

# A 100-Year Vision

## Strategic Planning for Lasting Conservation

### You can be part of a 100-Year Vision for local conservation - and leave a lasting legacy to the future

Many people don't realize that more than half the land in our community - more than 250,000 acres of land - remains undeveloped and unprotected.

The story is not yet written for this land. By protecting the most important lands for the future, we can leave a legacy that will last for 100 years and more.

### The Conservancy's 100-Year Vision: Protecting food, water, and nature

At the Legacy Land Conservancy, we've created an aggressive campaign to protect 10% of the most important farm and natural lands in Washtenaw, Jackson, and Ingham counties.

This would create a protected arc reaching from the **Waterloo/Pinckney natural corridor** southward to the Sharonville Game Area and extending along the **Huron, Raisin and Saline Rivers**, with communities of **working farms** nestled within that extended arc.

Our goal is to keep the most important lands unchanged for future generations.

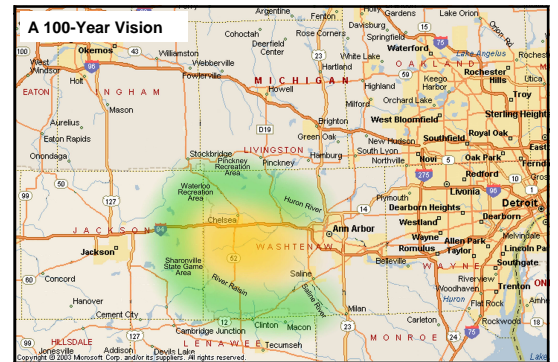


### A strategic plan for lasting conservation

We plan to achieve this goal by working with the state and local governments, conservation partners, and of course those closest to the land, the people.

A bold vision? Yes! Attainable? Yes — **but not without your help.**

In the coming years it will be critical that all local citizens who love this community participate in this great plan. **You can act today to protect what you hold dear.** By joining and contributing to the Conservancy, you will make a difference that will last, here where you live. ♦



***The land is forever... The opportunity is now.***

## The Opportunity

The land will be here forever, but what will its history reflect? In 100 years, how will our grandchildren and great-grandchildren view the work of our generation? Will they see our commitment -- yours and mine -- to this special place?



## Did you know?

- **More than half** the land in our community—more than 250,000 acres of land— is **still undeveloped**
- More than 200,000 acres of land are **still being actively farmed today**, for **local food** and other crops
- The Washtenaw & Jackson areas are home to several **federally endangered species**
- Our local rivers and aquifers **provide drinking water** to more than 508,000 people
- This region is home to important natural ecosystems, including **globally rare habitats**
- The lands that surround us dramatically impact our **water quality, air quality, public health, and local quality of life**

## A 100-Year Vision

The Conservancy's conservation priorities include:

- ★ **Nature:** Filling in the gaps in and around the **Waterloo-Pinckney arc**, the largest block of public protected land in lower Michigan, increasingly at risk of development and fragmentation
- ★ **Food:** Conserving **working farms** and rural landscapes, an important part of our local heritage, our sense of place, and our economy
- ★ **Water:** Protecting the local **river corridors** along the Huron, Saline, and Raisin rivers, invaluable sources of drinking water, natural habitat, and recreation opportunities.

## The Legacy Land Conservancy: A History of Success

Michigan's oldest local land trust, the Legacy Land Conservancy (the new name of the Washtenaw Land Trust) was established in 1971. Its mission is to protect forests, fields, wetlands, and rivers, here where you live—for today and forever. It has protected more than 4,000 acres of natural areas and farms in south Michigan: Washtenaw, Jackson, and Ingham counties. The Conservancy has a history of private land protection, capable staff, and long-term stewardship. Please join us in protecting the lands that make this community a great place to live!



## You can help!

- ~Sign up for our monthly conservation e-newsletter
- ~Become a member of the Conservancy
- ~Volunteer
- ~Protect your land with the Conservancy
- ~Consider the Conservancy in your planned giving or estate plans
- ~Support the Conservancy's *Forever Fund* for lasting conservation
- ~Tell others about the importance of protecting forests, fields, wetlands, and rivers

**Protecting nature and farmland, here where you live.**