

Standards and Practices Revision

2016-2017 *Land Trust Standards and Practices* Revisions Process

The Land Trust Alliance first developed *Land Trust Standards and Practices* (the Standards) in 1989 at the urging of land trust practitioners who believe a strong land trust community depends on the credibility and effectiveness of all its members and who understand that employing best practices is the surest way to lasting conservation. The Alliance led a process to revise the Standards in 1993, 2001 and 2004 to reflect changes in land trust practices and regulations governing nonprofit organizations. Since that time, the land trust community has made great strides securing public confidence in its work. Land trusts are stronger, better managed and more effective than ever. More than 1,100 land trusts have adopted the Standards, reflecting an ongoing commitment to continuous improvement across the community.

The Alliance is leading a collaborative process to revise the Standards to reflect changes in the legal and operational environment of the land trust community over the past 10 years and to provide overall alignment with the Land Trust Accreditation Program, Terrafirma and the wide array of resources and documents supporting best practices for land trusts. By engaging the entire land trust community, the revisions process will also strive to build greater awareness and support for Standards and Practices and to encourage all land trusts to implement them.

Revision Goals

The Land Trust Alliance is leading a process to work directly with the land trust community to revise the Standards. The goals of the process are to:

- Update the Standards to reflect changes over the past decade in the legal and operational environment of the land trust community
- Build greater awareness and support for the Standards
- Encourage all land trusts to use the Standards as a foundation for their work
- Ensure overall alignment of the Standards with the Land Trust Accreditation Program, Terrafirma and the wide array of resources and documents supporting best practices for land trusts

Opportunities for Engagement

Join the Discussion

Visit the Alliance website (www.landtrustalliance.org) for updates and current info.

The Land Trust Alliance invites you to comment on the Standards and Practices revisions. All input will be given full consideration. The community participation phase will run through approximately September 15, 2016.

You can provide input in three ways:

- In-person: Attend a spring conference, other scheduled dialogue or April 21st webinar
- Online: Submit detailed comments on each practice via the Ethelo platform at standards-practices-revisions.ethelodecisions.com
- Email: Contact us at SandP@lta.org

Standards Advisory Team

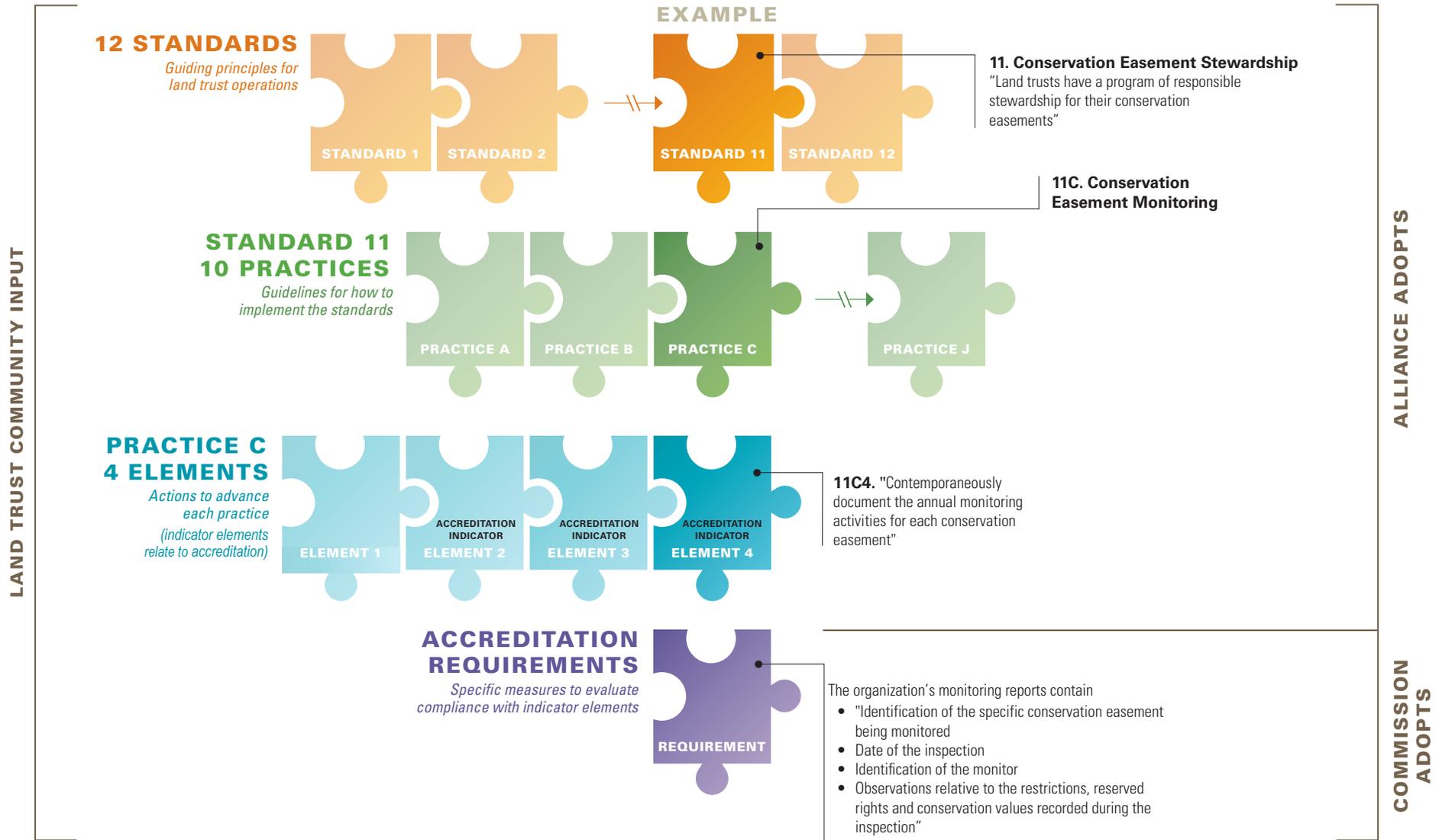
The revisions process is managed by a core team from the Alliance and Commission and is advised by the Standards Advisory Team, a team of land trust representatives that reflects the diversity of Alliance member land trusts. The Advisory Team consists of 14 members from the land trust community.

Projected Timeline

Task	Timing
Land Trust Alliance board of directors review and approval of Standards Advisory Team slate	January 2016 COMPLETE
Initial in-person meeting of the Standards Advisory Team	February 17-19, 2016 COMPLETE
Hold Standards and Practices dialogues at spring meetings and other identified events	March-May 2016
Collect detailed input on proposed revisions via online platform	March-September 2016
Compile, synthesize and analyze input	September-December 2016
Finalize overall recommendations for Standards and Practices revisions	December 2016 or May 2017
Land Trust Alliance board approves Standards and Practices revisions	February or June 2017

Land Trust Standards and Accreditation Requirements

Your guide to how standards, practices, elements, accreditation indicators (adopted by the Alliance) and accreditation requirements (adopted by the Commission) fit together to build strong land trusts.



For more information about *Land Trust Standards and Practices*, visit <http://www.landtrustalliance.org/topics/standards-and-practices>.
For more information about accreditation requirements, visit <http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/requirements-manual>.