



Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

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"Human destiny is bound to remain a gamble, because at some unpredictable time and in some unforeseeable manner nature will strike back." ~ Rene Dubos, (1901-1982), French microbiologist, environmentalist, humanist, and Pulitzer Prize winner

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MLTC NEWS

1) FREE Stewardship Workshop at Greenbelt Tonight

Thursday, September 21, 2017, 5:00pm - 7:30pm
Cox Reservation, Essex, MA

Come join us for the free Stewardship Workshop tonight at Greenbelt's Cox Reservation. We will discuss monitoring conservation restrictions, producing Baseline Reports, and more. Presenters include Becca Washburn, New England Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance, and Dave Rimmer, Greenbelt's Director of Land Stewardship.

There will be a social gathering for the Young Land Professionals afterwards, with beer provided by Greenbelt.

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2) 14th Annual Joint Land Trust/State Agency Retreat

October 19-20, 2017

Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

The Annual Joint Land Trust/State Agency Retreat has arrived! This year's retreat will focus on how to ensure conserved land remains in perpetuity. There are 35 spaces for Land Trust representatives at the Retreat. They will be reserved in the following order on a FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED basis:

1st priority: One representative from MLTC Sponsoring, Supporting & Sustaining Members & Friends

2nd priority: One representative from MLTC Basic Members & Friends

If we still have room after all MLTC Members and Friends have had the chance to send one representative, we will accept additional representatives from all on a first come, first served basis.

State Agency Folks: Please contact Bob O'Connor's office at EEA to make your reservation.

If you wish to attend, please respond to Kathy McGrath at kmcgrath@massland.org.

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3) Massachusetts Dinner at Rally

Friday, October 27, 2017

Appaloosa Grill, at the corner of 16th and Welton Streets, Denver, Colorado

Going to Rally? Join your colleagues from back east for the Massachusetts dinner at Rally on Friday, October 27th. Dinner will be at the Appaloosa Grill at the corner of 16th and Welton Streets. Please bring cash to contribute to the meal. To save your place at the table, please RSVP to Kara Campbell at kcampbell@massland.org and include a cell phone so we can send final details. See you there!

~ The MassLand Team

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LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE NEWS

4) Healthy Soils Legislation

Biodiversity for a Livable Climate and the National Organic Farming Association, Massachusetts have filed legislation through Representative Paul Schmid in support of Healthy Soils. The bill is [House 3713, An Act to Promote Healthy Soils](#), and it has 33 co-sponsors. The hearing before the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee, just announced last week, was Tuesday, September 18 at the State House. **Written support following the hearing will be extremely helpful in moving House 3713 forward in the legislative process.**

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5) *National Monuments at Risk*

Excerpts from The Washington Post, September 17, 2017 by Juliet Eilperin

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has recommended that President Trump modify 10 national monuments created by his immediate predecessors, including shrinking the boundaries of at least four western sites, according to a copy of the report obtained by The Washington Post. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

6) *Deadline for Conservation Restrictions is October 1, 2017*

Bob O'Connor, EEA Land and Forest Policy Director, has announced the deadline for Conservation Restrictions (CR) for this year is October 1st. Denise Pires, program coordinator, will be assisting until a new CR reviewer is hired. Please let Denise know if you have a CR in the queue that is particularly urgent.

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7) *"What's Your MA Park Story?" Campaign*

The Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition is proud to partner with the Environmental League of Massachusetts to collect stories from park users and activists from across the Commonwealth to build a collection of images, videos, audio files and short messages that showcase why our state parks matter. **We're looking for your best photos, videos and audio files to tell your personal story about why Massachusetts state parks matter to you.** Submit your story [here](#) to have it featured on social media throughout the fall.

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8) *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Surveys*

The National Park Service requires the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to complete a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years to remain eligible for funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program. Since the program was established in 1965, nearly **\$100,000,000** has been awarded to every county in the state for the acquisition of conservation or park land, development of new parks, or renovation of existing parks.

Three surveys are available - one for [land trusts](#), one for [municipal employees](#), and one for any and all [users of open space](#) in Massachusetts. It should take about 15 minutes to complete each survey. It is critical for us to hear back from as many people as possible regarding conservation and recreation use and demand at your properties to guide how future LWCF funding could be spent most effectively in Massachusetts. Any questions

should be directed to Melissa Cryan, LWCF Stateside Coordinator, at (617) 626-1171 or melissa.cryan@state.ma.us.

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9) Land Protection Continuing Education Interest Survey

The University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Land Trust Alliance are investigating the possibility of initiating an online land protection and stewardship continuing education program. The courses of this proposed program could be enrolled in individually for university credit or combined toward earning a Certificate in Land Protection from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

UMass and LTA would like you to complete a short survey [here](#). Your answers will be kept confidential and will only be used to help shape this program. Contact [Paul Catanzaro](#) if you have any questions.

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10) Please Use Helpful Calendar for Stewardship Volunteer Opportunities

The Stewardship Network of New England's mission is to create a culture of stewardship in New England through the power of volunteers. They are hosted by the University of New Hampshire's Cooperative Extension Program. They offer a hub for volunteers and for organizations looking for stewardship volunteers. Currently, their calendar, on-line registration and training guides are free and available to all: click [here](#).

We want to encourage all Massachusetts land trusts and conservation commissions to take advantage of this free service. Please send your feedback about your experience using the Network to Camille Duquet, TerraCorps Regional Conservation Coordinator at cduquet@terracorps.org.

We will compile and synthesize your feedback so that we can make modifications and/or adopt this program in Massachusetts.

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TRAININGS

11) Mass Audubon Fall Workshops

1. Working Forests for Birds, Climate Change, and Your Community

Saturday, September 30, 2017
Hanson, MA

What are working forests? How do communities benefit from forests? What about bird habitat? Timber? Development? Climate change resilience? Learn all these answers-and more at this free workshop. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

2. Stream Continuity & Resilience

Monday, October 2, 2017
Norton, MA

Roads and culverts block fish and wildlife passage in thousands of places statewide, but solutions are emerging. Speakers from state agencies and local watershed organizations will explain why stream continuity is important-from municipal budgets to climate resilience and critical habitats-and how to get there. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

3. Planning for Sustainable Development: Discussion & Tour of Pinehills

Wednesday, October 11, 2017
Plymouth, MA

Learn about sustainable development techniques in action and explore The Pinehills, an innovative smart growth community in Plymouth, MA, that is not only environmentally friendly, but also economically successful. To learn more and to register, click [here](#).

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12) Mass Audubon's Trail Building & Stewardship Training Series

Mass Audubon presents its second annual trail building and stewardship training series. The workshops are for Massachusetts land managers, conservation professional and volunteer trail stewards and are very low cost (\$25/day) thanks to a grant from the DCR Recreational Trails Education Program. The following three workshops will be offered:

1. Trail Building and Stewardship Skills, Friday and Saturday, October 6 & 7, 2017
At Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton and Northampton, MA
2. Cutting, Shaping and Building with Stone, Friday and Saturday, October 20 & 21
At Franklin Land Trust's Guyette Farm in Plainfield, MA
3. Game of Logging Level 3 focused on storm damage removal, Friday, November 10, 2017
At Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary in Williamsburg, MA

Click [here](#) to learn more and to apply.

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13) Regeneration Harvesting in a Challenging Environment: A Silviculture Workshop at the Property of David Freely

October 6, 2017, 8:30am - 3:30pm
Alexander Road, Leyden, MA

The Vermont Forestry Foundation presents a silviculture workshop and tour of the Freely Forest, a 209 acre tract of actively managed forest on conserved land in Leyden, Ma. Speakers Bill Leak, US Forest Service silviculturalist, and Mariko Yamasaki, US Forest Service wildlife biologist, will focus on silviculture systems in the presence of wildlife

predation and invasive plants. 76 acres of this property were treated with a variety of harvest strategies to implement uneven aged management in the fall and winter of 2016 and 2017. This workshop will feature a tour and discussion of treated areas including plantings of white oak and burr oak saplings in the patch cuts.

Registration Fee: \$50 per person. Includes light breakfast, and catered lunch for those who pre-register before Sept 29th. Walk-in registrations will be accepted, but must pay with cash or check. Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) credits are being arranged for Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont, LEAP and SAF.

For more information about the workshop contact:
Robbo Holleran 802-875-3021 robbo@vermontel.net
Steve Hardy 802-310-2389 gmforest@sover.net

For questions about registering contact:
Kristen Dietrich, 802-257-1644, kristen.dietrich@gmail.com

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EVENTS

14) Congresswoman Tsongas' River Day 2017

Saturday, September 23, 2017, 2:00pm - 3:15pm

Bill Ashe Visitor Facility, Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge, 80 Hospital Road, Devens, MA

All are invited to join Congresswoman Niki Tsongas for her River Day 2017, a non-partisan celebration of the role our rivers play in connecting and enhancing our communities.

At 2:00 p.m., there will be a 20-minute paddle on the Nashua River beginning at the boat launch at the Bill Ashe Visitor Facility of the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge in Devens.

Following the paddle, around 2:30, there will be a brief speaking program at the Visitor's Facility.

This event is free and open to the public. RSVPs are not required but appreciated for planning purposes. To RSVP, please contact Wynne Treanor-Kvenvold, NRWA Communications Manager, at (978) 448-0299, or email

WynneT@NashuaRiverWatershed.org.

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15) Ecological Landscaping Alliance's Season's End Summit: The Plant Pollinator Partnership

November 1, 2017, 8:00am - 4:30pm

Community Harvest Project Barn, 37 Wheeler Road, North Grafton, MA

Landscape professionals and concerned homeowners across the country are learning more about the habitat needs of the creatures that pollinate plants - and using that knowledge to make planting decisions. In landscapes across the country, a movement is gaining momentum as landscape professionals and gardening enthusiasts learn more about the plants that support pollinators - and make planting decisions accordingly. Join the Ecological Landscaping Alliance at their Season's End Summit as four experts help us to learn what we can do to be part of the solution in support of pollinators. To learn more

and to register, click [here](#).

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CONFERENCES

16) Land Trust Alliance Rally 2017

October 26-28, 2017

Denver, Colorado

Registration is now open for the Land Trust Alliance Rally: 2017. Rally: The National Land Conservation Conference is a special place where you can gather round with fellow land conservationists from near and far to catch up and find out what's new in land conservation, discuss opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, and get re-energized and inspired by folks who share your passion for conservation. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

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GRANTS

17) The Conservation Alliance Grants to Protect Wild Places

The Conservation Alliance is a group of outdoor businesses whose collective contributions support grassroots citizen-action groups and their efforts to protect wild places for their habitat and recreation values. Funded projects should seek to secure lasting and quantifiable protection of a specific wild land or waterway. Priority is given to landscape-scale projects that have a clear benefit for habitat. Grants of up to \$50,000 are provided. Before applying for funding, an organization must be nominated by one of the Alliance's [member companies](#). The upcoming nomination deadline is November 1, 2017. The Alliance will send each nominated organization a request for proposal, including instructions on submitting a full proposal, which is due December 1, 2017. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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18) Fish and Wildlife Service: Wetlands Conservation

October 19, 2017 deadline

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act Small Grants Program supports the long-term protection, restoration, enhancement, or establishment of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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19) National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Funds for Marine Debris Cleanup

November 1, 2017 deadline

The Marine Debris Removal program supports the development and implementation of locally-driven marine debris prevention, assessment, and removal projects that benefit coastal habitat, waterways, and NOAA trust resources. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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JOBS

20) Conservation Restriction Reviewer - MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

The Division of Conservation Services at the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is seeking candidates for the Conservation Restriction Reviewer position. The Conservation Restriction Reviewer is responsible for providing required EOEEA review of 125-175 Conservation Restrictions (CR's) covering 2- 4,000 acres per year, and recommend to the Secretary of EOEEA whether the Conservation Restriction are in the public interest. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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21) President - Berkshire Natural Resources Council

Berkshire Natural Resources Council, Inc. (BNRC) is seeking a conservation champion and experienced executive-level leader to fill the role of BNRC President. The ideal candidate will have interest in and knowledge of the Berkshires and possess exceptionally strong interpersonal skills to form and sustain mutually supportive and beneficial relationships. The next President must be committed to BNRC's strategic vision of pursuing conservation work that contributes positively to the social, cultural, and economic lives of Berkshire County. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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22) Land Steward - Sudbury Valley Trustees

Sudbury Valley Trustees seeks a full-time Land Steward to join their team. The Land Steward will manage the stewardship of Conservation Restrictions (CRs) and assist with all aspects of the management of SVT's reservations. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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23) Fee Stewardship Coordinator - Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

The MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife seeks a Fee Stewardship Coordinator. In coordination with the Realty Section and District staff, the Land Stewardship Coordinator is responsible for realty stewardship of MassWildlife's inventory of fee-owned properties (Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Access Areas, and Wildlife

Sanctuaries). Under the general direction of the Chief of Wildlife lands, the Land Stewardship Coordinator works to incorporate stewardship and monitoring of fee owned lands into the day to day activities of the agency, and provides overall support for agency land stewardship activities and the land protection program. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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24) School to Sea Assistant - Salem Sound Coastwatch (AmeriCorps)

Salem Sound Coastwatch is seeking a School to Sea Assistant as their AmeriCorps position. The individual will work with students during the school day and in after school programming, as well as exploring Salem Sound on a boat, investigating marsh habitats and collecting data in the intertidal. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

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RESOURCES

25) New Mass Audubon Bird Report Links Climate to Species Impacts

Mass Audubon has released [State of the Birds: Climate Change and the Birds of Massachusetts](#), which links climate impacts to the future status of many Massachusetts bird species. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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26) Wildlands, Woodlands, Farmland, Communities Report

Harvard Forest and Highstead have released the new report, Wildlands, Woodlands, Farmland, Communities. The report describes trends in land protection and public funding for conservation, highlights key challenges to achieving the vision, and points to ways we are overcoming them, together. Click [here](#) for the report.

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27) Report: New England Losing 65 Acres of Forestland Per Day

New England has been losing forestland to development at a rate of 65 acres per day - a loss that comes at a time when public funding for preservation of open land, both state and federal, has also been on the decline in all six states.

That's the conclusion of a report released Tuesday by the Harvard Forest, a research institute of Harvard University. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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