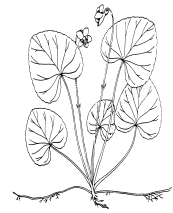


Annual Environmental Conference

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS



Series A 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

1. Grant Opportunities from EOEAA: Funding for Municipalities and Non-profit Partners

Learn the latest on EOEAA funding for conservation and recreation projects from the Self-Help, Urban Self-Help, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Drinking Water Supply Protection, and Conservation Partnership programs. We'll cover eligibility requirements, application processes, FAQ's, and avoiding common problems. Learn how communities and non-profits can realize mutual goals.

Speakers: Jennifer J. Soper, Regional Planner, EOEAA Division of Conservation Services

Melissa Cryan, Urban Self-Help Grant Program Manager, EOEAA Division of Conservation Services

Moderator: Helen D. Bethell, Executive Director, Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust; MACC Officer

2. Making the Most of DEP's Wildlife Habitat Guidance

This workshop will provide practical, how-to information for the effective use of the Massachusetts Guidelines for the Wetlands Protection Act. Find out: how to identify important wildlife habitat; under what conditions habitat evaluations should be conducted; and how to condition projects to meet performance standards.

Speaker: Scott Jackson, Program Director, Dept. Natural Resources Conservation, University of Massachusetts; MACC Officer

Moderator: Lorraine DeSouza, Support Specialist for Graphic Design, Middlesex College; MACC Director

3. Vernal Pools: Identification, Protection, and Community Outreach (Advanced Credit)

The season has come again; frogs are beginning to thaw, salamanders are stirring, and the ice on Massachusetts' vernal pools will be just a frozen memory in a few weeks. Learn how to identify vernal pools and the animals that rely on them, the ins-and-outs of protecting these important habitats, and some exciting ways to reach out to your community to generate interest in vernal pools and their protection.

Speakers: Matthew R. Burne, Vernal Pool Association

Leo P. Kenney, Vernal Pool Association

Moderator: Shepley W. Evans, Broker and Advisor, Friday & Company Real Estate; MACC Director

4. Coldwater Resource Conservation: How Protecting Brook Trout Protects Coldwater Streams

Wild brook trout are an excellent indicator of the quality of our coldwater streams. They demand the best from their surroundings, and their disappearance is a warning that all is not well in the natural world. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and Trout Unlimited will discuss the value to towns of protecting this fish and its habitat.

Speakers: Kirt Mayland, Director of the Eastern Water Project, Trout Unlimited

Todd Richards, Fisheries Biologist, MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Moderator: Paul G. Beaulieu, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tighe and Bond

5. Think Blue Toolbox: Build a Spirited Stormwater Outreach Campaign for Your Community

Think Blue Massachusetts is a spirited, multi-media stormwater outreach campaign that inspires individual behavior change and stewardship of water resources. The *Think Blue Toolbox* - at www.ThinkBlueMA.org - is a new online resource with free design templates, inspiration, guidance, and promotional materials for implementing a Think Blue campaign in your own community.

Speakers: Paula Jewell, Executive Director, Mass. Bays Estuary Association, Think Blue Massachusetts

Wendy Garpow, AICP, Assistant Director, Mass. Bays Estuary Association

Moderator: Donald MacIver, President, Littleton Conservation Trust; MACC Director

6. The Latest on the MACC Model Bylaw: What You Need to Know Now and Constructing Clauses of Your Own Bylaw

This workshop covers the philosophy, principles, procedures, and practicalities of the wetlands bylaw as local legislation using modern Home Rule, with guidance from a practicing attorney and the Attorney General's Office. Learn about the current MACC model bylaw, substantially revised in 2006 for the first time in many years. Hear how the Municipal Unit of the Attorney General's Office approves or disapproves town bylaws and any revisions, how you can smooth the way for your own, and how this MACC model maximizes both the use of Home Rule Power and your chances of staying out of trouble provided you implement it properly and appreciate that with power comes responsibility.

Speakers: Gregor I. McGregor, Esq., Senior Partner, McGregor & Associates, P.C.; MACC Director

Robert W. Ritchie, Esq., Assistant Attorney General; Director, Municipal Law Unit

Moderator: Alexandra D. Dawson, J.D., MACC Director of Legal Affairs

Series B 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

7. Land Protection: What to do First, Second, Third in Order to Win

All meaningful environmental protection requires BOTH wetlands and waterways regulation AND land conservation - from open space and wildlife habitat to watersheds and ecosystems. Learn about the painfully practical nuts and bolts (with examples) of: Why To Do It; Getting It Done; Making The Deals; The Financial Considerations Involved; and Selling Your Program to Win at Town Meeting and with the Public.

*Speakers: Kyla Bennett, New England Director, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility
Tracie Hines, Conservation Outreach Coordinator, Essex County Greenbelt Association*

Moderator: Jo-Anne Burdin, Templeton Conservation Commission; MACC Director

8. The Sprawl That Surrounds Us

Suburban sprawl is a land-use pattern with important implications for natural resources, transportation, and quality of life. This workshop explores the causes of these patterns with regional, national, and international examples. Participants will examine current and possible future roles for Conservation Commissions in reducing sprawl or its effects.

*Speakers: James Hayes-Bohanan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Chair of Geography, Bridgewater State College
David Soule, Ph.D., Associate Director, Center for Urban & Regional Policy, Northeastern University*

Moderator: Lorraine DeSouza, Support Specialist for Graphic Design, Middlesex College; MACC Director

9. Private and Public Wetland, Floodplain, and Riverfront Enforcement: Learn the Secrets

Learn the tried-and-true techniques of Conservation Commission enforcement, with tactics and strategy used by experienced legal counsel and successful cities and towns. Take the mysteries out of how to get compliance on your own, early and often, and to get help from above, when you need it, for difficult violators. Walk through the MACC Handbook recommendations and the DEP Enforcement Manual to grasp how they work on the ground. Understand the sources and limits of your powers. Stop banging your head against the wall.

*Speakers: Kathleen E. Connolly, Esq., Principal, Kopelman and Paige, P.C.; MACC Director
Gregor I. McGregor, Esq., Senior Partner, McGregor & Associates, P.C.; MACC Director*

Moderator: Carl Dierker, Esq., Regional Counsel, EPA New England

10. New DEP Wetlands Appeal Streamlining Regulations: Your Questions and What to Expect

On March 1, 2007, Governor Patrick directed MassDEP to reform the wetlands appeals process to allow for more timely action, without reducing the level of environmental protection. DEP implemented revisions to the wetlands appeal process to meet that goal. The regulations keep those parts that work well: prescreening, prefiled testimony, and prior participation. The revisions make several fundamental changes by limiting the parties who can initiate an appeal, requiring parties to present evidence early in the proceedings, and establishing a 6-month presumptive timeline for the appeal to be resolved. In addition, DEP now hears these appeals in-house using its experienced staff and counsel, retaining the option to transfer cases to the Division of Administrative Law Appeals on a case-by-case basis where timely resolution of a matter will benefit from DALA's assistance. We will review the regulations, our experiences to date, offer practice change tips and take questions.

*Speakers: Margaret R. Stolfa, Esq., General Counsel, MassDEP Office of General Counsel
Salvatore M. Giorlandino, Esq., Acting Chief Presiding Officer, MassDEP Office of Appeals and Dispute Resolution*

Moderator: Kenneth F. Whittaker, Ph.D., Esq., Senior Environmental Attorney, Adorno & Yoss LLP; MACC Director

11. Basic Freshwater Wetland Plant Identification

Identification and verification of BVW boundaries are important responsibilities of Conservation Commissions. Since vegetation is a key factor used in boundary location, Commissioners need to be familiar with the species most frequently found in Massachusetts wetlands. Key characters used in plant identification will be illustrated. Slides of more than 50 common wetland trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants will be highlighted, and detailed handouts will be provided.

Speaker: Sally A. Zielinski, Ph.D., Botanist/Ecologist; former MACC Executive Director; MACC Officer

Moderator: Seth Wilkinson, Principal, Wilkinson Ecological Design; MACC Director

12. Understanding and Administering Forestry Projects Under the WPA and the MA Forest Cutting Practices Act

(Advanced Credit)

Learn about the forestry exemption in the Wetlands Protection Act, its relationship to the Forest Cutting Practices Act and how Conservation Commissions can work with service foresters to ensure that timber harvests are conducted in ways that protect rare species, wetlands, and water quality. Hear about regulatory and program changes to improve the quality of forest cutting plans, ensure the exemption is applied appropriately, and encourage landowners to keep their land in sustainable forestry rather than developing it. Help keep forests our most common habitat from the Cape to the Berkshires.

Speakers: Alexandra D. Dawson, J.D., MACC Director of Legal Affairs

Jim Soper, Service Forestry Program Supervisor, DCR Bureau of Forestry

Jennifer Fish, Service Forester, Conn. River Valley & Hilltowns Area, Dept. of Conservation and Recreation

Moderator: E. Heidi Ricci, Senior Policy Analyst, Massachusetts Audubon Society; MACC Officer

13. How to Optimize the Conservation Commission's Role within Town Government

This workshop will present an overview of the various agencies within Town Government that have bearing on use and development of land, and will identify how the Conservation Commission can optimize its role in Town Government by working collaboratively with these agencies. Basic information will be provided on the roles of Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Health, Building Inspector, Zoning Board, and Community Preservation Committee. Strategies will be offered on building relationships, amplifying communication and coordination between agencies, thereby enhancing the Commission's effectiveness as a regulatory body and extending the scope of its involvement in protecting the environment.

Speaker: Ross Povenmire, Esq., Director of Conservation, Town of Boxford; MACC Director

Moderator: Donald MacIver, President, Littleton Conservation Trust; MACC Director

Series C 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

14. How to Protect Amphibians and Reptiles: Lessons Learned Through MESA and Other Conservation Methods

Spring is just around the corner, and amphibians and reptiles will soon be moving about our landscape. Learn about our native species and their conservation. We'll cover approaches developed through the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) and other conservation practices which can be applied to all native amphibians and reptiles.

*Speakers: Mike Jones, Ph.D. Candidate in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, University of Massachusetts
Lori Erb, Turtle Conservation Biologist, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, MA Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife
Misty-Anne Marold, Endangered Species Review Biologist, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, MA Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife*

Moderator: Christin McDonough, Wildlife Biologist, New England Environmental, Inc.

15. Stormwater A: New Regulations (Two Block Session)

Learn the latest from MassDEP on how to implement the new stormwater revisions to the Wetland Protection Act Regulations. Topics will include: an introduction to the regulatory changes; an introduction to MassDEP's new Stormwater Handbooks, Volumes 1 and 2; and new tools for Conservation Commissions to use to conduct effective stormwater reviews. You'll learn about BMP jurisdiction, sizing of stormwater infiltration systems, the credit system for qualifying Low Impact Development practices, and review of a pollution prevention plan.

Speakers: Thomas Maguire, Regional Wetlands Coordinator, Wetlands Program, MassDEP

Moderators: E. Heidi Ricci, Senior Policy Analyst, Massachusetts Audubon Society; MACC Director

16. How to Review a Notice of Intent Using DEP's Model "Clearwater Estates" Development Proposal

(Two Block Session, Advanced Credit, Limited to 25)

How do you hone your skills and adequately protect wetlands interests in the permitting process? By joining us as we review the NEW "Clearwater Estates," a mock wetlands development with plenty of proposed wetlands impacts! Specific topics include limited project crossings, riverfront area alternatives analysis, and compliance with the new wildlife habitat appendices. Finally back after a long hiatus, this updated two session workshop will incorporate hands-on review of simulated site plans and a Notice of Intent that applies current wetlands regulations policies. You will review the mock Notice of Intent and assist in evaluating impacts, proposed mitigation, and development of an Order of Conditions. As a participant and reviewer in this workshop, YOU can help us make this version of Clearwater even better than the original.

Speakers: Nancy Lin, Environmental Analyst, MassDEP

Ingeborg Hegemann, P.W.S., N.H.C.W.S., Vice President, BSC Group, Inc.

Alice Smith, Environmental Analyst and Wetlands Circuit Rider Coordinator, MassDEP

Gregory Sampson, Esq., PWS, LEED AP, Senior Environmental Scientist/Associate, BSC Group, Inc.

Mark Stinson, Environmental Analyst and Western Region Circuit Rider, MassDEP

Moderator: Nancy Yeatts, Environmental Manager, Assawompsett Pond Complex; MACC Officer

17. Restoring Rivers Through Dam Removal: New Guidance for Conservation Commissioners

The presentation will be by a group from MassDEP's Wetlands and Waterways Program and the Riverways Program. Topics that will be covered include the benefits of dam removal (e.g. restoration of hydrology, improvements of water quality, and restoration of fish passage), sediment sampling, monitoring and management and the regulatory structure that permits dam removal while enhancing the interests of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Speakers: Lealdon Langley, Director of Wetlands and Waterways, MassDEP

Michael Stroman, Wetlands Program Chief, MassDEP

Tim Purinton, River Restoration Planner, Riverways Program, MA Dept. of Fish & Game; MACC Director

Moderator: Shepley W. Evans, Broker and Advisor, Friday & Company Real Estate; MACC Director

18. Erosion Control: On the Ground and Effective

Site stabilization during construction is critical for the protection of wetlands and waterways, yet poorly designed plans and poorly worded Conditions often result in erosion problems which could have been avoided. Protecting wetlands and waterways using proper sediment and erosion controls involves far more than adding a line of staked haybales. This workshop reviews methods of phasing construction, slope stabilization, including different erosion control fabrics, bioengineering techniques, hydro-seed, flocculants, mulch and new innovative methods to control erosion. Stormwater management at construction sites and the creation of sedimentation basins, water quality structures, and new erosion control products (both good and bad) will be reviewed. The use of weed-free erosion control materials instead of haybales (which often contain invasive weed seed) will be evaluated. Suggested Sediment & Erosion Control Orders of Conditions will be provided to participants.

Speaker: Mickey Marcus, Certified Professional in Erosion Control, New England Environmental, Inc.; MACC Director
Moderator: Susan E. M. Brogan, Associate Director, Continuing Education, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University; MACC Director

19. Identification and Control of Invasive Plants On Your Own Property With Simple and Effective Approaches

This workshop will show management techniques and strategies and specific management treatments to streamline invasives control and to reinvigorate the land through the building of native plant communities. These will be explained and case studies of various sizes will be presented.

Speakers: Chris Polatin, Politan Ecological Services
Seth Wilkinson, Principal, Wilkinson Ecological Design; MACC Director
Moderator: Amy Ball, C.W.S., Project Manager, Wetland Scientist, Horsley Witten Group, Inc.; MACC Director

20. Takings 101: The Essentials of Regulatory Takings and Eminent Domain

This new workshop illustrates with an animated Powerpoint presentation the constitutional law and procedures for property owners to get just and fair compensation for government seizures of their land or interference with their development rights, caused by bylaws and regulations that go too far. You will learn who can sue you, for what claims, to try to win what, if they can prove what harm, with what kinds of experts to testify for them, and how a municipality can best prevent and defend against such claims by adopting and implementing its bylaws, regulations, permits, denials and enforcement, and by fighting back aggressively in court.

Speaker: Gregor I. McGregor, Esq., Senior Partner, McGregor & Associates, P.C.; MACC Director
Moderator: Michael G. Sites, Esq., Law Office of Michael G. Sites; MACC Officer

Series D 3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

21. Low Impact Development (LID): Principles and Techniques With New Case Studies

This workshop will explain what LID is. Learn about specific LID techniques and their underlying technical and planning basis, including improved site planning and stormwater best management practices (BMPs). Learn how LID techniques can protect wetland resource areas and the interests they protect, and how Conservation Commissioners and Agents can promote and implement these techniques, as well as legal and permitting issues surrounding such implementation.

Speakers: Peter Feuerbach, Esq., Partner, Rubin and Rudman, LLP
Scott Horsley, Principal, Horsley Witten Group, Inc.
George Preble, P.E., Principal, Beals and Thomas
Moderator: Tim Purinton, River Restoration Planner, Riverways Program, MA Dept. of Fish and Game; MACC Director

15. Stormwater B: How to Permit Proprietary BMPs (Second Half of Two Block Session)

Learn how to determine whether proprietary stormwater treatment BMPs meet the performance standards in the wetland regulations. You'll see a demonstration of how to use the newly updated internet-based MASTEP database developed by UMass/Amherst when reviewing stormwater management applications. The presentation will also include a mock Conservation Commission meeting in which a Commission will review a wetland permit filing with Proprietary BMPs proposed under the new revised stormwater regulations.

Speaker: Frederick Civan, Stormwater Coordinator, MassDEP Bureau of Resource Protection
Moderators: Francesca Maltese, Development Manager, The O'Connell Companies, Inc.; MACC Director

22. 21st Century Computer Tools to Help Conservation Commissions

This workshop will review some of the technologies that Conservation Commissions are using to work "smarter" and more effectively, technologies like the Internet, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). We will provide examples and live demonstrations of tools and datasets that are freely available from DEP and MassGIS, including orthophotos, soils and wetlands mapping, elevation data, GIS software through the MACMAPP program and much more.

Speakers: Christian Jacqz, Director, MassGIS, EOEEA Office of Geographic and Environmental Information
Charles Costello, Section Chief, Wetlands Mapping Program, MassDEP
Moderator: Donald MacIver, President, Littleton Conservation Trust; MACC Director

23. Supporting Community Efforts to Manage Coastal Flood Plains Through No Adverse Impact Land Use

In an increasingly litigious country, it can sometimes seem impossible to preserve both natural resources and property rights. This workshop will explore how to use the No Adverse Impact approach to avoid much of the uncertainty surrounding the “Taking Issue,” protect natural resources, people and property in a way that is fair and legal.

Speakers: Wesley Shaw, NOAA Coastal Management Fellow; Project Manager, StormSmart Coasts, Mass. Coastal Zone Management

Edward A. Thomas, Esq., Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

Moderator: Stephen McKenna, Cape and Islands Regional Coordinator, Mass. Coastal Zone Management; MACC Director

24. Beyond the Rivers Protection Act: The Need for a River Corridor Management Program in Massachusetts

Damage caused by fluvial flooding is resulting in ever-increasing costs and risks. Increases in pervious areas along with the change in precipitation patterns associated with climate change will exacerbate damage from riverine flooding. The standard response to “controlling” rivers has been to channelize, dredge, and berm flood-prone rivers. Addressing fluvial flooding requires proactive solutions on a watershed scale. This workshop will explore how river process-based strategies can protect resource areas and mitigate repeated flood damage.

Speaker: Heidi M. Davis, Environmental Analyst, MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office

Moderator: Amy Ball, C.W.S., Project Manager, Wetland Scientist, Horsley Witten Group, Inc.; MACC Director

25. Source to Shore: Integrated Approaches to Protecting and Improving Recreational Water Quality

This session is intended to provide Conservation Commissioners with an understanding of the potential sources and health effects of pathogens in recreational waters. The information will be useful for commissions reviewing proposed projects within the watersheds of inland and coastal recreational waters and involved with restoration efforts in such watersheds. Commissioners will get ideas and learn techniques for developing collaborative and synergistic relationships with other local boards and for leveraging public concern for water quality and public health to gain support for water quality protection and restoration.

Speakers: Diane M. L. Mas, Ph.D., Senior Environmental Engineer, Fuss & O’Neill, Inc.

Robert Desmarais, P.E., Town Engineer, Town of Amesbury

Moderator: Shepley W. Evans, Broker and Advisor, Friday & Company Real Estate; MACC Director



MACC TRAINING PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners

9:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Unit 1. Overview of Conservation Commissions: Relationships, Responsibilities, Funds and Fees (limited to 80)

This unit focuses on: duties and authority, federal and state agencies, town boards, conflict of interest law, open meeting law, and town budget, filing and consultant fees.

Speaker: Michael G. Sites, Esq., Law Office of Michael G. Sites; MACC Officer

Moderator: Susan E. M. Brogan, Associate Director, Continuing Education, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University; MACC Director

Unit 6. Writing Effective Orders of Conditions (limited to 80)

This unit covers: protecting interests of the act, boilerplate and special conditions, denials and appeals, amendments and extensions and Certificates of Compliance.

Speaker: Priscilla Ryder, Conservation Officer, Marlborough; President, Mass. Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals

Moderator: TBD

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Unit 3. The Wetlands Protection Act: Fundamentals, Process and Procedures (limited to 80)

This unit focuses on: interests of the Act, jurisdiction, permit submittal requirements, forms, simplified reviews, identifying resource areas, "limited" projects.

Speaker: Charles J. Katuska, P.W.S., Restoration Ecologist/Project Manager, Environmental Resources Management, Inc.

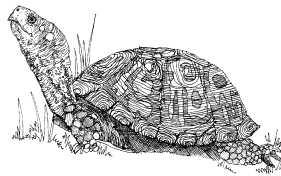
Moderator: Lorraine DeSouza, Support Specialist for Graphic Design, Middlesex College; MACC Director

Unit 5. Wetland Types: Their Functions and Values

This unit focuses on: common vegetated wetlands in Massachusetts; scientific versus regulatory wetlands definition; functions, characteristics and watershed context; performance standards and buffer zones.

Speaker: Scott Jackson, Program Director, Dept. Natural Resources Conservation, UMass; MACC Officer

Moderator: Jo-Anne Burdin, Templeton Conservation Commission; MACC Director



Advanced Certificate Training Program (Core Day)

Wetlands Ecology and Conservation Biology

9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m (lunch break) 1:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

This all day session will make important connections between a Commission's open space and wetlands work and the guiding principles of ecology and biodiversity. You will gain an understanding of the nature and function of resource areas and wetland ecology, the impact of the projects which come before you, and the measures you can take to adequately protect your land and water resources on the watershed and ecosystems levels.

Speakers: Patrick C. Garner, Wetland Scientist and Hydrologist, Principal, Patrick C. Garner Company
Frances H. Clark, Principal, Carex Associates

Moderator: Charles Tirone, Arlington Conservation Commission; MACC Staff Volunteer