



**The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope.**

*~ Wendell Berry*

Dear Friend:

May 2018

I hope you've been able to appreciate the beautiful weather we've been having here in southeast Michigan. This year's late arrival of spring reminded me how nature can have a timeless ebb and flow and yet can be unpredictable! That dynamic contributes to my love of wild places including the ones here at home. For example, I greatly enjoy spring's renewal with the return of fresh greenery and the emerging wildlife activity in the natural areas around my home and office. However, I also enjoy nature's varying moods such as the enveloping quiet one hears in the woods once the rain begins.

This year as SMLC reflects upon the intrinsic, personal, and community value of nature and the benefits of locally protected lands, you probably have your own reasons as to why conserving southeast Michigan lands is so important to you. We'd love to hear from you and may even share your story in the upcoming fall issue of SMLC's *Landmarks* newsletter! Please send your short story (no more than 100 words) and / or photo (high quality, for use in SMLC marketing efforts) to [info@smlcland.org](mailto:info@smlcland.org) no later than September 1st. Your submission should answer the question: "why do I value nature / local land protection?" With your submission, please give us your full name, phone number (in case we need to contact you), and permission to use your photo, if applicable.

This spring has also been one of reflection for me given that I've now been with SMLC for more than 10 years. In that decade, SMLC has accomplished some amazing things! I'm especially proud of SMLC's success in saving the Lost Lake and the Sibley Prairie-West Prairie nature preserves and our work to make the dream of a Superior Greenway Nature Trail a reality. Even more than that, however, I'm appreciative of you. It's been gratifying to be connected with you through this work.

Please consider joining me in supporting SMLC with a financial gift this year. Every gift matters regardless of size, but please give at a level that represents your appreciation of SMLC's mission and the value nature holds for you. Thank you in advance for your annual SMLC contribution and for helping make land conservation a local success story here at home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill A. Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jill A. Lewis

Executive Director





Photo by Ann O'Hagan

### Our 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.

### Our Board of Directors...

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### Contact Us...

Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy  
 8383 Vreeland Road  
 Superior Township, MI 48198



734-484-6565 • 734-484-0617 (fax) • [www.smlcland.org](http://www.smlcland.org)

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 8383 Vreeland Road  
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Photo by Charles Scott

## What YOU Can Do

- 1. Make a generous donation today.**  
 Use the enclosed envelope to mail your gift to SMLC or make a secure credit card donation at [www.smlcland.org](http://www.smlcland.org).
- 2. Make a generous pledge today.**  
 Pledges can be payable over the next 2 years starting with a payment on the pledge before 12-31-18. All pledges should be paid in full no later than 12-31-19.
- 3. Tell your family and friends.**  
 Spread the word about SMLC's good work and invite others to join you in participating in "local land conservation".