting, and articulate individual to serve as its Berkshire Watershed Director based in Stockbridge Massachusetts. The position is part of the senior management team and is responsible for aligning HVA's conservation programs in western Massachusetts with HVA's strategic goals. The Berkshire Watershed Director works closely with peer land and water directors based in HVA's Connecticut and New York offices to align strategies and operations to achieve its goals. This position has primary responsibility for HVA's work in Massachusetts, but may also be tasked with supporting and advocating for HVA's water protection work in other parts of the Housatonic watershed. Position is scheduled to begin July 1, 2019. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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#### **49) Assistant Director-- MA Office of Coastal Zone Management**

The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) seeks an Assistant Director to assist in the overall management and administration of the agency and oversee program areas related to: CZM's regional coordinators and their work with coastal cities and towns; CZM's statutory and regulatory responsibilities, including Federal Consistency Review and review and approval of Municipal Harbor Plans and Designation of Port Areas; and technical and financial assistance to municipalities to support assessment, planning, and promotion of sound adaptation measures to increase coastal resilience. See the [CZM Website](#) for additional information on CZM programs and priorities. For the full job posting and application instructions, see the [CZM Assistant Director Job Description](#).

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#### **50) New England Regional Director of Philanthropy-- The Trust for Public Land**

The New England Regional Director of Philanthropy (RDOP) leads a team of

fundraisers responsible for raising funds for the New England Region (MA, ME, NH, VT) to support The Trust for Public Land's operating, Parks for People and land conservation efforts organization wide, regionally and locally. The Regional Director of Philanthropy supports the philanthropy staff and their respective State Director partners as they develop a comprehensive fundraising program that maximizes support for the organization and its activities in each market. The RDOP helps the team leverage national resources to elevate The Trust for Public Land at the local level, as well as promote and advocate for work taking place in our state and national programs. The position is responsible for overseeing their own state program and portfolio with an emphasis on individual major gift prospects and donors. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **51) Conservation Restriction Stewardship Specialist-- Mass Audubon**

Mass Audubon is hiring a Conservation Restriction Stewardship Specialist to work out of its Lincoln Headquarters and manage Mass Audubon's Conservation Restriction portfolio. Responsibilities include conducting yearly monitoring visits of all conservation restriction properties, writing baseline documentation reports for all new properties, maintaining records of the CR program, and building relationships with landowners. Qualifications include a bachelor's degree in natural resource management, forestry, or a related field, experience working with conservation restrictions, and two years relevant work experience. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **52) Aquatic Ecologist-- MA Department of Fish & Game**

The MA Department of Fish & Game is hiring an aquatic ecologist for research and management programs to conserve the endangered aquatic invertebrate and fish species of the commonwealth. Responsibilities include developing habitat and population management programs, analyzing field data, conducting field surveys, and delivering presentations and outreach programs. Qualifications include a Masters or Ph.D. in biology, ecology, or a related field, knowledge of aquatic ecology, and experience identifying aquatic invertebrates of the northeast. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **53) Landscape Architect-- MA Department of Conservation and Recreation**

The MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is hiring a landscape architect to design trails, parks, and pedestrian bridges to allow public access while protecting park landscapes. Responsibilities include collecting data on existing site

conditions, preparing designs, inspecting construction work to ensure compliance, and representing DCR at meetings and public hearings. Qualifications include being a Registered Landscape Architect in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and an advanced degree in natural resource planning, landscape architecture, or a related planning field. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **54) Coastal Monitoring Expert-- Office of Coastal Zone Management**

The Office of Coastal Zone Management is hiring an Environmental Analyst III to work as a coastal monitoring expert to provide outreach and technical assistance to non-profit organizations. Responsibilities include participating in meetings with citizens and environmental non-profits, providing technical assistance on planning, implementing, and documenting water monitoring projects, working in training workshops, and documenting activities. Applicants should have a strong knowledge of Quality Assurance Project Plans, experience conducting water quality monitoring, and experience coordinating citizen monitoring efforts. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **55) Land Stewardship Coordinator TerraCorps Member-- The Nature Conservancy**

The Nature Conservancy's Great Barrington office is hosting a Land Stewardship Coordinator [TerraCorps](#) member for the 2019-2020 program year (8/19-7/20). This position will build the long term capacity of The Nature Conservancy by completing a number of projects such as expanding the Volunteer Stewardship Program, developing outreach plans and materials, and supporting community engagement on trail projects. They will also assist in stewarding over 8,000 acres of conservation lands in western Massachusetts. For more information contact Hanna Mogensen ([Hmogensen@terra Corps.org](mailto:Hmogensen@terra Corps.org)).

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### **56) Conservation Easement Steward- Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests**

The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests seeks a self-motivated individual for the position of Conservation Easement Steward. The successful candidate will have a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an appropriate field related to conservation or natural resources, 1 to 2 years' experience in land conservation or a natural resources field, and functional knowledge of GIS mapping and GPS data collection. The Conservation Easement Steward is primarily responsible for ensuring that the Forest Society fulfills its stewardship responsibilities for over 750 conservation easements and deed restrictions covering more than 130,000 acres. The Conservation Easement Steward works directly with owners of protected lands and a small team of

Forest Society staff to ensure compliance with easement terms, cultivate supportive cooperative relationships with landowners, and resolve potential compliance issues. This position is based at the Conservation Center in Concord, NH. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **57) Wildlife and Plant Conservation Intern-- Mass Audubon**

Mass Audubon is hiring an intern to assist in conserving plants and wildlife across 3,000 acres at their Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries. Responsibilities include installing and monitoring nest boxes for native birds, controlling invasive plant species, tending to native plantings, maintaining records, and greeting visitors. Qualifications include a strong interest in environmental science, ecology, botany, or a related topic, at least 1 year of college education, and reliable transportation to get to work sites. This position will be 20-25 hours per week over the summer. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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### **58) ALPINE Summer Institute-- Wildlands & Woodlands**

Wildlands & Woodlands is currently accepting applications for the 2019 Summer Institute with applicants encouraged to apply early as the program is limited to 12 participants. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The ALPINE Summer Institute is a program for individuals interested in exploring careers in land conservation. Participants must have an internship that involves some aspect of land conservation in New England to participate. The Summer Institute takes place over two weekends in June and August and features presentations by leaders in the conservation arena, field trips to conserved sites, and guided reflections by the participants on their conservation internships. The dates for this year's Summer Institute are June 7-9 at the Harvard Forest and July 19-21 at the Schoodic Institute in Maine. For more information and to apply, visit [here](#).

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