



Whitney Beals

Whit has worked on land protection projects for New England Forestry Foundation since 1999 after serving as associate director of Sudbury Valley Trustees for 12 years. A past head of the Southborough Open Land Foundation, he currently serves as chair of the MWRA's Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee and is on the board of EcoTarium in Worcester. He holds a master of forest science degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Whit lives on a working farm in Southborough with his wife, Pamela.

Edward O. Becker

Ed Becker has over 30 years of experience in land conservation, environmental protection and nonprofit management. He has been the executive director of the Essex County Greenbelt Association, a nonprofit land trust, since 1987. Ed has worked on several hundred land conservation projects, including over 150 conservation easements, and has over 25 years of experience in land conservation, environmental protection and nonprofit management. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Mass. Land Trust Coalition.



Marylynn Gentry

Marylynn has been the Executive Director of the Harvard Conservation Trust since 2009. She served as Board President of Sudbury Valley Trustees from 2004 – 2008, served on the Wayland Community Preservation Committee, and on the Wayland Conservation Commission for 11 years. Marylynn holds masters degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Penn State University and received the 2004 Conservation Award from the New England Wildflower Society.

Karen Grey

Karen has been the President and Executive Director of the Wildlands Trust since November 2007. From 1991 to 2007, Karen served in a variety of leadership positions at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, including Director of Marketing and Development and Assistant Director. Karen brings a broad base of management, marketing and conservation knowledge and skills to her position. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont.



Rita Gibes Grossman

Rita's professional background is in healthcare, but she has pursued her passion for the natural environment by joining the Boxborough Conservation Trust board in 2003, where she has been president for the last five years. Through her role as president, Rita has had a robust sampling of the issues confronting small, all volunteer land trusts. She serves on the Town's Land Stewardship Committee and founded Boxborough Birders.

Cynthia Henshaw

Cynthia has been the Executive Director of the East Quabbin Land Trust since 2007 and involved with various aspects of land conservation and organizational development for sixteen years. Cynthia has served as Clerk of the Mass Land Trust Coalition for the past four years.





Andrew Magee

Andy has over 25 years experience in the conduct and management of environmental studies and scientific investigations and is a partner in a respected environmental engineering firm, Epsilon Associates. He recently completed two terms as Selectman in the town of Acton and currently sits on the Town's Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission and Community Preservation Act Committee. Earlier, he served multiple terms on the Town of Acton Sewer Advisory Committee and Water Resources Advisory Committee. Andy has been involved in conservation activities for over 15 years, has served on the boards of two non-profit conservation organizations: the Acton Conservation Trust (all volunteer) and the Organization for the Assabet River (OAR)

Bernie McHugh

Bernie is the President & CEO of W.J. Grosvenor & Co. a wholesale distributor of floor covering supplies where he has worked since 1975. In 1996, he restructured the business to take himself out of daily operations so he could expand his volunteer conservation work. From 1999-2011, he served on a volunteer basis as the Coordinator for the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition. He is co-founder of the Religious Lands Conservancy Project, which works with religious communities to protect their lands from development. He was named the "Citizen Activist of the Year" in 2003 by ELM, received the LeBaron Briggs Conservation Award from the Wildlands Trust in 2007 and was recognized as a 2008 "Conservationist of the Year" by the Mass. Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He presently serves on the Boards of the Mass. Land Trust Coalition, Mass. Outdoor Heritage Foundation, and NatureStage; is an Adviser to Mass Audubon, and the William P. Wharton Charitable Trust.



John Page

John has had a long career serving in both for-profit and non-profit environments in roles varying from Peace Corps Volunteer in Nigeria and Ethiopia to Vice President of product development in several areas of JP Morgan Chase. Recently, John has been Interim Executive Director of the New England Wildflower Society and the Crossroads Family Shelter, and Chief Operating Officer of the Charles River Conservancy. John's many volunteer roles have included Vice President and Treasurer for the Greater Lovell Land Trust, Treasurer for the Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park, and Treasurer for the Mass Land Trust Coalition since 2009.

Mark Robinson

Mark has served as Executive Director of The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts since its founding in 1986, providing technical assistance to 23 local and regional land trusts, including landowner negotiations, fundraising, land management and state/municipal coordination on open space projects. A graduate of Williams College and the University of Rhode Island, Mark previously worked on coastal management and water quality issues for the Cape Cod Planning and Economic Development Commission. He has served as Chairman of the Barnstable Conservation Commission, Co-Chair of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Conservation Study Group, Vice-Chair and Treasurer of MLTC, and Vice-President of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod. The US EPA acknowledged his work with a lifetime achievement award in 2009. He has completed over 500 land preservation projects.





Loring Schwarz

Loring is the Principal of newPrimavera Environmental Consulting, advising on online network curriculum development and conservation finance training. Prior to this, Loring spent many years with The Nature Conservancy; she also did stints with The Conservation Fund and Mass Audubon. She was instrumental in establishing the national network of Natural Heritage Programs and built the Massachusetts TNC government relations program, among many other accomplishments. Loring holds a Masters of Forest Science from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and a BS in Biology from Tufts University.

Peggy Stevens

Peggy is the Executive Director of the Westport Land Conservation Trust. Relatively new to the land protection community, she joined the Land Trust in 2008. Prior to her start with WLCT, Peggy had a multi-decade career as an operations executive in managed health care, working in national, regional and statewide organizations over the years. She currently serves as Board Chair for the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEM), an organization created just three years ago from three smaller Girl Scout Councils. She worked to create the merger and she has worked as a Board member, Chair of the Governance Committee and now Chair of the Board to implement the new business model. In the past decade, Peggy has also served as President of the Girl Scout Council of SE Mass., and on the Boards of Directors for Chorus pro Musica and the South Coast Chamber Music Society.



Bob Wilber

Bob is the Director of Land Protection for Mass Audubon. Previously, he worked in similar capacities for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, and the Massachusetts Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Bob is the current chair of the Mass Land Trust Coalition, and lives in Stow, where he is on the Board of Directors of the Stow Conservation Trust, and the Open Space and Community Preservation Committees. During his 25+ year career, Bob has been directly involved in the protection of more than 35,000 acres in Massachusetts.