



# MACC's 2026 Annual Environmental Conference

**Saturday, February 28, 2026**  
8:00 am – 5:30 pm

**College of the Holy Cross**  
Worcester, MA

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## Our Conference

Our Annual Conference is our largest event of the year. We offer a full day of exciting workshops and plenty of networking opportunities for our attendees, including nearly 700 conservation commissioners, consultants, engineers, attorneys, students, and others looking to learn more about environmental protection.

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## Sample Ad

**A Message From MACC President Amy Ball**

commissioner! Lunch will be served at the usual location, at the bottom of the hill (but there will be shuttles!) and we hope that a few tweaks in the layout will make it a better experience for everyone. And please join us back here in the Ballroom for the President's Reception at the end of the day.

What hasn't changed is MACC's commitment to holding a conference that provides numerous opportunities for learning and networking that help us continually improve our protection of Massachusetts' natural resources.

If the Covid pandemic has taught us nothing else, we all have become adept at learning to pivot. Returning to tradition, we are also thrilled to honor the recipients of MACC's 2025 Annual Environmental Awards during our opening session this morning. Since 1981, MACC has given annual awards to people in Massachusetts who have worked long and hard to protect our state's natural environment. Among our distinguished group of recipients this year are Christopher Neill, PhD, for Outstanding Public Service; Darcy Karle, Conservation Administrator of the Year; Susan Chapnick, Conservation Commissioner of the Year; Sherry Anders, receiving our Rising Star Award; and the Native Land Conservancy, headed by its Executive Director, Diana Ruiz, PhD, for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award. I am pleased to again extend my sincerest congratulations to you all and

thank you for all that you do!

Speaking of honoring exceptional individuals, I would like to extend a special thank you to this year's Keynote Speaker, the indubitable, Gregor I. McGregor, Esq! My math isn't perfect, but Greg has been here at MACC almost from the very beginning. We look forward to hearing his stories and anecdotes as he shares with us his experiences over the last fifty – yes 5-0 – years of being a part of MACC's Board of Directors. Greg, we will miss you and your great wisdom dearly, and trust that you won't be a stranger!

\*MACC held its first MACC Annual Meeting in 1972. Greg would have been a wee babe back then, but chances are, he was in attendance!

Thank you for being here today! We hope that you find this conference both educational and inspiring. And thank you for all that you do to protect the environment in Massachusetts! It has been my honor and pleasure serving as MACC's President for the past three years, and as I pass the baton to the capable hands of our new President, Don Cooper, I wish you all well.

Amy Ball, PWS, CWS  
MACC President

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