



## Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy

### Forest to Mi Faucet Fact Sheet



**SMLC's Mission Statement:** The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy 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.

**SMLC's Purpose:** To conserve and manage wildlife habitat in order to foster healthy ecosystems, protect air and water quality, and provide scenic enjoyment. To promote appreciation of the natural world; educate the public about conservation options; and engage communities throughout southeast Michigan in land protection and stewardship activities.



Ariel of Lost Lake Nature Preserve  
Photo by Wendy Pellerito

**Forest to Mi Faucet Initiative:** Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy is one of 20 grant recipients of the Forest to Mi Faucet Initiative administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Forest Stewardship Program and funded by the USDA Forest Service/ National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

#### **SMLC's grant work will:**

- empower landowners in seven counties to better manage/protect their woodlands,
- contribute our share of the DNR's goal to plant 60,000 trees in forest riparian zones,
- educate the public about the connections between forests and drinking water quality.



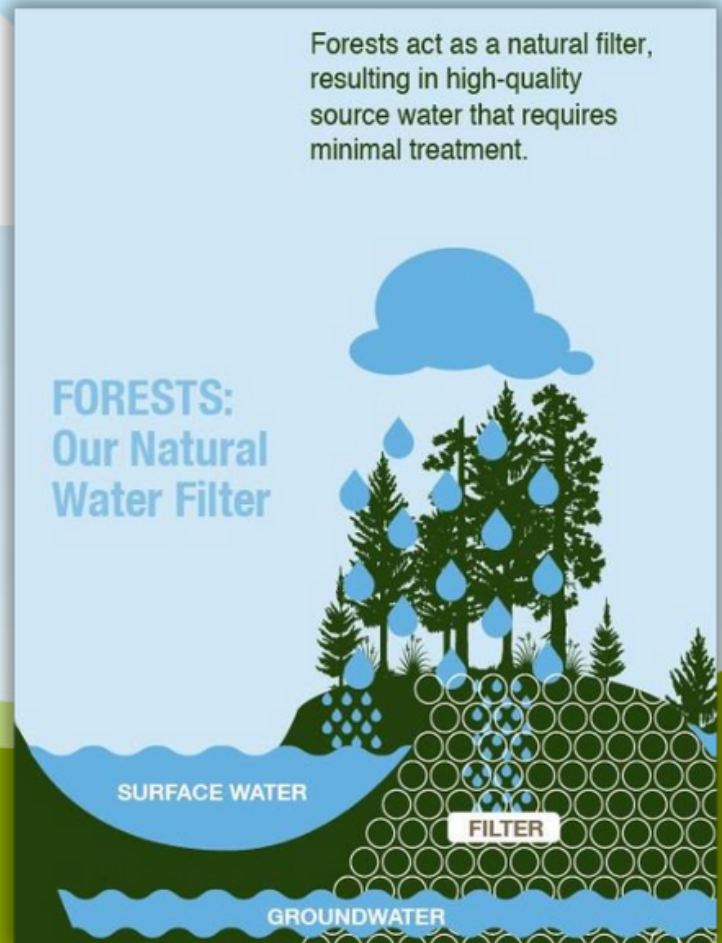
# Forest to Mi Faucet Initiative

Forests cover 56% of Michigan's land so more than half our water flows through 20 million acres of forest on its way to rivers, lakes and the Great Lakes. Better than any other land use, forests provide clean water and protect the sources of our drinking water. If the drinking water in your tap comes from a well, river or Great Lake, a forest helped keep it clean before it was treated and delivered to your home.

The Forest Stewardship Program at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is leading a team of twenty conservation partners in Michigan including SMLC on a project called "Forest to Mi Faucet" to educate woodland landowners and the public about the connections between forests and drinking water. The project builds on the USDA Forest Service's national Forests to Faucets 2.0 spatial analysis of priority watersheds for protecting surface drinking water in the United States.

## Forest to Mi Faucet has six main components:

- 1. Help municipal water utilities implement their source water protection plans.**
- 2. Protect forests in important watersheds through conservation easements, nature preserves, etc.**
- 3. Manage forests better with forest certification and Master Loggers using best management practices.**
- 4. Expand forests by planting trees in strategic urban and rural riparian zones to reduce pollution runoff.**
- 5. Ecological restoration of forests for water quality with prescribed fire and reducing invasive species.**
- 6. Educate landowners and the public about connections between forests and their drinking water.**



Graphic: Oregon Forest Resources Institute

Learn more at [smlcland.org](http://smlcland.org) or  
[Michigan.gov/ForestToMiFaucet](http://Michigan.gov/ForestToMiFaucet)

**Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy**

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Forest to Mi Faucet is a Michigan Department of Natural Resources program supported by the USDA Forest Service and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. All partners are equal opportunity providers.