

News Release



Conservation is in our nature.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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538-ACRE LOST LAKE NATURE PRESERVE – OPENING TO THE PUBLIC Public Dedication Event October 18, 2015

Superior Township, MI –*Celebrate Trails, Lakes and Prairies* with Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) at the Dedication of their Lost Lake Nature Preserve. The grand opening event will be held on Sunday, October 18th from 2:00-4:30 p.m. and will feature a short program, the guided Fall Frolic Nature Hike, and other outdoor educational activities.

The 538-acre preserve is located in Holly Township, Oakland County and Grand Blanc Township, Genesee County. It was acquired by SMLC in August 2013 thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who donated the purchase funds to the organization. Six Rivers Land Conservancy acquired a conservation easement on the property at the same time the property was purchased by SMLC. This arrangement provides two layers of land protection and ensures that the property will always remain a natural area open to the public.

“The Lost Lake Nature Preserve is a beautiful representation of the natural heritage of Oakland and Genesee counties”, says Jill A. Lewis, SMLC Executive Director. “SMLC is pleased to be able to open the preserve to the public for trail hiking and scenic enjoyment.”

The property is a draw due to its local history and scenic natural features including two kettle lakes, abundant wetlands, mature forests, and open spaces. The preserve even has a historic “runway” that is naturally converting to a prairie. Interesting natural findings have included scenic glacial moraines, a heron rookery, and a visiting Osprey, among others.

Neighbors and visitors have described the preserve as peaceful and serene. Past Fall Frolic attendees have also expressed interest in learning more about the property’s natural characteristics, SMLC’s future management plans for the preserve, and visiting again when it is open to the public.

“Engaging the local communities will be key to Lost Lake Nature Preserve’s future success”, states Jill Lewis. “The more people understand why land

conservation is a good thing, not just for wildlife but also for them, and therefore, get involved, the more we all benefit.”

Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy will continue to establish the property as a nature preserve that is open to the public for passive recreation and on-site education. Hiking trails, scenic overlooks and demonstration sites will provide visitors with opportunities to enjoy a beautiful landscape while also learning about natural areas restoration.

2015 Preserve Days Events

This is the 3rd and final Dedication in the series of Preserve Days events that SMLC has hosted this year. The others have included the grand opening of their Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve – West Prairie site located in Brownstown Township, Wayne County and the grand opening of the Superior Greenway Nature Trail and their Jack R. Smiley Nature Preserve located in Superior Township, Washtenaw County.

The event Partners for the Lost Lake Nature Preserve Dedication are Oakland County Parks and Six Rivers Land Conservancy. Partners for the prior events were: The Nature Conservancy, Friends of the Rouge, Superior Township and Washtenaw County Parks.

2015 Preserve Days Sponsors include: ITC, Busch’s Fresh Food Market, and St. Joseph Mercy Health System and others. Sponsorships are still available.

The complete list of Partners and Sponsors can be viewed at www.smlcland.org.

Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, a 501(c)3 nonprofit and qualified conservation organization established 27 years ago, has protected more than 3,400 acres across southeast Michigan through the conservation of natural lands and open space to provide wildlife habitat and to enrich the lives of people. SMLC has a history of conserving land in partnership with Federal, State, and local governments and other conservation organizations. www.smlcland.org

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