2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting Farmland and Natural Areas, Here Where You Live



The River Raisin meanders through a property protected in 2005 by a conservation agreement donated to the Washtenaw Land Trust (story on page 4.)

ou've helped the Land Trust to another great year. High on the list of successes we're celebrating are five newly completed conservation projects:

- 21 acres of natural area along the River Raisin in Washtenaw and Jackson counties; agreement donated by Annette van der Schalie
- 25 acres of farmland and woodland in Scio Township; agreement donated by a landowner who prefers to remain anonymous
- 22 acres of farmland and woodland in Northfield Township; two agreements donated by Sue Shink and Tom Hatch
- 52 acres purchased for the Waterloo Recreation Area by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, because of our efforts

Thanks! We all owe a debt of gratitude to these landowners for this commitment to preserve their land – and to YOU for making it possible. The Land Trust now protects over 2,000 acres, throughout your community.

Other Highlights for 2005:

- Our new Executive Director, Susan Lackey. The Land Trust welcomed her in April, and she has definitely hit the ground running!
- Expanded partnerships with other conservation organizations (story on page 3).
- Improvements to our organization. We established an externally-managed endowment to

provide financial reserves for future stewardship, began a Strategic Plan to carry us through the next 5-10 years, began policy review to prepare for national accreditation, and received another clean financial audit. (Copies are available - just ask.)

- Our 3rd federal farmland protection grant. This grant of \$215,000 will protect 43 acres in York Township. These challenge grants make your contributions go much farther to protect strategically chosen local farms.
- Land protection challenge grants. We were awarded a W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant of \$25,000, and a Carls Foundation matching grant of \$25,000. Contribute now and triple your dollars!
- A series of informative and fun events. The Land Trust hosted workshops, member receptions, stewardship workdays, and a farm preservation tour praised as "very impressive and enjoyable...very informative!" (Why, thank you!)
- Meeting our fund-raising challenges. Protecting land takes money, so fund-raising successes are land protection successes, too! The big ones in 2005: Completing the Community Farm project, a unique partnership to protect a cherished community asset, and meeting the challenge grant goal of \$75,000 to protect the Vershum dairy farm in Bridgewater Township.

The Land Trust accomplishes these things only with your support. Thank you.

Looking ahead to 2006

The Land Trust's plans for 2006 include:

• Sustainability.

Conservation organizations like the Land Trust need systems and processes to ensure that our work will stand the test of time. Our goal is to be one of the first land trusts accredited under the Land Trust Alliance's new guidelines.

• Land Protection.

- In natural areas, we will intensify our efforts to contact owners of priority parcels around the Waterloo and Pinckney Recreation Areas, to add acres to already protected lands in that special region. We'll also host stewardship workdays at the Land Trust nature preserves (see calendar page 6.)
- In farmland, we will leverage matching grants to protect strategic farm properties such as the Rogers farm in Saline. Protecting this farm will create a block of conserved working farms totaling over 400 acres.

• Education.

One of our efforts will be to host an all-new seminar about land protection options for landowners. Watch for announcements of this workshop, designed specifically for local community landowners, maybe like you!

• ... and more!

Thank you for supporting this work. You are making a difference!



WLT Executive Director



This edition of the Journal includes our 2005 Annual Report. This is the first time we've done a formal Annual Report, and we're pleased to be able to tell you that 'the state of the Land Trust is good.'

We continue to face the challenges inherent in ensuring that we leave a legacy of protected lands to future generations. With your support, we are meeting those challenges, and will continue to do so in the future.

In a way, this marks another kind of 'annual report' - the end of my first year as executive director. Just as you can't know a piece of land until you've seen it for at least one full cycle of the seasons, so, too, do you need a year to begin to understand a new job. The lessons I've learned in this year are powerful ones:

- The people of our community are deeply connected to their land. The generosity of families who have stewarded their land for years and even generations is fantastic. So is their belief that this land legacy should continue.
- Our community is committed to protecting our land. Voters have taxed themselves. Cashstrapped communities extend themselves to plan for agricultural preservation, and defend those plans in court. And you, as individuals, commit your charitable giving to the Washtenaw Land Trust, to ensure that private efforts for land protection can continue.
- Our land is special. I knew this, of course, but over the past year, I have been privileged to see it in a new way. When a day's work takes you from the banks of the Huron to the headwaters of the Raisin and everywhere in between, the diversity of our landscape becomes newly evident.

In the coming year, we're going to work harder than ever to ensure a sustainable Washtenaw Land Trust, and advance our mission. As they say - 'watch this space' for more successes as we 'protect our land and preserve our legacy.'

Notes From The Land

Senate Bill to expand conservation incentives

Good news: Conservation incentives for private land preservation will live to see another day. Incentives were not slashed, as had been feared. In fact, the US Senate tax bill passed last November would expand conservation incentives. The Land Trust has encouraged local Representatives in the House to support similar incentives. We urge you to talk to your Congressperson too!

Connecting the open space dots

The Washtenaw Metro Alliance (WMA) has published its draft plan to coordinate and connect a parks and open space system (wma.ewashtenaw.org). WMA members include the cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, the townships of Ann Arbor, Pittsfield, Scio, Superior, and Ypsilanti, and Washtenaw County. The Land Trust is a project partner in this communitywide effort.

Your 2006 Land Trust leadership

Please join us in welcoming new board members Janet Crone, Guy Williams, James C. Adams, and Robert Tetens. And, stepping into new roles, the 2006 officers for the Land Trust are Robert W. Marans. President; Phil Surratt, Vice President; Janet Crone, Treasurer; and James W. Govert, Secretary.

*You can find bios of these (and all!) board members on our website, www.washtenawlandtrust.org.

Thank you to board members whose terms ended in 2005: Aznavorian, Jean Connell, Jim Crowfoot, Karl Frankena, Bob Gilbert, and Bill Martin. Their long and dedicated service to the Land Trust has improved the community for all of us and for the future.

'Forests Forever' in Jackson County and beyond

The Land Trust and Michigan State University Extension for Jackson County co-sponsored "Forests Forever," a workshop on ways landowners can plan for the future of

*Want to know how you can protect the land you love? Contact us at 734-302-5263(LAND) or info@washtenawlandtrust.org.

Pittsfield Preserved - Again

Pittsfield Township can add another feather to its land protection cap. The township won a \$255,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture Farmland Preservation Fund. This grant will protect 142 acres of farmland. The Land Trust helped coordinate local applications for these state-wide competitive grants. Special kudos to Terry Brinkman, Jan BenDor, and Barry Lonik for their work in Pittsfield.



Washtenaw Land Trust

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info@washtenawlandtrust.org, www.washtenawlandtrust.org

Washtenaw Land Trust Board of Trustees: James C. Adams, Gavin Clabaugh, Janet Crone, Peter H. DeLoof, Suzanne L. DeVine, James W. Govert, Robert R. Helber, Robert W. Marans, Maureen S. Martin, Cedric A. Richner III, Theresa Schenk, Charity W. Steere, Phil Surratt, Robert Tetens, Dianne E. Wells, Guy Williams

Washtenaw Land Trust Staff: Susan A. Lackey, Janaé Reneaud, Suzie Heiney Editor: Suzie Heiney

Contributors: Suzie Heiney, Susan Lackey, Barry Lonik, Bob Marans, Catherine Marquardt

LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

a member of Earth Share

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Ending the Acronym Soup

Conservation groups join forces to spell "Information here!"

APP, PDR, WLT, TDR, TNC -Is your head spinning yet? Imagine that you're a landowner who wants to protect your land. Would you like to understand the available options without dealing with dozens of acronyms for many disconnected programs? Well, good news is here!

The Land Trust is playing a lead role in increasing cooperation amongst the many local land preservation programs.

"The goals of this effort are two-fold," explains Susan Lackey, Land Trust director. "First, we'll be able to provide better, more complete information to landowners about local preservation programs - and their similarities and differences.

"Second, it creates a forum where conservation groups can easily share opportunities to work together on projects. Everyone's conservation investments can go even further."

The informal alliance of conservation groups includes local land conservancies such as the Nature Conservancy, Raisin Valley Land Trust, and Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, as well as the funded preservation programs, such as Ann

conservation?

Records for organizing a fun and

tales, and tunes for the Land Trust

benefit concert include:

Webster Township, Greenbelt program.

"Before, landowners were forced to complete and sign separate applica-

> program, even though the forms asked for essentially the same information. And the municipalities were not authorized to share applicant information, even when there might be a better fit with a different program.

"Now, each municipality is updating their forms to give landowners the option to have their information shared with other conservation groups who could help protect their land.

"It's just a simple checkbox, but it will be a big improvement in helping landowners find the best program to preserve their land."

Stay tuned; there's more cooperation to come!

Arbor Township, Scio Township, Washtenaw County, and the City of Ann Arbor's

tions for each municipality's

Jo Serrapere performs a swinging original tune at "All On A Michigan Night," a benefit concert for the Land Trust.

Here's even better news. The group has already made a tangible impact. Tom Freeman, the Washtenaw County Parks staff-person responsible for the county's Natural Areas Preservation Program, explains:

Across the Board By Robert W. Marans

WLT Board President



ate last year, I was honored by being elected President of the Washtenaw Land Trust - followling in the footsteps of Theresa Schenk, Tom O'Brien and Tom Bloomer. Each provided strong leadership during the organization's growth and matura-

As I reflect on the organization's accomplishments during the eight years I've served on the board, I also realize how fortunate it is to live in Washtenaw and a tranquil rural landscape with lots of farms and land devoted to parks. Several non-profit organizations working together with local and county governmental units are striving to maintain our quality of life in the face of growing development pressures. The Washtenaw Land Trust is one of those organizations.

Since its inception, the Land Trust has been responsible for preserving roughly 2,000 acres of farmland and natural areas in Washtenaw County. Additionally, the county through its Natural Areas Preservation Program administered by the Parks and Recreation Commission has acquired more than 700 acres of prime undeveloped land containing woodlots, wetlands, and open lands suitable for leisurely walks, fishing, and birding. The acquisition of county-owned and administered natural areas comes from our tax dollars. Furthermore, the 2003 passage of the Open Space and Parkland Preservation millage by Ann Arbor voters and similar initiatives in Scio, Ann Arbor, and Webster Townships promise to further preserve more working farms and other open lands surrounding the city. Grants, donations, and membership fees, augmented by a host of volunteers, have supported Washtenaw Land Trust's non-profit preservation

In a 2001 UM survey of residents in the seven southeast Michigan counties, Washtenaw County residents expressed great concern about the diminishing open areas in the county and the loss of wildlife habitat. In fact, more than half said they would be willing to increase their tax bill if the monies went to farmland preservation while nearly half said they would pay more in taxes for additional parkland. These expressions of concern and willingness to act have resulted in the passage of land preservation millages and an increase in membership in the Washtenaw Land Trust.

Your continuing support of the Land Trust enables the organization to coordinate our work with others in preserving land throughout the county.

We do this in order to maintain the unique qualities that make Washtenaw County a desirable place to live for ourselves and for future generations.

Dr. Marans is a research professor at the UM Institute for Urban Planning. In addition to serving as President of the Washtenaw Land Trust, he is also a charter member of the board member of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA), and Board chair of the Michigan Land Use Institute.

What is the sound of successful land

talent, it's somewhere between swing, folk, and rock

Thank you to Eric Kelly and Embassy Hotel

The talented artists who donated their time,

fantastic concert for this year's "All On A Michigan

Night! The third-annual Michigan Songwriter's

Steve Amick, Dan Orcutt, Paul's Big Radio, Jeff

Move aside, chickadees and robins: According to the local

Protecting Our Land, Preserving Our Legacy

River Raisin headwaters protected through a conservation agreement

Story by Catherine Marquardt

n December 2005 landowner Annette van der Schalie protected twenty-nine Lacres of land along the River Raisin by the donation of a conservation agreement.

"I am so happy that it's going to be in your hands," said Mrs. van der Schalie at the closing with the Land Trust.

"I'm honored to be able to help Mrs. van der Schalie preserve the features of the land that she loves," said Susan Lackey, director of the Land Trust.

"The property's River Raisin frontage and its proximity to other protected land -- Washtenaw County parks, Sharonville State Game Area, and The Nature Conservancy's Nan Weston Preserve-- make this a very special project."

Long-time Ann Arbor residents Annette van der Schalie and her husband, Professor Henry van der Schalie (now deceased), moved to the riverfront property in 1976 when he retired as Professor of Zoology in the Mollusk Division at the University of Michigan.

The van der Schalies had traveled and lived around the world during Dr. van der Schalie's tenure as a professor, but both of them loved the land they found just outside Manchester. "Once you've lived away

from Michigan for awhile, you really miss the seasons," said Mrs. van der Schalie, reflect-

ing on her days of travel.

The van der Schalies came to know their land very well. With her M.S. in Botany, Mrs. van der Schalie enjoyed identifying every plant on the property. Even after many years, she still glows when talking about the plants that grow there.

Michigan Natural Features Inventory also recognize the significance of the property's habitat. They conducted a Riparian Biodiversity Study there in 2000. Along the stretch of the River Raisin that



runs through the van der Schalie property, they found 10 types of mollusks, 83 aquatic

land's natural features for all time.

invertebrates, and 108 plant species.

The van der Schalie family highly values the diversity found on their land.

"It's a relief to know it's protected in the right way," Mrs. van der Schalie expressed, smiling.

Catherine Marquardt is a naturalist with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation. Working with Mrs. van der Schalie and the Land Trust, she created the baseline documentation for this conservation property. She lives in Ann Arbor and owns a property that is also protected through a Land Trust conservation agreement.

About the van der Schalie property

Conservation agreement donated to the Land Trust in December 2005 protects:

- 29 acres of land in Washtenaw and Jackson Counties
- River frontage near the Raisin River headwaters

"I am so happy that it's going

to be in your hands."

- Annette van der Schalie

- Restored tall-grass prairies planted by the van der Schalies in 1986
- Floodplain forest and adjacent wetlands that host a wide biological diversity

You Can Help Set the Course for Conservation The Land Trust Seeks Your Input for Strategic Plan

t's estimated that Michigan will lose 2 million acres of farmland and open ■space over the next 40 years. So the Land Trust knows we must make certain our conservation efforts are as proactive, efficient, and effective as possible.

To accomplish this, we are refining our Strategic Plan to set goals and priorities for the next five to ten years and to establish the steps we must take to reach those

The plan will focus on making the best possible use of the resources generously entrusted to us: funds given by members, time donated by volunteers, and the land we are committed to protect for all future generations.

The map on the right shows the Land Trust's proposed high-priority target areas:

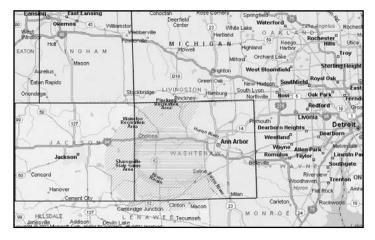
> • Fragile natural areas, suggested by the arc encompassing the great natural lands of our community: along the river corridors (the Huron, Raisin,

Saline Rivers) and the blocks of already protected land (Waterloo, Pinckney, and Sharon Recreation Areas)

• Key working farms, suggested by the rural areas enclosed by this arc, focusing on the southern and westerntier of townships.

We will also continue to protect and steward other important natural and agricultural lands throughout our region.

We are interested in your input. Please contact us at 734-302-LAND (5263) or info@washtenawlandtrust.org with your questions and comments.



Washtenaw Land Trust proposed high-priority target areas: natural areas along corridors of protected land and rivers, and farmland enclosed by this arc of natural areas.

And the Winners

Tom and Rosanne Bloomer honored as 2005 'Preservationists of the Year'

rithin the farming community, it hasn't always been "politically correct" to support land preservation. But that never stopped Tom and Rosanne Bloomer.

The Bloomers have long been involved in land preservation. Five and ten years ago, land preservation ballot successes like those we have today seemed impossible. Nonetheless, Tom Bloomer was willing to sit on a county task force and help look for ways to protect local working farms.

"At the time, it was really sticking your neck out, being a farmer in that role,' explained Theresa Schenk, outgoing Land Trust President.

"It really changed history for the preservation of agricultural lands and open space in this region."

Tom has served on Washtenaw County's Agricultural Lands and Purchase of Development Rights Ordinance Revision Committees and was instrumental in helping pass Webster Township's recent land preservation ballot initiative. He also volunteered as president of the Land Trust for several years. Rosanne is Senior Financial Service Officer at GreenStone Farm Credit Services, Michigan's largest agricultural lender.

Most recently, Bloomers have become the first landowners to protect their land through the City of Ann Arbor's

Greenbelt program. They are reinvesting the funds from that transaction back into their farm, to help their farming operation thrive and grow.

The Bloomers own and operate Bur Oaks Farm in Webster Township. They grow, process, and package the soybeans and corn for their "Rabble Roasters" snacks and old-fashioned popcorn. Their snacks are sold in stores locally and across the nation.

"Tom and Rosanne have helped forge a future for this community, instead of just letting a future happen to it," said Theresa at the award reception.

"They know that keeping the business thriving, protecting the land, and helping others to see the value of land preservation, is all part of being sustainable."



In their own words

"I know there are a lot of people besides us that deserve recognition for land preservation in this community, and I know that this organization, the Washtenaw Land Trust, also deserves a lot of recognition. I look at the Land Trust as a sort of bank, that during some pretty lean times kept people's energy and enthusiasm up. For that, we're truly grateful." -Tom Bloomer

"I'm proud of what we've all accomplished here... I think future generations will look back on this and be very grateful." -Rosanne Bloomer

Answers to Your Questions

Isn't the Washtenaw Land Trust a part of Washtenaw County government?

No. The Land Trust is not a government program. We are a private, non-profit organization. The Land Trust receives no funding from Washtenaw County government. In fact, the Land Trust's service area extends well beyond the boundaries of Washtenaw County, into Jackson and Ingham counties. 100% of our funding comes from people like you – people who know that private land protection options are critical for protecting our community's sense of place.

How much of each dollar I give is used to protect land?

More than 73% of Land Trust expenses go directly into land protection – land acquisition, landowner outreach, and educational services. Fundraising and management functions to support this work account for less than 27% of expenses. (These figures come from the Land Trust's 2003 and 2004 independent audits. Would you like a copy? Please call 734-302-LAND (5263) or visit www.washtenawlandtrust.org.)

Do you have questions?

Send 'em in! Call us at 734-302-LAND (5263) or email us at info@washtenawlandtrust.org.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 7: Stewardship workday and hike at the Land Trust's Sharon Hills Nature Preserve

Saturday, May 13: Guided hike at Sharon Hills Nature Preserve with Andy Henriksen, forester with Washtenaw County Conservation District. See the results of our prescribed burn!

Saturday, June 10: Farm tour & ice cream social – all members and friends are invited – this means you!

Saturday, Sep. 16: Stewardship workday at Beckwith Conservancy near Stockbridge

Saturday, Oct. 7: Guided hike at Sharon Hills Nature Preserve with Andy Henriksen, forester with Washtenaw County Conservation District.

Thursday, Nov. 2: Lanternglow Party – The Land Trust's leading supporters can get a window into life in 1800s Michigan at this special thank-you reception and exclusive guided tour of the Waterloo Farm Museum.



Use your retirement assets wisely.

Retirement assets can be a wonderful way to protect land and receive tax benefits. By making the Washtenaw Land Trust a beneficiary of your retirement plan, you can maximize your contribution while reducing your tax burden.

Because assets are subject to estate and income taxes, your heirs may receive only 35 cents of each dollar you leave in your will. By designating us as the beneficiary of your retirement plan, you can reduce these taxes from your estate. For more information, please contact Janaé Reneaud, Washtenaw Land Trust, 1100 N. Main Street #203, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, or call 734-302-LAND (5263).

Yes! You can protect natural areas and farmland!

The first land trust in Michigan, the Washtenaw Land Trust protects the natural areas and working farms of Washtenaw, Jackson, and Ingham counties.

Working with private, individual landowners, we've completed more than 40 projects directly protecting over 2,000 acres, and we have been a leader in campaigns that have successfully secured funding to protect thousands more acres.

You can help us do more.

Make a gift today.

Washtenaw Land Trust

1100 N. Main Street #203 • Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734.302.LAND (5263) • info@washtenawlandtrust.org www.washtenawlandtrust.org

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Washtenaw Land Trust 2005 Annual Report

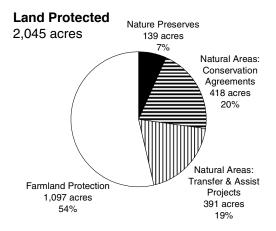


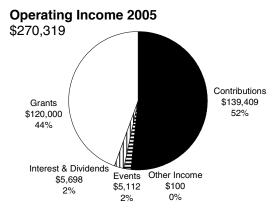
In 2005 the Land Trust helped Tom Hatch and Sue Shink protect their farm property, including the woodlands and wetlands shown here. Their donation of a conservation agreement to the Land Trust will create a legacy for Sue and Tom's young daughters, and will also protect the land they love.

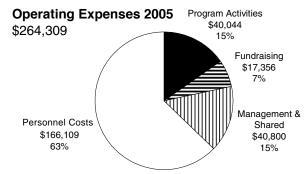
Land Projects Completed, in acres	2005	Total
Nature Preserves	0	139
Natural Areas: Conservation Agreements	21	418
Natural Areas: Transfer and Assist Projects	53	391
Farmland protection	47	1,097
Total Land Protected	121	2,045

For a list and additional information on these completed land projects, please contact us at 734-302-LAND(5263) or info@washtenawlandtrust.org.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	2005
Operating Income/Expense Income	
Contributions	\$139,409
Events	5,112
Interest & Dividends Income	5,698
Grants	120,000
Other Income	100
Total Income	\$270,319
Expense	
Program Activities	\$40,044
Fundraising	17,356
Management & Shared	40,800
Personnel Costs	166,109
Total Expense	\$264,309
Net Operating Income	\$6,010
Capital Income/Uses Income	
Land Protection Campaign	\$54,450
Total Income	\$54,450
Capital Uses	
Payments on Land Projects	\$15,000
Total Uses	\$15,000
Net Capital Income/Uses	\$39,450







Current assets	
Unrestricted	\$215,060
Temporarily restricted	111,162
Total current assets	326,223
Endowment	32,344
Nature Preserves	719,150
Miscellaneous	1,665
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,079,382
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Liabilities	
Land Project payable - current	\$15,000
Total Liabilities	\$15,000
Net Assets	
Permanently Restricted	720,816
Temporarily Restricted	96,162
Endowment	32,344
Unrestricted	215,060
Total Net Assets	\$1,064,382
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$1,079,382

2005 financial data is unaudited. Audited financial statements for 2005 will be available by summer 2006. Audited financial statements for prior years are available now. To request a copy, please contact the office at 734-302-LAND(5263) or in fo@washtenawland trust.org.

The Washtenaw Land Trust would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous support in calendar year 2005.

Land Conservation **Agreement Donors**

Susan Shink & Tom Hatch Annette van der Schalie 1 anonymous landowner

Individual Gifts Founders (\$10,000 and up)

Robert & Cynthia Helber 1 anonymous gift

Partners (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Maureen Martin & Mike Penskar Roger & Coco Newton

Benefactors (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Gavin Clabaugh & Margaret Engle Wade & Carol Peacock Ellen Ward & James Young, Jr.

Conservators (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Sally & Ian Bund Jean & Phelps Connell Suzanne L. DeVine & John Koselka Paul & Constance Dimond Steve & Judy Dobson Joe & Beth Fitzsimmons Karl & Gloria Frankena Paul & Anne Glendon Christopher & Elaine Graham James & Michele Haeussler Peter & Rita Heydon Michael Kaericher Bill & Carol Kauffman "Michigan Night" artists Susan Lackey & Steve Daut Robert & Judith Marans Susan Pollay & Bruce Watkins Frances Quarton Cedric & Moragan Richner John & Marilyn Rintamaki David Ross & Donna Freund Scott & Frankie Simonds Timothy Sochocki Bill & Charity Steere Phillip & Ann Surratt John Swales & Violet Benner Robert & Kathleen Swarts Hon. Ronald & Eileen Weiser Matthew & Sharon Zahn

Sustainers Circle (\$500-\$999)

John M. Allen & Edith A. Maynard Mike & Kathleen Aznavorian James Bergman Tom & Rosanne Bloomer Michael Boehnke & Betsy Foxman David Brown Fernando & Lois Colòn Peter DeLoof & Sara Bassett Wallace & Marlene Donoghue Wendell & Nancy Dunbar Robert Ewing & Beth Morey Ewing Robert & Debbie Gilbert David Gordon & Suzy Wienckowski Jacob & Anne Haas Craig Harvey Glenda Haskell & Rick Reichman Frances & Campbell Laird David & Louise Lutton Robert J. Martel Bill & Sally Martin Martha Mayo & Irwin Goldstein Thomas & Judith Mich Arthur Nusbaum Lana & Henry Pollack Hon. Joe Schwarz, M.D. William & Villabeth Taylor Bob Tetens & Felicia Macheske Lois A. Theis Debbie & Mike Weber Karen Yamada & Gary Dolce

Champions (\$250-\$499)

Herbert & Carol Amster Roger Arnett Margery Beardsley & Kurt Sonen Arthur & Elizabeth Beaudoin Ioan Binkow John & Jeannette Briegel Carol Buatti James E. Crowfoot & Ruth Carey Stuart Dombey John & Gail Einhaus LA Frost Martin Gold Jim Govert Matthew & Rene Greff Marjorie Hagene & David Saksewski Dr. John Hand Marion Hoyer & Jeffrey Briegel Robert Johnson James & Jean Libs Andrew Muth & Patricia Saad Raymond Noellert & Julia Jickling Ruth & Linda Pickl Antoinette Pilzner Christina & Daniel Powell Jeanne Raisler & Jonathan Cohn Janaé Reneaud Margaret Ressler

Mack Ruffin IV & Kathy Carter Theresa & Karl Schenk Erik & Carol Serr Karen Smith & Juha Heinonen Cory and Yvette Snavely Ren & Susan Snyder Dr. Sally A. Stommen & Mr. Jeffrey P. Stommen Bill & Marlene Thomas Jack Tobias Thomas & Marcella Traumann David & Karen Ufer Annette van der Schalie Dorothy & Henry Zelisse

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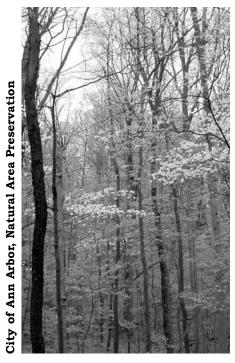
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You may be able to grant the Land Trust's "wishes"!

If you can help, please contact Suzie Heiney at 734-302-LAND (5263) or suzie@washtenawlandtrust.org.

Thank you!

- Work gloves
- · New county plat maps
- Copy paper (recycled preferred)
- Bookshelves
- Postage stamps (first class and postcard rate)
- Rechargeable AA batteries and charger
- New DVD-RWs
- Leafblower
- Lighter-weight chainsaw, 12-inch blade



Dogwood trees bloom in Bird Hills Nature Area in early spring. The Washtenaw Land Trust helped expand this nature area, now Ann Arbor's largest protected nature area.

Did you know?

he Washtenaw Land Trust helped expand Bird Hills Nature Area, now Ann Arbor's largest park.

Bird Hills lies along the banks of the Huron River on Ann Arbor's north side. In 1989, local residents urged the City to purchase a 31-acre parcel of land adjacent to the park. Because of its non-profit status, the Land Trust was able to act as an escrow agent for public donations to expand the park. Local residents donated funds to the Land Trust as tax-deductible charitable contributions. The funds were then donated to the City for use in the park.

Today, Bird Hills Nature Area is the largest protected nature area in Ann Arbor, at 147 acres. If you'd like to visit, parking is available on Newport Road, along Bird Road, and at the Barton Nature Area lot off Huron River Drive.