

**SUPERIOR  
LAND  
CONSERVANCY**

Preserving the rural character and  
natural habitats of Superior Township



A local division of Southeast  
Michigan Land Conservancy

October 23, 2009

Dear Superior Township Neighbor,

If you have lived in our beautiful Township for some time, you are probably aware of the natural areas, agricultural lands, and open space that we are privileged to have all around us. Many residents value the character these green places give to our local surroundings.

Since the 1980s, many have observed the effects of “urban sprawl” on our greater geographic area. While some types of development have been beneficial, Superior Township residents have long sought to retain our rural ambiance and protect key environmental assets.

In an effort to retain our open spaces and rural character, a few dedicated residents formed the **Superior Land Conservancy (SLC)** in 1991, as a local division of the **Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC)**. SMLC’s mission is to *conserve 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*. The Superior Land Conservancy advances this mission locally by *preserving the rural character and natural habitats of Superior Township*.

Since Superior Land Conservancy was founded, SMLC and its partners have protected 1,700 acres in our Township, including 647 acres that are owned or directly protected by SMLC. SMLC has worked in partnership with Superior Township, Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County on several important land conservation projects. The enclosed brochure highlights the **Superior Greenway** and some of these exceptional places located in your backyard.

Establishing legal protection of land is just the first step. Taking care of that land is an important and often overlooked perpetual endeavor. SMLC has the responsibility of managing our conserved lands in a manner that demonstrates good care. Stewardship includes maintaining natural habitats, removing invasive species, and monitoring for undesirable or destructive activities such as dumping or off-road vehicles.

In addition to our land protection work, SMLC offers many ways for residents to enjoy nature locally:

- We host full moon campfires at LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve once a month from May – November;
- We offer a variety of guided nature walks conducted at various nature preserves during all seasons;
- Garden plots are available for interested gardeners at the Conservancy Farm Community Organic Garden; and
- All nature preserves in the Township are open during daylight hours for you to freely explore and enjoy on your own.

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These activities are open to everyone and there is no charge to visit any of our nature preserves. You do not need to join our organization or donate to our cause to participate, although your support would be much appreciated!

Volunteers are essential to help care for our nature preserves, and volunteering can also be very rewarding. There are opportunities to help with removing invasive species, trail clearing and maintenance, tending blue bird boxes, and more.

If you wish to volunteer or make a contribution, great! If you just want more information or have questions, we can help you with that, too. The enclosed envelope can be used to make a tax-deductible contribution, to let us know you are interested in volunteering, or to sign up for our free email list. The emails will notify you of upcoming events and activities. You can also check us out at [www.SMLCland.org](http://www.SMLCland.org) for more information or to make a secure online donation; or call our office at 734-484-6565 if you have any questions.


Most importantly, we encourage you to take advantage of the priceless open spaces in our midst, right here in Superior Township. Whether you like walking or hiking, taking nature photos, bird watching, or merely enjoying the view as you drive by on your way to work or school, the nature preserves in **Superior Township** are here for all of us to enjoy.

Sincerely,

SUPERIOR LAND CONSERVANCY



William (Bill) Secrest



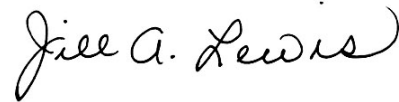
Brenda Baker

Steering Committee Co-Chairs

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY



James T. Weiner  
President



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