



Mission

The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy conserves natural land and open space - including forests, wetlands, meadows, agricultural lands, and places of scenic beauty - to provide habitat for wildlife and to enrich the lives of people.

SMLC Local Chapters

Monroe County Chapter

Superior Township Chapter

Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

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The Season of Giving – Support Local Green Places Today

Dear Friends,

It's that time of year when we think about giving: giving presents, giving help, giving nations. It's the season of gifts and it brings out the best in all of us.

Goodwill, care for your fellow man, appreciation of the blessings in life and the beautiful natural world that surrounds us.

I was reminded of that this past weekend. I was on a hike at Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy's (SMLC) Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve – West Prairie site. A few of us were hearing about the recent restoration work that had been completed with our project partner, The Nature Conservancy. It was very informative and interesting.

What was also interesting though was what happened as we walked along, first through the late fall landscape of the emerging prairie remnant, and then in the beautiful woods that cover the back half of the property. Members of our walking party had become interested in the trees – most of them barren of leaves that had fallen in a thick carpet along the trail.

We identified Black, White, and Pin Oaks; Red and Silver Maples; Black Cherry trees, Sycamores, Sassafras, Aspen and more. As we did, someone would talk about how these trees contributed to the ecosystem. We picked up fallen leaves along the way and admired how big some of them were compared to what we saw in our own neighborhoods. We took pictures of the interesting fungi growing on the trees and fallen branches. We became part of the environment for a brief time, marveling at the gifts nature provides in the form of trees.

Some members of our party are donors who have given significantly to SMLC for our annual operating capacity and for the stewardship of Sibley Prairie. They appreciated that their gifts support a peaceful place where people find rejuvenation, even in the midst of a larger urban setting, and can become more interested in the natural world.

You too can be part of making our corner of the world a better place with your gift to SMLC today. To donate now, [please click here to give online](#) or [please click here for a downloadable form](#). In addition, you can also give SMLC Gift Memberships for family and friends! You can **share** your love for the natural beauty of southeast Michigan with these special gifts ([please click here for a downloadable form](#)).

Thanks and **Happy Holidays**.

Jill A. Lewis
Executive Director