



MACC MEMBER BENEFITS GUIDE FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS

This Guide highlights benefits available to conservation commissions that are MACC members.

- **Member Pricing.** MACC members receive special reduced rates to attend our conferences, workshops, and training programs and to purchase books and other materials from our website and at our conferences and trainings. Be sure to sign-in on our website to get discounts!
- **Orientation for New Conservation Commissioners.** New commissioners receive one year of free access to an online interactive Orientation Program that provides the basics about the roles and responsibilities of a conservation commissioner and the requirements of the Wetlands Protection Act. The orientation includes five chapters to read, informative videos to watch, links to additional information, and quiz questions. After completing the orientation, the commissioner will receive a **free** one-month subscription to our electronic handbook, *Protecting Wetlands and Open Space: MACC's Environmental Handbook for Massachusetts Conservation Commissioners*.
- **Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners.** This is the Certificate Training Program designed to provide conservation commissioners with the essential information needed to be effective commissioners. Classes are provided in various locations throughout Massachusetts, at our conferences, and via webinars. MACC is keeping costs for Fundamental Units at *2012 member rates* (\$55/class). The FY2020 calendar allows for completion of all units in less than one year!<http://maccweb.site-ym.com/page/EDMACCFUNDAMENTALS>
- **Protecting Wetlands and Open Space: MACC's Environmental Handbook for Massachusetts Conservation Commissioners.** This is the legal, scientific, technical and *practical* electronic handbook reference for conservation commissioners. The cost for conservation commission members is only \$15/year for this essential resource (the cost is \$60/year for non-members).
- **MACC Annual Environmental Conference.** This is the largest annual environmental conference in New England, with approximately 800 attendees, 34 workshops, and 50 exhibits each year, all created for conservation commissions. It is an excellent opportunity to take Fundamentals Units, attend new workshops, and network with other commissioners. Next year's date is Saturday, March 6, 2021, at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. Costs have remained at FY2019 levels for conservation commission members (\$125/person).
- **MACC Fall Conference.** Last year's Fall Conference was a sold-out success, and we anticipate another exciting year. This year we expect to pivot our in-person conference to a virtual one. Stay tuned!
- **MACC Workshop Training Programs.** Throughout the year, MACC provides a variety of workshops, many including field identifications. Training is offered on topics such as wetland delineation; hydric soil identification; and wetland plant identification. We are working on an advanced program (a "Masters" program) of technical classes to help conservation commissions

expand knowledge and expertise. For the current workshop schedule see http://maccweb.site-ym.com/events/event_list.asp.

- **MACC website** (<http://www.maccweb.org>). You can find on our website:
 - An electronic reference library of materials;
 - A current schedule of conferences, training courses, and workshops;
 - A bookstore, where you can purchase the **Wetlands Protection Act** regulations, MACC publications created for conservation commissioners, wildlife note cards, and materials that we have selected for their relevance to conservation commissions;
 - Conservation Connections, the MACC moderated web forum where you can ask questions, get answers, share experiences, and be part of the conservation conversation;
 - Advocacy information;
 - **Young Professionals Committee** events (for the “new to the profession” and “young at heart” commissioners and members). These free events foster training, mentorship, and networking for our members. See the MACC website for schedules of events.

Be sure to visit MACC’s website often, and remember to first sign in, so you receive your member discounts and access to the members-only portions of the website!

- **Conservation Quarterly.** This is the MACC members-only quarterly magazine. It contains articles of interest for conservation commissions and information on upcoming programs and events. To read back issues of Conservation Quarterly, go to MACC’s website at the “Resources” tab (be sure you are signed in), where you can download the most recent issues. <http://maccweb.site-ym.com/page/MACCQUARTERLY>. You will also receive our monthly electronic **eMACCs** via email.
- **MACC Helpline.** The MACC Helpline is available for conservation commission members only. Email us with questions you would like answered by our experts (staff@maccweb.org).
- **Voting.** Conservation Commissions are the voting members of MACC. That means conservation commissions have the right to vote for MACC’s Officers and Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.
- **Professional Advocacy Services.** We support the MACC mission with advocacy work at the State House, on advisory committees, and by working collaboratively with other environmental groups. We are advocates for wetlands, open space protection, and for conservation commissions. We are in the courts when our participation can help protect wetlands, open space, and biological diversity. We update you via our website and email alerts when there are issues that might affect your work and we explain how you can be involved.
- **MACC – MassDEP Wetland Forums.** Throughout this next year, MACC will continue to coordinate quarterly, regional meetings with MassDEP regional staff, the Wetlands Circuit Rider, MACC Board of Directors, and local conservation commissions. These Wetland Forums provide opportunities to network with neighboring commissions and participate in question & answer sessions with commission members, DEP staff, and other wetland experts.