



Livingston Land Conservancy

Protecting the Natural Heritage and Rural Character of the Greater Livingston County Area Since 1991

Happy Anniversary! The LLC By The Numbers.

The year 2026 marks a monumental achievement for the Livingston Land Conservancy, whose work to protect the natural features and farmland of Livingston County now celebrates its 25th year. In 1991, a small group of concerned citizens met to discuss the rapid development and urban sprawl that threatened the semi-rural community they called home. Originally organized by a local attorney, Suzanne Dye Rose, the LLC initially began operating as a subcommittee of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. In 1994 the LLC celebrated the first property to be permanently protected – the Charles & Albert Parker Families Nature Preserve on the grounds of the Brighton District Library. Even as an all-volunteer organization with no municipal financial support, more land was protected and the LLC matured further with greater operational capabilities, resources and tax-exempt status. It's an impressive story, but the numbers tell it even better.

Board of Directors

Sara Thomas, *President/Land Protection, Howell*

Rob Stanford, *Vice President, Williamston*

Gary Edwards, *Treasurer, Fenton*

Marcee Wardell, *Secretary, Howell*

Paul Stavros, *Director, Brighton*

Bob Pawlowski, *Newsletter Editor*

Rick Thomas, *Acting Stewardship Coordinator*

Meeting Dates & Times

We meet the second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are at the HERO Building (Old Hartland Twp. Hall) 3191 Hartland Rd. Hartland, MI.

March 9, 2026

April 13, 2026

May 11, 2026

June 8, 2026

July 13, 2026

August 10, 2026

September 14, 2026

- 2001 – the LLC incorporates as an independent 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit specifically focused on protecting natural woodlands, wetlands, open land, and productive farmland from development in Livingston County, permanently protected for the public trust.
- 765 – number of acres currently protected by the LLC either by holding conservation easements (8) on private land or by owned nature preserves (10). Of this number, features are broken down into the following categories (some numbers cover more than one feature):
 - 321 – acres of farmland protected.
 - 244 – acres of woodlands protected.
 - 137 – acres of historic property protected.
 - 441 – acres of wildlife habitat (including wetlands) protected.
 - 3 – miles (approximately) of linear shoreline protected.
- 225+ - number of *additional* acres currently in the process of being protected in Livingston County.
- \$0 – amount of financial aid from county or municipal sources. All funding for land protection and stewardship come exclusively from private donations, gifts from corporations, fundraising, foundations, memberships and grants.
- 250 – estimated number of volunteers who have helped with stewardship on LLC properties.
- 50,000+ – number of volunteer hours estimated since 2001

Please join us as we celebrate our 25th year of preserving the natural heritage and rural character of the Livingston County community!

Livingston Land Conservancy

P.O. Box 236

Brighton, MI 48116-0236

810-229-3290 (voice mail)

livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com

More Land Protected!

We are so grateful to Sue Frazier of Marion Township for donating a conservation easement on her beautiful 32 acres, a bulk of which will remain farmed, along with the preservation of a diverse woods of primarily oak, beech, and hickory. We are really pleased to be the holders of the new Frazier Family Natural Lands Conservation Easement!

Although this land is private and not open to the public, it is a gift to the community by keeping land intact for wildlife habitat, carbon storage, open space relief, air filtration, groundwater recharge, and support of continued agriculture. Land and its ecosystems provide so many ecological services to the community – for free – so this is not a small gift; we really appreciate the dedication to her family’s legacy and commitment to land preservation. Thank you, Sue!!



Sue Frazier, easement donor, and Sara Thomas, LLC Board President.



Frazier Family Natural Lands Conservation Easement.

Geology & Wildflowers Spring Hike

Join us at the Unadilla Nature Preserve, Williamsville Road, Gregory, on Sat., April 11, 2026 while we explore the preserve for its geological features and ephemeral spring flowers. Time yet to be determined. We will have Diane Krueger, Ph.D., explain the glacial geology of the rolling hills of the preserve and help us search for interesting features. She has 29 years of experience in geology and environmental consulting, and is a geoscientist with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. Helping explore for the spring ephemerals will be Sara Thomas, naturalist and Conservancy president. Hopefully we’ll see the lovely flowers of Round-lobed Hepatica, Spring Beauty, and Trout Lilies, to name a few. RSVP to: livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com and we’ll keep you posted on the details!



Round-lobed Hepatica. A special spring sighting.

Many Thanks to our Financial Supporters for 2025!

The Board of Directors of the Livingston Land Conservancy wish to extend a special “Thank You Very Much” for the generous contributions of the following individuals, families and corporations for their support for land preservation in Livingston County. Through their support, our mission of protecting the natural heritage and rural character of the county continues to be fulfilled.

\$5,000 & Up

Jim & Rhonda Fackert

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Brad & Carol Alesso

Lee Burton & Roberta

Shaw-Reeves

Community Foundation
for Southeast Michigan

Gary & Ann Edwards

FMG Concrete Cutting

Frank & Emily Gobright

Bob Ladner

Sue Probert

Dr. Roy Schwarz &

Joann Schmidt

Sara & Rick Thomas

Marcee Wardell &

John Barbatano

\$500 to \$999

Jocelyn Anderson

Photography

Dr. Suzanne Bradley

Brighton District Library

Kathy Burkholder

Crystal Mountain Resort

Dennis & Marilyn Dawson

Bill & Kay Fountain

Susan Frazier

Dr. Nancy Johnson

Debbie & Tim Kellogg-Lewis

Kelly Family Fund

Dick Krueger

Land Trust Alliance

Livingston County Sheriffs

Department

The Majestic at Lake Walden

Mac & Mond Miller

Donna Minock

Jim Nye & Mary Lou Knoch

Piper Family Fund

Paul & Jackie Stavros

Greg & Brooke Thomas

Stephanie Thomas

Laurel & Mitch Zoet - Wild

Birds Unlimited

\$200 to \$499

Joe & Kathy Carney

Larry & Deb Carsell

Chemung Hills Golf &

Banquet Center

Bill & Lori Cowan

Dan Delmerico

Bob & Ginny Donald

Dr. Ryan & Dr. Karishma Edgar

Daryl & Elizabeth Gallant

Jim & Tammy Higgins

Phil & Shirley Jackson

Ginger Jones

Judy Kleeves & Jon McLeod

Amber LaCroix & Michael Bransch

Linda Luneack

Dane & Mary Morris

Sam Nadon-Nichols

Joe & Barb Parker

Joe & Barb Parker Farms

Maya Pasini

Freida & Bill Piper

Piper Avenue Woodshop

PlantWise LLC

Jeff & Katie Schlueter

Alexandra Sciacchi

Rob Stanford

Eric Tilds

Vail Resorts

Vanguard USA

Up to \$199

Lee & Susan Anzicek

Barktown USA

Jack & Collette Bauman

Pamela Bethune

Suzu Birgalis

Brighton Center for Performing Arts

Abby Carrigan

Ciao Amici

Connor Chin

Diamonds Steak & Seafood

Paul Funk

The Earle Restaurant

Mark Glaza & Todd Bazzett

Pierre Engling

Greta Gatzke-Evo

Cara Green

Rosemary Kovacs Grover

Fred & Sandy Hanert

Debra Holdcraft-Bach

Dr. Verne & Agnes Hoshal Jr.

Mike Huntzinger

Erich & Ana Marie Jensen

Dennis & Andrea Just

Summer Kennedy

Diana Kern

Jay Kirkey

Lois Kovacs

Jim Lafferty

Staci Laurencelle

Tim & Cindy Lewis

Yvonne Lewis

Meredith Luneack

Cindy Mack

Ginny Maturen

Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources

Sue & Steve Monet

Tony Neely

Chad & Katie Neff

Markille Orchard

Ore Creek Craft Cidery

Megan Parisian

David Park

Parshallville Cider Mill

Bob Pawlowski

Jack & Patricia Petrie

Philip Livingston Chapter of the

Daughters of the American Revolution

Bill & Karen Pierce

Deb Piper & Dave Detman

Jackie Pozniak

Michael Rapach

Recycle Livingston

Cathy Sayre

Steve & Kathy Siczka

Jeanne & Phil Smith

Ally Stavros

John Stavros

Brett & Maryanne Swanson

Linden Thoburn

Thread Creek Coffee

Jan Thurston

Pam Todd

Terri Wilkerson

Molly Wozniak

Brady Young

Reduced Fee Services and

In-Kind Donations

Stephanie Balgaard, CPA—

accounting services

Burchfield & Pollesch—

legal services

GILLS CISMA—invasive species

education & restoration

Hartland Township - office space

Lori Kassuba—online election

coordinator

Robert Pawlowski—newsletter

preparation

Roadhouse Signs—protected

property signage

B.F. Thompson Surveyors—land

surveying

The Spirit of Livingston—news

letter & other marketing materials

Lifetime Members

Arnold Becker

Lee Burton & Roberta Shaw-Reeves

Sue Frazier

Gold, Krause, et al

Rosemary Kovacs Grover

Dr. Verne & Agnes Hoshal

Debbie & Tim Kellogg-Lewis

Jo Anne Normile

Elizabeth Parker

Marialice Phillips

Jean Salmon

Chris & Donna Schaidt

Dianne Winfrey

In Memory of Barb Krueger

Dennis & Marilyn Dawson

In Memory of Margo Javelov

Greta Gatzke-Evo

In Memory of Jerry Spalding

Dennis & Andrea Just

Sara & Rick Thomas

**Livingston Land Conservancy
Statement of Activity (1)
October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025**

Income	Land Acquisition	Land Stewardship	Membership & Education	Unrestricted	Legal Defense	Permanently Restricted	Totals
Private Donations	\$5,770	\$605		\$12,603			\$18,978
Grants			\$838				\$838
Community Foundation Distribution				\$2,006			\$2,006
Interest & Misc.		\$425		\$7,132			\$7,557
Land on the Horizon		\$19,000		\$689			\$19,689
Land Donation							
Total Income	\$5,770	\$20,030	\$838	\$22,430			\$49,068

Expenses							Totals
Program Expenses	\$1,795	\$13,206	\$2,312		\$1,071		\$18,384
General				\$1,860			\$1,860
LOH Fund Raising		\$4,464					\$4,464
Total Expenses	\$1,795	\$17,670	\$2,312	\$1,860	\$1,071		\$24,905

**Assets & Liabilities as of
September 30, 2025**

Assets

Checking & Savings	\$ 64,430
MSU-FCU CD's	\$ 191,535
<u>Fixed Assets—Land+Equip.</u>	\$1,388,806
Total Assets	\$1,644,771

Liabilities

<u>Accounts Payable</u>	\$ 0
Total Liabilities	\$ 0
NET ASSETS	\$1,644,771

NOTES

(1) Fiscal year 2024/2025 Financials
have not been audited.

Gary Edwards,
Livingston Land Conservancy Treasurer

President's Corner: Sara Thomas

We are seeking board of director candidates for our upcoming election in June. The term is for two years. Candidates must be a member, 18 years of age, available for monthly board meetings, and believe in the mission. We are always looking for a diversity of skill sets – financial, science, legal, municipal, real estate, farming, etc. Send me an email at : livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com and I'd be happy to chat and answer any questions.

Happy 25th Anniversary to us! We've come a long way from a small group of dedicated folks and a few thousand dollars in a bank account, to hundreds of supporters and assets of \$1.6 million. This was accomplished by the dedication of benefactors and volunteers who supported this organization financially and with their time and talents. We are indebted to each and every one of you. Significant gratitude also to the landowners who have entrusted us with protecting their land. After all, that is what the heart of this organization is all about!

Mission

Consider a Gift to the Endowment Fund

The purpose of the Livingston Land Conservancy is to protect the natural heritage and rural character of the greater Livingston County area by preserving quality natural areas and productive farmland as well as to promote an appreciation and understanding of the environment for the long-term benefit of the public.

Please consider donating to our endowment fund at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. This fund was started over many years ago, provides twice yearly distributions, and can only be used for general purposes. It's a nice, reliable source of income for the Conservancy and we so appreciate the generosity of our donors to help keep the principle balance growing from year to year. To contribute online, visit this link: <https://cfsem.org/ways-to-give/give-online/agency-endowments/>. To send a check or if you have any questions, contact the Philanthropic Services staff at the CFSM at 313-961-6675. Thank you!!

Livingston Land Conservancy 2026 Membership Form — Annual Member

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Joint</u>
Basic Member	___ \$25	___ \$50
Protector	___ \$50	___ \$100
Conservator	___ \$100	___ \$200
Steward	___ \$250	___ \$500
Guardian	___ \$500	___ \$1000
Other	_____	_____

Members are:

- Committed to the purpose of the Conservancy
- 18 years of age
- Entitled to one vote per member
- Assessed annual dues

Member # 1

Name (please print)

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Member #2

Name (Please Print)

Send my newsletter by: _____ email _____ paper copy

Make Checks Payable To:
Livingston Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 236
Brighton, MI 48116-0236
Or Use PayPal

Please send information about:
_____ Volunteering
_____ How to protect my land
_____ How to include LLC in my estate plans

Livingston Land Conservancy is a private, non-profit organization exempt from taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law.



Livingston Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 236
Brighton, MI 48116-0236

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Facebook: @livingstonlandconservancy
Instagram: Livingston_land_conservancy
Email: livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com
Website: www.livingstonlandconservancy.org



Upcoming Events

Geology & Wildflower Hike

Date: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Time: TBD

Where: Unadilla Nature Preserve, Williamsville Road, Gregory. See the article included in this newsletter for details (page 2).

Trail Maintenance & Mulching

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 10am to noon

Where: Charles & Albert Parker Families NP, Orndorf Drive, Brighton. We will be refreshing the mulch on the trail system and performing any needed maintenance after the winter. Please RSVP to: livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com.

Earth Day Event

Date: Saturday, May 2, 2026

Time: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Where: Amphitheater at Millpond (The AMP) in downtown Brighton.

Visit us and all the groups celebrating Earth Day. Sponsored by the Sierra Club – Crossroads Group. Family friendly and free.

Migratory Songbird Walk

Date: Sunday, May 17, 2026

Time: 8:30 am

Where: Red Cedar Run Nature Preserve, Nicholson & Chase Lake Roads, Fowlerville. We'll be checking out who is flying through or even staying for the nesting season in our rich native shrub thickets. Please RSVP to: livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com.

We are Members of:



Farmers Market booths for 2026

Dates: June 27 – Brighton; July 18 – Brighton; August 2 – Howell; August 15 – Fowlerville; September 19 – Fowlerville

Annual Meeting -Celebrating 25 Years!

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Currently working on the details but save the date!

Land on the Horizon – Continue the Anniversary Celebration!

Date: Friday, October 9, 2026

Time: 7pm to 9:30pm

Where: Chemung Hills Golf & Banquet Center, Golf Club Road, Howell.

Save the date!