



Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

8383 Vreeland Rd.
Superior Township, MI 48198
(734) 484-6565
www.smlcland.org



White-breasted Nuthatch

Photo by Charles Scott

2020 Fact Sheet

Mission Statement: 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.

Purpose: To conserve and manage wildlife habitat in order to foster healthy ecosystems, protect air and water quality, and provide scenic enjoyment. To promote appreciation of the natural world; educate the public about conservation options; and engage communities throughout southeast Michigan in land protection and stewardship activities.

History: Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) was founded in 1988 to protect land in the 7-county southeast Michigan region: Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. To date, SMLC has protected more than **3,500 acres** in 7 counties including Genesee. SMLC has two local chapters, **Superior Township (STC)** and **Monroe County**. Both were established to assist SMLC with land protection and community relations in their respective areas.

Conservation Priorities: Our conservation work is focused in 3 main priority areas: the **Superior Greenway** in Washtenaw County, a greenbelt between Ann Arbor and metro Detroit; the **Sibley Prairie** complex in Wayne County, a globally rare remnant of lakeplain prairie habitat; and the **Lost Lake** region in northern Oakland County, a 500+ acre mosaic of lakes, wetlands, hardwood swamps, forest, and prairie.

Administration: SMLC is certified by the IRS as a charitable 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and is also a “qualified conservation organization” eligible to receive tax-deductible conservation easements and land donations. SMLC is licensed to solicit donations by the State of Michigan and undergoes an annual audit. SMLC is governed by a volunteer board of directors that oversees the governance, fiscal and operational activities of the organization.

2020 Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy Board of Directors:

- Mary Ericson, President
- James McIntyre, Vice President
- Richard Kent, Secretary
- Mitch Hall, Treasurer /
Finance Committee Chair
- William Secrest, At-Large Officer /
STC Committee Co-Chair
- Michelle Andrzejak, Director
- Bryan Collett, Director
- Michelle Deatruck, Director
- Don DeMallie, Director
- Tony Pitts, Director
- James T. Weiner, Director /
Land Protection Committee Chair

SMLC’s Board of Directors is assisted by **7 Committees:**

- ❖ Executive
- ❖ Finance
- ❖ Land Protection
- ❖ Stewardship
- ❖ Fund Development
- ❖ Superior Township Chapter
- ❖ Event Planning

(OVER)

2020 Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy Fact Sheet continued

Programs: SMLC's main programs are **Land Protection** which includes: *Conservation Initiatives, Land Acquisition, Land and Easement Stewardship, and Public Access; Community Outreach, and Regional Initiatives.* Most of our land conservation, community engagement and conservation awareness-building is accomplished through these primary programs.

SMLC is based at a historic farm in Superior Township. The Conservancy Farm may have one of the oldest residential buildings in the county, the original homestead cabin dating from the 1830's. It is also home to SMLC's **Community Organic Garden** program.

Finally, SMLC accomplishes some of our program goals by partnering with related organizations such as **Heart of the Lakes**, a center for land conservation policy in Michigan, and the **Land Trust Alliance**, a national association serving more than 1,700 land trusts across the country. SMLC also works with other area community, environmental and governmental groups including **SEMIWILD**.

Operations: SMLC maintains a small office of 2 full-time and 1 part-time staff. We also have a strong group of volunteers. Check out our volunteer opportunities at www.smlcland.org and view our event calendar or like/follow our Facebook page.

Donations: Donors can give to **SMLC** and let us use their gift where it is needed most, or they can direct their gift to one or more of the following SMLC restricted funds: **Land Protection, Monroe County, Superior Township, and Stewardship Endowment.** SMLC also raises funds for specific land protection projects (as announced). Please visit our website to download our donation form or to give safely and securely online. You may also call our office to obtain forms directly or to discuss other ways to give including land conservation options with our knowledgeable staff.

Nature Preserves: SMLC nature preserves are beautiful places to hike and explore the natural world in southeast Michigan. Preserves are open daily from dawn to dusk (see website for seasonal closure announcements).

Superior Greenway (Washtenaw):



- Conservancy Farm
- Jack R. Smiley Nature Preserve
- LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve
- Secrest Nature Preserve - **NEW**
- Springhill Nature Preserve
- Allen Woods Nature Preserve (Wayne)
- Bell Creek Nature Preserve (Wayne)
- Chesterfield Nature Preserve (Macomb)
- Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Preserve (Oakland)
- Heritage Oaks Nature Preserve (Wayne)
- Lost Lake Nature Preserve (Genesee/Oakland)
- Lyon's Point Nature Preserve (Livingston)
- Morris-Reichert Nature Preserve (Livingston)
- Nichwaugh Lake Nature Preserve (Livingston)
- Pittsfield Stream Corridor (Washtenaw)
- Warren H. Carpenter Nature Preserve (Livingston)

Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve (Wayne)

- Sibley Prairie site
- West Prairie site



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