

THE UNDERSTORY

Legacy Land Conservancy Annual Report 2019-2020



Brooks family property protected in 2019

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LEGACY
Land Conservancy

Wow. From the COVID-19 pandemic to the political and social unrest to the environmental disasters devastating our planet, it's amazing how much the world can change in a year. When Legacy began the 2019-2020 fiscal year in July of 2019, we had emerged from a previous year full of change and challenges, stronger and more focused than ever. Concentrating on moving our recently re-affirmed organizational priorities forward, we excitedly anticipated what the year would bring.

Coming off a year of eight closed land projects but with enormous change within Legacy's staff, 2019-2020 was the first full year I led as the new Executive Director. We approached the year with our attention fixed on developing a new five-year strategic plan, redefining our organizational culture, and applying for re-accreditation. Our board and staff were rejuvenated and leaned in to an organizational-wide goal of continued financial and programmatic stabilization. We tightened the reins, reassessed organizational and departmental goals, and turned our focus to completing the land acquisitions in the pipeline, maintaining preserve accessibility, and deepening relationships throughout all aspects of our work.

Unfortunately, by March 2020, we found ourselves—like the rest of the world—in uncharted waters navigating the uncertainties recently brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We paused. Responding to the new shelter-in-place orders, Legacy temporarily closed our physical office, transitioned staff to remote work, halted all field work, and suspended strategic planning.

We listened. Vigilantly monitoring all communication from the governors' office, we consumed information from health experts, our peers, and our supporters to develop a safe and purposeful way forward.

We adapted. With more people than ever relying on nature and accessing our preserves, Legacy remained committed to our mission and serving our community. By implementing specific procedures to ensure the health and safety of all staff, volunteers, and the public, we strategically continued our most important activities as they pertained to land protection.

In June 2020, we also faced head-on, the brutal reality of social injustice and racism in



*The Lloyd & Mabel Johnson Preserve prairie in summer 2020
Photo by John Metzler*

America, including the historic and present-day exclusion of people of color from the environmental and land trust movement. Again, Legacy paused. We are acknowledging our privilege and our part in this exclusion. We committed to listening, watching, and learning. We began exploring ways to move forward thoughtfully with a commitment to integrate justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion principles into our work and throughout our organization.

“Things change. The only thing constant is change. It’s up to you to be adaptable.” – Anonymous

Change isn’t easy. It never is. But change is inevitable, and it’s how we adapt to change that matters. When the world we once knew was turned upside down, Legacy paused. We listened. We adapted. All while remaining committed to our mission and focused on our love of the land—as we have throughout our storied history.

In 2021, Legacy celebrates 50 years of protecting and preserving land! Built on a five-decades-long foundation of strong land protection, dedicated staff, board, donors, volunteers, and partners, Legacy has the ability to withstand and adapt to the dynamic world in which we live—now and in the future.

As we embark on our 50th year, we are so grateful to celebrate this milestone with you, our supporters! Your support makes our work possible. And, while we may not be able to celebrate in person, we can still connect, virtually or by sharing the experience of visiting one of our preserves for a crisp walk on snow-covered trails or a stroll in the warm summer sun.

We are kicking off the next 50 years with hope, determination, and open minds. We will continue to adapt as we focus on mitigating the effects of climate change and embracing a commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in order to protect, preserve, and steward land for all people, and create exceptional qualities of place for our communities.



*Allene Smith and her daughter enjoy a stroll through Sharon Hills Preserve.
Photo by Remy Long*

Legacy is deeply honored to serve our community. As Michiganders re-prioritize and explore the importance of the natural world in their lives, we are grateful we can be a resource for those seeking the physical, spiritual, and mental health benefits of safely connecting with nature. We are proud to bring a sense of well-being, peacefulness, and strength to all, as we move forward—together— and embrace the future.

Yours in Conservation,

*Diana Kern
Executive Director*

*Larry Doll
Board President*

Legacy's work is guided by a budget which is the result of a detailed process that begins well in advance of the actual start of our fiscal year. Driven by a fiscally responsible board and an extremely knowledgeable finance committee, Legacy's staff collaborates with each department to identify goals within its associated work plans. These goals influence our organizational-wide priorities and inform a budget for the year. The process—from planning to approval—typically takes up to six months!

As a part of this process, Legacy approached the 2019-2020 fiscal year with an eye toward continued financial and programmatic stabilization. Our team was focused on raising money through diverse individual donors and partners, funding land projects in the acquisition pipeline, closing active land acquisition projects, stewarding current conservation easements, and improving preserve accessibility.

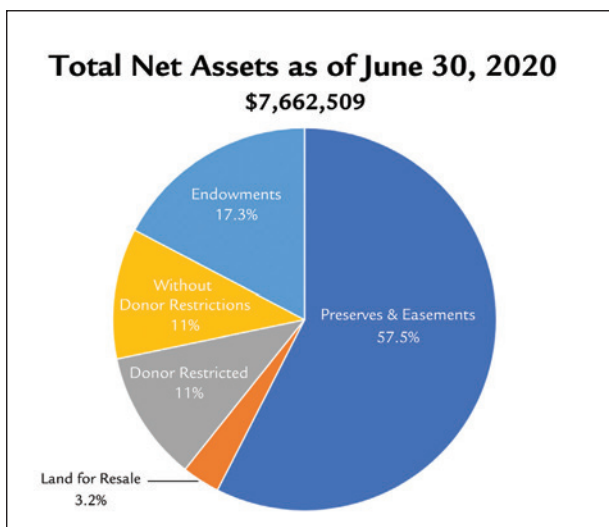
When the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, we immediately shifted our priorities. We tightened expenses and focused only on our core work. Legacy froze salaries, negotiated a reduction in rent, and trimmed down wherever possible in preparation for future unknowns. By April, Legacy had applied for and received

a federal Payroll Protection Plan CARES Act loan to help bridge funding needs and avoid depending too heavily on our long-term reserves.

At year-end, total revenue was \$1,143,516. Contributions and pledges make up 65% due in large part to a final push to finish a 3-year, 1.2 million-dollar multi-land project fundraising campaign supported by the Carls Foundation. Private foundation grants make up 17% which was lower than anticipated, as some of our funders shifted their priorities to health and human services and those directly impacted by the pandemic.

Total expenses were \$913,125, 68% of which was made up of our four main program areas; Land Acquisition, Easement Stewardship, Preserve Stewardship and Community Engagement. For the first time Legacy spent more money on Preserve Stewardship than on Land Acquisition. We focused on preserve accessibility, which included prepping the now open Shatter Family Preserve and responding to the increase in preserve visitors because of the pandemic.

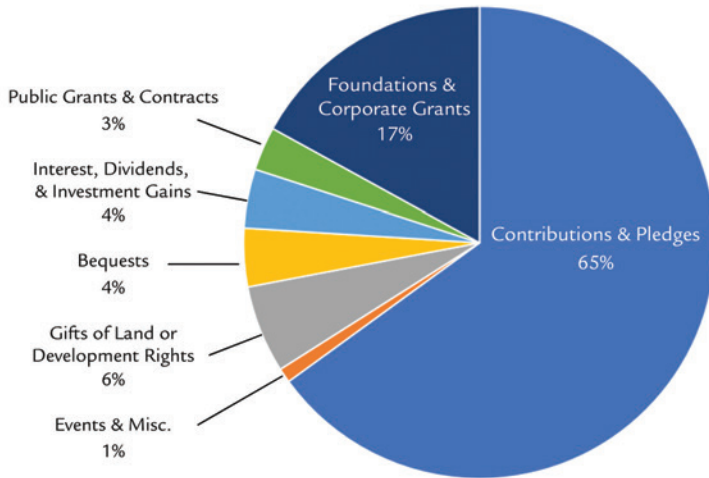
Legacy ends the year with a one-year cushion of unrestricted reserves and money set aside for our next three land acquisition projects. Legacy's four endowment funds combined total \$1.2 million, or 17.3% of total net assets, which support Legacy's stewardship programs every year with a 4% distribution.



With sufficient reserves in place due to our comprehensive and strategic financial plan, Legacy had been in good position to withstand the pressures of the pandemic. In the future, this plan will continue to allow us to adapt to changing resource needs and emerge stronger as new challenges arise.

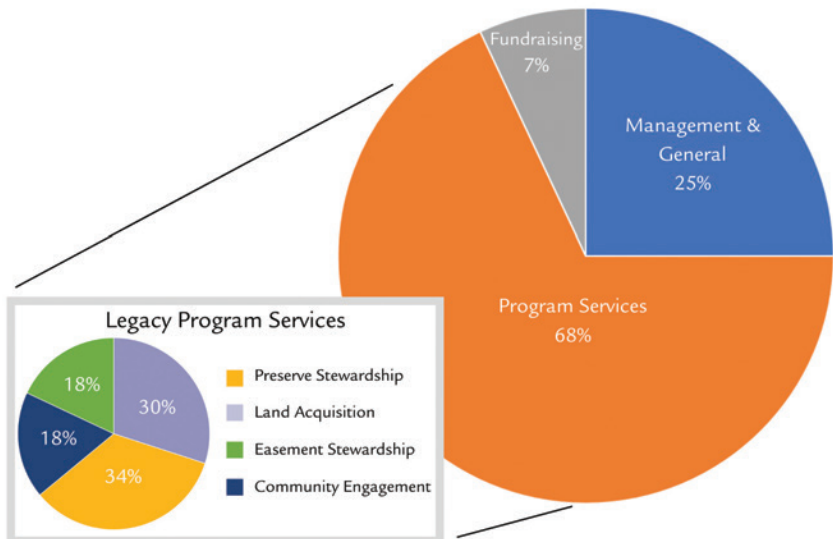
FY 2019-2020 REVENUE

\$1,143,516



FY 2019-2020 EXPENSES

\$913,125



Audited financial statements prepared by Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth CPA are available at legacylandconservancy.org/about/financial-info

More than just numbers

Contrary to what many believe, land protection is not always about how much land you protect and how fast you do it. Meaningful, purposeful, and prioritized land protection takes time. It is a complicated, strategic process that necessitates vision, foresight, flexibility, creativity, and above all—a lot of patience.



Brooks family property protected in 2019

Acquiring new land and conservation easements is a multi-year effort that is built on a diverse foundation of innovation, collaboration, and partnerships. It requires bringing interested parties together, negotiating terms, aligning with community partners, and raising funds to close on a single project. Throw in any number of outside factors in addition to social, economic, environmental, or political issues and an average project can take 3-5 years to complete. And that's only for one project. Throughout the year, Legacy manages multiple active projects all while fielding new inquiries and approving new projects that fill up our pipeline for the next five years.

Coming off the previous year closing eight land projects but with enormous change within Legacy's land staff, 2019-2020 was the first full year with our new land acquisition lead. Eager to regroup, stabilize, and improve our internal land acquisition culture to withstand the dynamic world of land protection, Legacy focused on moving existing land acquisition projects forward, establishing and refining core land acquisition processes, managing and deepening community relationships to expand partnership work, and finishing a multi-project fundraising challenge.

In 2019-2020, Legacy's land team successfully:

- Closed the Brooks conservation easement. Twenty acres of land along the Huron River in Washtenaw County. It is the second of five identified properties to be conserved using money secured through a multi-project fundraising challenge made possible by the Carls Foundation and a diverse group of donors.
- Assisted the Charter Township of York in acquiring the Mooreville Riverbend Preserve in Washtenaw County
- Completed raising funds for the million-dollar, multi-project Carls Foundation fundraising challenge
- Moved forward the next three active acquisitions in the pipeline associated with the Carls Foundation projects
- Strategized and implemented a new internal fundraising culture to counter the ever-soaring costs of land acquisition
- Partnered with Ducks Unlimited to secure a complex funding source to conserve critical wetlands

In March of 2020 we were faced with a new set of challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent state-wide shelter-in-place orders, and like so many others, we were forced to adapt quickly. Some of our partners faced hardships such as furloughs and lay-offs, which slowed pieces of our land acquisition work, and meeting with landowners in-person was out of the picture.


Fortunately, staff and landowners found new ways to communicate and adjusted our communication styles to accommodate the new circumstances. We are so grateful to everyone—especially the current project landowners in the middle of their efforts to conserve their special pieces of land—for their flexibility and patience during this adjustment phase!

Although the pandemic greatly affected our ability to close two projects in the spring, Legacy was able to continue most of its land acquisition work. Two new land projects were approved and added to the land acquisition pipeline and we were busy fielding more new land inquiries from landowners at home

reflecting on their land's future. We also completed an organizational-wide effort to finish the fundraising portion of the multi-land project Carls Foundation fundraising challenge—a huge accomplishment that secured funding that allows us to close on the remaining three projects!

Built on a strong foundation of innovation, collaboration, and partnerships, Legacy is very fortunate to have a solid land protection program that gives us the ability to withstand adversity and adapt to change. As the world continues to cope with the pandemic, Legacy is prepared for any challenges we may encounter now and in the future.





Land Acquisition

FY 2019-2020
At a Glance



2 projects closed

- ✓ Purchased the Brooks conservation easement in Washtenaw County
- ✓ Assisted the Charter Township of York in acquiring the Mooreville Riverbend Preserve in Washtenaw County

32 additional total acres protected

Million-dollar fundraising challenge complete

Throughout 2016 and 2017, Legacy identified multiple properties with hundreds of acres of important land to conserve. The total cost to conserve only five of these properties was estimated at over one million dollars.

Always up for a challenge, in 2017 Legacy began creatively exploring relationships and pursuing funding sources to reach our five-property, million-dollar fundraising goal. In early 2018, Legacy was awarded a \$487,000 matching grant from the Carls Foundation, a Michigan-based foundation with a focus on the preservation of natural areas. The Carls

Foundation agreed to match every dollar we raised up to that amount to help us fund five conservation easement projects.

Over the next two years, Legacy leveraged the generosity of the Carls Foundation to secure a creative mosaic of funding sources. Through innovation, persistence, and the generosity of a diverse group of donors, in 2020 Legacy completed the Carls Foundation match, securing the million dollars necessary to conserve all five properties. To date, two of the five projects have been permanently

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The Brooks family's legacy



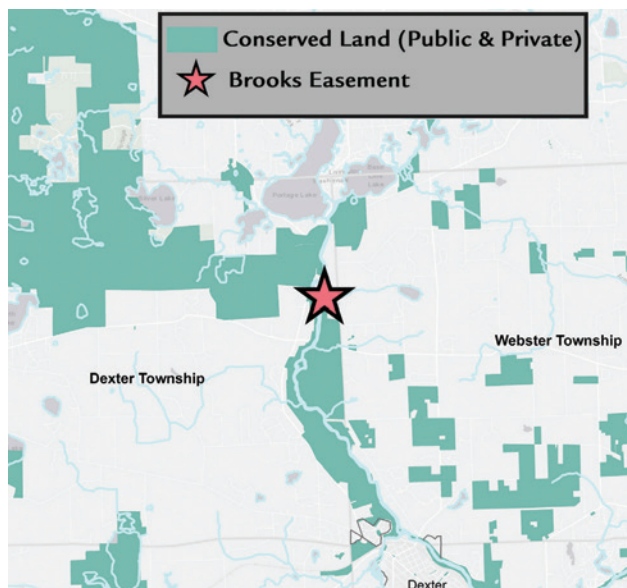
Dorothy and her daughter Jean with Legacy staff at closing.
(L-R Susan LaCroix, Diana Kern, Dorothy Brooks, Susan Lackey, Jean Cares)

Leaving a legacy is a very personal decision and can mean something immensely different to each person. To Dorothy Brooks and her family, it meant protecting their family's land with a conservation easement, and Legacy Land Conservancy is honored to help people like the Brooks family do just that.

In 1949 Dorothy Brooks and her late husband Kenny bought a modest plot of land in Dexter along the Huron River and adjacent to what would become Hudson Mills Metropark. A few years later they purchased neighboring land, and kept small livestock on the additional property. A beautiful natural area with maple woods, buttonbush swamp, a creek, and

Huron River frontage, it was the perfect, peaceful place to build a home, raise a family, and make beautiful memories.

In 2016, Dorothy and her adult children contacted Legacy with a desire to protect the land they have loved and stewarded for generations—forever. Over the next three years, Legacy worked with Dorothy and her family to make their land conservation vision a reality. On September 26, 2019, Legacy protected the Brooks family's land with a conservation easement.



Each conservation agreement and how it comes to be is a very personal, complex process. Depending on the circumstances, each requires a variety of due diligence and financial resources. While Legacy typically accepts donated easements, for various reasons some landowners have a need to be compensated for the value of their land's development rights, which they part with in entering a conservation easement. In this particular easement, Dorothy donated a sizable portion the value and sold the remaining amount to Legacy at a discount, also known as a "bargain sale." Legacy purchased this easement using funds made available through a diverse group of donors, including and made possible by the Carls Foundation.

Not only is protecting this land forever an important milestone to the Brooks family, it also provides a wide range of benefits to the community at-large. By conserving land with

2,900 feet along both sides of a tributary of the Huron River and 265 feet along the Huron River itself, it protects critical floodplain, wildlife habitat, and water quality of the Huron River watershed. The project also protects important farmland soils as well as open space, and scenic views visible along Huron River Drive and from the adjacent publicly owned property. It also adjoins over 34,000 acres of already conserved land along the Huron River, contributing to the connectivity and climate resiliency of the landscape.

The Brooks family's commitment to leaving a legacy is another wonderful example of how Legacy works with private landowners to make a lasting positive impact in Washtenaw and Jackson Counties. The landowners we work with have strong connections with the land they protect, and we are grateful for their commitment to the places they love.

The Brooks Conservation Easement Project



Time to close = 3 years (2016-2019)

20 acres of natural area in Washtenaw County

2,900 feet of water frontage, **65** feet on the Huron River

- ✓ Abuts over 34,000 acres of already conserved land along the Huron River; adjacent to Hudson Mills Metropark
- ✓ Protects critical floodplain, wildlife habitat, water quality, important farmland soils, open space, and scenic views

Million-dollar fundraising challenge complete

continued 'fundraising challenge' from page 7

protected, and the remaining three are all expected to close soon. When all is said and done on this initiative, over 370 acres of ecologically and culturally significant land will be protected, forever.

We would like to **thank the Carl Foundation for their commitment to conservation, and every individual, foundation, and organization who generously donated** to help us cross this finish line.

Adapting for increased preserve use

Stewarding seven public nature preserves that support vibrant ecosystems and provide recreational and educational opportunities is a complex, year-round effort. Comprehensive management upholds the land's conservation values, while simultaneously embracing public use and accessibility. The balance between these sometimes opposing values is nuanced, and requires long-term vision and extensive planning, as well as adaptability. Guided by a multi-year work plan and detailed preserve management plans, Legacy's stewardship team continues to prioritize improving the accessibility of our preserves, while maintaining and, where possible, accelerating momentum for habitat restoration and improvement projects.

The more people enjoy and make use of our preserves, the more our preserves are serving their function. As well, the more people visit, the more effort we must invest in caring for them. Our preserves provide more than nine miles of publicly accessible trails. Each year we maintain these trails; inspect, repair, and sometimes extend boardwalks; remove invasive species; and protect and restore native flora and fauna. To help visitors make the most of our wetlands, woodlands, and prairies, we are working to enhance their usability with improved trailhead and interpretive signage and dedicated parking

areas. We mow over four miles of grassy trails, conduct controlled burns to discourage the growth of invasive plants, spread seeds to restore or improve native habitat, remove trash, and rebuild and add boardwalks that allow visitor access while mitigating impacts to soil, vegetation, and hydrological conditions.

None of this work would be accomplished without the hard work and dedication of our amazing team of staff, board, partners, interns, and volunteers. With their support, in 2019-2020 we:

- Opened a long-needed parking area at the Beckwith Preserve
- Partnered with Eagle Scouts Nick de Schweinitz and Kellen Blackwell to add 130 feet of raised plank boardwalk to the Creekshead and Johnson Preserves
- Hosted workdays with Eastern Michigan University students to remove invasive common buckthorn from the prairie at the Johnson Preserve
- Laid groundwork for an update to the Johnson Preserve management plan with the help of stewardship intern, Jessica Chesney
- Worked with Reichert Preserve caretakers Cayla Tinney and Shawn Zellers, who spent 324 hours removing invasive plants over 30 acres of the preserve as part of the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

We couldn't have anticipated how important our accessibility work and our ability to adapt would be this year. With the onset of the pandemic in March, our stewardship plans pivoted, and in some places, were halted all together. Because of the early arrival of spring, we went forward with an early season, socially distanced controlled burn at our Sharon Hills Preserve. But, shortly thereafter, the governor's statewide shutdown order severely limited all other field work, allowing us to only respond to preserve safety concerns or significant accessibility issues.



Eagle Scout Nick de Schweinitz works with friends and family to build a boardwalk at the Creekshead Preserve in September 2019. Photo by John Metzler

Because the first exception to the governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order allowed people to engage in outdoor activities, we saw a noticeable increase in visitors to Legacy's preserves. So, when regulations permitted outdoor workers to resume activities, we immediately created a plan to return to field work safely. We strategically resumed our most important stewardship activities, arranged site visits, and proceeded with a late-season burn at the Reichert Preserve to manage woody invasive growth in key management areas.

Additionally, despite the growing pandemic, we chose to hire a three-person in-house stewardship crew as originally planned. Although the crew started a little later than usual and with modified procedures to ensure their health and safety, over a three-month period the crew logged 290 hours on preserve maintenance and restoration efforts. They established new trails in preparation for the opening of our Anthony and Rose Shatter Family Preserve and focused on the labor-intensive effort to beat back a looming invasive buckthorn and multiflora rose issue at Creekshead Preserve.



Controlled burn at the Reichert Nature Preserve in spring 2020.
Photo by John Metzler

Since the pandemic began, Legacy has experienced increased use of our preserves. Based on preliminary data, we estimate at least a two-fold increase, from about 4,500 visitors annually to more than 9,000! We expect the increased number of visitors to continue well into the future, as people re-prioritize their lives and rediscover the importance of the natural world around them. With this in mind, and with an ever-increasing awareness of equity and inclusion issues related to land access, we will continue to adapt our processes and work related to preserve management. We are honored Legacy's preserves are a resource for the community and for those seeking the physical, spiritual, and mental health benefits of safely connecting with nature.



Preserve Stewardship

FY 2019-2020
At a Glance





220 hours contributed by 63 volunteers
166 hours spent on accessibility
388 hours devoted to invasive species removal
28 hours on habitat improvement
25 hours managing misuse issues on preserves

Relationship building helps to uphold conservation values

When a land acquisition project is complete and a conservation easement is legally in place, Legacy's work has only just begun. While the landowner accepts the responsibility to follow the terms of the conservation easement, Legacy accepts the responsibility to uphold the conservation values of the land by watching over it and enforcing the terms of the easement, forever.

As part of our responsibility, and because we are an accredited land trust, Legacy is required to visit and monitor *every easement*, every year. By observing the land regularly, we can track, document, and ensure any changes detected are within the terms of the conservation easement.

This year the COVID-19 pandemic added a new layer of difficulty to Legacy's easement stewardship program. And, while it certainly made monitoring more complicated—with a delayed start to the 2020 monitoring season, fewer volunteers, and new safety measures

in place, it did not stop us from completing our annual monitoring visits. We are so grateful for the patience of our easement landowners and the very dedicated photo monitoring volunteers who rose up to this challenge with us. With the amazing help of 23 volunteers and 239 volunteer hours, in 2019-2020, the Legacy easement stewardship team:

- Achieved 100% annual monitoring on a total of 86 Legacy held-easements
- Monitored 16 county-held easements in partnership with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPARC)

Visiting a property and monitoring it annually also helps us develop a relationship with the landowners who inhabit and steward these conserved lands. This relationship is extremely important in order for Legacy to effectively uphold each property's specific conservation values and to ensure compliance with the easement terms over time. The past year has emphasized the importance of this relationship as many landowners




Volunteer Cathy Susan captures a photo-point during a monitoring visit.
Photo by Erika Taylor

have spent more time at home and looking at ways to modify their properties.

Legacy's easement stewardship team has embraced this new reality and continues to strengthen relationships with landowners through regular, open communication and by providing educational resources on land management. We are eager to work with our landowners through careful planning and prudent protection, especially during times of uncertainty and change, and help them as they re-prioritize and explore ways to connect with their land. Priorities, goals, and relationships may change over time; land changes hands and people change their minds. But conservation easements exist in perpetuity, and so does our commitment to our landowners, volunteers, and supporters.




Charity Steere and Tania Evans monitor a conservation easement property.




Easement Stewardship

FY 2019-2020
At a Glance



5988 total acres monitored

100% monitoring for all 86 Legacy-held easements



16 easements monitored in partnership with WCPARC

239 hours contributed by
23 photomonitoring volunteers

APPRECIATION

There are not enough words to describe how wonderful, dedicated, and generous Legacy volunteers are. Their commitment to Legacy and our mission is like no other and has remained steadfast even in times of hardship. We are humbled by their generosity and selflessness. When they could spend their free time doing anything, they choose to gift Legacy their time and talents. Without their support, our work would not be possible.

While every volunteer is critical to Legacy's effectiveness, some special mentions are in order as well:

- Eagle Scouts Nick de Schweinitz and Kellen Blackwell – Thanks for organizing friends and family to build boardwalks at Creekshead and Johnson Preserves.
- Stewardship Intern Jessica Chesney– Thanks for helping us document both our progress on the Johnson Preserve and our plans for the future.
- EMU professors Emily Grman and Renee Mulcrone – Thanks for bringing out your students to help control invasive shrubs at Johnson Preserve.
- Marguerite Smith – Thanks for **everything**!
- Stockbridge community members – Thanks for your continued efforts to improve Beckwith Preserve. Specifically, this year, we are so grateful for all your work to establish a trail connecting Beckwith with DNR's Mike Levine Lakelands Trail State Park and the 36-plus hours you spent on creek and trail maintenance!



Jessica Chesney,
2020 Stewardship Intern

Thank you,
volunteers!



1400 hours contributed
by **120** volunteers
in FY 2019-2020

Looking back on 2019-2020, we also acknowledge that the 2020 Monitoring Season began in earnest during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. We would like to give special thanks to the photomonitors* who stepped up during this time.

The pandemic has made volunteering more complicated. Programs have changed, new safety measures must be observed, and going out and doing things has taken on an element of danger. We are extremely grateful for those who learned alongside us while we navigated how to resume our work. We also look forward to welcoming all our amazing volunteers back who were not able to participate in ways they normally would.

Thank you to all Legacy volunteers who improve our public preserves, monitor our easement properties, give us legal advice, provide us with secure governance, and keep our administrative procedures running smoothly! We are so grateful for your unwavering support and generosity. We appreciate YOU!

2019-2020 Legacy Volunteers

Neal Billetdeaux*
 Kellen Blackwell and
 his Eagle Scout helpers
 Mark Blasiola
 Judy Block
 Rosanne Bloomer
 Meghan Bonfiglio
 George Borel
 Terry Brinkman
 Jessica Chesney
 Thomas E. Chettleburgh*
 William Chettleburgh*
 Tom Clark
 Peggy Cole
 Steve Daut
 Nick de Schweinitz and
 his Eagle Scout helpers
 Peter DeLoof
 Matt Demmon
 Suzanne DeVine
 Kathleen Dolan
 Larry Doll
 Tania Evans*
 Steven Gilzow*
 Jacqui Grisdale*
 Emily Grman and
 her EMU students
 Laura Hayes
 Judith Heady*
 Joan Hellmann*
 Mike Johnson
 Jennifer Kangas



Friends and family of Eagle Scout Kellen Blackwell gathered in September 2019 to add boardwalk to the Johnson Preserve. Photo by John Metzler

Rich Kato
 Bill Kidd
 Campbell Laird
 Leif Larson
 John Lloyd*
 Gary Ludtke
 Andrea Matthies
 James McCauley*
 John Metzler
 John Moran
 Renee Mulcrone and
 her EMU students
 Gerald Nordblom
 John Owen*

Penny Owen*
 Dave Peck
 Cindy Reach
 David Read*
 Clair Risner
 Scott Rosencrans*
 James Rossman
 Peter Sanderson*
 Anita Sandretto*
 Peter Sandretto*
 Dale Sass
 Billy Sharp
 Gary Siegrist
 Adam Smith*
 Marguerite Smith*
 Sandi Smith
 Sandy Sorini Elser
 Bill Steere*
 Charity Steere*
 William Stickney
 Scott Strodman*
 Deborah Strohaver
 William Strohaver
 Catherine A. Susan*
 Ginny Trocchio
 Linda Tubbs
 Karen Ufer
 Deborah VandenBroek
 Denice Virgo
 Tim Wellman
 Simon Whitelocke



In September 2019, Stockbridge community members and Legacy staff celebrated the opening of the Beckwith Preserve parking area.

We try to keep our records up to date but apologize if we have missed anyone. Please let us know if your name is missing! **photomonitor*

Thank you for your support!

When the COVID-19 pandemic came into our lives in March 2020, the world we once knew was turned upside down and changed, forever. The generosity of our supporters throughout this incredibly difficult time is vital. We sincerely appreciate our generous supporters who make our work possible as we continue to bring a sense of well-being, peacefulness, and strength to Michiganders despite all we are facing. Thank you!



In January 2020, Legacy was awarded a grant from the James A. & Faith Knight Foundation to upgrade our technology. The upgrade was completed just before the pandemic forced Michiganders to shelter-in-place. Thanks to the Foundation's generosity, Legacy smoothly transitioned into the new work from home culture!

Longtime Legacy donors and community philanthropists, Tom and Debby McMullen, donated a \$100,000 matching gift to Legacy in November 2019. Their generosity inspired over 300 donations which helped us complete the match in less than three months! Thank you, Tom and Debby!

Inspiring Generosity



Thank you,
Tom & Debby!

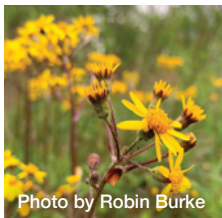


Photo by Robin Burke

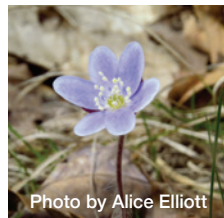


Photo by Alice Elliott

"Reichert fosters feelings of peace and safety in a chaotic world. When I am there, I feel my shoulders relax and my jaw unclenks as I take it all in: the reflections of trees on lakes and ponds, the fresh air, the sounds of bullfrogs, sandhill cranes, and a precious lack of man-made noise. During this precarious time of COVID-19, it's been a gift to share this space with other immunocompromised folk."

~visitor to Legacy's Reichert Preserve

Thank you!

The following list includes gifts received in fiscal year, July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. If you believe we have made an error, please contact Krista Jacob at 734-302-5263 or kjacob@legacylandconservancy.org.

Founders

Anonymous Donors (4)
The Carls Foundation
J. Ferrantino Charitable
Foundation
James A. & Faith Knight
Foundation
Thomas and Debby McMullen
Mericos Foundation
Gerald Nordblom and
Barbara Michniewicz
Dick and Norma Sarns
United States Department of
Agriculture (USDA) - Natural
Resources Conservation
Service
Laurie and Timothy Wadhams
Carol and Peter Walters
Washtenaw County Parks
& Recreation Commission
(WCPARC)

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Michael Boehnke and
Betsy Foxman
Cherry Republic, Inc.
Charlie and Janet Crone
Suzanne DeVine and
John Koselka
Steve and Judy Dobson
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Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality (DEQ)
David and Alisande Read
James Reichert
Toni and Ken Spears

Benefactors

Anonymous Donor
Larry and Stephanie Doll
Judith Heady
Tom and Amanda Irwin
Sarah Newman
The Jack and Ginny Sinn
Family Foundation
Ann Surratt

Simon and Anu Whitelocke
Richard Wyatt

Conservators

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Neal and Laura Billetdeaux
Susan Blake
George and Judy Borel
Jamie Buhr
Ian and Sally Bund
Martha and Steven Ceccio
Mary H. Dobson
Michael Fitzsimmons and
Hope Haefner
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Services - Ann Arbor Branch
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Kent and Mary Johnson
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Daniel Moons
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Jim and Pam Rossman
Georgiana Sanders and
William Joseph McCune
Dale Sass and
Idelle Hammond-Sass
Bonita Singal
Bill Steusloff
Andrea and William Stickney
Deborah and William Strohaver

United States Department of
Agriculture (USDA) - Farm
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Ellen Ward and James Young
Yoga Focus

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Mike and
Kathleen Dul Aznavorian
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William Brinkerhoff and
Kathy Sample
John and Mary Caldwell
Susan and Oliver Cameron
Martha Darling and Gil Omenn
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Yoshiko Hamano
Craig Harvey
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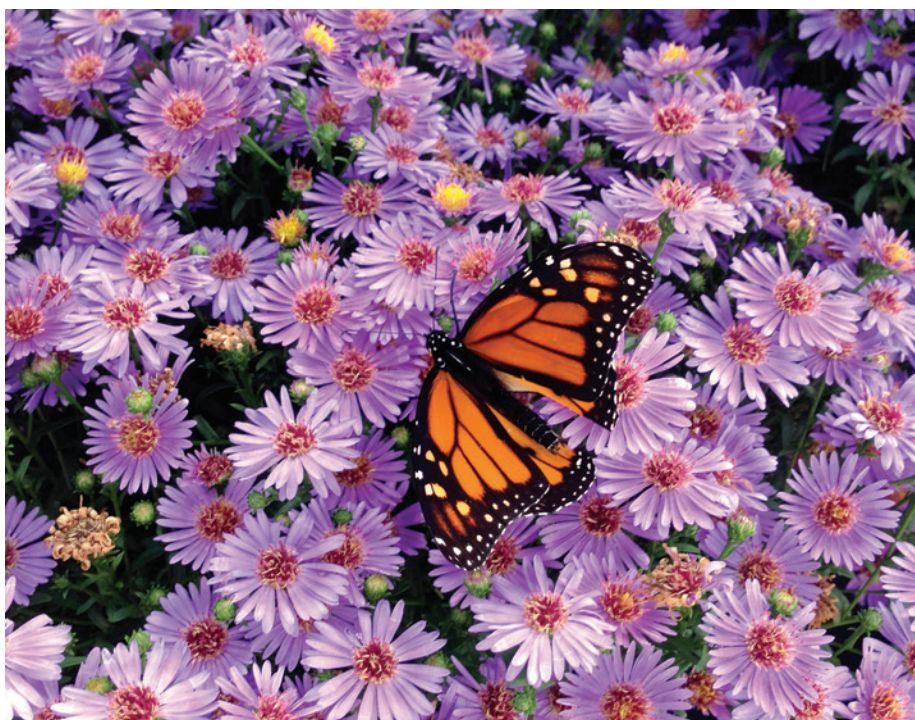
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