



TERRACORPS

TerraCorps is an AmeriCorps affiliated start-up environmental non-profit preparing and mobilizing emerging leaders to help communities gain access to and conserve land for people and nature. Working at the intersection of the land conservation and urban agriculture movements, our vision is to create a future where land is the foundation of health and well-being for ALL people in EVERY community.

This year's TerraCorps program will support up to 60 full-time AmeriCorps Members across Massachusetts and Rhode Island each serving in one of five positions: Land Stewardship Coordinator (LSC), Land Conservation Coordinator (LCC), Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC), Youth Education Coordinator (YEC), or Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator (SAC). Members will serve in full-time, 11-month terms (August 29th, 2022-July 28, 2023) in which they complete at least 1,700 hours of service with one of our partner organizations. Members receive a living allowance, education award, and additional AmeriCorps benefits (see full list at end of announcement).

The Wareham Land Trust will host a Land Stewardship Coordinator for the 2022-2023 service year. Information about all TerraCorps positions is available at <https://terrakorps.org/>.

Land Stewardship Coordinator with the Wareham Land Trust

Wareham Land Trust

P.O. Box 718
219 Main Street, Suite E
Wareham, MA 02571
www.warehamlandtrust.org

The Wareham Land Trust (WLT) is the premier conservation organization in the Town of Wareham. WLT is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 2001 by a group of Wareham residents dedicated to conserving and protecting Wareham's open space and natural resources. In the last 20+ years, the Wareham Land Trust has successfully conserved over 680 acres of open space through land acquisition and conservation restrictions. In 2013, WLT earned accreditation through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission; this national recognition is a mark of distinction in land conservation, honoring organizations for meeting standards for excellence in ethics, upholding the public trust, and ensuring that conservation efforts are permanent.

The town of Wareham covers 36 square miles of area and has over 54 miles of coastline, resulting in a diverse landscape. From sandy saltwater beaches to freshwater ponds and rivers, cranberry bogs to forests, Wareham has it all! Our various boards and committees are made up of our dedicated members and starting in 2021, WLT now has an Executive Director to direct and implement our mission. Through a variety of well-established land conservation methods WLT safeguards valuable land and water resources throughout the community. Our mission is to permanently protect and conserve

Wareham's open spaces and natural resources, to unite citizens in a common goal of conservation and responsible land use, and to educate the public about the environmental and economic benefits of protecting open space and promoting sustainable development.

Land Stewardship Coordinators (LSC) build the long-term capacity of their Service Sites by creating networks of volunteers to support hands-on stewardship of community lands. They organize, train, and collaborate with municipal boards, neighborhood and civic associations, community members, youth groups, and schools to care for, improve access to, and support the long-term resiliency and sustainable use of community lands. By providing training and organizing collaborative land-focused projects, they increase resources for community projects, demonstrate environmentally responsible land management, help individuals build skills, and nurture an inclusive sense of public ownership in the local landscape. LSCs generally spend roughly 60% of their time in the office and 40% in the field.

TerraCorps Members engage with their supervisors to develop and carry out three or more capacity building projects over the course of the service year. Some of these projects will involve recruiting, training, and/or managing community volunteers. **The Wareham Land Trust has proposed the following potential project(s) for their Land Stewardship Coordinator:**

- 1) **Development of property management plans.** For most of WLT's properties, there are existing management plans, but they are outdated and do not provide a great deal of detail or management guidance. The LSC Member could assist the WLT Executive Director in developing updated property management plans by utilizing GPS tools to map on the ground features and key habitat areas, compile field-collected and publicly available GIS data to create property maps, conduct natural resources inventories, and research property history. For some tasks, such as natural resources inventories, the LSC may consider developing a volunteer-based approach to data collection, to cover large areas more thoroughly and effectively.
- 2) **Trail and property improvement projects.** The LSC Member could lead one or more trail or property improvement projects (e.g., native plant restoration, construction/ installation of stairs or bog board features, etc.) to address current problem areas on WLT properties. This activity could involve a community training or education session for volunteers helping with the effort. Depending on the scope and scale of the project, the LSC Member could engage local partners, such as the Town of Wareham Natural Resources or Conservation Department staff, the Wareham Garden Club, or a local boy scout troop.
- 3) **Invasive species management.** The LSC Member could continue and expand upon WLT's existing efforts to remove problematic invasive plant species that are on sites stewarded by the WLT. This project could involve educating and training community members on identification and removal techniques for common invasive species, developing a mobile-reporting system that visitors to the properties can use to record observations of new or expanding invasive populations, and leading volunteer invasive removal programs. This project may also provide opportunities to get involved with environmental permitting or restoration planning associated with invasive removal projects.

Development of these and other projects will occur during the first two months of service and consider the Member's interests and skills.

Required AmeriCorps Qualifications

- A US citizen, US national, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- At least 18 years old
- A minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- No more than three previous terms as an AmeriCorps Member
- Pass a criminal history background check, including an FBI check

Desired Qualifications

- Strong writing and verbal communication skills
- Able to serve both independently and as a member of a team
- Comfort navigating computer software programs (Microsoft Office365, ArcGIS mapping software)
- Training and experience pertinent to the Land Stewardship Coordinator position and projects listed above
- Experience training and educating community members and volunteers
- Experience with natural systems and identifying flora and fauna common to southeastern Massachusetts
- Ability and willingness to be active outside in a range of weather conditions, and navigate uneven terrain
- Ability to navigate independently in the field utilizing map, compass, and GPS units

For questions about the Wareham Land Trust's service position, contact Elise Leduc-Fleming at execdirector@warehamlandtrust.org or 508-295-0211.

AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements

All Members are expected to serve full-time, commit to serve for the entire 11-month term, and complete at least 1,700 hours of service, including time spent in trainings and several service days with the full TerraCorps cohort. Weekly service averages 38 hours and commonly includes some night and/or weekend activities.

AmeriCorps programs provide equal opportunities. TerraCorps 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 encourage applications from individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations for interviews and service upon request.

Member Compensation and Benefits

- TerraCorps Members will receive a living allowance of up to \$18,500 (pre-tax) over the 11-month term of service, which is \$740 (pre-tax) per 25 biweekly pay periods.
- TerraCorps assists Members in obtaining health insurance coverage. Reimbursement of costs may be available.
- Childcare assistance may be provided in cases of financial need.
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps Members receive a taxable \$6,495 education award that can be used for future education or to pay off existing school loans. See

<http://www.americorps.gov/members-volunteers/segal-amicorps-education-award> for info and restrictions.

- TerraCorps Members are eligible for forbearance of most federally-guaranteed student loans, as well as payment of interest accrued during service.
- TerraCorps Members will receive mentorship, training, and career development opportunities while serving directly with community-based nonprofits.
- TerraCorps Members experience the personal rewards of national service and community engagement.

Note: TerraCorps Members are responsible for their own housing and must have access to reliable transportation.

How to Apply

To apply for this position and to learn more about other TerraCorps service Member opportunities, please visit the following page on the TerraCorps website at <https://terracorps.org/member-position-listing/>.

Note: A complete Member application includes a resume and two professional or academic references that you will upload as part of your application.

Member applications will be collected by TerraCorps and shared with Service Sites. **Do not send applications directly to a Service Site.**

We strongly encourage interested individuals to apply as soon as possible once applications are posted in May 2022. Position offers and acceptances will be made on a rolling basis. The program aims to fill all positions by mid-July, but Service Sites will continue interviews as needed until all positions are filled. For questions about TerraCorps please email spollock@terracorps.org.

Additional Information About this Program

TerraCorps Seeks to create change by achieving a broader, more authentic engagement of the diverse peoples living in our communities. When we do this, resources will grow, access to land will increase, the pace of land conservation will accelerate, and whole communities will achieve more resilient futures. To learn more about TerraCorps, visit: <https://terracorps.org/>.

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 people in intensive service each year through more than 15,000 nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps Members help communities tackle pressing problems and, also leverage their service by mobilizing volunteers to help address community needs for environmental stewardship, health, education, economic opportunity, disaster services, and support to veterans and military families. [To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit americorps.gov.](#)

TerraCorps is a grant-funded program contingent upon renewal of federal funding from the AmeriCorps federal agency. TerraCorps is also supported in part by the Massachusetts Service Alliance in MA and Serve RI in Rhode Island.