



Housatonic Valley Association

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Job Position: Senior Land Protection Manager



The Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), a regional watershed organization and accredited land trust, seeks an experienced and committed **Senior Land Protection Manager** to advance the conservation goals of Follow the Forest: a dynamic and groundbreaking regional conservation partnership in western New England and Eastern New York. This is a key position on the cutting edge of strategic and collaborative land protection within one of the most significant climate corridors in North America and HVA's initiative called Follow the Forest. This is a full-time position that will remain open until filled, with benefits and a salary range of \$70,000 - \$80,000 based on experience and relevant skills.

The **Senior Land Protection Manager** reports directly to HVA's Regional Conservation Director and plays a vital role in all aspects of collaborative land protection within the Housatonic Valley Watershed and in advancing Follow the Forest beyond the watershed. The ideal candidate will be a skilled facilitator, with a keen appreciation for the challenges and opportunities of working successfully with landowners, land trusts, municipalities, state and federal agencies. A problem-solver and creative thinker, s/he will inspire conservation partners to advance a shared conservation vision, and show initiative to solve problems and remove barriers to moving land protection efforts forward. The position also maintains HVA's land protection portfolio, with primary responsibility for record keeping, landowner engagement and response, and annual monitoring.

The position requires

- Extensive negotiation and transaction experience;
- Strong strategic thinking skills;
- Sound judgement and ability to assess risks and opportunities while acting in a timely fashion;
- Proven project management and adaptive management skills;
- Demonstrated interactive problem-solving skills;
- Outstanding communication skills both oral and written, and the ability to communicate with sincerity and clarity;
- Demonstrated ability to be a catalyst for action among multiple partners with diverse goals, and a provider of key information and resources;
- Capacity and willingness to become a trusted partner and effective advocate for HVA and its conservation priorities among federal, state, and local government agencies, organizations, landowner partners and the philanthropic community;
- The desire to do impactful land protection work to advance the conservation of climate resilient landscapes and connected habitats;
- The ability to master the key aspects of successful conservation transactions, funding programs,

Additional qualifications and experience: Four-year degree and at least seven years of direct experience in successful, complex project management with an accredited conservation nonprofit or similar conservation or similar planning organization or agency. Thorough knowledge of land trust standards and practices and conservation transaction experience preferred. Real estate, conservation planning, grant administration, conflict resolution experience helpful.

HVA is an equal opportunity employer. If you have the drive, interest, and skills to succeed in this position, and have relevant experience outside of land protection, tell us about what you can do and we will consider your application. Please send letter of interest, resume and three references to:

Tim Abbott, Regional Conservation Director

tim.abbott@hvatoday.org