



Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

MassLand ENews
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Land Conservation Community
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"We have been too efficient at destruction; we have left our souls too little space to breathe in. Every green natural place we save saves a fragment of our sanity and gives us a little more hope that we have a future." ~ Wallace Earle Stegner, (1909-1993), American historian, novelist and environmentalist

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MLTC NEWS

1) Mass Land Conservation Conference - Next Saturday!

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Worcester Technical High School, Worcester, MA

The 28th Annual Mass Land Conservation Conference is next Saturday! **The last day to register is March 19, 2018.** Register [here](#) and unite with all of your fellow conservationists. The challenging workshops, engaging speakers, exhibitors, and Keynote Speaker, Rand Wentworth will energize you for all of your upcoming initiatives and projects. A special thank you to all of our volunteers.

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2) Act Now to Support the Public Lands Preservation Act!

Please act now to help ensure the protection of Article 97 lands by supporting the Public Lands Protection Act (PLPA). Article 97 lands were protected using taxpayer dollars or donor contributions. This bill will codify in law the state's no net loss policy, which requires replacement land when dispositions occur. The bill ensures that this policy will not be ignored by a future administration as our National Monument boundaries have been rolled back by the administration in Washington. Read more about the bill [here](#).

Please contact your Senator and urge her/him to support the favorable release of the Public Lands Protection Act, S2181, from the Senate Ways & Means Committee. If you reside in Senator Spilka's district (Framingham, Natick, Ashland, Hopkinton) please contact Senator Spilka and urge her to release this bill favorably from her Senate Ways & Means Committee. Find your Massachusetts Senator [here](#).

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

3) Introducing Nature Groupie!

Nature Groupie offers event sharing and registration, training tools for volunteers and stewardship, with a New England wide community. Organizations in Massachusetts are encouraged to start using this network for their stewardship events with volunteers and can have access to the many other resources on the site. Click [here](#) for more information!

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4) 2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Released

The state has released its 2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) which explores Massachusetts' recreational resources and how to connect them to residents. These plans are required every five years by the National Park Service for Massachusetts to remain eligible for grants through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Click [here](#) to read the report.

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5) Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program Accepting Applications for FY 19

June 29, 2018 deadline

The Department is currently accepting applications for the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program for Fiscal Year 2019 (which starts on July 1, 2018). Applications may be submitted to the federal USDA for funding under the Agricultural Lands Easement (ALE) Program. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

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6) Application Period Opens for 2018 Excellence in Energy & Environmental Education Awards

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) has announced it is now accepting nominations for its annual Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education until March 30, 2018. EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton will present awards this spring to Massachusetts teachers and students involved in school-based programs that promote environmental and energy education. Click [here](#) for information.

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7) Calling for Trail Award Nominations!

The Coalition for Recreational Trails seeks nominations for its Tom Petri Annual Achievement Awards. Winners are recognized in Washington, D.C. each June during Great Outdoors Month®. This awards program, now in its 20th year, recognizes outstanding use of Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds, showcasing excellent projects made possible by RTP funding and enhancing awareness and appreciation of the RTP among Members of Congress and other key officials. Click [here](#) to nominate your favorite trail that has used RTP funds!

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8) Environmental Protection Agency Proceeds with Proposed Rule to Expand Thiamethoxam Use

Excerpts from Change.org, March 7, 2018 by Natalie adt

The Environmental Protection Agency has published a "proposed rule" that seeks to increase the allowable residue of thiamethoxam on some crops by up to 200 times the current limits. The rule would allow the neonicotinoid pesticide to be sprayed directly on wheat, barley, corn, sorghum, alfalfa, rice, potato, sugarcane and rice, significantly increasing the exposure and potential harm to bees and other pollinators.

As of this writing, the proposed rule has ZERO public comment. Without significant public pressure, the EPA will continue on this reckless course that puts our entire food system at risk. Please add your comments by clicking [here](#). Comments are due by March 29th.

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9) *New Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary in Plymouth Now Open*

Excerpts from Mass Audubon, February 7, 2018 by Michael O'Connor

Mass Audubon's new Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary, situated on a former Plymouth cranberry bog being restored to its original freshwater wetland habitat, is now open and welcoming all visitors from the community, throughout Southeast Massachusetts, and beyond. Click [here](#) for the full story.

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EVENTS

10) *Agricultural Preservation Restriction Listening Session*

Thursday, March 15, 2018, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Essex Technical High School, Smith Hall Auditorium, 562 Maple Street, Danvers, MA

MA Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux will host a Listening Session on the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program tonight, Thursday, March 15, 2018, at Smith Hall Auditorium in Danvers (located across the street from Essex Technical High School). This will be the third in a series of four (4) listening sessions to hear from the public about their ideas for protecting farmland for the future in Massachusetts. Titled "The APR Program-Looking Forward", these sessions are intended to be opportunities for you to recommend ideas and policy considerations for the APR program to meet the evolving needs of farming in Massachusetts and to address the challenges that can result from placing agricultural land under a restriction for posterity.

The final session will be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 5:30pm - 8:00pm at the MassDEP Office, 8 New Bond St, Worcester between Reed Machinery and Abby Kelly High School (rescheduled from March). Pre-registration is not required for any session but is recommended for the Worcester meeting by emailing Dorothy.Du@state.ma.us.

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11) *Massachusetts Pesticide Board Meeting*

Friday, March 16, 2018, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Conference Room 3, 21st Floor of the McCormack Building, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA

All are welcome to attend the Massachusetts Pesticide Board Meeting tomorrow. The Agenda is as follows:

- A. Approval of the December 7, 2017 Pesticide Board Minutes
- B. Pesticide Program Update
 - eLicensing Issues and Status Update
 - Eversource Vegetative Management Plan Status Update
 - Pesticide Use on Cannabis Decision
 - Advisory Council Update

- Updated Federal Certification and Training Rule

C. New Business

- Motion Requesting a "Recommendation of Suspension and/or Cessation of 2018 VMP approval process pending clarification, amplification, and resubmission of a manifestly deficient VMP" by Attorney Bruce Taub

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12) MassWildlife Public Hearing to Extend Archery Deer Season

Rescheduled to April 10, 2018, 7:00pm

MassWildlife Field Headquarters, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA

MassWildlife's Public Hearing to Extend the Archery Deer Season has been postponed to April 10, 2018. MassWildlife is proposing to open the archery deer season two weeks early in Wildlife Management Zones 10-14. To read the proposed regulatory language, please click [here](#).

The Fisheries and Wildlife Board will accept written public comment on the proposal at any time prior to the public hearing and for an additional two weeks after the hearing. Written and oral comments are accepted at the public hearing. Comments (both oral and written) must focus on the proposed regulation. Written comments can be mailed to: Chairman, Fisheries and Wildlife Board, c/o MassWildlife Director, Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581. Public comments by e-mail may be sent to Susan.Sacco@state.ma.us, Attn: Fisheries & Wildlife Board.

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TRAININGS

13) UMass Extension's Invasive Plant Management Certification

In the last several years, there has been growing interest in invasive plants and their management. While turf and landscape professionals might be very proficient in the development of a weed management program for turf and/or landscape, invasive plant management often reveals many new and unique challenges. This 4-day program is intended to help participants meet these challenges when attempting to develop an invasive plant management program as part of their business. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

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14) UMass Keystone Project

Thursday, April 12, 2018 - Sunday, April 15, 2018

Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

The Keystone Project is an intensive, 3-day, retreat style training at the Harvard Forest which focuses on forest ecology and stewardship, wildlife management, and land protection. The training consists of both indoor and field sessions, as well as informal time to learn from fellow participants. For more information about Keystone or to download an application please visit www.MassKeystone.net. The application deadline is

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GRANTS

15) Energy & Environmental Affairs FY 18 Conservation Assistance for Small Communities

March 30, 2018 deadline

The grant program provides funding to communities with a population of 6,000 people or fewer for the preparation of real property appraisals, Open Space & Recreation Plans (OSRPs), and other planning efforts. Funding is non-competitive; all eligible applicants will receive contracts on a rolling basis until all available funding is allocated. Funding is available on a first come, first-served basis. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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16) National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Acres for America

Pre-proposals are due April 26, 2018

Acres for America, a partnership between Walmart Stores and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), was established to provide urgently needed funding for projects that conserve important large-scale habitats for fish, wildlife, and plants through land acquisitions and perpetual conservation easements. Preference will be given to projects that achieve more than one of the following program priorities: conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants, and wildlife; connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect critical migration routes; provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching, and recreation. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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17) The North Face Explore Fund

April 5, 2018 deadline

The North Face Explore Fund supports nonprofit organizations in the U.S. that are looking to increase participation in the outdoors and work in innovative ways to protect our environment. Grants are made in the following categories: The Enabling New Explorers category focuses on programs that introduce underrepresented communities to outdoor adventures in potentially new and interesting ways. The Protecting Our Environment category focuses on programs that work to protect our ecosystems and our ability to continue to enjoy them. Across both categories, programs with strong outdoor engagement in activities such as skiing, kayaking, backpacking, etc. are preferred. Grants generally range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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18) National Urban & Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program - Forest Service

April 30, 2018 deadline

The National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program supports forestry projects on non-federal public land that have a national or multi-state impact and application. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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JOBS

19) President - Essex County Greenbelt

Essex County Greenbelt seeks a passionate, results-oriented President to lead the organization as it engages in conservation opportunities that are important to the diverse communities and constituencies it serves, and that contribute to the region's extraordinary quality of life. As Greenbelt looks towards its next chapter of leadership, it seeks a President who will embrace the organization's history while strategically and thoughtfully charting a course forward. Greenbelt is ready and eager to embrace its next long-term executive leader. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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20) Event & Outreach Coordinator - Essex County Greenbelt

Greenbelt seeks an enthusiastic professional, with a passion for the outdoors, for the new full-time position of Event & Outreach Coordinator. They will work as an integral member of the Development & Community Engagement Team to organize, support and manage an extensive calendar of year-round weekday, evening and weekend events. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2018. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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21) Chief Executive Officer - Nantucket Conservation Foundation

The Nantucket Conservation Foundation seeks a Chief Executive Officer. This individual will lead a land conservation organization that works to preserve the natural character of Nantucket Island at a time of increasing stress on the island's natural resources. The CEO is a person who possesses leadership capabilities to engage staff, board and volunteers in advancing a robust and enduring enterprise. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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22) Land Steward Program Coordinator - Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests

The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests seeks a well-organized,

communicative, personable, and self-motivated individual for the position of Land Steward Program Coordinator. The successful candidate will have a four-year college degree in an applicable discipline, experience training and supervising adult volunteers, excellent oral communications skills, and significant outdoor stewardship skills. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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23) Land Acquisition Coordinator - Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation is seeking an experienced and collaborative leader to join the Lands Administration and Recreation Division as Land Acquisition Coordinator. The successful candidate will work closely with the Director of Lands Administration and Recreation and other staff to advance FPR's land protection and easement stewardship goals. Responsibilities include identifying, developing and completing conservation projects, coordination and completion of associated due diligence, coordinating with Agency staff and partners, landowner relations and easement stewardship activities including annual monitoring. This position offers an impactful, demanding work opportunity with the Agency of Natural Resources. Interested candidates can learn more and apply before March 5th by searching for position # 622874 at <http://humanresources.vermont.gov/careers>.

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24) Land Conservation Program Administrator - Mass Audubon

Mass Audubon is seeking a Land Conservation Program Administrator. Responsibilities include program administration, land records management, internal and external communications, fundraising and event planning, and conservation legacy agreement portfolio management. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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25) Seasonal Land Management Crew - Town of Lexington

The Town of Lexington Conservation Department is now accepting applications for the position of Seasonal Land Management Crew. This is a full-time, seasonal position lasting 16 weeks from mid-May through late August. Duties of the job include maintaining conservation trails, mowing conservation meadows, managing invasive species, restoring plant and wildlife habitat, building/repairing boardwalks, supporting volunteer stewardship efforts, and conducting outreach and educational efforts related to conservation land. The job will be open until filled; first consideration given to those who submit their application by March 30th. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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26) Steward - The Trustees, Greater Ashfield

The Trustees seeks a seasonal, part-time Steward in Greater Ashfield. The Bullitt

Reservation Steward is based out of the Bullitt Reservation. The Property Steward has assigned duties involving the operation, preservation and protection of the Bullitt Reservation, Bear Swamp, and Chapel Brook Reservations. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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27) Summer Internship and Fellowship Opportunities - Neponset River Watershed Association

The Neponset River Watershed Association is pleased to offer both internship and fellowship opportunities for students and recent graduates this summer. This is a great opportunity for budding scientists to gain real-world lab and field experience in environmental science, ecological restoration, environmental engineering, and community organizing. To view the opportunities and to apply, click [here](#).

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28) Office Manager - Mass Rivers

The Massachusetts Rivers Alliance is seeking a part-time Office Manager. The position is 25 hours/week with a flexible schedule. This important member of their team is responsible for running the day-to-day administrative and financial operations for the organization. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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29) Northeast Program Manager - Land Trust Alliance

The Land Trust Alliance is seeking a Northeast Program Manager. This individual is primarily responsible for developing, managing and delivering Alliance programs and services to build strong land trusts in ME, NH, VT, MA, RI and NY. She/he will be responsible for the delivery and evaluation of a suite of tools and resources to land trusts, such as training and mentoring programs, one-on-one technical coaching and assistance, targeted capacity building or program development grants. She/he will strategically work with consultants to bring a high level of expertise in such areas as strategic planning, fundraising, climate change, community conservation and strategic conservation planning. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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30) New York Program Manager - Land Trust Alliance

The Land Trust Alliance is seeking a New York Program Manager. The Land Trust Alliance's New York Program is the state land trust association for New York. Within that context this position is responsible for a suite of high impact programs, closely aligned with Land Trust Alliance priorities and goals, that provide direct investments and technical assistance for New York's land trusts, education and training opportunities on current and emerging issues in land conservation as well as high level representation at the state policy level on behalf of the community. For more information and to apply,

click [here](#).

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31) Seasonal Forestry Assistant (Amherst) - Department of Conservation and Recreation

The Department of Conservation and Recreation seeks qualified applicants for the position Seasonal Forestry Assistant. This individual will be coordinating the Department's Community Wood Bank Program. He/She will assist the Utilization and Markets Program with developing and supporting community based heating assistance programs to recycle surplus forest resources into beneficial community services. This position will also assist with the fulfillment of federal grant objectives designed to increase forest landowner's participation in land management operations through education and outreach. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

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