



NEW HAMPSHIRE LAND TRUST COALITION

Advancing Land Conservation in NH

News and Programs

Saving Special Places Conference, 2026



Saving Special Places: April 10, 2026, Waterville Valley NH

Last month, 245 conservation minded people from all across New Hampshire joined us for our annual Saving Special Places Conference at the Waterville Valley Conference Center. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us this year for a truly wonderful event! We started the day with an educational and inspiring Keynote Address delivered by **Leila Philip**, the author of *Beaverland*, who discussed our long social history with beavers and how through the millennia, they have shaped and maintained the watersheds of North America. We greatly appreciate Leila

for joining us for the day and sticking around to sign nearly 100 copies of *Beaverland* for our attendees!

Our lineup of workshops this year were incredibly informative. From presentations like 'Recent Case Law from the Land Trust Alliance Defense Network' to 'Integrating Ecological Reserves into Conservation Planning', our attendees experienced a wide range of relevant conservation topics. Thank you to all of our wonderful presenters who took the time to develop engaging workshops for all of our attendees to learn from!

We would also like to send once last big thank you to all of our Saving Special Places 2026 Conference Sponsors. We wouldn't be able to host such a successful conference without you.

Stay tuned for details on the 2027 Saving Special Places Conference!



*Left: Leila Philip signing copies of Beaverland for attendees.
Right: Attendees networking during lunch at Saving Special Places*

Member and Partner Spotlight



*View of the White Mountains from newly conserved lands in Bath, NH
Photo credits: Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust staff*

255 acres of working farmland protected in Bath, NH

The [Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust \(ACT\)](#) along with the Woods family, recently completed the conservation of 255 acres of working farmland in Bath. This includes hayfields, pastureland, a sugar bush and working forest which are now permanently protected for future farmers and local food production.

Conservation of the 255-acre Woods family farm is a shared effort led by the Woods family who have farmed this land for multiple generations with supporting grants from the USDA-NRCS Agricultural Land Easement program, NH State Conservation Committee Moose Plate Program, Bath Conservation Commission, NH Farm Futures Fund, ACT donors and private foundations.

The property also enjoys spectacular views of the White Mountains, has some of the highest ranking of wildlife habitat in the state, and contributes to the protection of local drinking water resources.

If you are an [NHLTC Member or Partner](#) and would like to see your completed conservation project featured in our next eNews, contact Cassie Bernyk at coordinator@nhltc.org



*Cows on the Woods family farm
Photo Credits: Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust staff*

Conservation Updates

News & Policy

New Hampshire House Bill Updates:

HB 1691, (Relative to limitations and qualifications for land placed in current use)

- As discussed during NHLTC's Annual Meeting back in February, the NH House of Representatives unanimously rejected this bill and there will **not** be any further action on it this session.

HB 1293, (Taxing certain properties owned by charitable or non-profit organizations)

- As discussed during NHLTC's Annual Meeting back in February, the House Ways and Means Committee voted to send this one to "Interim Study". There has been no further action on it since then. That step is potentially a way to politely kill a bill. However, in this case, there was some sympathy among Committee members for the intent behind the bill. At some point later this year the Committee will meet again to decide a final course of action on it.

HB 1649, (Prohibiting certain tax dollars from being donated to non-profit organizations)

- The NH House of Representatives also rejected this bill so there will **not** be more action on it.

HB 1297, (Relative to property owned pursuant to the public trust doctrine)

- This bill proposed to prevent a person from acquiring property owned pursuant to the public trust doctrine from being adversely possessed. The House also rejected this bill.

If you would like to track any legislation, you can subscribe to any updates on a bill on [The General Court of New Hampshire's website](#).

Grant Opportunities

- **[NH Farm Future Fund](#)**

Provides funding for farm viability planning in concert with the conservation of important agricultural soils.

The submission deadline is May 31, 2026.

All applicants should contact info@cheshireconservation.org as soon as possible to schedule a Discovery Meeting if you plan to move forward with a submission.

- **[Appalachian Trail Conservancy's 'Wild East Action Fund'](#)**

For land protection, conservation planning, and community resiliency projects from Georgia to Maine.

Proposals will be accepted starting May 18, 2026

Webinars and E-Learning

Are Websites the Next Payphones? Understanding the Changing Role of Websites in the Platforms-First Era

Tuesday June 2nd, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern | Online

Hosted by the Land Trust Alliance, this session led by Bold Bison for an interactive and thought-provoking session where we'll step into the shoes of our users to unpack what they want from our websites and how to build around the user experience. We'll evaluate Search Engine Optimization strategies for generative AI summaries and explore easy steps to make your site accessible to broader audiences. With a mix of breakout and full group discussions, this workshop will give you an overview of these challenges, as well as the tools to future-proof your web presence, building a site your users return to regularly.

\$75 for LTA members. \$140 for non-members.

[Register here](#)

Recovering Administrative and Shared Costs from Grants

Tuesday June 9th, 2-3:00 p.m. Eastern | Online

Hosted by the Land Trust Alliance, this webinar will feature land trust financial expert Kay Sohl, who will go over strategies to encourage government and foundation funders to cover the full cost of land trust initiatives and projects. This webinar will provide a structure for preparing grant applications and budgets that make the case for funders to cover more than the direct cost of a new project or initiative, to achieve both funder and land trust goals.

\$75 for LTA members. \$140 for non-members.

[Register here](#)

Indigenous Land Access and Return Series

Part I: Approaches to Land Access and Return: Land Donation

Tuesday June 16th, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern | Online

Hosted by the Land Trust Alliance, join Lisa Wilson and Forrest King-Cortes, two of the co-authors of '[Partnerships for Land Access and Return: A Summary of Legal and Relational Pathways](#)' to learn about the key considerations and a spectrum of approaches for land trusts and Tribes or Indigenous communities who are seeking to work in partnership on land return. Then, dive deep into a partnership example featuring Trust for Public Land and the Penobscot Nation. Together, the partners are returning 31,000 acres, the largest land return of its kind, without any easements or restrictions. You'll hear directly from partners about the path to building trust, the future of their work together and the lessons learned along the way.

Free!

[Register here](#)

Indigenous Land Access and Return Series

Part II: Approaches to Land Access and Return: Cultural Respect Easements

Wednesday June 24th, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern | Online

Hosted by the Land Trust Alliance, join Lisa Wilson, Dr. Diana Ruiz and Forrest King-Cortes, the co-authors of '[Partnerships for Land Access and Return: A Summary of Legal and Relational Pathways](#)' to learn about the key considerations and a spectrum of approaches for land trusts and Tribes or Indigenous communities who are seeking to work in partnership on land access. Dr. Ruiz will introduce cultural respect easements as a tool for ensuring long term access to land for Tribes and Indigenous communities and provide examples of how the Native Land Conservancy is working with partners to put these agreements into place.

Free!

[Register here](#)

Growing Your Land Trust's Development Program

Wednesday July 15th, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern | Online

Hosted by the Land Trust Alliance, this session will be led by Alice Hudson Pell (executive director, TennGreen) and Mindy Milby Tuttle (senior director of principal giving, Land Trust Alliance). They will explore the whys, hows, whats, wheres and whens of bringing on additional people who you can trust to steward and sustain your mission. Topics covered during this webinar will include:

- Why to grow: Sustainability, predictability, success and fundraising ethics.
- How to grow: Development team structures, roles, skillsets and hiring fundraisers.
- What's needed: Key documents for your new hire, 90-day introduction plan and onboarding.
- Knowing where and when to grow: Building fundraising plans and gift pyramids, using data when and where it's needed to drive results.

\$75 for LTA members. \$140 for non-members.

[Register here](#)

Job Postings

- [New England Policy Manager](#), American Farmland Trust, Northampton

MA

Application Deadline: Open until filled, applications received prior to June 3rd will be given priority

- [Development Director](#), Chocorua Lake Conservancy, Chocorua NH

Application Deadline: Open until filled

- [Island Host – Rattlesnake Island Preserve](#), Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Alton NH

Application Deadline: Open until filled

- [Island Host – Ragged Island Conservation Area](#), Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Tuftonboro NH

Application Deadline: Open until filled

- [Director of Habitat for All](#), Mahoosuc Land Trust, Bethel ME

Application Deadline: Open until filled

[Submit a Job Posting Request Form](#)

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