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**LEGACY**  
Land Conservancy

*Protecting and Preserving  
Southern Michigan*

## **Legacy Land Conservancy Announces a New Protected Property in Manchester Township**

**Ann Arbor, Michigan:** Debbie Thompson has protected 54 acres of Manchester Township private land through a conservation easement with Legacy Land Conservancy. This easement was also made possible by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and by Ms. Thompson's neighbors, Mike and Kate Benedict, who swapped land with Ms. Thompson.



Ms. Thompson's land is vital to the ecological health of the region. The 54 acres sit on a tributary to Iron Creek, in the River Raisin watershed. Keeping this land in a natural state is important to water quality. The land provides habitat to Eastern Massasauga rattlesnakes. These snakes have faced habitat loss and are listed as being of special concern to the State of Michigan due to their rarity. The land is also home to a mature hardwood forest.

When asked to describe her attachment to her property, Ms. Thompson invoked the healing effects of time spent in nature. "I feel peaceful and tranquil when I walk in the woods," she says, "It's undisturbed, mighty and dazzling. No matter what season or time of day, the experience is priceless".

### **About Legacy Land Conservancy:**

Legacy Land Conservancy's mission is to serve Southeast Michigan by protecting its forests, prairies, farms and waters - today and forever. Since 1971, Legacy has protected over 5,500 acres of land.