



Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts E-Newsletter Conservation Excellence & Education Edition

April 2009

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Mineral Development
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Thanks for helping to make Conservation Excellence 2009 a success!



Thanks to the more than 200 of you who attended CCLT's Conservation Excellence 2009 from March 18-20 at the Crowne Plaza in Denver. The conference provided an opportunity for individuals and organizations engaged in land conservation to learn about many of the important issues facing our community.

CCLT is extremely grateful for our wonderful speakers and generous sponsors. This conference would not be possible without the support of our partners. We would like to extend a special thank you to John Fielder for his presentation during Wednesday's lunch on his upcoming book, [Ranches of Colorado](#). The presentation was a highlight of the conference and we look forward to Mr. Fielder's tour later in the year to raise money for land trusts throughout the state.

Finally, thank you to everyone who submitted their evaluation forms. We are in the process of processing all of the comments and will be incorporating the suggestions for next year's conference. For those of you who did not turn in your evaluation forms, please feel free to contact us with your comments about Conservation Excellence 2009.

Materials for select sessions can be downloaded [here](#). We will be adding to this page in the near future, so if you do not find what you are looking for now, please check back soon!

Resource Roundtables live on...

The Resource Roundtables were a popular session at Conservation Excellence 2009. Just because the conference is over though doesn't mean that these valuable exchanges of information need to end. CCLT has a new online forum setup so that member organizations and conservation professionals can continue to exchange ideas. We are providing this on a trial basis so please give it a try and let us know what you think. You can access the forum at the following link: <http://www.cclt.org/forum>. You will be asked to choose a Login Name and Password and then will receive an email approving your access to the forum. Check out these three topics and help us get this service up and going. We look forward to hearing from you online!



Easement Process

Discussion can include easement language, fees charged to landowners, landowner information packets, baseline documentation procedures, etc.

Easement Stewardship

Discussion can include easement enforcement challenges, exercise of reserved rights and amendments, etc.

Appraisals

Discuss timing of appraisals, Department of Regulatory Agencies review of appraisals, competency of appraisers, engagement letters, appraisal techniques, etc.

COSA's 10th Anniversary Conference

The 10th Anniversary Conference of the Colorado Open Space Alliance will be held September 21-23, 2009 at the Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center in Breckenridge Colorado. As you know, COSA is one of CCLT's most important partners. COSA is a statewide organization of publicly funded local and regional open space programs, working cooperatively to share information, create public awareness and foster partnerships needed to protect and preserve the special places of Colorado. Land Trusts should consider attending, especially if you want to learn more about the long-term management of conservation lands or find out more about partnership opportunities with public agencies.

Proposals to speak are due **May 15th** and **COSA encourages you** to submit a topic about a current issue/opportunity you or your program is working on/dealing with. Even if you don't have a salient topic to present, please forward on to any contractors you may use as they are often on the cutting edge of things. The RFP can be found on the COSA website at www.coloradoopenspace.org.

It's not too early to book your hotel. Call 800-525-2253 or [register online](#). Click on Groups and Conventions, then enter the password OSA7WG to make your reservation at the COSA [discounted rates](#) [pdf]. Make your reservation by 8/20/2009 to receive these special rates.

Be thinking about nominations for COSA's Blue Grama Award, soon to be posted. This year's Blue Grama Awards will recognize outstanding management and programs offered by Colorado open space organizations. And, as always, the Colorado Lottery will present winners of the Starburst Conservation Award at the conference. This RFP can be found [here](#).

Land Trust Alliance Issues Policies Guidance

Document

There are a number of instances when LTA's accreditation indicator practices specifically call for a land trust to have a written policy and/or procedure. These include:

Practice 4A. Dealing with Conflicts of Interest

Practice 6F. Investment and Management of Financial Assets and Dedicated Funds

Practice 9G. Recordkeeping

Practice 11E. Enforcement of Easements

Practice 11I. Amendments

Practice 3F. Board Approval of Land Transactions (when applicable)

LTA's newest Guidance Document focuses on how the Commission evaluates the policies that are specifically required for accreditation. The Commission reviews each required policy for compliance with the indicator practice and also looks at the evidence the applicant provides that shows how the policies are being implemented. Click [here to download the Policies guidance.](#)

Assessing Your Organization: Train-the-Trainers

Land trusts nationwide are increasingly focused on building their capacity to become more effective. The Land Trust Alliance is developing new curricula, training programs and assessment tools for land trusts, but not all of them know the best way to navigate the pathway to greater effectiveness. Consultants and partners play a critical role as teachers, facilitators and catalysts for change. With the increasing demand for training and support, the Land Trust Alliance is increasingly relying on consultants to deliver some of its programs, including organizational assessments. CCLT wants to ensure that we have qualified AYO assessors in the West. (See LTA's Assessing Your Organization page for more information.) Therefore, if you are interested or would like to nominate someone to become certified to lead "Assessing Your Organization" workshops, contact Jill at jill.ozarski@cclt.org. Consider suggesting this idea to consultants, board members, staff or others who are dedicated to helping conservation organizations grow and improve. Also, if you are part of a land trust who would like to start an assessment, please contact Jill. CCLT may be able to help you find a trainer and/or financial support.

Save the Date!

Please mark your calendars for the Colorado Water Trust's First Annual RiverBank Event

Watch for more information at www.coloradowatertrust.org

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Please mark your calendars for the Colorado Water Trust's First Annual RiverBank Event Watch for more information at www.coloradowatertrust.org



WHAT: a social gathering of Colorado's premier water professionals and water enthusiasts

and fundraiser for the Colorado Water Trust

WHEN: Thursday, June 4, 2009, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: EventGallery 910Arts, 910 Santa Fe Drive, Denver

Educational Opportunities:

Watch this listing for upcoming educational opportunities around Colorado. If you know of an upcoming event, please let us know by emailing Jeannie McGinnis (jeannie.mcginis@cclt.org).

Introduction to Conservation GIS

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Sponsored by Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust and hosted by Colorado State University

Where: Colorado State University (Ft. Collins)

When: Saturday, April 4th, 9am - 4pm

Cost: \$155/person (this cost is a significantly reduced price offered to the conservation community and includes lunch)

How to register: Contact Megan Manner at CCALT by calling 303.225.8677 or emailing mmanner@ccalt.org**Special Training Opportunity: Land Conservation Legal Issues**

June 18 - 19, 2009

Presented by the Land Trust Alliance, CLE International and the Denver law firm of Isaacson Rosenbaum P.C.

Denver

Click [here](#) for more information or contact Bill Silberstein atbsilberstein@ir-law.com**Private Land Conservation Law and Policy: A Short Course for Conservation Practitioners and Students**

Center for Collaborative Conservation at CSU

August 10-13

Colorado State University, Fort Collins - For more information contact Jeff Jones, 970-217-4414 or jeff@theconservationcooperative.org**Marketing & Communications:****Why Messaging Matters: How the Next 3 Months Can Better Position You for the Next 3 Years!**

Colorado Nonprofit Organization

April 21, 2009

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Denver - [For more information or to register click here.](#)**Principles & Practices for Nonprofit Excellence in Colorado: Transparency & Accountability **WEBINAR**

Colorado Nonprofit Organization

May 8, 2009

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Webinar - [For more information or to register click here.](#)**Everything You Need to Know About Financial Reports Without Having to Learn Accounting!**

Colorado Nonprofit Organization

May 20, 2009

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Denver - [For more information or to register click here.](#)**For a complete list of the Colorado Nonprofit Organization's education workshops, visit <http://www.coloradononprofits.org/programs.cfm>****COSA's 10th Anniversary Conference**

September 21-23, 2009

Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center

Breckenridge Colorado

It's not too early to register! For more information, visit

www.coloradoopenspace.org.**The Colorado Office of Smart Growth** has a long list of workshops, conferences, grants, and nominations listed on their website. To see the full list, click [here](#).

Jobs, jobs, jobs

Last Day to Apply!! - The Colorado Conservation Trust Future Conservation Leaders Fellowship program places graduates from leading graduate schools of conservation, natural resources, law, and business with land trusts and local government open space programs for two-year fellowships. Fellows are tasked with a diverse suite of projects ranging from acquisitions, due diligence and grant writing to stewardship, conservation planning and organizational management.

The fellowship program provides recent graduates with the unparalleled chance to launch their careers in conservation, offering hands-on opportunities to hone their land protection skills and learn from Colorado's conservation leaders. The program also provides conservation groups with additional capacity to pursue new projects, increase fundraising and accomplish long-term organizational goals. In addition to specific work for the land trust or open space program, the Fellowship Program includes a unique professional development curriculum that offers fellows opportunities to network with nationally prominent land trust professionals, attend conferences and trainings, participate in community outreach efforts, and learn about current issues facing conservation and the non-profit sector.

Qualified candidates should send a letter of interest and resume via mail or email to:

Colorado Conservation Trust
Fellowship Program
1551 Ogden Street
Denver, CO 80218
- OR -
pholmes@coct.org

Questions can be directed to Patrick Holmes, Conservation Program Coordinator, at 720.565.8289 or pholmes@coct.org.

Executive Director, Orient Land Trust - for a full job description email dan@olt.org

[Wildlife Biologist, GS-486-7/9](#), The Bureau of Reclamation
[Forester, GS-0460-09/11](#), The Bureau of Land Management
[Finance Manager](#), Continental Divide Trail Alliance

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) constituents should be aware that the terms of several GOCO Board members are expiring in April 2009. While some of the Board members that currently hold those seats are likely to apply for reappointment, the Governor's Office does want people to know what seats are available should you know of anyone interested in applying. For more information, please [click here](#).

Did you know??

You've heard it before! Backing up your computer is one of the most important tasks of living in a digital world. It's also one of those things that we all just keep putting off. In fact, even though most people are dependent on the information that their computers contain, they never get around to backing it up. It's time to stop that! There are many different ways to make sure your valuable documents and databases don't get lost. It can be as simple as burning your documents to a CD once a week or sticking in your USB key and copying everything over or as complex as multiple scheduled backups to your website. Many back-up programs and devices are available that, with a basic setup, will take care of this task for you automatically. Techsoup has a great [article](#) which explains a lot of these options. Whichever method works for you is a good one. One thing that you can count on.... your hard drive will fail sooner or later. They always do.

Nonprofit Organization Insurance Available through the Colorado Nonprofit Association Nonprofit Resources is a full service insurance agency driven by a true desire to support the charitable agencies that

make Colorado a better place to live and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Colorado Nonprofit Association, a membership organization for charities with a 501(c)(3) designation. The Colorado Nonprofit Association was formed in 1986. Because of the interest in products and services for the members, the for-profit subsidiary was chartered in 1989. Profits earned by Nonprofit Resources are used to support the activities of the Association.

Nonprofit Resources offers a wide range of competitively priced insurance products exclusively to Colorado Nonprofit Association members. For more information visit www.npresources.org

Reminder

To stay on top of the latest land conservation developments in Colorado, check out CCLT's Guidance document on [Phasing](#) and the CCLT [Appraisal Guide](#).

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