



Land Trust Alliance Standards and Practices

Land Trusts developed Standards and Practices to help them articulate and strive for best practices in carrying out their missions. Other organizations that hold interests in historic properties for public benefit have also found the LTA Standards and Practices to be helpful.

For most owners of historic, publicly accessible resources, who do not hold easements, the most *applicable* standards are likely to be:

1. Ethics, Mission and Community Engagement,
2. Compliance with Laws,
3. Board Accountability,
4. Conflicts of Interest,
5. Fundraising,
6. Financial Oversight,
7. Human Resources, and
12. Fee Land Stewardship

The first seven deal with best practices that typically apply to organizations that do work for the public benefit. The twelfth deals with organizations that own and maintain property (funding, managing, maintaining, inspecting).

It might be helpful to think of these issues as having two main components: good governance (1-7) and the long-term stewardship of valued resources (12).

Many organizations already either explicitly or implicitly follow these practices. LCHIP requires grantees to adopt the applicable standards to encourage best practices, for the sake of the organizations concerned and the resources entrusted to their care.