

December 2022

Give Back to Nature in 2022



Conservation is in our nature.

Dear Friends,

Owls and beaver and cranes – oh my! The SMLC staff have been enjoying recent sightings and reports of fun and interesting wildlife this past month. From beaver at Pittsfield Stream Corridor Preserve in Washtenaw County to hundreds of sandhill cranes gathering in Livingston County to owls throughout the region, it's a wonderful time of year to see and hear wildlife.

Did you know that Sandhill cranes migrate in the fall (typically October-November) to southern states? Although some birds may overwinter, the majority are on the move then. They gather in lower Michigan before pushing on to their warmer winter habitats. Earlier this month, they collected in large numbers along the Huron River Chain of Lakes making a loud ruckus as they joined up in large groups for their evening resting spot.

Take a walk on the wild side with your family and friends this holiday season. See how many animal tracks or evidence of wildlife you can identify during your visits. What magical experiences are awaiting as you traverse a wooded path, meander along a lakeshore, or stroll through an open field?

This December, consider an **SMLC gift membership** for the nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts on your list. Your charitable contributions help protect wildlife habitat for birds and other animals. Gift Memberships last for a year and include informative mailings such as our *Landmarks* Newsletter and invitations to special outdoor and fun events. They also are easy to give (no shipping or gift wrap needed 😊).

You can **share** your love of southeast Michigan nature with these special gifts for family and friends [download a gift membership form](#). And, if you have not yet contributed to saving local **woods, wetlands, prairies, and farmland**, please make a year-end gift today. [Donate now](#) or [download a donation form](#).

Thanks for giving back to nature and supporting local wildlife habitat this year.

Happy Holidays.

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