



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 4,000 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.

Westport has a beautiful and diverse landscape – farmland, ocean frontage, the two branches of the Westport River and forests. WLCT is committed to the protection of all of these natural resources, including an expansion of the 600+ acres it owns and actively manages for recreation as “Destination Properties”.

The WLCT has a full-time staff of five, in addition to summer interns and year-round volunteers. The staff appreciates the Westport landscape, works hard and enjoys being part of a team while both collaborating extensively and working independently.

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 will partner with the Executive Director in working closely with WLCT’s Land Preservation Committee.

Responsibilities:

Specific job duties include:

- Initiate, respond to and pursue land protection opportunities with landowners.
- Draft conservation agreements, including but not limited to purchase and sale agreements, conservation restrictions, and baseline documentation reports.
- Produce GIS maps in support of land conservation efforts.
- Oversee and/or monitor conservation restrictions and complete associated reports and follow-up activities.
- Help secure financing for land protection projects, including grant writing and providing support for private fundraising.
- Build and maintain relationships with the Westport community, donors, public agencies and the local government.

- Improve organization of fee-owned and conservation restriction land files in accordance with LTA Standards and Practices.
- Work with surveyors, appraisers and attorneys on various components of conservation projects.
- Manage GIS database.
- Assist in creating management plans for key parcels and destination properties.
- Participate in a wide range of other tasks as needed.

Qualifications:

- Commitment to the conservation mission of Westport Land Conservation Trust.
- Ability to concurrently manage multiple, complex projects independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated public speaking, negotiation, leadership, project management, interpersonal and teamwork skills.
- At least two years of related work experience in land conservation. A Bachelors or Master's degree in natural resource management, regional planning or a related field is preferred.
- Ability to attend frequent evening meetings and occasional weekend events utilizing personal vehicle.
- Computer and cartographic skills, specifically GIS and GPS preferred.
- Familiarity with Westport and the South Coast of Massachusetts.
- A flexible attitude and friendly demeanor.

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

or

Email: rmann@westportlandtrust.org with Land Protection Specialist Search in the subject line.

The position is considered open until filled with a first round of applications due by **April 15, 2016**.

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.