

LANDMARKS

Newsletter of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

Spring 2022



Sandhill Cranes

The SMLC Naturehood

By Misty Callies, Eco-Logical Leadership Club (ELLC) Member and Event Planning Committee Chair

"Naturehood"—a word that isn't a word but, in my mind and in the minds of many at SMLC, should be. Why? Because "Naturehood" brings together the two particulars but not separate aspects of our lives: nature, the biological environment through which we all move; and the neighborhood, or people amongst whom we live. Both elements, of course, can be as small or as large as you like, from your yard and the folks next door to the woods, fields, waters and the fellow citizens of your state and, finally, to the entire world. Both are really about community—how the natural world works within patterns and systems and how humans form similar societies to work together (hopefully) for mutual benefit.

The important point is that while Nature can stand alone—despite the effects and predations of humans and perhaps differently than without human society cannot; it lives within Nature on the very air, water, and food it provides. Bringing together the two communities under one word— Naturehood—recognizes the importance of each as

Photo by Wendy Pellerito

individual components but reinforces the greater totality of the union.

"Naturehood" also has a more personal connotation. It describes the groups of people that, recognizing the essential character of the Nature-human dynamic, work to maintain and strengthen Nature in their local communities, in their countries, in the world at large—ecologists, scientists, conservationists, farmers and gardeners, park rangers, activists, and plain old concerned citizens. As plain old concerned citizens, my husband, Bill Secrest, and I have been part of SMLC for over thirty years, supporting its mission to conserve land for the sake of Nature—and for the sake of the humans that live in southeast Michigan.

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Message from the Executive Director, Jill A. Lewis





Conservation is in our Nature.

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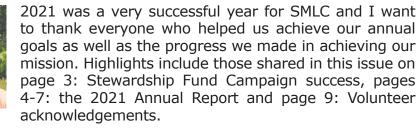
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Our Staff

Jill A. Lewis Executive Director jlewis@smlcland.org

Julie McLaughlin Stewardship and Outreach Manager jmclaughlin@smlcland.org

> Kathy Hammond Office Specialist info@smlcland.org



In addition, we hosted our rescheduled Red Barn Bash at the historic Ypsilanti Freighthouse in October. It was fulfilling to see attendees in person and the evening was a magical one! We greatly appreciate our Honorary Chairs: Mandy Grewal, Melissa Prowse, and Sue Shink, and all of the event sponsors and donors for your support. Thank you!

In December, SMLC was granted forgiveness for our second Paychex Protection Program (PPP-II) loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These one-time pandemic grants were a huge help and allowed us to retain our staffing at normal levels for both years.

Finally, we continued to make progress on our land conservation and public access goals last year including several projects that are planned to come to fruition this year: a new parking lot and marquee name sign at the Secrest Nature Preserve; a new trail entrance, bridge crossing, and marquee name sign at our Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve-West Prairie site; and a new marquee name sign and prescribed burn at our Lost Lake Nature Preserve.

Thank you to our 2021 donors, funders, Eco-Logical Leadership Club (ELLC) members, and conservation project partners. As we continue to pivot away from pandemic precautions and towards a more resilient and engaged 2022, we know that our success is due to all of you – your financial support, volunteerism and ongoing appreciation has made all the difference.



SMLC's Conservation Video Series

In 2021, SMLC professionally produced a series of conservation videos highlighting the seasons at three of our key conservation locations: Spring in the Superior Greenway, Summer in the Sibley Prairie, and Autumn at Lost Lake. You can view these enjoyable and informative videos **on our YouTube page.**

SMLC's Stewardship Fund

By Jill A. Lewis, Executive Director

SMLC has a new Stewardship Fund! Thanks to the many 2021 donors, the Speckhard-Knight Charitable Foundation and The William and Lisa Ford Foundation for helping making our dream come true. The initial target of raising \$75,000 to meet The Carls Foundation challenge grant was exceeded over a month early! The Foundation followed up with the matching gift of \$75,000 earlier this year. SMLC is very grateful to everyone who helped us achieve this goal.

Stewardship Fund Campaign	
- Total 2021 Funding:	\$162,931
Original Goal + Match:	\$150,000

Now that SMLC has the initial seed funding in place, we are moving ahead on a number of longstanding goals and projects including a very recent prescribed burn at LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve, establishing and replacing boardwalks at Superior Greenway nature preserves, and shoring up older public infrastructure at Lost Lake and other preserves. We are also using this funding to support annual conservation easement and nature preserve monitoring, invasive species removal, and general buildings and equipment upkeep.

Additionally, the new Fund helps SMLC meet the funding criteria required by Land Trust Alliance's Accreditation Commission for stewardship funding for nature preserves and conservation easements.

The new Stewardship Fund is now a permanent restricted giving option for donors. To donate to this Fund, please note this as part of your gift to SMLC.



Controlled Burn at LeFurge Photo by George Kasdorf

Finding Frogs at Lost Lake Photo by Jonathan Schechter.



What is the ELLC, and How Can I Join?

The SMLC Eco-Logical Leadership Club (ELLC) offers conservation-minded donors an opportunity to support SMLC's mission at a leadership level. The annual gift minimum is \$1,000 in unrestricted donations and this can be renewed annually if the donor chooses to do so. These gifts help leverage foundation, corporate, and project funding.

"My annual ELLC donation is part of a base of support for SMLC's protection of important habitats in our region. By joining the Club, I hope to set an example for others to follow!"

Mary Ericson, ELLC Member

SMLC is extremely grateful to our ELLC members for supporting our mission and ongoing conservation work during the pandemic. This has been a great help to the organization's 2020 and 2021 fiscal years and our long-term resiliency. If this is of interest to you, please consider joining the current 25 ELLC members in 2022. Contact Jill Lewis at jlewis@smlcland.org to learn more.

President's Report

By James McIntyre, SMLC Board President

Looking back at my first full year as President, I'm absolutely awestruck by the level of dedication, commitment, and perseverance displayed by everyone who has worked so diligently to make SMLC a success. I'm amazed to see the impact a small group of people is having on the community and I'm humbled to be afforded the opportunity help guide SMLC into the future. With the challenges the organization has faced over the last few years, I'm thrilled with our progress and with our prospects for future success.

2021 was a year that saw SMLC attain several important milestones. Our new Secrest Nature Preserve opened to the public in September, featuring a wonderful scenic trail, giving users access to existing trail systems in Weatherbee Woods Preserve and Schroeter Park— and we're excited to announce that work will soon begin on a parking area, allowing for even better access to this trail system. We also were able to successfully complete our first full prescribed burn at our Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve - West Prairie site, and we're very excited to see the positive impact this burn will have on the flora and fauna of this critically important habitat.

We also found ourselves with an opportunity to establish our new dedicated Stewardship Fund, but we had to act fast. The intense, almost frantic, fund-raising campaign that followed was exhilarating—although Jill and the Staff might use other words to describe it—and we met our goal! It was a great way to finish off an outstanding year for SMLC.

Looking forward, 2022 will see some Board transition. Michelle Andrzejak, Bryan Collett, and Tony Pitts have completed their terms. They will all remain involved with SMLC through their committee work and other endeavors. I want to thank each of them—both personally, and on behalf of the organization— for the time, energy, and expertise they were able to provide while they served as Directors. We truly appreciate their efforts! We also are excited to be welcoming Shawn Severance to the Board as our newest Director. Shawn has chaired our Stewardship Committee for several years and will bring a wealth of knowledge and insight to our discussions. I look forward to continuing our work, and I'm excited to see what this Board will be able to accomplish.

My sincerest appreciation goes out to our phenomenal staff, our Board Directors, Committee members, and the scores of volunteers; without the expertise and diligence of these people, we would simply not exist. Finally, my unending gratitude goes out to all those who have provided financial support to SMLC. I truly don't have the words to express to you how important your generosity is to the organization or how appreciative we are for what you do. **Thank you!**



Bloodroot Blooming

Photo by Charles Scott

SMLC welcomes new Leadership

The SMLC Board voted in Shawn Severance as a new Director earlier this year, for a 3-year term beginning January 2022. This brings our total number of directors to 9.

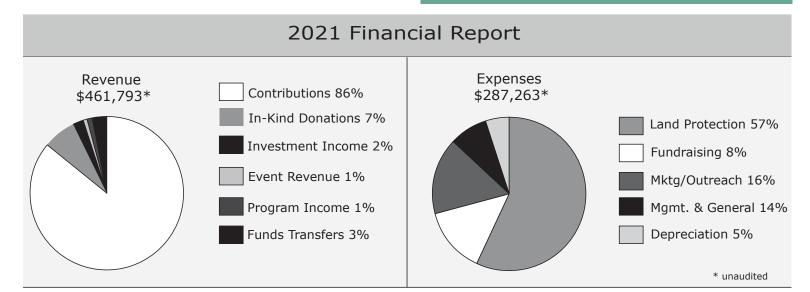
Shawn is a Naturalist and science educator committed to restoring Michigan's ecosystems and restoring the human connection to the peace of wild places. She has been a Parks Naturalist with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission for the past 16 years leading hikes and field trips for all ages, among many other responsibilities. Shawn is also the Chair and a longstanding member of SMLC's Stewardship Committee. She has a Master's in Landscape Architecture from UofM's School of Natural Resources and Environment.

SMLC also added Jon Richards to our Finance Committee earlier this year. Jon is the Director of International Finance with Domino's Pizza and has been with the company for many years. Prior to that, he was with General Motors in their Service and Marketing division. He is a life-long resident of Washtenaw County and strongly believes in the preservation of land with valuable natural features. Jon holds a Master's in Business Administration from MSU's Eli Broad Graduate School of Management.





To sign up, please send an email to: **info@smlcland.org**





Thank You

for supporting our Mission in 2021!

The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy extends appreciation to all of our generous donors. Your 2021 contributions made it possible for SMLC to continue to protect and preserve natural lands and open space in southeast Michigan.

We apologize for any errors and omissions. If something is incorrect please let us know.

Gifts from Foundations & Organizations

\$50,000 and up The Carls Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Speckhard-Knight Charitable Foundation ^{SFC} U.S. Small Business Administration (PPP-II) The William and Lisa Ford Foundation ^{SFC} Anonymous

\$10,000 - \$24,999

James A. & Faith Knight Foundation Superior Land Preservation Society SPEG-II

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Ann Arbor Farm & Garden Capstone Tax & Financial Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan – Fred G. & Stephanie Secrest Fund DePorre Family Foundation Domino's Pizza, LLC Land Trust Alliance Reynolds Water Conditioning Company The National Environmental

Education Foundation (NEEF) The Nature Conservancy in Ohio

\$500 - \$999

All Seasons Market & Deli Busch's Fresh Food Market C5 Ventures, LLC Earthshare of Michigan Food Art Catered Affairs, Inc. Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio McKinsey & Company - Detroit Pauloworks REI – Michigan Oakland County CISMA Standard Printing Washtenaw Audubon Society SFC

\$250 - \$499

Cousens Lansky, P.C. Kroger Community Rewards Margolis Nursery Moosejaw Mountaineering Ypsilanti Native Plant Nursery

\$1 - \$249

AmazonSmile Foundation Boisvenu & Company, P.C. By the Pound Cheboygan Brewing Company Crow's Nest Foods, LLC Centered Bodywork English Gardens Michigan Botanical Club-Huron Valley Chapter Microsoft Rewards PayPal Giving Fund Pfizer Foundations Matching Gift Program Russell Video Services Saline Stone & Thistle Garden Club Tammy's Tastings Toyota Matching Gift Program Village Canoe Rental

Gifts from Individuals

\$10,000 and up

Mary Emmett ELLC, SFC Jim Hewitt William Secrest & Misty Callies ELLC, SFC James Weiner William & Vivienne Young SFC Anonymous

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Morgan Stanley Gift – Kurt Jung Family, Kurt & Maura Jung ^{ELLC} John Schlansker ^{ELLC} Dr. John Woollam ^{ELLC, SFC} Anonymous

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Michelle & Chris Andrzejak ELLC Joyce Arakelian ELLC Sean Cronin ELLC, SFC Michelle Deatrick ELLC Mary Ericson ELLC Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund - Art & Marion Gold ELLC (includes Fred G. & Stephane Secrest Fund Matching Gift) Jeffrey & Marilyn Gilbert ELLC, SFC Vanguard Charitable - The Hall Family Charitable Fund - Mitch & Lori Hall ELLC, SFC Jeffery Hannah & Nur Akcasu Gary & Bonnie Hollander Lee Jasinski George & Nancy Kasdorf Richard Kent ELLC Diane Krause ELLC Evan & Laurie Lyall ELLC Eric & Monica Malloy ELLC Gerald & Rose Matuszak ELLC James & Michelle McIntyre ELLC

Robert & Jennifer Moll ELLC Bill Phillips & Marianne Udow-Phillips ELLC James Reynolds ELLC The John & Marilyn Rintamaki Family Charitable Fund; AYCO Charitable Foundation - John & Marilyn Rintamaki SFC Ann Robbins ELLC Dan & Lilv Secrest ELLC (includes Fred G. & Stephane Secrest Fund Matching Gift) Stephen & Darlene Secrest ELLC, SFC (includes Fred G. & Stephane Secrest Fund Matching Gift) Shubham Singhal (includes McKinsey & Company – Detroit matching donation) Jonathan & Katie Trevathan^{ELLC, SFC} Craig Tylenda ELLC, SFC Anonymous

\$500-\$999

John Brinley & Anne Schott SFC Brian Carroll Bryan Collett Sue & Brian Corcoran Bryan Garchar SFC Dan & Jane Hayes SFC Patsy Knoop Ronald Kustra SFC Ati & Jennifer Tislerics Anonymous

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Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy 2021 Annual Report

Jamin Eisenbach & Susan Nicosia Eric & Vivian Ellsworth David Elmer Peter & Mary Fales John & Anne Farmer Chris & Rose Fielding Lynette Findley Wayne Fisher Jim Fitch SFC Rod & Karen Folland LaMar & Carol Frederick Tom & Cathy Freeman Zach & Nancy Frey Hal & Lisa Friedman Ron Gamble Jay & Gwyn Gardner Donald Garlit & Beatrice Friedlander **Rick & Kathleen Garrett** Joey Geffen Joseph Gembala Michael Gerdenich & Ina Handel-Gerdenich Fric Giraenti Ross Gladwin Michael & Jennifer Goewey SFC Gerry Golinske & Jane Bonanata John & Margaret Goodnoe Ed Gordish Maya Grant Ruth Graves Shawn Grose Ken & Mary (Geraldine) Grunow Rodney & Maryanne Guest Kurt & Liz Hagemeister Michael Hahn Robert & Liza Hamel SFC Bryan & Kathleen Hammond SFC Adam Hammons Gary & Annie Hannan Lauri Hanson Dan & Kimberly Harber Ruth Hart Randall & Janice Harvey Mary Hastings Tom Hatch & Susan Shink Brian Hazlett & Cathy Bach Miguel Hector Jaclyn Heikkila SFC

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ELLC Eco-Logical Leadership Club SGEP-II Superior Greenway Expansion Project, Phase II SFC Stewardship Fund Campaign

Memorial Donations

In Memory of Kathleen Craffey

By Robert & Jennifer Moll SFC

In Memory of Helen Jeter

By Marge Lundgren

In Memory of Ela Jiga

By Roger Corpolongo SFC

In Memory of Donald Pierce, Jr.

By Robert & Jennifer Moll SFC

In Memory of Daniel R. Sard By Glen & Gary Sard

In Memory of Bill Weber, Jr.

By Robert & Jennifer Moll SFC

In Memory of Cody White By Susan List

In Honor of Joan L. Wojack By Donald F. Wojack SFC

In Memory of Donnie Woodward By Susan List

Conservation Highlights

The Importance of Fire in Land Stewardship

By Michael Hahn, SMLC Stewardship Committee, City of Ann Arbor NAP Stewardship Specialist

Fire has been a part of the Michigan landscape since the last glaciers receded north. It's the regular presence of fire that created the mosaic landscape of prairies and oak openings of Southeast Michigan. The native plants that call our preserves home have adapted to this disturbance and even depend on it to thrive. The arrival of European settlers and their suppression of fire across the land has allowed invasive species to gain a foothold while also closing in our historically open woodlands and creating competition for native plants.

This is where the importance of land stewardship comes into action. Controlled fire has been used as an effective management tool for several decades. Recognizing this, one of the many projects SMLC's Stewardship staff is working on is to increase the presence of fire in the preserves. In coordination with members of SMLC's Stewardship Committee and Masters students from the University of Michigan School of the Environment and Sustainability, SMLC is developing a prescribed burn program for the Conservancy. While the project is still in the beginning stages, it will help to develop protocols and communication procedures as well as establish ecological goals for fire-dependent communities at our nature preserves.

Additionally, this spring SMLC is working with the professionally trained and highly experienced local contractor PlantWise to conduct controlled ecological burns at LeFurge Woods and Lost Lake Nature Preserves. The objective of these burns is to improve grassland habitat and to reduce the impacts of invasive species.

The anticipated burn and the development of a controlled burn program will only help us work towards the Conservancy's vision of Southeast Michigan: a beautiful place where people and nature coexist in a healthy, sustainable balance.

Burn at West Prairie

Photo by Julie McLaughlin



Vernal Pool Patrol Kicks Off 2nd Year

By Julie McLaughlin, Stewardship and Outreach Manager

Vernal pools are isolated shallow, seasonal, bodies of water, which are formed from winter snowmelt and spring rain. By fall, the pools are greatly reduced or dried up completely and ready to repeat the cycle again next year. These pools are essential habitat for many kinds of plants and animals, including breeding grounds for spotted salamanders and wood frogs.

In 2021 SMLC joined the "vernal pool patrol", part of a statewide effort by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) to collect data about vernal pools. The team of staff, interns, and volunteers located and inventoried 34 potential vernal pools across four nature preserves. This spring's monitoring visits will provide confirmation for these vernal pools, and also expand initial surveying into some additional nature preserves such as Lost Lake Nature Preserve.



Vernal Pool Monitor Training Photo by Jeff Davis

Superior Township Chapter at the Native Plant Expo

By Cathy Bach, Carla Bisaro and Michelle McIntyre, Superior Township Chapter Steering Committee Members

In 2019, the Washtenaw County Conservation District organized their inaugural Native Plant Expo and Marketplace, and SMLC's Superior Township Chapter seized the opportunity to participate.

Although the event was primarily arranged for vendors and purchasers of native Michigan plants, the Chapter was among several non-profit exhibitors in attendance. We used the opportunity to display information about a Native Plant and Insect Garden we had recently installed at SMLC's Jack R. Smiley Nature Preserve, funded by a grant from the Michigan Botanical Foundation. Photos of the site preparation, planting, and the first year's growth drew individuals to our booth and our project found great favor with expo attendees.

During the 2019 event, members of the STC garden committee also had the good fortune to connect with representatives of the Ann Arbor Farm & Garden organization. Impressed with the results of our garden, they suggested we present to their group about our project. Eventually, this connection led to a grant from Ann Arbor Farm & Garden to create a native prairie habitat on a third of an acre adjacent to the original garden.

After its 2020 cancellation, the 2021 Native Plant Expo and Marketplace opened to an expectant crowd. STC again participated, sharing the good news about the prairie grant and upcoming Fall planting.

WCCD has announced a new location for the 2022 expo, the Chelsea Community Fairgrounds. STC is looking forward to participating once again so that we may continue to share the story of our projects and encourage interested individuals to visit the site or volunteer for an upcoming work day.

Come Plant a Prairie at Jack R Smiley Nature Preserve!

Saturday, June 11th Two events: 9am - noon and 1 - 4 pm

Email Carla at ckbisaro@comcast.net to sign up!

Many thanks to our volunteers...

To the *Landmarks* newsletter guest writers: Cathy Bach, Carla Bisaro, Misty Callies, Mike Hahn, Jim McIntyre, Shawn Severance.

To our **photographers**: Jeff Davis, George Kasdorf, Julie McLaughlin, Wendy Pellerito, Jonathan Schechter, Charles Scott.

To the **stewardship** volunteers: Nicholas Actis, Abbey Aigeltinger, DelShawn Akpan, Allegra Baird, Ruby Barron, Emily Belloli, Jim Belloli, Peter Blank, Kevin Bohannon, Armando Calvillo, Christopher Casillas, Rachel Cate, Jessica Chesney, Joseph Colon, Jeff Davis, Tim DeWitt, Dan Ezekiel, Sarah Ferrero, Susan Fisher, Karlee Foster, Bryan Garchar, Daniel Gawura, Alex Goren, Richard Green, Colby Gura, Bridget Held, William Hickey, Illusion Jones, Lexi Jones, George Kasdorf, Kassy Lee, Heidi Leland, Wynton Love, Vincent Lu, Sara McDonnell, Matt Mercure, John Metzler, David Miller, Robert Moll, Jenelle Neubecker, Elizabeth Noren, William Paddison, Tony Pitts, Pratima Sabas, Rylie Schroetenboer, Jordan Schultz, Carla Scruggs, Clark Seybert, Casie Silva, Conchita Snuverink, Gene & Margaret Szedenits, Shonda Tohm, Taaja Tucker, Elijah Vasquez, Aaron VonBargen, Emily Wall, Kristin Warzyniec, Greg Wnuk, Emily Wollan, Bart Yeary, Joshua Yepez, and Laurie Yorke.

To our **Red Barn Bash** volunteers: Misty Callies, Don DeMallie, Heidi Guenther, Cameron McIntyre, Emerald McIntyre, Jim McIntyre, Michelle McIntyre, Tony Pitts, Jim Robertson, Pat Robertson, Nancy Sapp, Bill Secrest, Jayde Sparks, Rebecca Wauldron, Jacob Yesh-Brochstein.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered with SMLC this year!

We are always looking for dedicated people who want to help SMLC achieve our mission. For more information about volunteering, please email **info@smlcland.org** or call 734-484-6565.

Conservancy Farm Restoration

By Shawn Severance, SMLC Board Director and Stewardship Committee Chair

This summer, SMLC will begin to restore a piece of the pre-settlement Michigan landscape. In the fields behind Conservancy Farm in Superior Township, earth moving machines will reshape the land to create 12 acres of emergent wetland and 30 acres of native upland prairie. Once the construction heals, this new habitat will be a flowering gem at the heart of the Superior Greenway that embraces our headquarters.

When the glaciers receded at the end of the last Ice Age they left vast wetlands and prairies that meandered their way through uplands woods. As the spring rains filled the low areas, returning waterfowl would wheel and dance against the sky by the millions, looking for a mate and a place to build a nest.

It's hard to imagine the abundance of bird life this land once held before agriculture drained the wetlands. In the last 250 years, up to 90% of pre-settlement wetland acreage in southern Michigan has been lost. Returning open water to the landscape and re-establishment of native grasslands on former crop fields will knit together over 138 acres of contiguous restored habitat. It won't take long before it's recognized as a quality place to mate and raise young. Before the prairie grasses grow tall – this usually takes three years – dragonflies, waterbirds, salamanders, and frogs will come to live.

Transforming a soybean field to a diverse native habitat is a large undertaking and necessarily requires partnerships. This restoration leverages the design expertise of US Fish and Wildlife and Ducks Unlimited engineers – among the best in the world at restoring functional wetlands – and over 30K in federal funding. Will this project functionally improve wildlife habitat? Help us answer this question! We invite you to become a volunteer monitor, documenting the return of wildlife and establishment of healthy native vegetation. Consider financially supporting this project by donating to our Stewardship Fund.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Summer 2022. The construction is just the beginning of an opportunity to put back a small piece of the wild landscape that once characterized our region.

Please contact SMLC with questions at 734-484-6565 or email info@smlcland.org



Wildlife Sightings



Fairy Shrimp

By Julie McLaughlin, Stewardship and Outreach Manager

Fairy shrimp are a small (1" or less in length) invertebrate that swims on their back. This type of crustacean (related to lobsters and crabs) only occur in waters that are free of fish populations.

Fairy shrimp swim around eating algae and plankton growing in the vernal pool. In order to digest their food, they must produce a thick, glue-like substance to mix with their meal. They use their legs to filter feed or scrape food from hard substrates.

These creatures live out their life cycle in a single vernal pool. Each spring, during the rainy season, small depressions fill up with water and the fairy shrimp hatch. They grow to maturity over several weeks, eating algae and plankton. Before the vernal pool dries up again, the females produce hardy eggs which survive the dry season and hatch when the rains come again.

Continued from page 1

I'm not a scientist and can't say if Nature truly starts with land, but can forests, that absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, grow strong without sufficient soil? Can birds and mammals thrive without forests and fields in which to breed and feed and rest? Can fish and amphibians survive without waters delineated into streams and lakes and oceans by land, rocks, and trees? A simplistic picture, perhaps, but no less true. For me, then, land becomes, at the very least, a basic unit. And our compelling duty as humans becomes allying ourselves with like-minded folks to conserve land. SMLC is one such group.

When we moved to the area, joining with others in our immediate "Naturehood" of southeast Michigan became a necessity for Bill and me. Supporting SMLC with dollars and volunteer hours to fulfill its land conservation mission has been an act of self-preservation, human improvement, and an Fairy shrimp are one of four vernal pool indicator species, which means that their presence is confirmation that a body of water is in fact a vernal pool (see **page 9** for more details). Other indicator species are spotted salamanders, blue-spotted salamanders, and wood frogs.

A new video showing each of these indicator species up close can be seen at https://youtu.be/vdJDe3bA7j8



acknowledgement of the interconnectedness of all life. We cannot imagine doing otherwise. Can you? Can you see how and where you might help? Joining SMLC can be a big first step and offering continuing support—dollars, time, work—a lifesaving effort. Please help.

Garden Plots Available for 2022

Garden plots are available in SMLC's Community Organic Garden at the **Conservancy Farm in Superior Township.** Begun in 2005, the garden offers 20' x 20' plots on a first-come, first-served basis. Half plots are also available. Please contact volunteer Garden Coordinator Jack Smiley by email at jackrsmiley@gmail.com if you are interested in growing your own veggies at the Farm. Additional information is available on SMLC's website at smlcland.org.

Yes! I want to help preserve critical natural habitat in southeast Michigan by supporting Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.				
\$ Total Gift		\Box Check here to let SMLC use my gift where it is needed most.		
Or, direct my donation:				
\$ Stewardship Fund	\$	Superior Township —— Fund		
\$ Land Protection Fund	\$	Stewardship Endowment Fund		
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy and mail to: Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy 8383 Vreeland Rd. Superior Township, MI 48198 Or, make a secure online credit card donation at www.smlcland.org Name:				
Address:				
City:				
Phone:				
Email:				
All donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. The donor received no goods or services in exchange for this donation. E-mail used only for SMLC news/announcements. We will never give or sell your personal information to any other group.				
Our Mission The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy conserves natural land and open space - including forests,				

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.

Wish List

SMLC could use the following items:

Item Needed	Retail Cost
6' x 18' utility trailer	\$3,500
3 point hitch tractor wood chipper attachment	\$2,500
Drone with camera and remote	\$300 - 500
Fire Safety Equipment	\$1,100
Good working order black and white Business Printer	\$250
New or gently used linens for our Farmhouse kitchen and bathroom	\$150
Wildlife camera	\$100
Vernal pool monitoring kits	\$120
Please contact the SMLC of	fice

Please contact the SMLC office if you would like to make our wishes come true!

(734) 484-6565 | info@smlcland.org



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