



## Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

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



## 2024 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 almost **3,500 acres** in 7 counties plus Genesee. The **Superior Township Chapter (STC)** was established to assist SMLC with land protection and community relations.

**Conservation Priorities:** Our conservation work is focused in 3 main priority areas: the **Superior Greenway** in Washtenaw County, a more than 3,500-acre 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 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is a “qualified conservation organization” eligible to receive tax-deductible conservation easement and land donations. SMLC is a registered charity with the State of Michigan and undergoes an annual audit. As of February, SMLC is a newly Accredited Land Trust! Finally, SMLC is governed by a volunteer board of directors that oversees the governance, fiscal and operational activities of the organization.

### 2024 Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy Board of Directors:

- James McIntyre, President
- Mary Ericson, Secretary
- Mitch Hall, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair
- Donald DeMallie, At-large Officer
- Christopher Flanagan
- Richard Kent
- William Secrest, STC Committee Co-Chair
- James T. Weiner, 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

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## 2024 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.* Our land conservation, community engagement and conservation awareness-building is accomplished primarily through these efforts.

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 the **Land Trust Alliance**, a national association serving nearly 1,000 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 [smlcland.org](http://smlcland.org) and view our event calendar and follow us on social media.

**Donations:** Donors can give to **SMLC** and we can apply 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, Stewardship, Superior Township, and Stewardship Endowment.** SMLC also raises funds for specific land protection projects (as announced). Please visit our website to give online or download a donation form. SMLC is also on Paypal: [paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1829295](https://paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1829295). Please call our office if you need assistance 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
- 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 (10-Year Anniversary)



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