

*"They took all the trees; Put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged the people; A dollar and a half just to see 'em
Don't it always seem to go; That you don't know what you've got
Till it's gone; They paved paradise; And put up a parking lot"*

— Joni Mitchell

May 2010

To our Friends:

The arrival of warmer weather means it's time for the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy's (SMLC) spring appeal. Your donations have always been extremely important to SMLC because they have enabled us to continue our conservation mission – efforts that started over 20 years ago and continue to this day. However, this year, your donations to SMLC will count more than ever. **The Carls Foundation has awarded SMLC a two-year \$150,000 matching grant.** Every dollar you donate by December 31, 2010 (up to \$75,000) will be matched equally by The Carls Foundation!

SMLC has been hard at work protecting and maintaining natural habitats and open spaces - such as at our newest 26 acre nature preserve in Van Buren Township, Wayne County and at our 75 acre nature preserve in Chesterfield Township, Macomb County where we recently began an uplands meadow project.

Preserves like these ones are recognized by scientists and birders alike as urban "stop-and-go" sites for migrating birds. They provide vital habitat and food for the long journeys and are essential for the survival of many species.

Southeast Michigan's developing landscape means conservancies and other organizations must prioritize our collective efforts. To address the need for saving the best of our remaining green places, SMLC will identify and prioritize natural habitats and farmland throughout the region which should be protected. Although this conservation planning effort will begin this year, it could take several years to complete. SMLC has also been collaborating with other local land

conservancies to develop a "green map" of the region. SMLC's work with these projects will focus our future land protection efforts.

The Carls Foundation has recognized the importance of SMLC's land protection goals with their generous \$150,000 matching grant. SMLC will use this grant for our conservation planning efforts and, in part, for a new Director of Stewardship. This position will lead SMLC's efforts in both nature preserve management and conservation easement responsibilities. This will allow current staff to focus more attention on volunteer management and stewardship work days and move the organization towards Land Trust Alliance Accreditation.

To receive The Carls Foundation grant, which is important to our continuing conservation efforts, **we need your help.** Please make or pledge a gift in support of our ongoing "We Care" campaign by using the enclosed envelope. Your donation will be used to increase SMLC's operational and stewardship capacity and will leverage The Carls Foundation match.

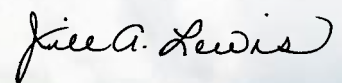
Your gift to SMLC will help us do our part in protecting the places we care about in southeast Michigan.

Thanks for making a difference today.

Sincerely,
Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy



James T. Weiner
President



Jill A. Lewis
Executive Director



Photo by
Tara Truax



Photo by Rich Lawton

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.
- 2. Make a generous pledge today.** Pledges can be payable over the next 2 years starting with a payment on the pledge before 12-31-10. All pledges should be paid in full no later than 12-31-11.
 - a. Stewardship Project Level: \$10,000 - \$20,000 Pledge
 - b. Operational Project Level: \$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999 Pledge
 - c. Action Step Level: \$ 1,000 - \$ 4,999 Pledge
- 3. Tell your family and friends.** Spread the word about SMLC's good work and invite others to join you in participating in the "We Care" campaign.



Photo by Charles Scott



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

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Our Mission...

The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy conserves natural land and open space - including forests, wetlands, meadows, agricultural land, and places of scenic beauty - to provide habitat for wildlife and to enrich the lives of people.

Our Board of Directors...

James T. Weiner - President	Roy T. Bell
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Contact Us...

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