

# Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

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Items of interest to the Massachusetts land protection community.

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## **SPECIAL ISSUE - ASSISTANCE FOR LAND TRUSTS APPLYING FOR CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP GRANTS!**

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#### **Grant Opportunities**

- 1) TTOR & Fields Pond Foundation Offer Assistance**
- 2) State Conservation Partnership Grants for Land Trusts**

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## Grants

### **1) FIELDS POND & TTOR OFFER ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The state's Conservation Partnership Grant program (CPG) is a great resource for land trusts. It is the only program which land trusts can apply to directly for reimbursement of costs of a land acquisition project (fee or CR). Last week, EEA Secretary Ian Bowles announced a new CPG round of \$550,000, the most ever.

However, it can be challenging and even intimidating for small resource-poor land trusts to meet the CPG requirements and this has led to a shortage of applicants in previous rounds. Among the more difficult aspects are the mapping requirements and the need to invest in an appraisal for a project that might otherwise not need one.

So, the Fields Pond Foundation and The Trustees of Reservations have teamed up to bring you the resources you need to take advantage of this great grant opportunity. Fields Pond will help pay for the appraisal and the Trustees will make the maps for free! All this whether or not your application is successful! Here are the details.

#### **APPLICATION ASSISTANCE for Conservation Partnership Grants**

There are NEW resources to help you apply for EEA's Round 2 FY08 Conservation Partnership Grant (\$60k max). The Second Round Deadline: January 9, 2008

## 1. Appraisal Costs

Fields Pond Foundation will pay 50% of the cost of the required appraisal, to a maximum grant of \$1,500 per organization.

## 2. Required Maps

The Trustees of Reservations' GIS department will make you the maps required to apply for a CPG.

### Eligibility:

Any 501(c)(3) Massachusetts land trust with an annual operating budget under \$250k, applying to CPG for a project that is generally eligible under CPG guidelines (i.e., a land protection project on which a CR will be granted to a state or local entity and which will be publicly accessible), whether or not the CPG application is successful.

### Requirements:

a. Contact The Trustees of Reservations with your mapping needs for a CPG application no later than December 17, 2007. (afreeman@ttor.org; 978-840-4446 x1929).

b. Submit CPG application to EOEEA by January 9, 2008 (or such later date as the CPG deadline may be extended.)

c. Send Fields Pond Foundation copies of your application and the invoice for the appraisal cost. Payment can be directed to appraiser or the land trust. (PO Box 540667; Waltham, MA 02454-0667; brehrig@fieldspond.org)

## **2) CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP GRANTS FOR LAND TRUSTS!**

FISCAL YEAR 2008 ROUND 2 NOW AVAILABLE

From Bernie McHugh, Mass. Land Trust Coalition and Christy Edwards, EEA

DIRECT LINK TO THE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP GRANT APPLICATION:

<https://www.ebidsourcing.com/processPublicSolSummView.do;jsessionid=HQQh8yT65Wdn8yyq7lrwQZzNdFdv6szvsJDvJJblg2yPfxW0dHyp!532209576?action=soltypeCd&docStatus=OPEN&docUserId=201600&docViewType=OPEN&docId=111375&doValidateToken=false&soltypeCd=UNIVERSAL>  
<file://localhost/processPublicSolSummView.do>

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is pleased to announce the release of the FY08 Conservation Partnership grant program Request for Response (RFR). This grant program provides funding to assist not-for-profit corporations in acquiring interests in land suitable for conservation or recreation purposes.

The maximum grant award for a single project is \$60,000. The maximum reimbursement amount available for a single project is 50% of the total project cost.

Qualified applications will be selected on a competitive basis. Up to \$550,000 in total grant assistance will be made available during this grant round. There is no guarantee that monies will be awarded.

Potential projects fall into one of two categories:

- 1.) Land or a conservation restriction purchased by an eligible Applicant
- 2.) Land or a conservation restriction gift donated to an eligible Applicant

Applications for these grants will be accepted from qualified IRS 501(c)(3) organizations that have been formed for one of the purposes described in Section 4

of Chapter 180 of the General Laws. An organization must have 501(c)(3) status at the time an application is submitted.

The RFR, application form, rating system, and program timeline are available on the Comm-PASS website at <http://www.comm-pass.com/>. Application deadline is 3 p.m. January 9, 2008.

**GRANT WORKSHOPS:**

TBA - Please check the Comm-PASS website for information about upcoming grant workshops.

Applicants may submit questions to Christy Edwards at [<mailto:christy.edwards@state.ma.us>](mailto:christy.edwards@state.ma.us) until 12:00 noon Friday, December 2007. Answers to questions will be posted on Comm-PASS.

**Comm-PASS Instructions:**

- 1.) On the Comm-PASS home page (<http://www.comm-pass.com/>) click on the "Solicitations" tab in the upper left corner of the page
- 2.) On the "Browse Solicitations" page select "Search for a Solicitation"
- 3.) In the "Search by Keyword" section at the top of the page, type "Conservation Partnership" in the "Keywords" search field
- 4.) This search should yield five results. Click on the sentence on the top of the page that says: "There are 5 Solicitation(s) found that match your search criteria"
- 5.) On the next page you will see five entries. Be sure to select the information for the Round 2 grant by clicking on the little pair of spectacles on the far right-hand side of the OPEN "Conservation Partnership Grant" entry. (Title: FY 08 Conservation Partnership: Round 2)
- 6.) On the next page click on the tab that says "Specifications"
- 7.) The grant RFR is the only document currently posted in this section but information about upcoming workshops, answers to questions, and amendments to the RFR (if needed) will be posted here as well. Please check this page frequently for any new postings. To view and print any document posted in this section just click on the spectacle icon.

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