

<p style="text-align: center;">FRANKLIN LAND TRUST AmeriCorps Position with <i>MassLIFT</i></p>
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Position: Land Steward

MassLIFT Partner: Franklin Land Trust, Inc.
PO Box 450, 36 State Street
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
413-625-9152
www.franklinlandtrust.org

Program Mission: The Franklin Land Trust works with landowners & communities to protect their farms, forests, & other natural resources significant to the environmental quality, economy & rural character of our region.

Service Position: The main purpose of this position is to help land trusts and local governments fulfill their stewardship responsibilities for protected lands. *MassLIFT* Land Stewards will: (1) document property boundaries, vegetation, wildlife, soils, wetlands, streams and ponds, and other features, to develop a “baseline report” on protected lands; (2) conduct annual monitoring on protected lands to document changes, identify problems and maintain landowner contact; (3) train community volunteers to monitor protected lands; and (4) inform land trust staff, property managers, and landowners about land management needs and concerns. A supervisor will provide the AmeriCorps land steward with the training and guidance necessary to achieve the program objectives. Land stewards spent about 60% of their time in the office and 40% in the field.

Required Qualifications:

- BA/BS/AS Technical or Vocational degree in natural resources, forestry, land use planning or other scientific related field. Experience may be substituted for education
- Knowledge and direct experience with ArcGIS 9.2 mapping software
- Ability to navigate independently in the field utilizing map, compass, and GPS units
- Ability to read and interpret various maps such as surveys, aerial photos, and USGS topos
- Experience working with natural systems and identifying plant and wildlife species
- Comfortable working independently in both an office and field setting
- Able to walk 3-4 miles a day over uneven terrain in a range of weather conditions
- Comfortable utilizing computer programs such as Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Powerpoint) and have the ability to quickly learn new programs

Desired Qualifications:

- Knowledge of forest management and MA forestry laws
- Ability to write detailed technical reports
- Experience giving presentations and/or trainings to a diverse audience

AmeriCorps Member Requirements

The 2010 *MassLIFT* program will run from October 6, 2010 until August 31, 2011. All *MassLIFT* AmeriCorps members are expected to serve full-time, serve for the entire 11-month term, and complete 1,700 hours of service. This 1,700 hour commitment includes time spent in trainings and in meetings with the full *MassLIFT* team. Applicants must also:

- be a US citizen, US national, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien
- be at least 18 years of age and a minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- have served no more than one previous term as an AmeriCorps member
- pass a criminal offender record information check.

AmeriCorps programs provide equal employment opportunities. *MassLIFT* will recruit and select persons in all positions to ensure a diverse and inclusive climate without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, color, political affiliation, creed, national origin, marital status, or any other status as protected by federal, state, and local laws. We welcome applications from individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service upon request.

Compensation: Members will earn a stipend of \$11,800 over the 11-month term of service. Upon completion of the program they will receive a \$5,350 education award which can be used to pay off existing school loans or apply to future education. AmeriCorps covers members' health care insurance. Childcare assistance may be provided in cases of financial need. Pending continuation of the *MassLIFT* grant, members may continue to serve in this program for up to two years.

Application Procedures:

Send a resume and a 1-2 page cover letter via email to Alain Peteroy *MassLIFT* Site Supervisor at apeteroy@franklinlandtrust.org. Please CC Dee Robbins, *MassLIFT* Program Manager at robbins@mountgrace.org. Please mention in your cover letter what you hope to learn/experience. For further information call Alain Peteroy at 1-413-625-9152.

AmeriCorps is a federally funded program that supports a broad range of local and national nonprofit groups by engaging thousands of Americans in intensive service to meet critical community needs. In 2010 more than 325 organizations across the country have been awarded AmeriCorps grants to help them address pressing social and environmental issues, and foster an ethic of civic engagement.

The Massachusetts Service Alliance established in 1991, is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as the state commission on community service and volunteerism. Its mission is to catalyze the innovation and growth of service and volunteerism by creating partnerships that maximize resources, expertise, capacity, and impact.

