

CONNECTICUT  
  
Land Conservation Council

**Connecticut Accredited Land Trust Working Group**

Friday, March 24, 2023 10:00am - 2:00pm

deKoven House - 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457

**10:00 - 10:15: Welcomes and Introductions**

**10:15 - 11:00: Trends and Updates from Accreditation Commission ED, Melissa Kalvestrand**

- Observations from the last three years
  - Successes and accomplishments related to accreditation
  - Common challenges in the land trust community (e.g., staff turnover, pandemic concerns, etc.)
  - Accreditation requirements that land trusts, collectively, are struggling with
- Changes to the accreditation requirements since the last Working Group meeting in 2020
- Coming updates to the accreditation program
  - 7-year renewal term for third time renewals and beyond
  - Targeted outreach to land trusts

**11:00 - 11:10: Break**

**11:10 - 11:30: Building and Promoting the Benefits of Accreditation**

- What motivates your land trust to stay accredited?
- How do you use your accreditation seal and your accredited status?
- How can this group help to promote the importance and gravitas of accreditation, especially to funders, agencies, donors, and landowners?
- How can the Commission help you market the accreditation seal and the value of being accredited?
- Are there additional benefits you would like to see as an accredited land trust?

**11:30 - 12:00: Discussion and Q&A with Accreditation Commission**

- *Note: Melissa will be available for one-on-one meetings at tomorrow's CLCC conference. At that time, she can answer questions that may be specific to your organization.*

**12:00 - 12:30: Lunch (provided)**

**12:30 - 2:00: Group Discussion, Brainstorming, and Visioning**

- Reflecting on the morning's presentation and discussions
- What sorts of training, workshops, or other programs does your land trust need in order to remain well versed on topics related to accreditation?
- What sorts of professional services and/or organizational infrastructure needs, and/or resource sharing opportunities does your land trust need to sustain its accreditation?
- How can this group support land trusts in becoming accredited (or at least embody the accreditation requirements if they are not interested in formal accreditation)?

## About the Connecticut Accredited Land Trust Working Group

Launched in 2018, the purpose of the working group is to stay connected and current in developments affecting land trust work, Standards & Practices, and (re)accreditation. Facilitated by Amanda Branson (Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy), Connie Manes (Kent Land Trust, CLCC Advisory Council, etc. etc.), and CLCC staff, this peer network and leadership group meets to discuss topics of shared interest, and to undertake projects to assist Connecticut land trusts in implementing best practices.

*The Working Group is seeking a third co-chair. If you are interested in serving in this role, please contact CLCC's Deputy Director, Aaron Lefland at [alefland@ctconservation.org](mailto:alefland@ctconservation.org).*

---

## About the Connecticut Land Conservation Council

The Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) is the only statewide service provider and voice for all Connecticut land trusts. CLCC is a leader in advocacy and policy, education and training, and technical assistance to empower Connecticut's ~130 land trusts and ensure the long-term viability of land conservation efforts in the state.

Since its formation in 2006, CLCC has grown into one of the most effective land trust service associations in the country, offering a wide range of programming and services – from traditional capacity building, training and education, to new and creative opportunities for land trusts to better connect to one another and their communities for greater conservation, economic, and social impact.

*Learn more at <https://ctconservation.org/>*

---

## About the Land Trust Accreditation Commission

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission was incorporated in April 2006 as an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance to operate an innovative program to build and recognize strong land trusts, foster public confidence in land conservation and help ensure the long-term protection of land.

*Learn more at <https://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/>*

### A Mark of Distinction

The accreditation seal **AFFIRMS** national quality standards are met.



- SOUND FINANCES
- ETHICAL CONDUCT
- RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE
- LASTING STEWARDSHIP

[www.landtrustaccreditation.org](http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org)

---