



Upcoming Events

September 3, 2008

This email includes information about upcoming national and statewide conferences and an important opportunity with the IRS

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Rally 2008!

All of us at CCLT are getting excited for this year's [Rally](#) and it is only a few weeks away! There are numerous workshops that are of particular importance and interest for the Colorado community, so please look below for some of those highlights. I will be attending, as will new staff Jeannie McGinnis and Greg Yankee, so look for us at the Regional Reception on Thursday night at the Omni Hotel!

This email highlights a few key sessions for folks interested in policy issues, plus a special appeal and opportunity regarding our IRS audit situation.

IRS at Rally

By popular demand, Rally will again feature an interactive session where representatives of the Internal Revenue Service can take your questions on IRS scrutiny of conservation easements and appraisals. The IRS has asked for questions from anyone interested in how they are implementing 170(h) and the challenges and opportunities for the future. The session will take place on Saturday, September 20 from 4:45 to 6:00pm and is titled "Working with the IRS."

Please help us take advantage of this opportunity! You can submit questions in one of two ways, either directly to CCLT by emailing [Greg Yankee](#) by the end of this week (September 5 at 5:00pm) or to the [Land](#)

In This Issue

[Introduction](#)

[IRS Opportunity at Rally](#)

[Key Sessions at Rally](#)

[Other Upcoming Conferences](#)

[Trust Alliance](#). If you send your question to CCLT, we will collate and send all questions to the IRS prior to Rally and we will remove all identifying information before doing so.

Key Sessions at Rally

Saturday Sessions:

"Ground Zero: Scrutiny of Conservation Easements in Colorado" - coordinated by CCLT's Jill Ozarski and including Erin Toll from the Colorado Division of Real Estate, Martha Cochran from the Aspen Valley Land Trust, Larry Kueter of Isaacson Rosenbaum, Dan Pike from Colorado Open Lands, and Chris West from the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust.

"Doing the Right Thing" - Mark Weston, of Hunsperger & Weston, and Jessica Jay, of Conservation Law, P.C.

"Land Trust Alliance's 2009 Public Policy Review" by Russ Shay. This is a particularly important session because a poll will be taken as to what LTA should focus on in the upcoming year. If we have a strong showing of Colorado voices, we have a greater chance of our issues being addressed by LTA.

Sunday Sessions:

"Upholding Conservation Permanence" by LTA's Leslie Ratley-Beach, head of their Conservation Defense Network

"Condemning Conservation Easements" by Nancy McLaughlin, a conservation law scholar

"Lessons Learned From the IRS Audits in Colorado" coordinated by Dan Pike and including Jill Ozarski, Mark Weston, Bill Silberstein of Isaacson & Rosenbaum, and Rob Bleiberg from the Mesa Land Trust.

"Marketing Plans for Mission, Members, and Money" by Shelli-Bischoff Turner, the keynote speaker at Colorado Open Space Alliance conference

"Federal Policy Update 2008" by Russ Shay

"State Tax Credits: Significant New Developments" by Mike Strugar and Tina Burghardt of Colorado's Conservation Resource Center.

"Running the Numbers: Landowner Relationships, Public Perception & Perpetual CE Violation Resolution" - presenters include former CCLT Executive Director Jane Ellen Hamilton, Colorado's Jessica Jay, and LTA's Leslie Ratley-Beach

Other Upcoming Conferences

In case they are not on your calendar, there are two other conferences that will be excellent learning and networking opportunities.

- The [Colorado Open Space Alliance conference](#) in Estes Park takes place this year between September 15 and September 17.
- The [Colorado Conservation Summit](#) from October 6 through October 8 in Keystone will also be addressing many important topics for our state. Find more information at www.COnservationsummit.org.

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