First introduced in 2012, the *Requirements Manual* is reviewed annually and was last revised March 2021. The Commission decides each year if a new edition is needed, and any new additions are published in the spring to provide predictability to land trusts about when revisions will most likely be announced, help land trusts put together the best application possible, and maximize staff and volunteer resources. The newest version supersedes all previous versions.

- If the newest version has less-stringent and/or eliminated requirements, those changes go into effect immediately for the benefit of applicants preparing for accreditation or in the process.
- If the newest version has one or more requirements that are more stringent or new, those changes generally go into effect for applicants applying in a later year to ensure land trusts have advance notice prior to registering for first-time accreditation or renewed accreditation.

Land trusts have asked the Commission to report on the significant changes made over time to the *Requirements Manual*. Because the Land Trust Standards and Practices were revised in 2017, new indicator elements were identified. The 2018 *Requirements Manual* used a new format to make it easier for land trusts to compile the documentation needed for the accreditation application and reduce redundancy, therefore there is no redline version of the 2018 Manual. See an "In-Depth Look at Changes to the Requirements" on the differences between the 2016 and 2018 versions. Contact the Commission if you would like a copy of any earlier versions of the *Requirements Manual*.

Redline (shows changes from March 2018 version)

The Commission welcomes feedback on the *Requirements Manual* at any time from the land trust community and other stakeholders. Comments for next year's edition are most useful by August to ensure that they are considered as part of the annual review process.