



MASSLAND E-NEWS

The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Land Conservation Community

September 23, 2010

Volume 10, Number 13

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>

You may reproduce any or all of MassLand E-News free of charge for non-commercial use only, with the appropriate citation to MassLand and/or cited sources.

"There's always an Arquillian battle cruiser or a corillian death ray or an intergalactic plague that is about to wipe out all life on this miserable little planet, and the only way these people can get on with their happy lives is that they Do... Not... Know... About it!"

-- Kay (Tommy Lee Jones) to Jay (Will Smith) in "Men In Black" (1997) --

MLTC Events and Meetings:

Oct. 2-5 - National Land Trust Rally - Hartford, CT

Oct. 3 - Rally: Northeast Reception 5:00-6:45 pm

Oct. 4 - Rally: Mass. State Dinner, Hartford, CT 6:00 pm

Oct. 14 - MLTC Fall Steering Committee Meeting 10:00 AM

Oct. 22 - MLTC 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner 6:00 PM Hudson, MA

- 1) Action Alert - Support Restoration of DCR Funding for FY 2011
- 2) MLTC News - Mass. Land Trust Coalition Official Notices
- 3) MLTC News - Tickets on Sale for MLTC 20th Anniversary!
- 4) MLTC News - Going to Rally? Join MLTC for Dinner!
- 5) News - Legislative Session Run-Down from Mass Audubon
- 6) News - End of Session Wrap-Up From American Farmland Trust
- 7) News - 6,000 Acres of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protected
- 8) Of Interest - Franklin Land Trust & Berkshire Brewing Present **Preservation Ale!**
- 9) Events - Grand Opening, Assabet River NWR Visitor Center, Oct. 10 Sudbury
- 10) Events - Massachusetts Outdoor Expo, Sturbridge, Sept. 26
- 11) Events - The Work of 1000 Documentary Screening, Brookline, Oct. 14
- 12) Events - Thoreau as Climatologist: Tracking 160 Years of Climate Change, Cambridge
- 13) Events - 2nd Annual 5K for Farmland to Benefit the Kestrel Trust
- 14) Training - MACC Fall Conference 2010, Wellesley & Northampton
- 15) Training - Local Communities Adapting to Climate Change, Cambridge Nov. 4/5 - Free!
- 16) Resources - New From TechSoup - ESRI ArcGIS 10!
- 17) Resources - Your Land, Your Legacy: Deciding the Future of Your Land
- 18) Grants - SARE's Sustainable Community Grants Program Seeks Proposals
- 19) Grants - Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program Seeks Applications

- 20) Jobs - Program Coordinator -- The Nature Connection, Concord
- 21) Jobs - Working Land Alliance Director - American Farmland Trust, CT
- 22) Jobs - Five Openings, Trustees of Reservations

Thank you for subscribing to MassLand E-News. Please forward this to friends, family and colleagues interested in Massachusetts land conservation issues, and encourage them to subscribe.

To subscribe, send an email request to Info@MassLand.org

Alert!

1) SUPPORT RESTORATION OF DCR FUNDING FOR FY 2011

From the Trustees of Reservations

We are all aware of the deep and often painful budget cuts that state officials have had to impose on a wide range of agencies and vital public programs. This summer, Congress struggled to reconcile and support an earlier pledge to extend funding to reimburse a share of Medicaid costs borne by the states. As a result, the Massachusetts legislature was forced to make further budget cuts to ensure that our Fiscal Year 2011 budget would be balanced. **In August, after the Massachusetts legislature had completed its formal session, Congress approved legislation that would provide nearly \$500 million in Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) funds to our Commonwealth. Now we need your voice to join our appeal to legislative leaders to restore funding and offset cuts made to the Fiscal Year 2011 budget for the Department of Conservation and Recreation.**

There are many state agencies and programs that could benefit from a mid-year infusion of budget funds, but there are few state agencies that deserve greater consideration than the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Since 2008, DCR has borne the greatest reduction in funding of all the environmental agencies – 25%. Its staff has also been reduced by nearly 20%. At the same time, DCR, which is responsible for the nation's 9th largest park system, has seen a significant increase in the usage of its facilities. DCR is a critical contributor to the Commonwealth's \$14 billion tourism industry, but because of the budget and staffing cuts, the agency is struggling to provide a showcase for the health and vibrancy we ascribe to our natural resources, historic sites, and other special places.

DCR is a key state partner whose mission most closely mirrors The Trustees' own. Please contact the key state legislative leaders below and ask them to allocate a significant portion of the available FMAP funds to offset the 25% reduction in DCR funding since 2008 – and help to restore the vitality and splendor of these irreplaceable natural, cultural, and recreational Commonwealth assets.

At this time, we are asking you to direct your communications and support to members of the State Senate Committee on Ways and Means listed below:

- Panagiotakos of First Middlesex
- Stephen Brewer of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin
- Harriette Chandler of First Worcester
- Steven Baddour of First Essex
- Cynthia Creem of First Middlesex and Norfolk
- Benjamin Downing of Berkshire, Hampshire, and Franklin
- Susan Fargo of Third Middlesex
- John Hart of First Suffolk
- Thomas Kennedy of Second Plymouth and Bristol
- Richard T. Moore of Worcester and Norfolk
- Michael Morrissey of Norfolk and Plymouth

Marc Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol
Karen Spilka of Second Middlesex and Norfolk
Brian Joyce of Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth
Susan C. Tucker of Second Essex and Middlesex
Michael Knapik of Second Hampden and Hampshire
Richard Ross of Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex

To find out the name of your state senator, enter your address at:
<http://www.wheredoivotema.com/bal/myelectioninfo.php>. Thank you for your support.

MLTC News

2) MASS. LAND TRUST COALITION OFFICIAL NOTICES FALL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2010 - 10:00 AM- **PLEASE RSVP!** RENEW YOUR LAND TRUST'S MLTC MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING!

Dear Massachusetts Land Trusts, Coalition Members and Friends,

All Massachusetts Land Trusts, MLTC Member organizations and Friends are encouraged to send a representative and participate in the Mass. Land Trust Coalition Fall 2010 Steering Committee Meeting. All state and Federal agency personnel active in Massachusetts land protection are cordially invited, as well.

*** PLEASE RSVP if you have not already done so.
*** Please bring a brown bag lunch, beverages and snacks.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR LAND TRUST HAS RENEWED OR JOINED!

While the Annual Meeting is open to all who wish to attend, only Land Trust Members in good standing may nominate and vote on Trustees. Please go [here](#) and click on "View the 2010 - 2011 MLTC Member List" to see if your land trust has renewed its dues and is currently a member in good standing and eligible to vote.

To Join or Renew as a Member or Friend click [here](#) to download a Membership Form.

If you have questions about your Membership status or about joining the Coalition, please email Kathy McGrath at kmcgrath@massland.org.

3) TICKETS ON SALE FOR MASS. LAND TRUST COALITION 20TH ANNIVERSARY!

Join Your Friends & Colleagues for a Night Honoring these Champions of Conservation!

**Jack Clarke, Buzz Constable, Joel Lerner, Bob Levite,
Bob O'Connor, Pamela Resor, Wes Ward & Fred Winthrop**
also being honored are **Don Henley & George Wislocki, who cannot attend**
(Click [here](#) for pix & bios of our Honorees!)

A Celebration of Land Conservation
For the 20th Anniversary of the
Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

Friday, October 22, 2010

6:00 p.m. VIP Reception - 7:00 p.m. Celebration
Riverview Banquet Facility at the Hudson Portuguese Club
14 Port Street, Hudson, Massachusetts

Special Guest Speaker - Nationally Renowned Conservation Attorney
Steve Small



Tickets Now on Sale!

Guest Tickets \$40 each - VIP Tickets \$100 each*
(Buy Tickets Here - <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/122741>)

Patrons \$500 for Two - Sponsors \$250 for Two**

Help Support the Coalition by becoming a Patron or Sponsor of this Celebration!

Sponsor and Patron tickets include a tax-deductible contribution to the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition

Click here to learn more! - http://www.massland.org/files/MLTC_Ticket_Form.pdf

Visit MassLand.org for Details!

**Includes admission for One to VIP reception and dinner*

***Includes recognition in the program book and admission for Two to the VIP Reception and dinner*

4) GOING TO RALLY? JOIN MLTC FOR DINNER!

Going to Rally? Join us and your land trust colleagues from across the state for an informal and fun Massachusetts state land trust dinner on **Monday Night (October 4th) in Hartford, Connecticut!** Let us know if you'll attend **ASAP** by sending an *e-mail* to Lindsey Sarquilla at lsarquilla@massland.org

News

5) LEGISLATIVE SESSION RUN-DOWN FROM MASS AUDUBON

-- From Mass Audubon's Beacon Hill Weekly Roundup 8/4/2010

By Jack Clarke, Director of Public Policy & Government Relations, Jennifer Ryan, Legislative Director & Christina McDermott, Assistant to the Director

Veto Overrides

Until the final hour of the session, all signs were positive for an override of Governor Patrick's veto of the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund administrative waiver. However, the House failed to take up the override and the Governor's veto stands. Read the [joint letter](#) from environmental organizations in support of the veto override.

Legislation

Two Mass Audubon priorities had big successes in the final days: an *Act Relative to Off-Highway Vehicles* and *An Act to Sustain Community Preservation*. Read more about these in the *Full Session Run Down at the Mass Audubon [website](#)*.

Other environmental bills or bills with environmental provisions that moved in the final hours included:

A major legislative initiative to coordinate and promote economic development in the Commonwealth, the [Economic Development Bill](#), made it to Governor Patrick's desk with an almost across-the-board two year extension for state permits, excluding federal permits, hunting and fishing licenses, and comprehensive permits issued by a local board of appeals under Chapter 40B of the General Laws. Permits covered include wetlands, building, Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), local bylaws and ordinances. A full list is in Section 173 of the bill. The rationale is that the economy has stalled construction, and rather than making proponents go through the permitting process again, the state is extending permits. However, we note that this includes practically all permits including 20 year water withdrawals which are not linked to economic hardship. The bill also includes a requirement that new regulations be reviewed for their impacts to small business (Section 71, line 1206). If you follow the above bill link, the permit extension language begins on line 2744.

The [Casino Bill](#), just returned to the legislature by Governor Patrick, is a mixed bag for the environment. There is a provision which undoes an Article 97 disposition requirement for the Fall River Bioreserve, allowing casinos on the ecologically sensitive site. For more, read our [joint letter](#) opposing this provision. On the positive side, energy efficiency, green building standards, and smart growth are all categories to be considered by the state when granting a resort casino license; the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act shall apply although stronger Senate language was struck; and there is a modest amount of funds available for environmental mitigation. The Senate language requiring that the state must consider all environmental laws and regulations when granting a casino license was struck. The latter was an important marker for any potential casino on sovereign tribal land, as Native American sovereign lands are exempt from state and federal law. In the end, it's entirely possible, however, that the casino bill will not make it to the Governor's desk for his signature as the heated debate around slot parlors continues.

The *Wind Bill* ([House Bill 4955](#)) was engrossed or initially approved in both Chambers and enacted in the House, but the clock ran out and the bill fell just short of final passage in the Senate. The Senate may enact the bill during informal sessions, but seven senators out of forty representing both parties voted against the bill and any individual senator can block final passage during informal sessions. In the House, the vote was 96 to 51 for enactment. The *Wind Bill* is important because it will facilitate more efficient and predictable permitting for wind projects while also protecting natural resources, including through the establishment of a new set of comprehensive wind energy siting regulatory standards that reflect regional differences and are designed to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on vulnerable natural resources such as birds and bats.

Read the *Full Session Run Down at the Mass Audubon [website](#)*.

6) END OF SESSION WRAP-UP FROM AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST

--From American Farmland Trust ENewsletter, by Cris Coffin, New England Director

The formal 2009-2010 Legislative Session ended at midnight on July 31st with several successes—and some disappointments—for farms and farmland protection in the Commonwealth.

Victories for Massachusetts Agriculture

* **Statewide Food Policy Council:** Over the last two years American Farmland Trust has worked closely with a group of organizations—now the [Massachusetts Food Policy Alliance](#)—to advocate for the creation of this

Council. [House Bill 4568](#), which passed the Legislature and has been signed by Governor Patrick, establishes a 17-member council to advance four food system goals: including increased production and consumption of Massachusetts-grown foods and the protection of the land and water resources needed for local food production.

* **Protections for Small Farms:** Current law provides a broad exemption from local zoning requirements for agricultural uses on farms of 5 acres or more (see [MGL Ch 40A, Sec 3](#)), [Section 79 of Senate Bill 2582](#) recognizes the food production capacity and agricultural importance of small plots of land by extending existing protections to include smaller farms of 2 acres or more as long as they produce at least \$1,000 per acre annually.

* **School Nutrition:** [House Bill 4459](#) encourages the purchase of local farm products by adding public colleges and universities to the state's local procurement law and clarifying the cap for individual purchases which do not require normal bidding.

Disappointment

* **Partial Release of Protected Farmland:** [Despite concerns voiced by American Farmland Trust and other statewide land conservation organizations \[PDF\]](#) and against the recommendation of the state's Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee, legislation allowing the partial release of farmland in Brimfield, MA from the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program for a non-agricultural use was [recently enacted into law](#). American Farmland Trust is disappointed that its concerns were not addressed by either the Legislature or the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and will be looking at ways to strengthen state policy to avoid similar releases in the future.

Read more of American Farmland Trust's End of Session Wrap-Up [here](#).

7) 6,000 ACRES OF FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTED

--from MassWildlife News

Just over 6,000 acres of fish and wildlife habitat were protected by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in the past fiscal year (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010) for a total investment of \$10,490,000. These acquisitions were well distributed around the Commonwealth, with 57 parcels in 44 towns conserved both for the benefit of wildlife and the public's use and enjoyment. These new fish and wildlife lands will be added to the list of over 180,000 acres currently under the care and control of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW). All lands are open to fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife observation, boating, hiking and other passive wildlife related recreation. A listing of all newly acquired FY 2010 properties by town can be found on the DFW website at:

http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/habitat/land/land_acquisitions.htm.

“Donations of land and easements were a major part of this year's habitat protection efforts,” said Craig MacDonnell, the Division's Realty Chief. “With the assistance of the environmental community and many generous donors, over 3,481 acres of habitat were protected at no cost to the state. These donations amount to over one-half of the acres conserved this year and demonstrates exceptional initiative during lean economic times.”

- * Western District - nine acquisitions for 1,067 acres
- * Connecticut Valley District - eight projects for 139.33 acres
- * Central District - 16 acquisitions in eleven municipalities for 943.68
- * Northeast District - 18 projects for 675 acres
- * Southeast District - six projects for 3,337.49 acres in nine towns

Support for the land acquisition program comes from several sources. The primary funding mechanism is the Commonwealth's open space bond authorization. In FY10, the department received more than \$10.2 million in

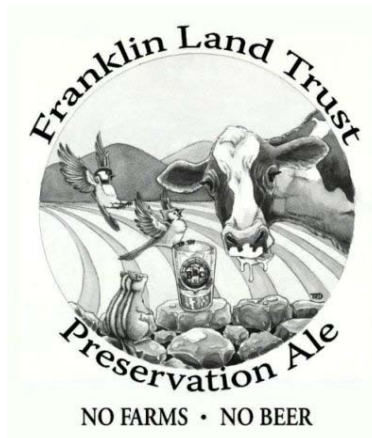
capital funds for land acquisition. Fishing, hunting and trapping license buyers contribute a \$5 fee to the Wildlands Fund for wildlife habitat acquisition as an additional revenue source. Some individuals and organizations make direct donations to the Wildlands Fund. A significant amount of additional funding is also leveraged or received through non-profit conservation organizations. In addition, many acres are conserved every year through gifts of land.

Of Interest

8) THE FRANKLIN LAND TRUST PRESENTS PRESERVATION ALE! NO FARMS, NO BEER!

The Franklin Land Trust is partnering with Berkshire Brewing Company on the launch of a limited edition, private label beer: **Preservation Ale**. This special FLT beer will only be available from August 21 through November 21, and will help support land conservation in the region. Stop in at your favorite beer purveyor and ask for Preservation Ale from Berkshire Brewing!

There's no additional cost for the Ale: a portion of the proceeds from Preservation Ale will be generously donated by BBC, and used to support land conservation.



Events

9) GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION, ASSABET RIVER NWR VISITOR CENTER

Sunday, October 17, 10 AM - 6 PM
680 Hudson Road, Sudbury

Join in the celebration of the opening of the Visitor Center at the Assabet River NWR

10am - 1pm Bike and Hike

10am - Noon Exploring Pond Life at Puffer Pond

10am, 11am, and Noon - Bunker Tours with Jan Wright

11am - Family Bike Ride to Puffer Pond.

Noon - Passion for Birds Performance with Henry Lappen.

1pm to 3:30pm Official Ceremony. US Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, Regional Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System Tony Léger, Joan Patterson of the National Wildlife Refuge Association, local schoolchildren, Presidents of the Friends groups, Arthur Carbary (who grew up on what is now the refuge), and Native American Chief Roland Jerome.

4 pm Presentation on the DeepWater Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf Coast

Cider donuts, fresh cider and apples provided by Honey Pot and Carver Hill Orchards.

For details, go to: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/assabriver/pdf/GrandOpeningDetails.pdf>

All programming will be held RAIN or SHINE, and will be located at or have a starting location at the new visitor center unless otherwise noted. Facility is located at 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA. For more information contact, Susan_J_Russo@fws.gov or 978.443.4661 x34.

10) MASSACHUSETTS OUTDOOR EXPO

Families, friends, Scouts (Boys and Girls), and other youth groups are invited to a free day of trying outdoor skills and demonstrations on **September 26, 2010**, at the 14th annual Massachusetts Outdoor Expo (The Big MOE), held at the **Hamilton Rod and Gun Club grounds in Sturbridge, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.** The Big MOE, sponsored by the Facts About Wildlife and Nature Society (FAWNS), is a free, family-oriented event celebrating outdoor skills, nature, art, and wildlife. This all-day family event is free, thanks to co-sponsors like the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Hamilton Rod and Gun Club, The Weatherby Foundation, Whitetails Unlimited and the Worcester County League of Sportsmen's Clubs. Sportsmen's clubs; locally-based, outdoor-related businesses; and other conservation groups sponsor a variety of skills stations, craft tables, and other exhibits relating to wildlife and the outdoors. The Big MOE is the perfect opportunity to introduce young and old to outdoor skills and activities such as fishing, kayaking, shooting, building a bird box, geocaching, mountain biking, tree identification, nature arts and crafts, New England Pioneer encampment, tomahawk throwing, and more! See live birds of prey, native reptiles, and tree stand safety demonstrations. More information and a Big MOE flyer to share with others can be found at www.fawnsociety.com.

11) THE WORK OF 1000 DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING

Coolidge Corner Theatre, Brookline, MA

Thursday, October 14, 7:00-8:30pm

\$20 tickets

On Thursday, October 14, we're hosting a special screening of The Work of 1000 documentary film, followed by a thought-provoking panel discussion on "The Future of Urban Environmentalism." You'll hear cutting-edge insights about how environmentalism can spur urban renewal, challenges and trends in urban ecology, and next steps communities can take to "green" themselves and improve residents' quality of life.

Panelists include Marion Stoddart, who led the cleanup of the Nashua River and stars in The Work of 1000; former Fitchburg Mayor Bill Flynn; current Fitchburg Mayor Lisa Wong; and Colin Durrant, Harvard University's Manager of Sustainability Communications and the former Communications Director for the Conservation Law Foundation. The panel will be moderated by Work of 1000 director Dorie Clark.

Tickets for the event, which runs from 7:00-8:30 p.m., are \$20. Information on how to purchase tickets will be coming soon.

For information on hosting a screening, please visit www.workof1000.org/screenings.

12) THOREAU AS CLIMATOLOGIST: TRACKING 160 YEARS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Harvard Museum of Natural History, Lecture by Charles Davis

Geological Lecture Hall

24 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA

Thursday, November 18, 6:00 PM

Over 160 years ago, Henry David Thoreau initiated a study of flowering times at Walden Pond. Today, a research team including, Charles Davis, Assistant Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and Curator in the Harvard Herbarium, has updated Thoreau's records with current data and integrated them with modern evolutionary biology to reveal how climate change and earlier flowering times have affected Walden's plants. Those that have greatly declined include many charismatic native wildflower species, while those that have thrived include many nonnative and invasive species. Davis will explore how an integration of historical records combined and cutting edge science can help us potentially mitigate the impacts of climate change on biodiversity. *Free and open to the public, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford Street. Part of the Asa Gray Bicentennial series.*

13) 2ND ANNUAL 5K FOR FARMLAND

To Benefit The Kestrel Trust - Celebrating 40 Years of Land Conservation

Sunday, October 17

10:00 AM

5K Road Race or 2 Mile Walk

Start and Finish at Hadley's West Street Common

Fast, Flat Route Past Scenic Farmland

Post Race Party with Locally Grown Food & Music

Register at kestreltrust.org or sugarloafmac.org

Advance Registration Fee: \$18 · Day of Fee: \$20 · Family (2 parents plus 2 kids): \$40

T-Shirt with Logo For First 300 Registrants

Training

14) MACC FALL CONFERENCE 2010

Hot Topics! News You Can Use

Eastern Conference

Saturday, October 23, 8:00 am-4:00 pm

MassBay Community College, Wellesley Hills

Western Conference

Saturday, November 6, 8:00 am- 4:00 pm

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, Northampton

An all day conference covering: 1) The Care and Feeding of Conservation Commissions in Difficult Financial Times 2) Floods, Flooding & Floodplains: Fools & Fixes 3) Working with Utilities: Your Hands are Tied...Or Are They? 4) Stepping out of the Wetland: Conservation Commissioners as Environmental Leaders in their Communities. MACC Members \$90, Non-members \$120.

Registration and more information available [here](#).

15) LOCAL COMMUNITIES ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Change and Wildlife Alliance - Massachusetts is co-sponsoring a **free two-day course** taught by the Consensus Building Institute and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge MA on **November 4 and 5, 2010**. This hands-on, interactive course provides local and regional leaders with the tools they need to assess the impacts of climate change and manage the risks it poses - and the opportunity to share their concerns on a difficult topic. This course will explain how to:

1. Assess the local risks associated with climate change;
2. Evaluate potential strategies for reducing vulnerability and enhancing resiliency; and
3. Build consensus within decision-making processes around which strategies to pursue.

This program will introduce you to important concepts, such as:

- * Risk assessment - Identifying the risks associated with climate change
- * Modeling and climate downscaling - Quantifying the risks associated with different scenarios
- * Scenario planning - Using scenarios to explore possible futures and what might be done now to prepare for them
- * Collaborative approaches to decision-making - Working together to find the best responses to climate change.

For the full agenda click [here](#). The course is offered free of charge thanks to the generous support of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. It fills quickly and registration is required; seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. **Registration deadline: October 8, 2010.** To register, e-mail: lincolninstitute@resource-plus.com Thank you for your continued interest in climate change adaptation issues in Massachusetts.

Resources

16) NEW FROM TECHSOUP!

[ESRI ArcGIS 10 Now Available at TechSoup](#)

Geographic information systems from ESRI can help organizations display and analyze ideas, information, and trends graphically by layering information on top of a map. ESRI recently made the latest version of its software tools, version 10, available to organizations through TechSoup. The latest version features a variety of improvements over prior versions, including an easier and faster user interface, more templates, cloud GIS access, improved imagery management, and more.

17) YOUR LAND, YOUR LEGACY: DECIDING THE FUTURE OF YOUR LAND

--a publication from UMass Amherst, the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership and TTOR's Highland Communities Initiative

Though much attention has recently been given to the publically owned forests in MA, **most of our forests are family forests**, owned by thousands of families and individuals. 71% (or 1.2 million acres!) of these forests are owned by people that are 55 years old or older.

In the coming years, these woodland owners will need to make decisions about the future of their land. **These decisions will have profound impacts on our forested landscapes and the benefits they provide.** This is where we need to turn our attention.

UMass Amherst, the [North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership](#), and [TTOR's Highland Communities Initiative](#), are pleased to announce their new publication "[Your Land, Your Legacy: Deciding the Future of Your Land.](#)" The goal of this publication is to help these landowners and their families make an informed decision about the future of their land.

Land is often a landowner's most valuable financial asset. However, land is not like other assets. Because land can be connected to memories, experiences, and feelings not normally associated with assets such as stocks and

bonds, land may also have significant personal value. Deciding what to do with the land often brings with it the challenge of providing for the financial and personal needs of you and your family.

The good news is that land is a flexible asset that lends itself to creative solutions for gaining financial and personal value. However, developing creative solutions depends on families working together with an understanding of their options.

The new **Your Land, Your Legacy** publication can help landowners by providing information on

- * Family communication;
- * Professionals who can assist you and how to find them;
- * Stories of other landowners who found ways to use their land to meet their needs and those of their families;
- * how to take the next step in deciding the land's future;
- * additional resources.

Your Land, Your Legacy was developed thanks to the generous support of MA DCR's Service Forestry program. We thank them for investing in one of the most pressing issues facing the forests of Massachusetts.

If you would like to request a free hard copy(ies) of the publication, contact [Paul Catanzaro](#) or (413) 545-4839. [Download a PDF of the publication.](#)

Grant Opportunities

18) SARE'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM SEEKS PROPOSALS

From Conservation Common

The Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)'s Sustainable Community Grants Program seeks to reconnect rural revitalization and farming. Projects must address key issues such as farm finance, marketing, land use, water use, enterprise development, value-added product development, and labor. Other substantive topics may also be addressed, provided farmers and the farm community benefit. All proposals must show a strong link to farms and the economic issues that affect them, and all projects must support appropriate growth, improved farm profits, a cleaner environment, or improved farm stewardship. Eligible recipients include community nonprofits, Cooperative Extension, local governments, educational institutions, planning boards, farming cooperatives, and incorporated citizens' groups. **The deadline for projects seeking funding (up to \$25,000) in 2009 is October 19, 2010.** Visit <http://nesare.org/get/sustainable-community/> for more info.

19) HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM SEEKS APPLICATIONS

From Conservation Common

The Mass. Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) are inviting communities, state agencies, and tribal governments and territories to submit applications for the FY11 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs. It is expected that \$10 million in federal funds will be available for competitive grants to assist applicants with hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of hazard mitigation projects to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property due to natural hazards (click here for more details on eligible applicants, projects, etc.). **Dam removal projects are potentially eligible for funding if they would clearly result in the reduction of flooding that causes damage to homes, infrastructure, roads, etc.**

Full applications are due on November 1, 2010. However, submitting applications beforehand gives MEMA/DCR staff the opportunity to review them and suggest improvements and revisions that can be incorporated before it is officially submitted to FEMA. Generally, once MEMA submits the applications to FEMA there will be no opportunity to revise, amend or submit additional supporting project information. Visit http://www.mass.gov/Eeops/docs/mema/disaster_recovery/dr_1895_fy11_unified_hma_guidance_memo.pdf or contact Hazard Mitigation Grants Coordinator Scott MacLeod at (508) 820-1445 or Scott.MacLeod@state.ma.us for more info.

Jobs

20) PROGRAM COORDINATOR -- THE NATURE CONNECTION, CONCORD, MA

The Nature Connection in Concord MA seeks a part-time (12-16 hrs/week) Program Coordinator. Responsibilities include planning and delivering nature-based educational and therapeutic programs to underserved children and elders in Greater Boston.

For further information and application instructions:

Sophie Wadsworth, Executive Director
swadsworth@nature-connection.org
www.nature-connection.org

21) WORKING LANDS ALLIANCE PROJECT DIRECTOR -- AFT, CT

American Farmland Trust (AFT) seeks an energetic self-starter to direct the Working Lands Alliance (WLA) in Connecticut. A diverse coalition of individuals and more than 200 businesses and organizations established in 2000 and dedicated to preserving Connecticut's remaining working lands, WLA has raised over \$50 million in public funding for farmland protection and successfully championed several visionary pieces of state legislation.

The ideal candidate will have a background in agriculture and public policy, familiarity with Connecticut stakeholders, and experience in fundraising and in managing collaborative projects involving multiple partners. Excellent communication skills, a willingness to manage all aspects of coalition activities, and the vision to lead and grow a dynamic coalition is essential.

For a full job description or more information, please visit www.workinglandsalliance.org or email bbowell@farmland.org. **Position open until filled**; interviews of selected candidates will begin the week of September 20th.

22) FIVE OPENINGS AT THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

Assistant Superintendent

Seeking an Assistant Superintendent within the Charles River Valley Management Unit to assist with the care of its properties. *Read the full job description [here](#).*

Director of Annual Giving

The Director of Annual Giving reports to the Deputy Director of Advancement and is responsible for leading and managing a comprehensive leadership giving program focused on building annual operating support for The Trustees of Reservations. *Read the full job description [here](#).*

Director of the Center for Engagement and Enterprise

Seeking a dynamic leader to serve in the newly created role of Director, Strategic Programs and Enterprise to provide overall strategic and operational leadership over the organization's two flagship properties, the Crane Estate and Appleton Farms. *Read the full job description [here](#).*

Holyoke Office Assistant

The Office Assistant is responsible for providing administrative support to The Trustees' Western Region, its staff and the public in the Regional Office in Holyoke. *Read the full job description [here](#).*

Maintenance Technician

The Maintenance Technician is assigned duties involving the management, preservation and protection of the following properties of the Metro Northwest Management Unit: *Read the full job description [here](#).*

To protect your privacy, MassLand E-News is sent out as a bcc (blind copy). That way, no one else can see your email address. Our apologies for the cross posting if you receive more than one copy. If you wish to be removed from MassLand E-News, send an unsubscribe message to Info@MassLand.org and we will unsubscribe you immediately.

Prepared by Bernie McHugh, Lindsey Sarquilla & Kathy McGrath, Editors

Info@MassLand.org

Tel: 978-443-5588

MassLand E-News is a service to the Massachusetts land conservation community.

Follow the link to [Subscribe to MassLand E-News](#).

###