



Land Trust Alliance - Updates

Rex Linville

Eastern Division Director of Field Programs

You Are Part of Something Bigger!



- **950** member land trusts
 - **Plus 120** affiliates (professionals, governments, nonprofits and state land associations)
- **470** accredited land trusts (84% of land protected by land trusts)

The Land Trust Alliance is the voice of the land trust community.

As the national leader in policy, standards, education and training, we work passionately to support land trusts so they can save more land now and for future generations.



61,072,596

Acres Protected



That's about 46,267,118 football fields!



Field Services



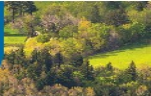
Land Trust Alliance
Together, conserving the places you love

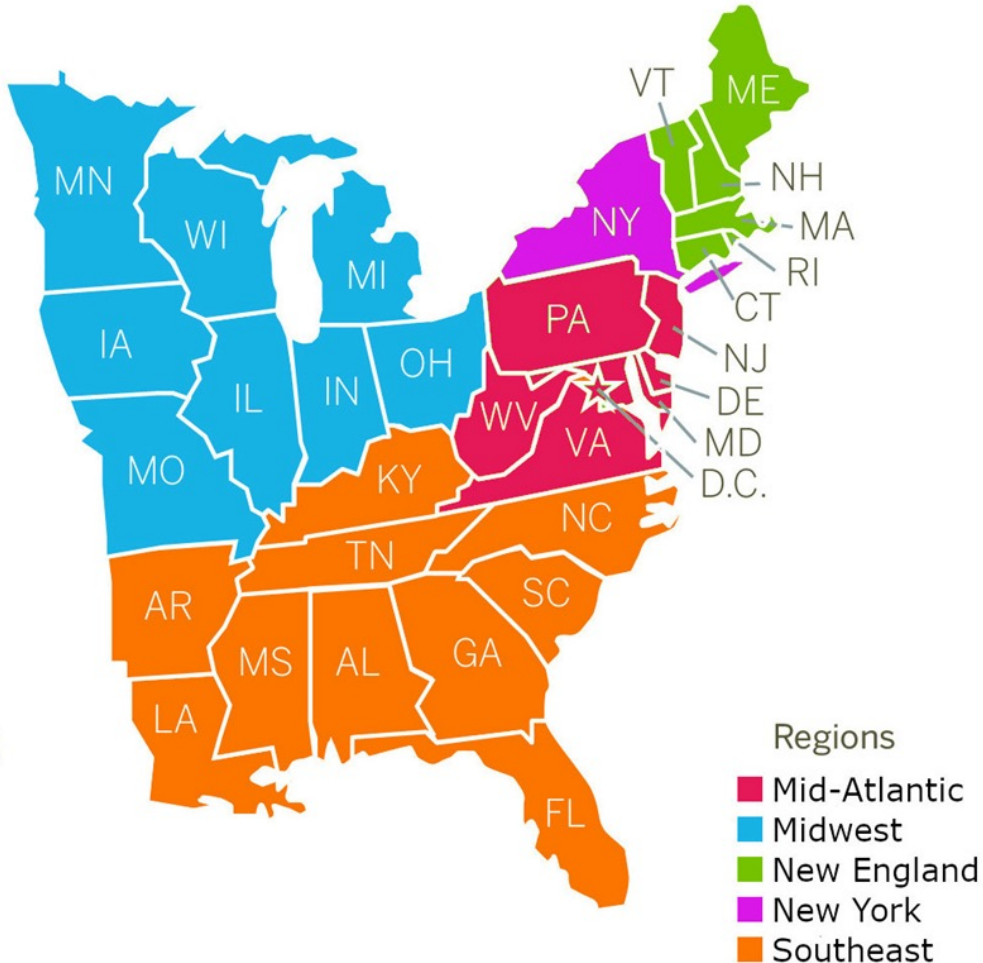


The Alliance was originally founded in 1982 as The Land Trust Exchange

Field Services staff continue to serve this “exchange” role through:

- facilitated training & capacity-building
- network and peer group development
- convening & connecting
- coaching & mentoring





Midwest

STATES SERVED

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio,
Wisconsin, Minnesota



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Midwest Field Services Offerings Close to Home

Peer support

New Executive Directors

Acquisition and Stewardship – with PSCC

Accreditation Renewal and First Time Support

Urban Conservationists Peer Network

Women in Conservation (MW executive directors)

Wentworth Leadership Program

Multi-Session Online Trainings

Risk Management

Baseline Documentation Reports

Intersection of Climate and Water Quality

Mergers and Collaborations

What are your needs? How can we help?



National Webinar Series & Other Resources

Recent & Upcoming Webinars

- [Introduction to Design Principles for Interpretive Signs](#) – February 7
- [Disability 101 & Leadership](#) – February 8
- [Staying Accredited: A Renewal of Accreditation Primer](#) (Eastern LTs) – February 14
- [Best Practices for Complete Stewardship Documentation](#) – February 21
- [ACEP-AIE Certification Peer-to-Peer Training](#) (Eastern LTs) – February 22
- [Remote Monitoring Toolkit Webinar](#) – March 7
- [Easement Violations](#) – March 13
- [Managing Risk Tied to Restoration](#) – March 19th
- [Easement Monitoring Basics](#) – March 28
- [Drafting Conservation Easements](#) – April 2
- [GAAP Accounting for Beginners](#) – April 16

Note: An **all-access pass** gives you and your entire team the keys to **30** webinars on critical topics in land conservation, so you can learn from the best right at your desk.

Remote Monitoring Toolkit



Today we are launching an online toolkit for land trusts interesting in learning more about using remote monitoring to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

Land Trust Alliance
Resource Center

Learn Advocate Connect Membership

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REMOTE MONITORING TOOLKIT

SHARE

TOOLKIT
Remote monitoring

Introduction
Types of remote monitoring
Remote monitoring glossary
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is remote monitoring right for your organization?
Is it expensive?
Does it take more time?
Will it be too much work?

TOOLKIT
Remote monitoring

This toolkit will provide you with the information you and your team need to make the right decisions on remote monitoring for your land trust.

Resource Center – Learning Pathways



STEWARDSHIP

Conservation easement stewardship

Alliance resources to help your land trust steward its easements



STEWARDSHIP

Fee land stewardship

Alliance resources to help your land trust steward the properties it owns



LAND PROTECTION

Acquisition

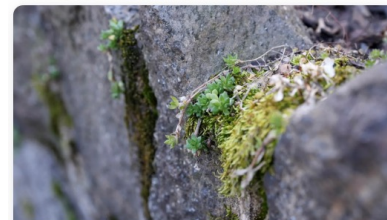
Understand the steps in acquiring land or conservation easements



FINANCE

Financial management

The nuts and bolts of managing your land trust's finances



ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

For Board Members

Alliance resources specifically for land trust board members

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. A large, green tractor with a front loader and a rear-mounted mowing implement is driving on a grassy field. To the left, a dirt path or road runs through the field. In the background, there is a large, white, arched structure, possibly a greenhouse or a covered walkway, surrounded by dense trees. The sky is not visible, and the overall scene is bright and clear.

Land & Climate Program

Land & Climate Program Updates

- **2024 Grant Program RFP Opens March 18th**
 - Awards between \$5,000 and \$15,000
 - Grant Info Session April 10th at 2pm
 - Proposals Due May 17, 2024
- **Land & Climate Program Evaluation**
 - **Goes live today**, please look for an email from Kelly Watkinson and take a minute to give us feedback on the program.
- **Ecosystem Services Valuation Tool** – Available this Spring



OPEN SPACE
INSTITUTE



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The Practical Pointer Series contain practical tips to help land trusts stay informed and navigate the risks associated with specific legal challenges in land conservation. Topics range from mortgage subordination to managing neighbor disputes.

Practical Pointer Series



Practical Pointer Highlights

- Coming This Week: IRS Form 8283 Update
- Requests for New Utility Rights of Way
- Remote Monitoring: Practices, Limitations and Use in Legal Defense
- Legal Considerations for Carbon Offset Projects Pt V: Navigating Carbon Offset Project Related Agmts
- Risk Balancing Methodology and Risk Matrix Template
- Yes Your Land Trust Can Lobby if You Follow Some Basic Rules
- Judicial Interpretation of Conservation Easements
- Drafting Approval Standards
- Baseline Documentation Reports
- Balancing Risk When Permitting Structures
- Balancing IRS Audit Risk When Permitting Commercial Forestry
- Tax Nuances



NRCS Programs

NEW: Land Trust Alliance RCPP
and ACEP/ALE Support Team

NRCS Easement Acquisition Team



- Eligibility question
- Application support
- Transaction closing support
- Serve as liaison with NRCS

Justin Merrifield

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Government Relations & Advocacy Days



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Get Involved!

- **Advocacy Days** brings together conservation practitioners to advance important land trust policies in Washington DC -- **April 15-18, 2024**



- **Join a working group:**
 - [Farm Bill](#): The group serves as a forum for discussion and information sharing regarding Farm Bill conservation programs.
 - [Energy & Climate](#): The Alliance's energy and climate working group meets monthly to discuss current issues in energy and climate policy as they relate to the land trust community.

Government Relations & Federal Policy

- **Forest Land Conservation Easement Program (FCEP)**
 - Forest focused complement to ACEP
- **Farm Bill** advocacy
 - A year-long extension of the 2018 FB passed in Nov '23, kicking the can down the road. The Alliance GR team continues to advocate for land trust priorities and conservation funding in a new FB in 2024.
- Advocating for **tax policies** that advance land conservation & inoculate conservation donations from harm
- Drive funding to natural **climate solutions** and advance conservation-compatible **energy infrastructure**

Rally 2024



- Dates: **Sept 25-28, 2024**
- Registration: Opens in **May**
- Board member summit on Thursday
- Scholarships are available
- Rally 2025 will be in Cleveland, OH (Sept 3-6, 2025)

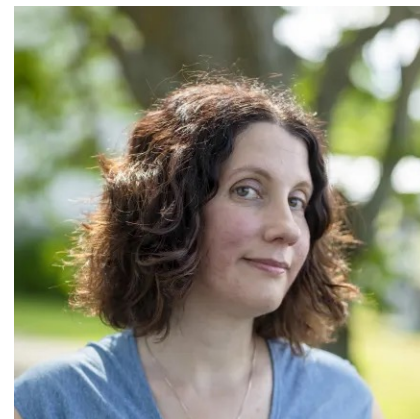
Thank you!



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