

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

**July 2010**

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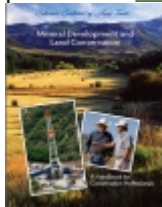
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Mineral Development and Land Conservation Handbook available for purchase [here](#).



### **Yes, Conservation in Colorado has National Importance**

**Colorado is a national model for conservation incentives.** Our conservation easement tax credit has led to other states adopting a similar program. When this occurs, Colorado professionals are called on to advise and assist in the implementation. It is not an overstatement to say that many states wait to see how Colorado approaches specific conservation finance issues before acting. Colorado is also blessed to have GOCO, a model that is now being talked about for a nation-wide program. Attacks on either of these programs would have an immediate effect throughout the country as legislatures decide it "just isn't worth it" because of what happened in Colorado.

**Colorado is a national model for conservation.** Colorado possesses some of the most iconic American imagery: our mountains, plains, rivers, and wildlife have inspired millions of visitors from around the planet to visit our state. We have a land conservation community that is recognized nationally for protecting these places (nearly 1/8 of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission's accredited land trusts are Colorado organizations) and to whom many other states look for education. Recent webinars put on by CCLT attracted attendees from states in the southeastern U.S. and from Alaska!

**For these reasons, when conservation in Colorado faces inevitable threats and opportunities - our response matters.** The nation will be watching as Colorado faces some of the biggest threats to conservation, including anticipated population growth that will place enormous pressure on land, water, and other resources. On the

opportunity side, there is growing interest for various conservation-related movements: local food and getting kids outdoors are just two. How Colorado handles both threats to and opportunities for conservation is more important now than ever.

## Conservation Real Estate & Finance Course Survey

University of Colorado - Initiative for Sustainable Development and Colorado Conservation Trust invite to you to take the Conservation Real Estate & Finance Course Survey.

Please take a few minutes to take the Conservation Finance & Real Estate Course Survey. In coordination with the Yale and Stanford efforts, the University of Colorado Initiative for Sustainable Development and Colorado Conservation Trust are exploring development of a new program around conservation finance and real estate to include offering additional workshops and training opportunities. We have agreed to do a demand analysis to benefit us all.

Due Date

July 15, 2010

[Please click here to access the survey.](#)

Please forward the survey to any individuals and groups who may be interested and let Stephanie Gripne or Patrick Holmes or Patrick know if you have any questions or concerns.

Stephanie Gripne 303-550-9661

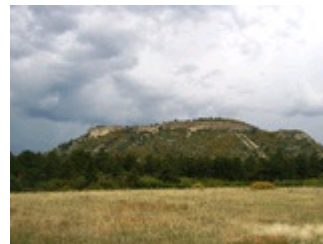
Patrick Holmes 720-565-8289.

## One Organization's Experience with "Assessing Your Organization"

By Patti Hostetler, Douglas Land Conservancy

In January of 2010, when an Assessing Your Organization (AYO) grant became available through CCLT in partnership with LTA, the Douglas Land Conservancy (DLC) Board determined that it was the right time to seek guidance on moving forward with the accreditation process.

After the application procedure and receipt of the grant, DLC immediately entered into an agreement with an LTA recommended consultant. DLC chose a consultant based in Montana. The DLC executive director and the consultant began by reviewing LTA's Standards and Practices and DLC's adopted policies. In order to assess the organization's compliance with S&P standards, we spent hours going through each Standard and Practice and comparing them to how the organization functioned.



Dawson Butte Open Space  
Photo by Patti Hostetler

The consultant traveled to DLC's office in order to better understand the

organization and spent time sitting in on a DLC board meeting. She also met with DLC's board president, executive director, and attorney. DLC scheduled visits to some of our easement properties so the consultant could better understand our completed projects and the challenges that the organization faces.

From the review of DLC's policies and the office visit, the consultant was able to prepare a suggested timeline which DLC could work from. The timeline will guide the DLC Board in revising policies if necessary, adopt and implement policies and practices, and move forward with applying for LTA Accreditation.

Our overall experience with the consultant was fantastic. DLC is now able to understand how far the organization has come over the years and where it is headed. We are very proud of our accomplishments and are determined to continue to better the organization by moving forward with the consultant's recommendations.

DLC is thankful for the opportunity and support of both the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts and Land Trust Alliance. We encourage other land trusts to utilize the tools that CCLT and LTA have to offer and highly recommend taking advantage of the grant funding available for an organizational assessment.

## **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](mailto:jeannie.mcginis@cclt.org)).

### **Engaging the Board and Other Key Volunteers in Fundraising**

Instructor: Marc Smiley

Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Date: July 7, 2010; 7:00 pm ET

Cost: \$50

[See the LTA website for more information](#)

### **Marketing and Communications**

#### **Enhancing your Organization through Strategic Public Relations**

Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010: 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location: Webinar

[For more information or to register, please click here](#)

### **CLE International - Conservation Easements**

Date: July 30, 2010

Location: Denver

Click [here](#) for more information

### **Fundraising & Development**

#### **It's Not About the Money! A New Approach to Fundraising**

Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2010: 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Denver

[For more information or to register, please click here](#)

### **Title Review for Conservation Transactions**

Instructors: MaryKay O'Donnell and Allan Beezley

Level: Beginner /Intermediate

Location: Webinar  
Date: August 11, 2010, 2:00 pm ET - 3:30pm ET  
Cost: \$50 per connection  
[See the LTA website for more information](#)

**\$1 MILLION OR MORE IN 60 MINUTES OR LESS: How Land Trusts Can profit from Transportation**

Instructor: Trish White, Defenders of Wildlife  
Level: Beginner/Intermediate  
Location: Webinar  
Date: August 24, 2:00 pm ET - 3:30 pm ET  
Cost: Free  
[See the LTA website for more information](#)

**Appraising Conservation Easements**

Instructor: Mark Weston  
Level: Beginner /Intermediate  
Location: Webinar  
Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2010, 2:00 pm ET - 3:30 pm ET  
Cost: \$50  
[See the LTA website for more information](#)

**COSA Conference**

Date: September 13 - 15  
Location: Westminster, CO  
[For more information or to register, please click here](#)

**For a complete list of the Colorado Nonprofit Organization's education workshops, visit <http://www.coloradononprofits.org/programs.cfm>**

**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

Please see [CCLT's jobs page](#) for an up-to-date listing of conservation jobs available.

## 2010 Brews, Boots & Bucks - Save the Date!

Think you had fun at the 2009 Brews, Boots & Bucks? Just wait until the 2010 version. Mark it on your calendar now. Nov. 4, 2010. More information and sponsor opportunities available soon.



Denver Mayor  
John  
Hickenlooper and  
John Fielder at  
the 2009 BBB

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