



Waukesha County Land Conservancy

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFECTS EVERYONE

As one of Wisconsin's leading land trusts, it is our job to ensure that our beautiful, high-quality ecosystems, which are increasingly threatened by human development, are protected and stewarded effectively. When our ecosystems are healthy, everyone in our community enjoys the benefits of nature that we all depend on—clean water, clean air, and access to outdoor recreation.

Our 27-year legacy speaks for itself; since 1992, we have protected 3,000 acres of environmentally significant land in Waukesha County. In fact, we were awarded the 2018 Wisconsin Land Trust of the Year Award. But there is still a great deal of work to be done to protect our ecosystems for future generations.

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NATURE ACCESS FOR ALL



“To address the barriers that stand in the way of our underserved communities, we will meet with minority communities, educators, and our constituents themselves.”

Waukesha County's Latin-X and African-American communities face a severe nature deficit, meaning that they often lack access to vital outdoor resources, conservation education programs, and the health benefits of spending time in nature. To better address the barriers that stand in the way of our underserved communities, we plan on meeting with minority community leaders, educators from local universities, K–12 educators, and our constituents themselves. We will recruit them to join our committees so that they can contribute to the development of a more inclusive experiential learning program. By making them integral to the development process, we will engage underserved communities in a highly participatory way.

We will hire an education and outreach manager to lead this expansion and establish strong partnerships with local branches of community-centered nonprofits including the Ice Age Trail Alliance and other organizations that support Latin-X individuals and women and girls. We are proud of our partnership with Wisconsin Hero Outdoors, an organization that connects veterans, first responders, and their families with nature to help with their recovery. We are excited to work with other organizations that align with Wisconsin Hero Outdoors' mantra of “Honor. Courage. Conservation.”

SAVING LOCAL OAK ECOSYSTEMS; MAKING A GLOBAL IMPACT

WCLC stewards over 500 acres of rare, globally imperiled oak ecosystems. These remnant oak ecosystems have remained relatively untouched by human development for thousands of years. Because of their extremely high quality, preserving them is our top priority, and we need to act quickly. Just like you must maintain a house so that it does not depreciate in value, we must continually steward these ecosystems before they degrade beyond repair.



UW-M LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING TEAM



LAND CONSERVANCY

2019 🌳 YEAR OF THE OAK

Our essential stewardship initiatives include prescribed burns, a safe and controlled conservation technique that has been used for centuries to ensure the survival of Wisconsin's native species. In 2018 alone, we performed nearly 200 acres of restorative brush control across eight of our highest-priority preserves. Investing in effective stewardship now will help ensure the survival of our beloved rare native species such as the redheaded woodpecker, which has experienced a 68 percent population decline in recent years due to the loss of its habitat.

OUR NEXT BIG PROJECT: CONNECTING WITH YOU



HIKING TOUR OF WCLC PRESERVE

Our next big project centers on formally establishing and strengthening strategic partnerships with an alliance of conservation and environmental education partners. This alliance will allow us to refine alliance-wide priorities; share resources, tools, and expertise; market events to a wider audience via shared information systems; and deliver more impact with the dollars you give.

We are proud of the relationships we already have with Waukesha County, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Tall Pines Conservancy, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Carroll University, and other nonprofits, and we are looking forward to many more collaborations. Your gift will support the growth of this alliance and its initiatives, including the hiring of an education and outreach manager to lead us into more connected and inclusive future of land conservation.

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BACK ROW: Jim Siepmann, Joe Nolan, Nathaniel Kinney, Steven Schmuki, Neal O'Reilly, Andres Gonzalez
FRONT ROW: Susan Marguet, Meghan Wersel, Ellen Gennrich, Riene Wells, Phillip Hinman, Cheryl White



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