



The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

October 15, 2009

Volume 9, Number 8

Items of interest to the Massachusetts land protection community.

For more news and information, go to <http://www.MassLand.org>

Please send items of interest to Info@MassLand.org

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" Leave it as it is. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it."

-- Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th US President 1901-09 --

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MassLand E-News is a service to the Massachusetts land conservation community. Thank you for subscribing to MassLand E-News. Please forward this to friends, family and colleagues who are interested in Massachusetts land conservation issues and encourage them to subscribe. To subscribe, send an email request to Info@MassLand.org

JOIN MLTC!

Is your organization a member of MLTC? Check out our list at

<http://www.MassLand.org>

You can support MLTC individually by becoming a Friend. Contributions of any amount will help support our work.

MLTC News

1) HAS YOUR LAND TRUST RENEWED ITS MLTC MEMBERSHIP?

The MLTC membership year runs from July 2009 to June 2010 and several of our most stalwart members haven't renewed yet. If your organization is not a member, you can renew now. Get a 2009-2010 membership form at <http://www.massland.org/files/Memberform10.pdf>

Not sure? Get a list of current members at

http://www.massland.org/files/Mbrs_10092009.pdf

Please contact Kathy McGrath at kmcgrath@massland.org to renew or with questions.

2) REQUEST FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS FOR MASS. LAND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

Due October 30, 2009

20th Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference

Saturday, March 27, 2010 - Worcester Technical High School - Worcester, MA

We invite you to submit a workshop proposal for the 2010 Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference. This annual, day-long training and networking event provides land trust board members, staff, volunteers, municipal commission

members, and others interested in land conservation with the information, skills, and connections needed to be most effective.

The theme of this year's conference is "**The Next Generation.**"

We've held this conference for 20 years and we'd like to acknowledge this milestone by thinking about the next 20 years. What does the next generation of land conservation tools, policies, funding, and laws look like? Who will be leading land conservation organizations and agencies in 2030? What other questions do we need to be asking now?

The Conference Program Committee will review all proposals received by **October 30, 2009**. We are seeking workshop proposals for the following topic "tracks:"

The Next Generation of Land Conservation in Massachusetts
Funding, Fundraising & Organizational Development
Land Conservation Tools & Techniques
Stewardship: Land Management & Conservation Restrictions
New to Land Conservation? Welcome Aboard
Particularly Legal Matters

To submit a workshop proposal, click below or paste the link into your browser:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=5_2fVN80DNoAWe3Trrn_2bAgOg_3d_3d

Proposals are due by October 30, 2009.

To see last year's conference program with all the workshop titles, descriptions and presenters, click here:

http://massland.org/files/Program_MLCC_2009_Final.pdf or visit www.ConservationCommon.org, log in, and search on "MLCC"

If you have questions about submitting a workshop proposal please contact [Miriam Scagnetti mailto:miscagnetti@ttor.org](mailto:miscagnetti@ttor.org)(978.840.4446 x1935).

The Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference is co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition and The Trustees of Reservations' Putnam Conservation Institute.

3) CHECK OUT THE NEW MASSLAND.ORG WEBSITE

The new massland.org website is the result of the Coalition's extensive makeover to expand content, improve organization and enhance user-friendliness. We hope you'll try it and let us know what you think!

You could start with using the new locator map system to **Find a Massachusetts Land Trust** at <http://www.massland.org/?q=node/32>

Or check out the **Photo Gallery** to see photos of land protection projects around the state at <http://www.massland.org/?q=photo-gallery>

Or look through the extensive resource library for **Conservation Practitioners**, with sections on Land Protection Practices, Land Trust Operations, Stewardship, Legal Issues and Advocacy. (To access this members-only feature, MLTC members must register. Registration is easy - see below.)

Landowners can find lots of answers in the **Landowner Information Library**, which includes sections on Conserving Your Land, Advantages of Land Conservation, Taxes and Land Conservation, Managing Land for Conservation at <http://www.massland.org/?q=landowner-information-library>

Community Resources include Conserving Land in Your Community, Planning for Land Conservation in Your Community, and Community Action at <http://www.massland.org/?q=community-resources-library>

To Register to access areas restricted to members:

Select Member Area Login (top right hand corner of the home page).

Select Create New Account

Enter your preferred username, password and other required information.

Click the Create New Account button to send your registration request to the web administrator.

As soon as you have been approved, you can access any feature of the site.

Any and all comments are most welcome!

4) MLTC SEEKS WEB GURUS FOR SERVICE PROVIDER LIST

On our new website, the Coalition maintains a listing of service providers who have experience with the land conservation community. We would like to expand that listing to include website consultants, designers and developers. If you have had a positive experience with a web guru, please tell us about it. Please include:

Provider's name

Address

Phone

Email

Length of your experience with provider

General comments about provider (confidential)

Website developers who have experience working with the land conservation community and wish to submit information about their services or to respond to MLTC's current website development and maintenance needs, please send email to: kmcgrath@massland.org.

Other service providers please contact MLTC directly for submittal guidelines, email: kmcgrath@massland.org

News

5) N.E. GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ADOPTS LAND CONSERVATION REPORT

New England Governors Present United Regional Vision on Conservation

Meeting in Saint John, New Brunswick on September 15th at the 33rd Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, the New England Governors' Conference adopted a bold regional vision for preserving the natural environment of New England through land protection.

The Governors received and adopted the report of their Blue Ribbon Commission on Land Conservation (CLC), chaired by Richard Barringer of Maine, and on which many

land trust advocates served as Commission Members and advisors. The Commission's report states that New England today faces profound challenges to its land and natural resource base; climate change and its impacts, fragmentation of the landscape from sprawling development, and the demand for coastal property threaten the viability of the plants, animals, and the resource-based industries that depend on these lands. The Commission calls for a high-priority, New England-wide land conservation effort with measurable benefits for the region's farms and forests, climate change mitigation, alternative energies, bio-diversity, outdoor recreation and education, and sustainable economic development.

"This is the most ambitious land conservation effort that has ever been put forward for all New England," said Gov. John Baldacci. "For more than a century New England has been a national leader in maintaining and renewing the human benefits of land conservation. These carefully coordinated initiatives are timely and necessary if we are to pass these benefits along to future generations of New England citizens."

See the Governors' Resolution on Land Conservation at

<http://www.negc.org/documents/2009/Conservation.pdf>

See A Lasting Legacy: Recommendations of the New England Governors Blue Ribbon Commission on Land Conservation at

<http://www.massland.org/files/NEGCALastingLegacy2009.pdf>

See the NEGC's Blue Ribbon Commission on Land Conservation complete report (5 MB) at http://www.negc.org/documents/2009/CLC_Report.pdf

The New England Governors also adopted the Renewable Energy Blueprint, which addresses mechanisms to help advance the development of New England's vast renewable resource potential. The Blueprint provides the Governors with options for accessing New England's regional resources as well as opportunities for additional supplies of cost-effective, low-carbon renewable energy from Eastern Canada. This includes the potential for the states to synchronize their power procurement and long-term power contract activities and to coordinate reviews of proposed interstate transmission facilities needed to reach renewable resources that are distant from population centers. Copies of the New England Governors' Renewable Energy Blueprint are available at the NEGC's website (www.negc.org).

6) ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT UPDATE

October 7, 2009 - from Mass Audubon's Beacon Hill Weekly Update

This week's hearing on **House Bill 4167**/Senate Bill 2169, at

<http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/house/186/ht04pdf/ht04167.pdf> which would gut the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act, was packed with close to a hundred people. Many were brought in by an individual from western Massachusetts who is against the program and wore buttons saying "No One is Above the Law, Not Even the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife". Several legislators testified either in support of the bill as written or asking for administrative and regulatory changes to the program, including the lead sponsors and several of the cosponsors of the bill.

Bernie McHugh from the Mass. Land Trust Coalition, David Bryant from the Trustees of Reservations, Jen Ryan from Mass Audubon, George Bachrach from ELM, and Steve Long from the Nature Conservancy, along with other environmental organizations, testified against this radical rollback of protections provided by the Massachusetts legislature for threatened plants and animals. Sixty-eight environmental organizations and former state senator Pamela Resor signed a letter in opposition to the bill.

Joint letter signed by 68 organizations at

http://web.massaudubon.org/site/DocServer/MESA_Joint_Testimony_HB4167.pdf?docID=2682

7) MLTC, 200 OTHER GROUPS SIGN LWCF LETTER TO CONGRESS

September 30, 2009

Statement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition Concerning HR 3534,
The Consolidated Land, Energy and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act of 2009
The Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives

Chairman Rahall, Ranking Member Hastings, and distinguished members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony regarding HR 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy and Aquatic Resources (CLEAR) Act of 2009. As conservation and recreation organizations from across the country concerned with conserving America's natural, recreational, and cultural resources and heritage, we wish to express our strong support for the provision included in Title IV of HR 3534 to provide full and dedicated funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

As you know, the LWCF is America's most important tool for acquiring lands within our national parks, forests, refuges, BLM and other federal lands and for supporting acquisition, expansion and development of state and local parks. From the New River Gorge National River (WV) to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, from Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (MI) to Channel Islands National Park (CA), from Cape May National Wildlife Refuge (NJ) to the Fredricksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park (VA), LWCF funding has helped acquire and protect some of our nation's most cherished and iconic public landscapes.

The LWCF state assistance grants helps states and local communities protect parks, trails, recreation fields and other park facilities. Running the gamut from wilderness to neighborhood playgrounds, the LWCF has supported projects in almost every county in America providing matching funding to over 41,000 projects. From Brooklyn's Coney Island Board Walk, to Griffith Park in Los Angeles, from Myrtle Beach State Park (SC) to Rangeley Lake State Park (ME), from the Patuxent River Greenway (MD) to Tualatin Hills Nature Park (OR), and thousands of places in between, LWCF projects provide partnerships with communities to ensure that families have everyday access to parks and open space, hiking and riding trails, and neighborhood recreation facilities.

The LWCF is a visionary and bipartisan program. It was created by Congress in 1965 and is authorized to receive \$900 million annually in federal revenues from oil and gas leasing of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). It made good economic and environmental sense in 1965, and it remains good sense today, to reinvest a small fraction of federal leasing revenues in permanent natural resource protection

Despite this decades-old promise, the LWCF program has been chronically underfunded. It has received full funding only once in its history and in recent years has steadily declined to a low in appropriated funding of \$155 million in 2008. Full and dedicated funding is needed for the LWCF to fulfill its congressionally mandated purpose. If enacted, this provision will provide the necessary level of federal investment in parks, trails, refuges, forests, spaces, and historical and cultural

resources across the nation. We are delighted that Chairman Rahall has provided the leadership to include this Title IV provision in HR3534.

Parks and other public lands enhance the economic vitality and quality of life of our communities, making them places where people want to live, as well as vacation destinations. Our communities enjoy innumerable benefits from proximity to protected forests, parks, trails, refuges, and other areas for hiking, picnicking, hunting, fishing, mountain biking, camping, wildlife viewing, paddling, and mountain climbing. A renewed investment in the LWCF and public land protection is crucial to ensure this legacy.

Increasingly, it is recognized that a healthy environment and abundant recreational opportunity not only promote human health and quality of life, but also are good for the economy. The Outdoor Industry Association reports that active outdoor recreation activities generate \$730 billion in revenues annually to our nation's economy and support 6.5 million (1 in 20) jobs. Further, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that over 87.5 million people engage in wildlife-related recreation each year and that hunting, fishing and wildlife-watching combined generates over \$122 billion annually to the U.S. economy.

Conserving forests, watersheds, and wetlands has other significant social and economic benefits, among them ensuring clean, adequate, and affordable drinking water supplies for our communities. In addition, it is becoming increasingly clear that conserving our forests, which currently store upwards of half the carbon emitted each year, is critical in the fight against climate change. Strategic land conservation also provides an important tool to manage wildfires and reduce the costs of fire fighting surrounding our communities. And, whether it is a visit to a local playground or an outing to a national park, getting outdoors connects families, promotes a healthy lifestyle, and builds community.

As the Committee considers HR 3534, we urge you to retain in any final legislation this important Title IV provision to secure full, permanent and dedicated funding of the LWCF. Mr. Chairman, we applaud your leadership in including this provision in the bill and appreciate your support and that of other Committee members to protect America's most treasured landscapes, strengthen our local economies, and ensure the future of our natural, cultural, and recreation heritage. We pledge the full support of the LWCF Coalition and our many partners across America towards the enactment of this provision. We look forward to working with the Chairman and Committee to bring the vision of LWCF to reality, at long last.

Thank you,

Events

8) ELM'S LAWYERS EVENT '09

November 5th 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Please join the Environmental League of Massachusetts for ELM's Lawyers Event '09!
Langham Hotel, Boston

Green Star Award:
EEA Assistant Secretary for Policy David Cash

Presented to David Cash for his leadership on Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Green Economic Growth

Tickets are \$125 each (\$75 for non-profit & government employees)

We hope you and your firm will consider sponsoring this event to help support the critical efforts of the Environmental League of Massachusetts

Sponsor or purchase your ticket now via credit card at:

Purchase Tickets Online for the Lawyers Event at

http://www.environmentalleague.org/tickets_Lawyers-Event.htm

or mail check payable to "ELM" to ELM,
14 Beacon St., Suite 714, Boston, MA 02108.

Special thanks to the 2009 ELM Lawyers Event Individual Sponsors, Corporate Benefactors, Corporate Patrons

9) ROAD RACE TO BENEFIT KESTREL TRUST

Sunday, October 18 10 am

The "5K for Farmland," a road race and party to benefit The Kestrel Trust, will be Sunday, October 18 beginning at 10 a.m. on Hadley's historic West Street Common. The 5K race - or 2 mile walk -- will also end on the common with post-race festivities featuring music, and locally grown food by Whole Foods Market and Wheatberry Cafe.

The flat race course will take walkers and runners through the scenic Great Meadow of Hadley - a historic farming area that dates back to Hadley's founding in 1661. Kestrel is working with landowners, the Town, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts to permanently protect all of the farmland in this area.

Proceeds from entry fees will help The Kestrel Trust further its goals of farmland preservation throughout the Valley. The Trust was founded in 1970. The race is organized by the Sugarloaf Mountain Athletic Club and is being held in conjunction with Hadley's 350th anniversary.

Registration fees for "5K for Farmland" are \$20 per individual or \$40 for a family.

For more information and registration go to www.kestreltrust.org

10) FLYNT QUARRY WALK, OPACUM'S NEW LAND CONSERVATION PROJECT!

Saturday, October 17th at 1:00pm

A guided walk around the former Flynt Quarry property that will reveal interesting local history that is hidden in a natural setting. We will hike to get a birds eye view of Monson center in the fall. Opacum is partnering with the Monson Conservation Commission to acquire this land for permanent protection. Offered by the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary, please call 413-267-4859 to register. We will meet at Monson High School.

And as part of Walktober...

Tour The Lost Village of East Brimfield
Saturday, October 24, 10:00am

This program explores the lost village of East Brimfield, which was removed for a flood control project after the hurricane of 1955. Walk leaders are Local historian Larry Lowenthal and US Army Corps Ranger Merl Basset. This walk is intended as a follow-up to the October 7 presentation, but can be done independently. We will look at old road and railroad layouts and the location of houses, factories and dams. The program will last about two hours, covering a distance of 1.5 miles. Sponsored by Opacum & The US Army Corps of Engineers. Please register by calling 508-347-9144, We will meet at Friendship Baptist Church, 9 East Brimfield Road in Brimfield.

Sponsored by
Opacum Land Trust & The US Army Corps of Engineers
as part of Walktober
For additional events, visit <http://www.tlgv.org>

Training

11) MASSACHUSETTS FOREST AND PARK FRIENDS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Oct. 24, 2009, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m

Sign Up Today for the Friends Network 2nd Annual Conference!!
Central Mass Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) Conference Room
2 Washington Square - Union Station
Worcester, MA 01604 - 4016.
Directions to CMRPC are here: <http://www.cmrpc.org/Directions.aspx>

The Friends Network Conference provides friends groups and individuals from across Massachusetts an opportunity to voice concerns or catch up on important issues affecting forests and parks statewide while learning about programs for new and existing friends groups. Come share your vision and your ideas for strengthening friends groups, and connect with people who love our forests and parklands.

This conference is for everyone interested in state forests and parks stewardship.

Please sign up early to help us plan. To pre-register, reply to [<friend@networkingfriends.net>](mailto:friend@networkingfriends.net) . Please put "MFPFN Conference" in subject line and be sure to include the name of your group (if applicable), and estimate the number of people in your group who may be coming. We're looking forward to meeting new members and renewing friendships. See you there!

*Registration fee \$3.00 (to cover supplies and materials) without lunch and \$10.00 with lunch. You may bring your own lunch. We will post the final agenda and lunch options by September 15. Parking is found at Union Station for \$2 for the first hour and \$1 for each additional hour.

**To have your group featured in the power point presentation Friends Groups in Action 2008-2009, send pictures with your group's name, the activity and the date of the activity to [<friend@networkingfriends.net>](mailto:friend@networkingfriends.net) or (reply above).

12) SECOND ANNUAL MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE TRACKERS CONFERENCE

November 7, 2009 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Keynote speaker: Peter G. Mirick of MA Fish and Wildlife "Wildlife Trends: A Century of Success in Massachusetts Wildlife Conservation"

And other featured speakers:

Janet Pesaturo, Measuring Marks of Mammals with a Mission

Chris Wood, Ecology and Food Habits of American Mink

George Leoniak, Track and Sign Certification

Richard Wolniewicz, Field Guide to Skulls and Bones

Jon Sargent, Tracking Ivory-billed Woodpeckers

Andy Finton, Connecting and Protecting Land in MA

- See more details, find directions, and REGISTER at <http://www.masswildlifetrackers.org/> Space is limited. Sign up now.
- Come meet old friends. Find out ways trackers have been applying their tracking skills.
- BYO lunch. Coffee and bagels at sign-in. Drinks and snacks are provided.

Contact Information:

Bob Metcalfe 978-361-7569 or on <http://www.newenglanddiscovery.com/>

Lydia Rogers 978-371-2905 or lydiarogers@earthlink.net

Jane Winn 413-442-6815 or jane@thebeatnews.org

Second Annual Massachusetts Wildlife Trackers Conference

Saturday, November 7, 2009

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

9:00 AM doors open, coffee

\$30 per person (please register)

Doyle Conservation Center, Trustees of Reservations, Leominster, MA

13) CONSERVATION BY DESIGN, RANDALL ARENDT SPEAKER

November 5, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

The Conway School of Landscape Design with The Trustees of Reservations, The North County Land Trust & Leominster Land Trust present

Randall Arendt

Conservation By Design: A Practical Strategy for Preserving Town-wide Open Space Networks

WHEN: Thursday, November 5, 6:00 - Reception, 6:45 - 8:00 PM Lecture

WHERE: Doyle Conservation Center, 464 Abbott Avenue, Leominster, MA

RSVP: The talk is free and open to the public, but space is limited.

RSVP to 413-853-3034 or <mailto:events@cslid.edu>

Randall Arendt, one of the country's leading authorities on conservation planning, will present a free public lecture on Thursday, November 5, 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Doyle Conservation Center in Leominster, Massachusetts.

Conservation by Design: A Practical Strategy for Preserving Town-wide Open Space Networks will stress practical techniques that enable developers and local officials to work together to accomplish their different objectives in a way that helps preserve natural assets and rural character. Mr. Arendt will share numerous examples of designs that achieve both economic and environmental goals. He has designed conservation subdivisions in various landscapes and regions in 21 states, and his designs have been featured in publications of the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the National Trust for Historic

Preservation, the National Association of Home Builders, and the National Association of Realtors.

The talk is free to the public and will be held on Thursday, November 5 from 6 - 8 pm at the Doyle Conservation Center in Leominster, MA (<http://tinyurl.com/doyleconservationcenter>).

14) FACILITATING POWERFUL COALITIONS (2-DAY WORKSHOP)

Nov 12 & 13

At Doyle Conservation Center
464 Abbott Avenue
Leominster Massachusetts 01453
(978) 840-4446
Starts: Thursday, November 12, 2009 9:00 AM
Ends: Friday, November 13, 2009 5:00 PM
Price: \$70 TTOR members; \$80 non-members; BYO lunch

As municipalities and nonprofit community organizations are increasingly called upon to build alliances or coalitions to advocate for their goals, staff from these organizations are challenged to develop new leadership skills to foster successful collaborations with coalition partners. This course is designed to provide mid-level staff with hands on experience in facilitating productive meetings, communicating, negotiating and resolving conflicts. Participants will also acquire skills needed to decide if and how to collaborate and to build more effective partnerships. Case studies during the two-day workshop will examine issues surrounding the Farm Bill and farmland protection. The trainers are Patrick Field (Managing Director, Consensus Building Institute, Cambridge, MA) and Mary Margret Golten (Partner, CDR Associates, Boulder, Colorado). Space is limited; pre-registration required.

To register visit www.massconservation.org

Sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations' Putnam Conservation Institute (PCI) and the Consensus Building Institute.

Co-sponsored by Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts, Historic New England, Land Trust Alliance, Maine Land Trust Network (a program of Maine Coast Heritage Trust), Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, New England Grassroots Environment Fund, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, The Trustees of Reservations' Highland Communities' Initiative and Vermont Land Trust.

15) FAMILY LAND CONVERSATIONS:

November 14th 9AM-3PM

Effective Communication Strategies for Estate Planning and Inheritance Decisions with Olivia Boyce-Abel of Family Lands Consulting
Hotel Northampton, King St., Northampton 413-268-8219
Saturday, November 14th 9AM-3PM, \$20 per person, \$50 per family, Pre-registration required.

For more information or to download a registration form, visit <http://www.masswoods.net>

This seminar will be a rare opportunity to learn from one of the leading experts in the field about how to manage family communication issues in estate planning and

land conservation conversations. The principal audience for the workshop is landowners and their family members, though land trust staff, board members, foresters, and anyone interacting with landowners will learn valuable strategies for how to encourage healthy communication and trust in making decisions about family lands, as well as:

- How to initiate family conversations about the transfer of your land
- Different ownership and management structures that work over the long haul
- Where to go for help & which professionals you need on your team
- How to lay out a plan to keep your land in your family

Olivia Boyce-Abel has over 25 years of experience working with individuals and families across the country on issues of estate planning and land transfer. Ms. Boyce-Abel has in-depth experience dealing with property stewardship, multiparty ownership and dispute resolution, and excels in working with family dynamics to foster creative solutions.

16) RECORDKEEPING ESSENTIALS FOR LAND TRUSTS

November 05, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

At Doyle Conservation Center
464 Abbott Ave
Leominster Massachusetts 01453
(978) 840-4446

Starts: Thursday, November 05, 2009 9:30 AM

Ends: Thursday, November 05, 2009 12:30 PM

Price: TTOR members: \$20, non-members: \$25; BYO lunch

Will your organization's records stand the test of time? This workshop will give you what you need to know about the legal requirements for operating a land trust and keeping good organizational and transaction records. Learn how to develop and implement policies to guide how your land trust creates, collects, retains, stores, protects, and disposes of these important records. The workshop will also cover the issue of tax exemption, including the major requirements for maintaining charitable tax-exempt status and an overview of IRS Form 990 and other key forms. The trainers are Kathleen E. Connolly, an attorney with Murtha Cullina, LLP in Boston with extensive experience in land use and environmental law, and Kathy Orlando, Executive Director for Land Protection at the Sheffield Land Trust in the southern Berkshires. Space is limited; pre-registration required.

To register visit www.massconservation.org

Sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations' Putnam Conservation Institute and the Land Trust Alliance.

17) THE REVISED FORM 990: PREPARING FOR A NEW WORLD

October 22, 2009 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

At DLA Piper
33 Arch Street, Boston

This free Pfizer / DLA Piper seminar is an extremely well-organized interactive video conference where questions will be answered by specialists empanelled in New York. The Lawyers Clearinghouse is their Boston pro bono partner.

Register at registerboston@dlapiper.com
For any registering questions, please contact Naomi Miali at
<mailto:Naomi.Miali@dlapiper.com> or 312-984-5732.

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16 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108
(p) 617.778.1954 (f) 617.778.1955
http://www.lawyersclearinghouse.org/revise/?page_id=18

18) DIVERSITY MATTERS EVENTS

There are three upcoming sessions of the Diversity Matters Environmental & Social Change Leadership Series scheduled in Boston this Fall. Diversity Matters is a national nonprofit organization that aims to make diversity and inclusion foundational assets of environmental and social change.

OCTOBER 29-30, 2009
Session 1: Foundational Concepts

DECEMBER 3-4, 2009
Session 2: Deepening Awareness and Skill Development
*Registration limited to those who have already participated in Session 1 of the Leadership Series

DECEMBER 8-9, 2009
Session 3: Changing Organizations: Insight and skills necessary to develop an equitable, diverse, and inclusive organization
*Registration limited to those who have already participated in Session 2 of the Leadership Series

For more information and to register, please go to
http://www.diversity-matters.org/index.cfm?organization_id=73&ion_id=1091

Resources

19) NEW BREWSTER OPEN SPACE PROJECT ON YOUTUBE

We are trying something new for land trusts on Cape Cod: the use of a short promotional video highlighting a current fundraising project to preserve four acres in Brewster.

While the production quality is less than perfect on this attempt, I believe ten years from now all new land conservation projects will probably include a video clip as part of their campaigns. And the quality will be astounding...because 12-year olds will be producing them!

I hope you have a couple of minutes to check this out by clicking on this link:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gFs-V39pAE>

The video link is also posted on the home page of the Brewster Conservation Trust:
<http://www.brewsterconservationtrust.org/>

I am interested in comments you may have on this approach. Thanks for your time.

Mark H. Robinson
Executive Director
The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, Inc.
P.O. Box 443
Barnstable, MA 02630

Ph: 508-362-2565
Fax: 508-362-4480
Email: compact@cape.com
Visit us at: <http://www.compact.cape.com>

20) ENVIRO COFFEE ADDICTS GO GREEN

Just two efforts by environmentally conscious coffee lovers in the Commonwealth...

Coffee Drinkers Can Help Save Birds

Partnership will benefit Local Important Bird Areas and Protect Tropical Bird Habitat
- from Mass Audubon

Did you know that you can help birds by simply drinking coffee? The right type of coffee, that is. Mass Audubon, a leader in bird conservation since 1896, has joined Massachusetts-based Birds & Beans' efforts to provide consumers with shade grown Bird Friendly coffee to help stop population loss of North American songbirds in their winter homes in Latin America. Birds & Beans coffee is USDA-approved, 100 percent organic, and certified Bird Friendly by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center (SMBC), guarantying the coffee comes from farms that meet the highest possible standards of habitat quality and protection. Bird Friendly coffee farms, primarily family owned, provide winter shelter and sustenance to huge numbers of beautiful migratory birds - thrushes, warblers, orioles, tanagers, and more - that spend their summers in New England.

Birds & Beans also helps to protect our birds in another way. Each month Mass Audubon's Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program will receive \$1 for every online Birds & Beans customer and subscriber in Massachusetts. The IBA Program identifies and works to protect critical bird habitat in the state. Currently, there are 79 IBA sites in Massachusetts encompassing more than 900,000 acres. "The Important Birds Areas Program works to ensure appropriate stewardship for birds during their stay in Massachusetts," says Wayne Petersen, ornithologist and Mass Audubon director of the Important Bird Areas Program. "By drinking SMBC-certified Bird Friendly coffee, we help safeguard the migratory birds we know and love during their time away from North America."

Additionally, the USDA certified 100 percent Organic Birds & Beans coffee is Fair Trade or Rainforest Alliance approved and the beans are freshly roasted right here in New England. Buying coffee from Birds & Beans will support the Massachusetts IBA program as well as small businesses, while helping to preserve tropical forest habitat for birds and other wildlife, providing fair profits for farmers, and reducing pesticides where the coffee is grown.

Learn more by visiting <http://www.massaudubon.org/birdsandbeans> or <http://www.birdsandbeans.com> .

ELM's Quest for a "Green" Coffee Machine

- from Ken Pruitt, Environmental League of Massachusetts
Recently, the Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM) embarked on the quest for a more environmentally-friendly way to make coffee.

Our new coffee machine had to satisfy three requirements: 1. It must lower waste and energy use; 2. It must cost less than \$200; and 3. It must be able to easily create a single cup of coffee at a time. We first looked at the popular Kuerig brand single-serve machine which brews grounds in plastic K-cups. But creating thousands of non-recyclable plastic K-cups over the lifetime of the machine did not satisfy our first requirement. Second, we looked at Nespresso machines which use tiny aluminum cups. Finally we settled on the Senseo brand which uses compostable paper pods (much like traditional filters), has the ability to shut down between making each cup, and totaled \$157 with shipping costs (less expensive models will be in stock soon). Additional pods cost about \$0.33 each if purchased through Amazon.com.

Hopefully coffee drinkers will eventually catch on to Senseo's more environmentally-friendly approach to excellent flavor, forcing other single-serve machine suppliers to deliver an affordable alternative to plastic packaging. Our next quest is to find a fairly-traded Senseo pod - after which, we will truly be in caffeine bliss!

Jobs & Contracts

21) LAND CONSERVATION AND LAND STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER POSITIONS, WITH STIPEND

Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust has received a grant from the Commonwealth Corps Grants Program to fund stipends for four volunteer positions in land conservation. Positions require time commitments of 800 or 1,600 hours over the course of a year and carry stipends of \$5,000 or \$10,000. Mount Grace is now accepting applications for each of the four positions. The positions run from November to the end of August 2010, and are available to Massachusetts residents only. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to David Kotker at kotker@mountgrace.org. Resumes must be received by Friday, October 23rd. Call 978-248-2055 x 19 for more information.

Regional Partnership Conservationist

The North Quabbin Regional Partnership Conservationist works directly with the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership Coordinator to assist with managing regionally important land conservation projects, planning and recruitment for educational land conservation forums, organizing Partnership executive committee meetings, and assisting with land conservation grant writing.

Community Outreach Coordinator

The Community Outreach Coordinator works with community groups to encourage use of land protected by Mount Grace. The coordinator will strengthen existing networks of organizations, volunteers and supporters in each community that benefit from, and support local conservation projects. Responsibilities include planning and

promoting community events on Mount Grace lands and other public lands, working to identify conservation projects that meet community needs, and planning service projects for community volunteers.

Service Learning Coordinator

The Service Learning Coordinator designs, develops, and delivers service learning experiences to school children and youth groups. The coordinator will establish long-term working program relationships with teachers, farmers, foresters and conservation professionals, develop informational and presentation materials, make classroom presentations, and facilitate service learning projects on farms and in forests.

Regional Land Steward

A part-time Regional Land Steward will work with the Stewardship Biologist to assist town conservation commissions and local land trusts with baseline documentation reports and annual monitoring visits on conservation lands. The steward will also develop relationships with landowners and, set up workshops to train volunteers from town boards and local land trusts to do baseline reports. The position requires a volunteer time commitment of 800 hours and carries a stipend of \$5,000 plus a \$900 end-of-term bonus paid on satisfactory completion of the program.

All Massachusetts residents are eligible for stipends through this project. Towns served by this project are: Ashburnham, Athol, Barre, Bernardston, Erving, Gardner, Gill, Greenfield, Hardwick, Hubbardston, Leverett, Leyden, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Pelham, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Shutesbury, Templeton, Warwick, Wendell, Westminster, and Winchendon.

Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust is a regional land trust that serves 23 towns in Franklin and Worcester counties. It protects significant natural, agricultural and scenic areas and encourages land stewardship for the benefit of the environment, the economy and future generations. In 23 years through collaborations and partnerships, Mount Grace has protected more than 23,000 acres.

Volunteer postings can also be viewed at http://volunteer.united-e-way.org/mass-service/volunteer/search-2.aspx?zip=01331&radius=0&term_id=&x=25&y=15 and at www.mountgrace.org

Information about Commonwealth Corps is available on the Massachusetts Service Alliance website at <http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=gov3subtopic&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Key+Priorities&L2=Civic+Engagement+%26+Strong+Communities&L3=The+Commonwealth+Corps&sid=Agov3>

Miscellany



25) NEW "LAND & WATER" PLATE SUPPORTS LAND PROTECTION - ORDER TODAY!

The Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition has been working with the Massachusetts Environmental Trust to establish a new "Land and Water Conservation" license plate program. The Trust's experience with license plate programs has demonstrated that this can be a stable and sustainable source of funding for land protection.

The Registry of Motor Vehicles requires that 3,000 plates be pre-ordered and held with checks sent in advance, before they will put this plate into production. Once the 3,000 checks are received, they will ship the plates to the vehicle owner. If the 3,000 plates are not sold in a year, they return the checks.

Please contact Bill Hinkley at MET for additional information about the plate or the program in general. He can be reached at 617.626.1177 or william.hinkley@state.ma.us

ORDER FORM & MORE INFO:

<http://www.masslandandwater.info/>

23) BECOME A FRIEND OF THE MASS. LAND TRUST COALITION!

The Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition relies on its network of Member Land Trusts and Friends of the Coalition for support. "Member" status is offered to "all non-profit, charitable organizations chartered to hold and/or convey land and/or interests in land for conservation purposes in Massachusetts". "Friend" status is offered to organizations, public entities, individuals and businesses that do not meet the requirements for membership but who wish to support and participate in the work of the Coalition.

Please join us and help support our efforts to encourage private, voluntary land protection and support sound public conservation policy. Please visit our membership page at: <http://www.massland.org/?q=member>

"The most radical thing we can do is introduce people to one another"

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