

PROTECTING THE NORTH COUNTRY WE LOVE



More Great Lakes Shoreline Protection

*Look inside for stories
of newly donated nature
preserves along the
shores of Lake Michigan
and Lake Huron.*

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Forslund Dix Point Nature Preserve
Drummond Island

The Small Pond

GROWING UP IN SOUTHEAST Wisconsin my family and I lived in the country surrounded by dairy farms and woods. There were two ponds within easy walking distance of our house and I have many memories associated with them – mostly good memories. There was the falling through the ice incident which I believe was my first brush with hypothermia, but even that wasn't all bad. The pond to the northeast became known as the "small pond" amongst the geographic references our family used. Our parents had a large iron bell mounted to the balcony on the back of the house. The rule was that you could wander anywhere provided that you could make it home within a half hour of hearing the bell. In our house, the term "the woods" was generally accepted to mean anywhere governed by the bell.

My two brothers and I mostly hung out with the neighbor boys on whose farms we grew up milking cows and baling hay from as early as age seven. The small pond was often the place we would gather. You could do so much there and we made up several simple but fun games. I recall one being called "whip the stick." Boys will be boys; at least no one lost an eye. We varied in age but as the group got a little older, the introduction of the pocket knife was like the iron revolution to us. It brought new activities like whittling and the ability to cut the twine off of a bale of hay. The pocket knife also meant a walking-on-the-moon type leap in our ability to build forts.

If my brothers ever read this, I know they would agree the coolest fort we ever created was near the small pond. The location was perfect for a survival scenario. It was tucked in the woods for shelter, yet near a water source. A farm field

just on the other side of the tree line had multiple uses. Our new knives allowed us to cut vines with which to interweave large sticks. The sticks would have sharpened points that could be driven into the ground, making the walls of this fort sturdy...possibly even "bear proof." Not that there were any bears in the area but that is not the point; we were honing our survival skills and most of the adversity was necessarily imaginary.

There were some minor injuries: the knives did take some getting used to. I sometimes wonder just how long we could have survived in our fort. My guess, on hindsight, is not long – probably not past dinner time. My problem was that my associates were amateurs not nearly as versed in the pages of *Outdoor Life* as I was. In that era, I had set the record for the number of consecutive nights spent alone in our camper in the front yard, so I had separated myself early on from the rest of the survivalist crowd.

I recall sitting with my Dad and brothers at the small pond waiting for ducks. One time, a few actually showed up and dad got two of them! We did a great deal of hunting with Dad but not much getting. As I look back I have to think his chances were pretty limited with three kids in tow. But we loved it and could not get enough of it.

You could always catch bluegills in the small pond until a particularly cold winter froze them all out. I remember the thousands of dead stinky fish the following spring and then watching in subsequent years in hope that new fish would appear. And they did; by some magical act of nature they returned.

There was the time we found where the coyotes had recently killed a deer on the ice of the small pond. I harvested my first

buck in the field near the small pond. After more than 30 years, that event remains clearly etched in my memory. The small pond is one of the places that shaped my experiences, my attitude, and philosophy on life. Small pond = big impact.

It's worth noting that all of my memories of the small pond and the woods in general occurred on private land. Permission to be there was more implied than formal. The nearest public land was miles away and it was overcrowded, at least during the hunting season. Times have changed. It is no longer simple or intuitive for kids to spend the amount of time outside that many of us did growing up.

I recently took a look at Google Earth and found that there are now houses sitting on lawns overlooking the small pond. One of them has to be almost exactly where our fort stood so many years ago. If only they knew how many hours we spent in what is now their yard (or kitchen). Many people can share similar memories from the days before cell phones dominated our waking hours. I feel lucky to have these childhood memories and am grateful to my parents for raising us where and how they did. I also have a deep sense of reward now being in a position to help balance the sprawl on our landscape with protecting special places. I hold no hard feelings against the folks who now dwell at the small pond on top of our fort. Heck, I would love a home site like that. But balance is a worthy goal. We need wild places where kids can build forts.

Fortunately, LTC is all about that.



Kieran C. Fleming
Executive Director

This Place Speaks for Itself

Protecting Lake Michigan shoreline is one of the Conservancy's top priorities. However, an undeveloped shoreline along Lake Michigan is hard to come by any more. That's why we were so thrilled when Rob and Kathy Deane graciously offered to donate their property to the Conservancy. It includes 611 feet of pristine Lake Michigan shoreline and more than 5 acres of northern hardwoods and conifers. In fact, this property represents one of the larger undeveloped and uninterrupted blocks of Lake Michigan shoreline in this area.



ROB DEANE RECOGNIZES THE uniqueness of such land; he has frequented the area almost every summer since his mother, Margaret Robinson Deane, first brought him up north before he was even a year old. Although home base is in Grand Rapids, Rob recalls late summers and early autumns in Good Hart and several summers spent on Beaver Island farming and milking his first cows. By the time he was in high school, Rob and friends would often camp a few nights at their favorite spot nicknamed "The Washout." They would follow a nearby creek to the beach for a satisfying swim or hike back up to the top for a camping spot for the night. Around 1953, portions of shoreline property just north of "The Washout" began to sell and be developed into cottages.

Margaret also continued to visit

on her own, often walking various bits of property between Good Hart and Cross Village with a close friend, Bulah Fowler of Goodhart. When Rob was in the navy in 1964, he received a letter from his mother informing him that she had put down a deposit for the two of them to purchase one of the properties up for sale. "She had a good mind for valuable real estate, and recognized that the particular parcel we bought was a prime piece of property," Rob recounts. So with the idea that perhaps someday Rob, his wife Kathy, and two children would want to build cottages here, the property was theirs. For several summers to come, Rob and his family would occasionally walk the property boundaries and enjoy the lake shore. Time passed and it soon became clear that neither Rob and Kathy nor

their children were likely to build on the property. However, they also realized that they didn't want to sell it and leave it open for future development. So as a family, they decided to donate it to the Conservancy in order to preserve it as it is.

The idea of working with the Little Traverse Conservancy on the future of this property wasn't necessarily a new one. Rob first became familiar with LTC after

retiring from the Navy in 1988, and later met now Executive Director Kieran Fleming. He has served on several local committees and boards including the M-119 Tunnel of Trees Scenic Heritage Route Committee and Emmet County Lakeshore Association. Rob was also well aware of the two LTC preserves that happen to sit nearby, just north and south of the property – the Woollam Family Nature Preserve and the Ryan Nature Preserve, respectively. He was impressed with the ability to balance preservation and maintenance on these lands to minimize disruption and impact. Furthermore, the Deanes knew they wanted to preserve their property so it could continue to serve as an access point to the beach and water for wildlife that would often come down from the neighboring woods. In Rob's words, "It was just natural to work with him (Kieran) and Caitlin (Director of Land Protection). They were very pleasant, accommodating, and at the same time detail oriented."

In gratitude to Rob and Kathy Deane for their donation, and in honor of Rob's mother who loved the north, the property is now named the Margaret Robinson Deane & Rob Deane Family Nature Preserve.

"We're happy to do what we've done," Rob stated. "The place speaks for itself."

NOTE: Public access to the Margaret Robinson Deane & Rob Deane Family Nature Preserve is solely from the shoreline.



Forslund Dix Point Nature Preserve

A Gem of Protected Land for Drummond Island

Little Traverse Conservancy is pleased to announce the creation of the Forslund Dix Point Nature Preserve, on the northwestern tip of Drummond Island. The preserve includes more than 56 acres of land and 1,800 feet of St. Mary's Channel shoreline. It is the gift of the Carl Forslund, Jr. family in memory of their late parents, Carl and Anne Forslund, to keep this much-loved part of Drummond Island untouched and accessible for generations to come. Barbara Forslund, their youngest daughter, explains what the land has meant to her family.

"DIX POINT ITSELF IS ABOUT 10 acres of rocky land that is connected to the rest of Drummond Island by a narrow isthmus, particularly narrow in current high water conditions. The shoreline continues for another 600 feet to the west and south, facing the St. Mary's Channel, with a clear view of the freighters. The remainder of the Preserve is interior land adjacent to a portion of the Lake Superior State Forest. Access is provided through the State Forest from Sturgeon Bay Road or from the water. The property is classic Drummond Island woodlands and shoreline with groves of poplar, jack pine and dense cedar stands yielding to wetland grasses and rocky shores. A large glacial erratic marks the west side of the Point, easily visible from the water.

"Our grandfather, Carl Forslund, Sr., first came to Drummond in 1947 to hunt and loved it so much that he bought a small cabin on the Old Ferry Dock Road from Chuck Zeerip sight unseen. My siblings, cousins and I all grew up spending our vacations in that one-room cabin without running water, and my cousins, who own it now, did the same with their children, who are now doing it with their children. There have been five generations staying in that cabin, still without running water. I can't remember the first time I came to Drummond; it has always been a part of my life.

Life on Drummond shaped us, made us who we are. My mother, Anne, would be in the cabin with five kids and at least one dog for two weeks at a time, sometimes without a car when Dad would go back to Grand Rapids to work at the furniture store for part of the time. She entertained us making creations out of birch bark, flat stones and moss, and taught us to see the beauty in the trees, rocks and shoreline.

Dad would take us on long hikes into the interior of the island to find the old railroad grades, without a compass, water, or food. Our family built a cabin of our own on South Dix Point Road the year after my parents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary up on the island. My parents walked down to the land that is now the Preserve regularly, and my dad, who is an accomplished artist, painted the Point with its large rock and surrounding wet grasslands numerous times. When the land that comprises the Point became available for sale, we pursued it to ensure that it would remain open and accessible for people to enjoy into the future."

Drummond Island Lands Protected through Little Traverse Conservancy

3	Nature Preserves	102 Acres
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1	Preserve with a Conservation Easement	80 Acres
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2	Conservation Easements	538 Acres
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1	Transfer & Assist Project with State of Michigan	20 Acres
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Protecting a Special Land

BEEBE CREEK CONSERVATION EASEMENT

FOR MANY YEARS, MIKE MANG HAD HIS EYE ON A PROPERTY LOCATED NEAR BEEBE CREEK, A TRIBUTARY TO the Sturgeon River. Mike is a retired DNR Forester and has seen many northern Michigan lands. He knew when he came across one that was special. Ten years ago he and his wife Lucy decided to purchase the 60-acre property, which is located in Ellis Township, Cheboygan County.

"It is a property with a lot of biodiversity," Mike said. "Beebe Creek is a small brook trout stream. The surrounding land includes a lowland conifer floodplain and marsh. The uplands host an array of tree species including balsam fir, aspen, northern hardwoods, and red pine. And there are open areas with little bluestem, a prairie grass native to the Midwest. I've always just thought this land needed to be protected and managed sustainably for wildlife and timber."

Mike has volunteered for years with HeadWaters Land Conservancy based in Gaylord, and was well aware of the conservation easement land protection tool. In fact, he drafted the first version of the easement, before working with the Little Traverse Conservancy land staff to fine tune the details.

"I'm just really glad to have the easement completed," Mike added. "Before we purchased it, we were informed that a developer had been interested in buying the land a few years before. His plans were to subdivide it for home sites. Now it will remain natural and protected for all time. It is an important piece in the natural landscape of the Sturgeon River valley."



Addition Donated to A.C. Fischer Nature Preserve

MIKE AND KAREN GREGORY DONATED A TWO-ACRE addition to the A.C. Fischer Nature Preserve located along Beach Road east of Harbor Springs. The addition brings the size of this preserve to 70 acres, expanding the cedar swamp forested wetlands of the preserve, with spruce trees scattered throughout. The A.C. Fischer was one of the first nature preserves formed by the Little Traverse Conservancy with the original parcel donated in 1973.



Carls Foundation \$100K Challenge Met

Members YOU made it happen!



OUR MEMBERS STEPPED UP AT THE END OF 2018 to help us earn \$100,000 in matched gifts from the Carls Foundation. These gifts went right to work stewarding the incredible land that LTC already cares for, and educating school children outdoors throughout northern Michigan. Your gifts have groomed cross-country ski trails and hardened the track for fat bike tires. Every time you see a Conservancy nature preserve or working forest reserve, you can smile knowing that you played a role in helping us protect the North Country we love.

Thanks to your membership support, we are also closer to protecting this special eight-acre parcel with 930 feet of Burt Lake shoreline (see map to left). With all new or increased memberships at the end of 2018 matched through the Carls Foundation Challenge, we are now only \$115,000 short of the \$750,000 needed to purchase this new nature preserve.

If Burt Lake is a special place to you, we are looking for more help completing this significant land protection project. Please call our office at 231.347.0991 to learn more.

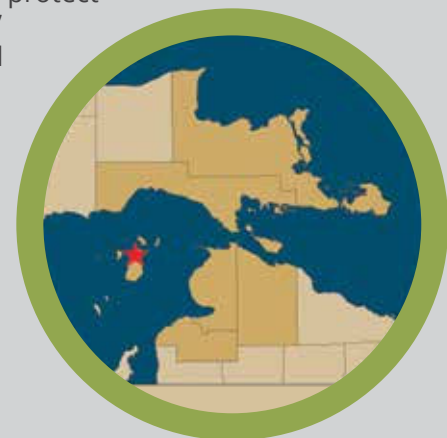
Conservancy Assists Tribe with Protection of *Amik Stone Circle Land*

LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY RECENTLY WORKED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians to secure and protect an 80-acre property located on the west side of Beaver Island that is home to a culturally, historically, and ecologically important site known as Amik Stone Circle. The land is located a quarter mile west of the Conservancy's Sarah A. Martin Nature Preserve. It is mostly upland hardwoods with several small, shrubby open areas and a steep ridge that runs through the middle of the parcel known as Angeline's Bluff.

"The goal was to preserve the opportunity to protect it until funding was approved through the Tribe,"

said Frank Ettawageshik, executive director of the United Tribes of Michigan and a member of the Amik Circle Society. "This seller was ready to sell and we knew that Little Traverse Conservancy could work with us in the same way they work with local townships and the state, by securing the land quickly."

Near the end of 2018, the Tribe became ready to accept the land before the project was closed, so the Conservancy was able to simply transfer the purchase option and all of the paperwork to them. The sale was complete before the end of the year. "We and the LTC Board are pleased we could play a role in protecting this special land," said Conservancy Director of Land Protection, Caitlin Donnelly.





The Untouched Lands of Horton's Creek

by Gary Osterbeck, LTC Member and Volunteer

Gary has photographed this preserve complex in every season, including this spectacular winter capture.



Canadian Samuel Horton was the first non-Indian resident of record in the Horton Bay area, sailing into the region around August 1, 1856. At that time, the region was 100% occupied by Odawa Indians. From then on, this part of Lake Charlevoix was referred to as Horton's Bay and later changed to Horton Bay by the U.S. Post Office on February 27, 1879.*

FOR ABOUT 15 YEARS, I LIVED ACROSS FROM THE LLAMA FARM ON BOYNE City-Charlevoix Road and spent a lot of time in the area, including years of enjoying the rambunctious Horton Bay Parade. Last April, LTC Director of Communications Anne Fleming and I were talking about the recent acquisition of property by the Little Traverse Conservancy along Horton Creek. I had just finished a four-year photographic essay of the entire Boyne River system, and lusted to do a similar essay of the entire Horton's Creek. My journey began on April 2, 2018.

There are not enough words to describe my feelings about what I have discovered thus far. I have experienced joy, respect, awe, endless beauty, continuous silence, and mesmerizing history, to name a few. I have walked the hallowed ground that Ernest Hemingway had walked and written about. There are few people of this day who have seen it!

There has been danger: bottomless places that can swallow you in muck! I have rolled over in my kayak and lost a camera. I have fallen over backwards into the creek when I was using a tree for help and it broke. I have blazed a trail walking through ferns that were shoulder high! Finally, I have broken through the ice – luckily the water was only a foot deep. I have not seen one other person out there since April. However, there is nothing that will ever stop me from returning, again and again, to take photographs of one of the most glorious places in this world. It will all be shared with you. It is a hunger that will last a lifetime.

Take courage from the land God has given you, which has always nourished you, and which is still there in a natural state, thanks to the dedication and commitment of landowners and donors who have worked with the Little Traverse Conservancy.

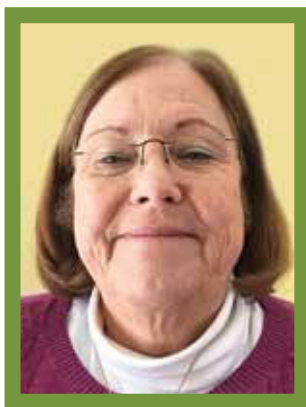
And be comforted. We live in super splendor.



* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Traverse_Bay_Bands_of_Odawa_Indians

MEET OUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Currently, the LTC Finance Committee consists of more than 50 individuals and families who sign our membership letters. They are our community ambassadors!



CHRISTINE TUCKER

Christine Tucker has taken her mom (Ruth Bennett's) role on the Little Traverse Conservancy Finance Committee for Mullett Lake. Here is her story of connection to conservation in northern Michigan:

I have always thought the work the Conservancy has done was so wonderful. Just

the basic concept is brilliant. Get people to give land. They save on their taxes and it is protected forever. I love all the signs that I see everywhere. When my husband died in 2003 I asked in lieu of flowers for people to give to the Conservancy. I am just following in my Mom's footsteps. My favorite area is on our road, the Fergus Family Nature Preserve. Mom suggested for the Fergus family to buy this land (a storage unit was going to go up there) and although it was a small piece of land, it looks like it is the whole forest.



MARTA OLSON

Marta Olson is our new Board Chair and has served on the LTC Board since 2007, has chaired our education committee, and joined our finance committee since 2017. Having spent her summers on Mackinac Island, where her father was the park superintendent for the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, Marta has been devoted to northern Michigan her whole life.

with the integrity and professionalism of the organization. As a board member with the privilege of working with the leadership, staff and volunteers, I am continually impressed with the unity of vision held by such a diverse group of individuals. It's so easy to do exciting and important work when you have the wide range of expertise and experience reflected in our dedicated, professional staff and our outstanding board members. These people are working hard every day to protect natural areas for the public, to provide high-quality stewardship of these lands and to educate people of all ages about the importance and sheer fun of connecting with nature.

WHY DO YOU SUPPORT LTC? Ever since I heard a talk by former Executive Director Tom Bailey in 2003 I have been captivated by LTC's mission. LTC provides a wide variety of tools to landowners who want to preserve their land for future generations. We are so fortunate that the founders of this wonderful organization had the foresight to protect beautiful northern Michigan.

I believe in LTC's philosophy of community conservation where we can listen to everyone and acquire land to meet a variety of needs. For example, this could involve protecting land for any of the following purposes: viewsapes that add to our quality of life daily, important watershed areas for public health, hunting and fishing access for our year-round residents and seasonal visitors, lakeshore for tourism dependent towns, prime land for mountain biking and skiing, forests adjacent to a school system for educational use, special places our tribal partners value for traditional activities...and many more uses! LTC is protecting land for our wild residents, as well. With the help of wildlife biologists, birders and eco-stewforests.

When I support a non-profit I am also concerned

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE FINANCE COMMITTEE?

Most of my friends feel the same connection to northern Michigan that I do and being on the Finance Committee gives me a chance to tell them about this great opportunity to help preserve and protect this wonderful landscape that provide us with beauty we enjoy on a daily basis. Membership in LTC at any level is greatly appreciated and ensures that LTC can preserve the land you love forever.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE PROTECTED PLACE?

That's a tough one. I love to cross-country ski at Goodhart Farms, hike to the shoreline at the Woollam Family Preserve, and explore wildlife at Waldron Fen. I'm looking forward to kayaking to the Marquette Island preserves. I'm sure those will be favorites as well.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE OUTDOOR ACTIVITY THAT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY PROTECTED LANDS?

I really enjoy hiking through the diverse environments in our service area. Thanks to LTC, we can hike more than 100 miles of trails and enjoy almost 60,000 acres of beautiful northern Michigan land protected for us and future generations.

New Grant Supports “Deeper” Environmental Education for Local Schools

A SIGNIFICANT BOOST FOR THE Conservancy's education program came in late December with a \$100,000 grant from TransCanada Corporation. The grant will go directly to LTC's Environmental Education portion of their endowment fund to ensure the long-term offering of nature preserve based education programs.

“Thanks to this kind of funding from our supporters, the nature education programs we offer throughout the school year have been given for free,” said LTC's Executive Director Kieran Fleming. “TransCanada was impressed by the new partnership we have with the Mackinac City Public Schools through which grades K-12 are using a local nature preserve to meet many of

“If we want children to flourish, to become truly empowered, then let us allow them to love the Earth before we ask them to save it.” **David Sobel**

their curriculum requirements. They wanted to support this programming for the Mackinac schools and help LTC spread it to other parts of our service area.”

This past fall, LTC piloted a new program using the new Regina Caeli Hathaway Family Nature Preserve, just a 10-minute walk from the Mackinaw City Schools. Based on project and inquiry-based learning, all grade levels participated in more than one outing, and were taught with support from Conservancy staff and volunteers. Their visits consisted of making close observations, collecting and inventorying species, determining the land's special features, and brainstorming uses of the property.

“As our children's disconnect to nature grows, it's more important than ever that our education program stays strong and innovative,” said Sarah Mayhew, LTC Director of Education. “The Conservancy protects land in perpetuity; we must treat the education of our youth with the same regard and hold high the



Mackinaw City students at the Regina Caeli Hathaway Family Nature Preserve just down the road from their school.

expectation that they will continue caring for the land and water,” Mayhew added.

“TransCanada has been an active part of northern Michigan for decades and will continue to be,” said Emily Stibbs, Community Investment Lead at TransCanada. “As a result, we want to ensure we are investing in organizations that are sustaining Michigan's beautiful natural resources, as well as teaching the next generation best practices for protecting land and wildlife. This program is the best of all worlds by fostering the next generation's interest in the environment, while meeting curriculum requirements.”

Spring Programs

Spring 2019 programs will run from April 29-June 7. For program descriptions, visit www.landtrust.org. If you want to register your class, simply call us at 231.347. 0991. Please be ready with possible dates, grade level, number of students, theme and location. We fill up quickly, and 30 students is the maximum class size. All of our programs are offered at no charge, thanks to member support for education in our communities!

Need Bus Funding? We can assist schools with transportation costs! For more information please call (231) 347. 0991. If your school is within Emmet County, funding is also available through the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation. For inquiries, call 231.348. 5820. www.phsacf.org.



A Winter 2019 Education outing at the Round Lake Nature Preserve.



Birding Time is Upon Us!

DID YOU KNOW? Scientists believe that lengthening daylight triggers a photoperiod response in birds that then starts the hormone production which tells birds to initiate mating season. We will start hearing those calls soon!

SUNSET COAST BIRDING TRAIL

Susan Creek
Ransom
Rogers Family
Darnton Family
The Headlands
The Hill
Thorne Swift
Goodhart Farms
Woollam Family
Nass/Mauger/Raunecker
Pond Hill Farm
Conservation Easement

Hailand/Helstrom
Elmer Johnston
North Point
Offield Family
Sally Stebbins
Spring Lake Park
Waldron Fen
Watson/Schott

SUNRISE COAST BIRDING TRAIL

Duncan Bay
Hoffius
LaHaie

BEAVER ISLAND BIRDING TRAIL

Petriz
Barney's Lake
Little Sand Bay
Erber
Miller's Marsh (assist)
Fox Lake (assist)

NORTH HURON BIRDING TRAIL

Search Bay
Mackinac Bay
Birge
Derby
Williams

These lists are of LTC preserves. There are many additional sites along each of the birding trails!



Turning Your Observations into Real Science

Interesting facts:

iNaturalist launched in 2008

In 2014, the site received its **1 MILLIONTH OBSERVATION.**

In 2018, **1 MILLION OBSERVATIONS** were added in about **1 MONTHS' TIME.**

The platform is *quickly* becoming the premiere place to document and talk about nature.

iNaturalist is fast becoming the best way for us to discover and document all of the species that are found on Conservancy preserves or reserves. If you submit an observation made on an LTC preserve or reserve through iNaturalist, that observation will automatically be added to our iNaturalist project for that property.

These projects are establishing a database of the plants and animals living on our lands. The data aids in stewardship decision making, tracking changes to our natural systems, and in evaluating our management actions. These projects are also great places for learning what you could find on a preserve. Search for the property by name on the iNaturalist website or find a link to the project on the LTC website.

To follow LTC's iNaturalist property projects, visit <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/little-traverse-conservancy-preserve-and-reserve-life> and click the "Members" tab in the upper right hand corner.

Come learn more! Conservancy Director of Stewardship Derek Shiels will be leading an Introduction and Guide to iNaturalist on April 6, 10:30-11:30 am at the Petoskey Library (see p. 13).

Memorials & Honorariums

Gifts given from
November 15, 2018
-February 15, 2019

IN MEMORY OF

Angie S. Supernaw
Sam and Mary Lou
Supernaw

Arline Grace Allen
Barbara M. Maise

Brian E. Nixon
Karen and David Hill

Brice Voran
Lee and Anne Davis

Catherine Bright
Jack and Tay Howell

Darryl Pfister
Karen and David Hill

David Sagante
Brad and Sherry Gerlach
Dave and Donnah
Milefchik
Diana Carr
Joann and Brian Royce
Libby and Randy Walker
Mike and Heidi Coburn
Mrs. Sue Pittsley
Ms. Barbara Pretty
Roman Cycling
Sarah Wassenaar
and Rich Frutiger
The Walden Family

Donald Leyrer
Chicago Title of Michigan
Linda and Bill Hartford
Ryde Marine, Inc.
Solomon and
Deborah Smith
The Trokhan Family

Dr. David Armour
Matthew and
Anneke Myers

Elizabeth Dickinson
Ms. Amy Dickinson

Emily Wells Slutz
Mr. and Mrs. Robert
R. Flanagan

Fred Clinton
Mary Clinton
The Biebuyck Family

Heinz Vaterlaus
Terry and Lyndi Balven

Jane Baker
The TPC Sisters

John Demmer
By and Laura West

John and Agnes Parlin
Marget O'Malley

John Gibson
Karen and David Hill

Judith Gettel
Menonaqua Beach
Cottage Owners
Association

Julia Barnes
Amy and Michael Hollo

Anna P. Nichols
Bettie S. Johnson
John and Margaret
McKinney
Lisa and Chris Imbs
Mr. and Mrs. Allen
W. Whittemore
Mr. and Mrs.
Charles Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Donald
H. Streett
Mr. and Mrs. James
H. Everest
Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon
B. Wallace III
Mr. and Mrs. Peter
G. Schiff

Mr. Clarence C. Barksdale
Mr. Nathaniel Ewing
Mrs. Carol C. Bitting
Mrs. Donald M. Lambert
Mrs. Janell Everest
Mrs. Joseph F. Imbs, II
Mrs. Walter L. Ross, II
Mrs. William K.
Howenstein
Ms. Diane Curtis
Ms. Elizabeth Terry
Ms. Kate C. Stockham
Ms. Letah H. Carruthers
Phillip and Lizz
Chamberlain
Sally and Bill Soter
Sarah and Dan Kay
Sissy and Ted Thomas
Stockham Family
Foundation

Suzie and Neil Brown

Jutta Letts
Chip and Kathleen Letts
David and Genny Letts

**Katherine 'Kay'
Bemis Piper**
Devin, Katy and
Lennan Wells
Judy McLachlin
Kathleen Geary
Kathy Hrabak
Linda Kramer
Lora Spizzirri
Lori Bishop Hall
Lori Haughey
Mrs. Adele B. Dilschneider
Pamela McHugh
Traci Laughlin

Katie Kieren
Thom Greene and
Nadeen Kieren

Katie Morrison
Alex Taylor

Keith Bassett
Ms. Jean Bassett

Lili Mae Ball
Dave Kring

Maria Blackwell
Dave Kring

Mary Fisher
Stockham Family
Foundation

Maxwell Carter Risinger
Jacob and Memory
Risinger

Nathan D. Beem
Dan, Heather and
Kristin Beem
Dayton Children's
Radiology Department
Friends of Nathan,
Arm Band Sales
Friends of Vic Village
Mrs. Shirley Beem

**Peggy Thornton
Novitski**
Barbara Branowitz
Ed and Beth Leuck

Ralph E. Kandt
Jean Kandt Hawkins

Richard Brandewie
Anonymous
Donna Neiley
Harley E. Riedel
Mrs. Kalyn Brandewie
Rich and Beth

Brandewie Weber

Rick Jorgensen
Mike and Nancy Foster

Robert L. McMurtrie
Jackie McMurtrie

Sarah Sloneker Marcum
Mr. and Mrs. W.
Anthony Huffman

Stanley R. Dickinson
John and Laura Dickinson

Stephen Jeffrey
Anne and Baynard
Paschall
Jack and Tucker Harris
James Garland and
Carol Andreae
Lorrie Clark
Mrs. Peter Mykrantz
Rocky Fork Ramblers
of Columbus, Ohio
Roger and Sue
Malloure Whitaker
The Jeffrey Company

**Sylvia B. and Heinz
Vaterlaus**
Mr. Thomas H. Horner

William Stuart
Barbara J. Arnold

IN HONOR OF

Alexander Taylor
Evening Star Joinery

Cedric Richner
Joe Biedermann

Chase Offield
Evening Star Joinery

Chris Snyder
Nick and Betsy White

Craig Sincok
Evening Star Joinery

Dan Wilcox
Christine Carpenter

Donald McCarty
Evening Star Joinery

Dr. and Mrs. John Hall
Dr. Ruth Marie Allen

Forest and Holly Driggs
Nick and Betsy White

**Forrest and Linnea
Schoen**
Andrea and James
VanderMolen

James Fabiano
Evening Star Joinery

James Offield
Evening Star Joinery

John Griswold
Evening Star Joinery

John and Sandy Baker
Mr. and Mrs. David Culver

**Josette Lory and
John McLeod**
Nikkie West

Kate and Marin Gaja
Randel Richner and
Eric Russell

Kathleen Marsh
Jill L. Porter and
Robert J. Marsh

Lisa and Ric Loyd
Pokey and Tony Huffman

Lloyd and Rick Ricci
Ada Hall

Michael Cameron
Evening Star Joinery

**Mr. and Mrs. Charles
E. Letts, Jr.**
David and Genny Letts

**Mr. and Mrs.
Martin E. Letts**
David and Genny Letts

Nick Liebler
Evening Star Joinery

Paul and Jane Stewart
Nick and Betsy White

Paul Nowak
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan
Friendly

Richard Hanna
Nick and Betsy White

Tracy Ward
Eric and Ann Fernkas

W. Gray Fischer
Ted and Tracy Alberta

Walter Pfander
Evening Star Joinery

The Legacy of Protecting the North Country We Love

Land conservation work IS legacy work, enduring far beyond our own lifetimes. If this work speaks to you, consider making a bequest through a will or trust. You can provide a specific dollar amount, a percentage of a residual amount, real estate, or tangible property to the Conservancy. A bequest to the Conservancy demonstrates a profound commitment to our mission and permanence. There are many ways to give to the Conservancy through planned giving, with one that is just right for you. For more information or to share that you have included the Conservancy in your estate planning please contact Ty Ratliff, Associate Director, at 231.344.1005 or tyratliff@landtrust.org. (photo to right by Carl TerHaar)





Thank You & Welcome New & Gift Members

The following individuals, families, and
businesses joined the Little Traverse
Conservancy between November
12, 2018-February 25, 2019.

Cory and Cynthia Allen
Dan and Kate Allore
Dan and Mary Pat Armistead
Mr. Wayne Avis
Mrs. Sally Bales
Lucas and Michele Ball
Lois Ballard
Thom and Marianne Barry
Mr. Drew Bartlett
Amy Beck and Gary Wieczorek
Michael Behrmann
The Bells
Neils Family
Heike and Steve Berghausen
Mr. David Betts
Bonnie Bigelow and Jay
Wenchell
Virginia Billings
Nora Blazie
Mrs. Ann Blue
Debra Borchert and Kenneth
Styburski
James and Wendy Boyd
Tracy Brines
Matthew and Betsy Britton
Tom and Sandra Brogger
Matt and Jayne Bugera
Rex Burns
Scott and Michelle Cain
Paul P. Caswell
Ms. Audrey Cavner
Dennis Cawthorne
Ryan and Sara Charles
Kara and Peter Cockfield
Craig Cole
Frank and Jody Comstock
Arnold and Toni Cone
Tom and Beth Cooper
Phil and Kara Copeland
John E. and Brit Courtney
John Cowing and Marilyn Early
Mary Cummings
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery S. Curth
Gary and Jan Dabkowski
Jim Dearing and Sam Larson
John and Nancy Dick
Nathan Diller
Steve and Judy Dobson
Cynthia Donahey and Art
Schoolmaster
Ben and Liz Doornbos
Nicole and Andrew Doud
Mr. John Douglass
Ms. Carmelita Doyle
Mark and Diane Drane
Roger L. Drinkall
Jason and Anna Dunn
Jacqui Durand
James Edelman
Heather and Marty Engel
Martin Ensman

Karl Eppler and Lynn Tryban
Heather A. Esterline
Mark Eyster and Lynda Rossi
Ms. Mary H. Faculak
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Farner
Ben and Molly Fettig
Susan Fezzey
Mr. David Finley
Rick Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. James Flom
Mr. Michael Forster
Ron and Jan Fowler
Jim and Kaye Frang
Stefany Lester Freeman
Mr. and Mrs. Frentz
Mark Fuhrer
Ms. Garbe
Armando and Jill Gonzales-Perez
Virginia Goodrich
Alan and Amy Hackman
Jeff and Cindy Hall
Ted Halsted
Mr. Hansen and Ms. Staats
Todd and Shirley Harburn
Tracy and John Gravin
Mike and Jacque Harrington
Robert M. J. Hathaway
Ms. Jill Haungs
Mr. and Mrs. Heller
Betsy and Joe Hemming
Matt and Kara Henning
Molly and Scott Szpunar
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Hoffman
Melissa Hogleund
Les and Chris Holman
Paul Horowitz and Ruth Jaffe
Reed and Sally Howlett
Bruce and Carol Hubble
Lindsey and Patrick Huey
Ms. Sue Hutchinson
Timothy and Kay Ismond
Dr. Mary Ivey and family
Susan C. Janis
Noah and Joh Jansen
Deanna Jaroche
Ted and Carol Jastal
Collin Jenks
DJ and Patricia Jones
Robin Jordan and Larry Liebler
Rocky and Melissa Karr
Wendie and Brad Keen
Annie Kendra
Caroline Keson
Susan and Michael Kielb
Stacey Kinney
Peter and Helga Kleinschmidt
Ms. Terri Klochko
Gail and Preston Kloss
Janet Koontz
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kopernik
Frank and Carole Lamberti

Joseph and Susan Leach
Patti Lease and Pete Souza
Bryan and Belinda Leavitt
Robert and Janet Lee
Alan T. Leonard
The Lewis Family
Nick Liebler
Mrs. George Light, Jr.
Mark and Becky Lipchik
Jeffrey and Susan Long
Basil and Carolyn Long
Steve and Kristin Lozon
Taylor Lutz
Robert Lyon
Sarah and Jamie MacLean
Blake Michael Matatall
Gary A. Maximiuk
Laurie Mayhew and Morgan
Coyne
Don and Robin McCarty
Lois McClaughry
Ms. Kathy McDowell
Sheri McGuffin
Gregory and Tina McPherson
Gayle and Mike McPhilamy
Mr. Austin McPhilamy
Cindy McSurely and Patrick
Faylor
Lori and Gene McSweeney
Mr. and Mrs. John Meeker
Wayne and Priscilla Meyer
Emerson and Juliet Meyer
Scott and Jodi Miller
James Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Moore
Kathleen M. Hirrel
Moskal Family
Tom Mountz
Mr. John T. Murphy
Julie Nathe
Michael and Tawna Naturkas
George and Susie Neal
Carin Nielsen and James
Mattson
Matt and Jessilyn Norcross
Kelsey Lee Offield
Fred and Cheryl Olive
Gary and Ann Krook
Paul and Christine Oster
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Hannah T. Paschall
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Michael and Suzanne Shumway
Sarah Sloan
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Denise Smith and Bruce
Seyburn
Cheyenne and Danielle Smith
Jeff and Heather Smith
Ms. Mary Smith
Mike and Jessica Spencer
Laura M. Standen
Ms. Robin Stanley
Lindsay and Stephen Steffes
Dr. Jane Stieber
Michelle and Jep Street
Steve and Pam Surhigh
Mark and Tammy Switow
Rodney Tabaczynski
Elizabeth Taggart
Roger and Cheryl Tallman
Randy and Sherri Tarzwell
Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Thomas,
Jr.
Fred and Karen Troup
Katherine Twichel
Mary Tyson and Noel Bufe
Ben and Erika Van Dam
Nicole Viterbo
Karen and David Volz
Becky Wadleigh and Stephen
Struwve
Ed Wagar and Marci Singer
Joseph and Cheryl Wald
Lindsey Walker
Sarah and Zach Ward
Paul and Joanna Ware
Matt Wawro
Chad and Lisa Wells
David and Beth White
Hans Wiemer
Sally Wilson
Michael and Lisa Winks
Mary B Wojcik
Sally P. Wright
Mr. Jim Ziegler
Mr. Dave Ziegler
Mr. Mike Ziegler
Greg and Carolyn Zimmerman



2019 Spring Events

These events are offered at no charge, but pre-registration is required by calling 231.347.0991 or online at www.landtrust.org.

THE AMERICAN KESTREL: BIRDS IN PERIL

Thursday, March 28 5-6 pm
Petoskey District Library
 LTC preserves and other protected properties are home to 77 Kestrel nesting boxes which are monitored by volunteers from March to September. Learn how you can help this beautiful bird make a comeback. If you are an existing Kestrel monitor, join us to reconnect with your fellow volunteers. Optional dinner out after the presentation.

BECOMING A BIODIVERSITY EXPLORER: AN INTRODUCTION AND GUIDE TO INATURALIST.ORG

Saturday, April 6 10:30-11:30am
Petoskey District Library (Downstairs meeting room)
 LTC Director of Stewardship Derek Shiels will show us why iNaturalist has become the premiere source for exploring nature and collecting data. Learn how to make observations, navigate the website, and use the app if you have a smartphone (not required). Current iNaturalist user are asked to come share. *You are encouraged to bring your laptop and cell phone if that is an option for you.*

ANIMAL SIGNS

Thursday, April 18 3:30pm/Petoskey District Library; carpool after to Round Lake Preserve
 Join Conservancy naturalist Samantha Baker as we put our detective caps on to solve mysteries and learn how to read animal signs. We will share stories and make a fun animal-themed craft. An optional field trip to Round Lake Nature Preserve will occur afterwards so we can discover animal signs outside! Any questions, please call Petoskey District Library at

231.758.3123.

EARTH DAY TREE PLANTING

Saturday, April 20 10 am-2 pm
Consuelo Diane & Charles L. Wilson Jr. Working Forest Reserve, Harbor Springs
 Bring your family and friends and let's see if we can plant 1,000 trees to accompany those planted last spring.

SKY DANCING! SPRING RITUAL OF THE AMERICAN WOODCOCK

Friday, May 3 7:30 pm/Meet at LTC office; carpool to Hailand Helstrom Family Preserve Complex
 Join members of the Ruffed Grouse Society, Al Stewart, MI DNR's Upland Game Bird Specialist, and LTC Executive Director Kieran Fleming for a presentation and evening stroll to learn about and observe the spring mating display of the American Woodcock. Al will share his extensive knowledge about this fascinating bird. Afterwards, we will go to the nature preserve complex to listen for the birds.

FAMILY BIRDING PROGRAM

Saturday, May 4 9:30-11 am
Consuelo Diane & Charles L. Wilson Jr. Working Forest Reserve, Harbor Springs
 Join LTC volunteer and avid birder Mary Trout for a nature walk at this dynamic 245-acre Reserve. A variety of habitats lure a diversity of bird species to this property. Last year we observed Bobolinks, Grasshopper Sparrow, Eastern Bluebird, Scarlet Tanager many warblers, and more. Easy to moderate trails. Bring your own binoculars if you have them.

MIGRATION MYSTERIES

Saturday, May 11 10 am
Charlevoix Public Library; carpool to Susan Creek Nature Preserve

We will first meet at the library to learn what bird migration and the international space station have in common. Next we will carpool to a guided bird hike at the preserve with LTC naturalist Samantha Baker. *Please register with the Charlevoix Public Library at 231.237.7350.*

CITIZEN SCIENCE TRAINING: VERNAL POOL WETLAND MONITORING

Saturday May 11 9am-noon
Talcott Event Center Walloon Lake Village
 A half-day training on how to monitor vernal pools led by educator and herpetologist Yu Man Lee from Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI), and Walloon Lake Trust and Conservancy. For more information or to register (required) please email heather@walloon.org or call 231.535.6112.

WOMEN IN THE WILD SERIES PART II: MOUNTAIN BIKING

Thursday, May 16 5:30-6:30 pm/Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve, Good Hart
 Let's get a move on! Get out your wheels and join us for a fun way to see the trails and spring wildflowers greening up the forests. This trail is suitable for beginners and advanced riders alike. Bring your own bike and helmet or rent from one of the local bike shops. Meet at the Robinson Road parking.

CRITTER CATCHERS

Saturday, May 18 10-11am/Round Lake Nature Preserve/Harbor Springs
 Are you a critter catcher? Get ready to take a peek under logs and turn over leaves to uncover some amazing critters. We will take a closer look at the world of insects and decomposers to discover their unique

adaptations and the places they call home.

SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK

Sunday, May 19 1-3 pm/Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve, Church Road Entrance
 Take a hike through a rich, northern hardwood forest in search of spring ephemeral wildflowers. The trilliums won't disappoint! Meet at the Church Road parking area.

BEAVER ISLAND BIRDING TRAIL FESTIVAL—Warblers on the Water

May 24-26, 2019
www.beaverislandbirdingtrail.org.

WALDRON FEN BIRD WALK WITH KENYON STEBBIN

Saturday, May 25 8:30-10:30 (rain date MAY 26)
 Former Petoskey Audubon president Kenyon Stebbins, will host this leisurely walk. Meet at the parking lot off of the north-south section of Banwell Rd. along the east edge of the preserve. for the weather. Optional brunch in Alanson after. For details visit: www.sunsetcoastbirdingtrail.org or contact Kenyon at 231.838.3289.

5TH ANNUAL ALDO LEOPOLD FESTIVAL, MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2019

www.aldoleopoldfestival.com

TRAIL BUILDING WORK BEE

Friday, June 7 9:30am-3:30pm
Duncan Bay Nature Preserve, Cheboygan
 Join us in making this community nature preserve accessible to hikers, bikers, birdwatchers, and nature lovers. With your help we will continue building the trail and boardwalk to Lake Huron. Bring work gloves, sturdy footwear, and your lunch and we will bring the tools,

The LTC Team

The individuals, families, businesses, and foundations who are current members.

The 383 volunteers who donate thousands of hours.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marta Olson, *Chair*

Joe Kimmell, *Vice Chair*

Ian R.N. Bund, *Treasurer*

Maureen Nicholson, *Secretary*

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Jim Bartlett	Lisa Loyd
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Eric Hemenway	Cedric A. (Rick)
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Nancy Lindsay	Susan I. Stewart

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Mary Faculak, *Land Protection*

John Baker, *Stewardship*

Dale Lewis, *Education*

Marta Olson, *Nominating*

Ian Bund, *Investment*

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Emily Hughes, *Membership Coordinator*

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LAND PROTECTION

Caitlin Donnelly, *Director*

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Sarah Mayhew, *Director*

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STEWARDSHIP

Derek Shiels, *Director*

Melissa Hansen, *CE Stewardship Coordinator*

Charles Dawley, *Technology & Stewardship*

Mike Lynch, *Preserve Stewardship*

Thank You

Ethan Jacobs for helping out with miscellaneous stewardship tasks.

John Baker and Richard Jenkins for trail clearing and building office shelving.

Mike Tiedeck for donating a trail tool to our stewardship staff.

Joe Clark for helping out with miscellaneous preserve tasks and photographing nature preserves.

Volunteer trail groomers: **John Griffin, Dan Mann, Randy and Sherri Tarzwell, and Todd Wright.**

Glen Matthews for forestry consulting and being a generous resource for ecological knowledge.

Preserve parking area volunteer plower **Tim DeWick.**

Mary Trout for leading winter After School Birding Program at Sheridan Elementary School.

Eric Hemenway for leading a winter hike at Allan and Virginia McCune Nature Preserve.

Greenwood Foundation for hosting another wonderful snowshoe and cross-country ski outing.

Katie Brines for teaching field trip participants how to make wreaths.

Abigail Hackman for help writing a grant proposal.

A special thank you to our **Land Stewards** who work throughout the year to ensure you have an enjoyable hike and that our trails and properties are in good shape.

Thank you to **Straits Area Amateur Radio Club** for a kind donation of cooking utensils and funding for the Andreae Cabin, and for cleaning and reorganizing the kitchen!

Mary Jane Clayton for trail camera data management.

Carl TerHaar, Ray Gaynor, and Paul Rossi for sharing their photographic talents with us.

Nick Karay, Michaleen Karay, Carolyn Snead, Sally Bales and Gretchen Brown for helping with a winter mailing.

Jib Liska and My Sister's Bake Shop for donating baked goods for our volunteers.

Lisa Loyd for producing beautiful LTC calendars and donating the proceeds.

By the Numbers

How Many?

As of February, 2019, Little Traverse Conservancy owns **228** management units, **21** working forest reserves, and upholds conservation easements on **265** private properties.

Costs Associated with Acquiring a Land or Conservation Easement*

\$5,200-\$11,200 to acquire a land or conservation easement.

*Excludes purchase price. This includes title work/closing papers, survey, appraisal, environmental screening and legal fees.

Average Annual Stewardship Costs per Project, per Year

\$361 to protect a conservation easement.
\$1,491 to protect a Nature Preserve.

LTC Explorer - App Updates!

Since its launch in 2013, and almost 3,000 downloads later, our smartphone app, "LTC Explorer," has received some new and improved updates, featured below.

The app is essentially an interactive, pocket-sized, digital version of our preserve map or guide, plus more! Along with providing detailed information on trails in the surrounding area, it also doubles as a social networking platform where users are invited to post comments and pictures when they visit a trail. Whether you already frequent several of our lands or are looking for new places to explore, we hope you'll tell us more about it on the app. LTC Explorer is available (for free!) on both Google Play and the Apple App Store. Simply search "LTC Explorer" and download.

GPS locator finds a trail near you. Use the Google Maps link for directions there!

Search by category feature allows you to find a trail fit for your favorite outdoor activity like biking, fishing or skiing!



Check in at a trail! Share photos and comments and see what others are up to!

Sign up to volunteer with us by filling out a short form here!

Tell us about trail maintenance needs and more by filling out the "Report Trail Conditions" form.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY June 1, 2019



Little Traverse Conservancy
3264 Powell Road
Harbor Springs, MI 49740
www.landtrust.org

Address Service Requested

We invite you to get outside on an LTC nature preserve or reserve on this national day of celebrating wonderful and wild places. Tell us about your adventure by posting a photo on our app, LTC Explorer, or tag us in a photo on Facebook or Instagram! **Prize awarded to best photo submitted!**

110 MILES

OF TRAILS ON 60 LTC PRESERVES



Through the seasons... **POWERED BY YOU**

How do we protect more than 43,000 acres of land and nearly 110 miles of trails? Volunteers! From clearing trails to monitoring vernal pools, we are so grateful for our hard working volunteers.

You could be one too! Contact Cacia Lesh at cacia@landtrust.org or 231.347.0991 to find out how to lend a hand.

