



Employment Opportunity

Land Protection Specialist **Westport Land Conservation Trust** **Westport, Massachusetts**

About Westport Land Conservation Trust (WLCT):

Since its founding in 1972, the Westport Land Conservation Trust (WLCT) has assisted landowners in protecting more than 3,988 acres in Westport, Massachusetts. WLCT is a private, non-governmental organization dedicated to local land conservation on behalf of the Westport community. The organization purchases key parcels of land for public access, accepts gifts of land and conservation restrictions, and assists farm owners in preserving farmland with agricultural preservation restrictions. WLCT seeks a hard-working, people-oriented individual motivated to make a difference with a dynamic and successful land conservation organization.

The Westport Land Conservation Trust (WLCT) and The Trustees of Reservations (The Trustees) – two organizations with a long history of successful land conservation in Westport – have been working together to protect Westport’s rural, scenic and natural landscapes for the past 13 years. . This work draws upon The Trustees’ technical expertise and resources, and benefits from WLCT’s local knowledge, relationships and focus. Working together, WLCT and The Trustees have protected more than 2,000 acres of productive farmland and open space throughout Westport since 2001. Yet many cherished landscapes remain vulnerable to development. WLCT and The Trustees are about to embark on their next chapter with WLCT taking the lead in local conservation efforts. This exciting opportunity will allow WLCT to accelerate locally-focused land conservation projects while continuing benefit from TTOR’s vast and long history of state-wide land conservation.

About the Position:

The WLCT is seeking a Land Protection Specialist to continue the pace of land protection in Westport. The successful candidate will be an employee of WLCT and report to WLCT’s Executive Director. They will work closely with WLCT’s Land Preservation Committee and will consult with the Associate Director for Conservation of The Trustees on land conservation projects.

Responsibilities:

Specific job duties include:

- Identify land protection opportunities through landowner outreach.
- Build and maintain relationships with the Westport community, donors, public agencies and the local government.
- Oversee and or monitor conservation restrictions and complete associated reports and follow-up activities.
- Draft conservation agreements, including but not limited to purchase and sale agreements, conservation restrictions, and baseline documentation reports.

- Secure financing for land protection projects, including grant writing and providing support for private fundraising.
- Improve organization of fee-owned and conservation restriction land files in accordance with LTA Standards and Practices.
- Produce GIS maps and displays as needed.
- Manage GIS database.
- Assist in creating management plans for key parcels and destination properties.
- Work as part of a team to assist in reaching fundraising goals.

Qualifications:

- Commitment to the conservation mission of Westport Land Conservation Trust.
- Familiarity with Westport and the South Coast of Massachusetts.
- Proven history of excellent communication skills.
- Ability to manage complex projects independently and as part of a team.
- Bachelors or Master's degree in natural resource management, regional planning or related field, preferably with at least two years of related work experience in land conservation.
- Demonstrated communication (writing and public speaking), negotiation, leadership, project management, interpersonal, and teamwork skills.
- Ability to manage multiple projects concurrently.
- Computer and cartographic skills, specifically GIS and GPS.
- Ability to attend frequent evening meetings and occasional weekend events utilizing personal vehicle.

Hours, Salary & Benefits:

The Land Protection Specialist is a Full Time exempt position with a benefits stipend available. Salary is commensurate with experience.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit their resume, cover letter, writing sample and salary requirements to:

Land Protection Specialist Search
Westport Land Conservation Trust
P.O. Box 3975
Westport, MA 02790
Email: WLCEmployment@westportlandtrust.org,

The position is considered open until filled with a first round of applications due by January, 9 2014. An announcement will be posted on our website www.westportlandtrust.org when the position has been filled.

No phone calls or faxes please.

In addition to being an Equal Opportunity Employer, The Westport Land Conservation Trust aims to create a thriving, inclusive workplace that values each member of our team. We aspire to reflect and effectively serve the community of Westport, Massachusetts which is at the core of our mission.