

2024/25 Michigan Nature Association

Year in Review

People • Land • Legacy





Bumblebee Leaving Beebalm
Photo by William Rowan
Overall Winner of 2024 Photo Contest

You Make the Difference



Dear Friends,

I am proud to share the Michigan Nature Association's remarkable progress in our ongoing efforts to protect Michigan's natural heritage. Over this past year, thanks to your steadfast support, we achieved major milestones in land protection, stewardship, and scientific innovation.

Expanding MNA's Protected Lands to 17,500 Acres

MNA acquired more than 400 acres of critical habitat across Michigan. These successful projects bring our total protected areas to more than 17,500 acres. With your continued support, MNA's sanctuaries will provide essential refuge for rare, threatened, and endangered species and help safeguard Michigan's unique biodiversity for generations to come.

Restoring Critical Habitat across Michigan

Our stewardship team, with the help of dedicated volunteers and partners, advanced restoration efforts across our sanctuaries. A key highlight was our continued work on an eastern massasauga rattlesnake (EMR) recovery grant from the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Beyond the EMR grant, we completed numerous other stewardship projects, from prescribed burns to habitat restoration, each essential to maintaining the health and resilience of vulnerable natural communities.

Innovating on Vernal Pool Conservation with Support from NASA

This year, our leadership in vernal pool conservation was recognized with the award of an exciting grant from NASA, a major milestone in our effort to expand our science-based partnerships. Working with Michigan Technological University and others, this project leverages advanced satellite and LiDAR technology to map and monitor vernal pools across the Great Lakes. The data and insights generated will dramatically improve our ability to protect these essential, yet vulnerable and often overlooked, habitats.

Your Support Makes it All Possible

The achievements of the past year are a testament to the passion, generosity, and vision of our donors, members, volunteers, and partners. Thank you for your commitment to Michigan's natural legacy.

With gratitude,





Protecting Michigan's Natural Treasures

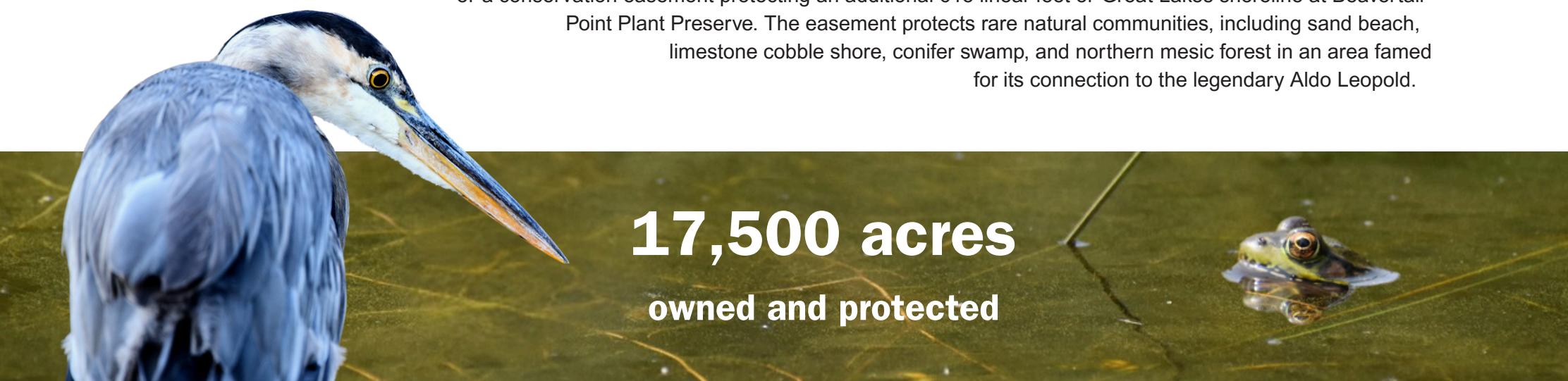
Completed the First Easement Acquisition at Little Cedar Lake, a Top Cisco Conservation Priority. A once common fish, cisco conservation in Michigan has been recognized as a major priority in the State Wildlife Action Plan. They require cold, deep, and well-oxygenated lakes with exceptional water quality to survive. Such lakes are rare in Michigan - fewer than 200 of the state's 11,000 inland lakes support cisco populations. As part of a \$655,000 freshwater protection grant awarded by EGLE, MNA is working with private landowners to protect lakeshore habitat along Little Cedar Lake, among the highest cisco priorities in the state, and we accepted the first generous donation of a conservation easement as part of this ambitious project.

Acquired 268 Acres along the Paw Paw River and Wolf Lake. MNA received a generous donation of 268 acres of high quality habitat, valued at \$1.2 million, adjacent to both the MDNR's 153-acre Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery and a 400 acre protected area owned by Almena Township. Together, these three protected areas conserve more than 820 acres in the biodiverse Paw Paw corridor of southwest Michigan.

Expanded the Swamp Lakes Moose Refuge Nature Sanctuary to 360 Acres. MNA purchased 80 acres of high quality forest land adjacent to Swamp Lakes with funding from a USFWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant. MNA's sanctuary fits into a larger landscape-scale complex of public and private protected areas with high biodiversity, including land owned by The Nature Conservancy and MDNR.

Protected Additional Coastal Wetlands along Northern Lake Michigan's Epoufette Bay. A federal North American Wetlands Conservation Grant funded the acquisition of high conservation value coastal wetlands along the shores of Epoufette Bay. The bay is located just west of the scenic Cut River Bridge along the Niagra Escarpment, a geological ridge stretching 650 miles that is a Great Lakes major biodiversity hot spot.

Increased Coastal Protection along Lake Huron's Les Cheneaux Island's. MNA received a generous donation of a conservation easement protecting an additional 615 linear feet of Great Lakes shoreline at Beavertail Point Plant Preserve. The easement protects rare natural communities, including sand beach, limestone cobble shore, conifer swamp, and northern mesic forest in an area famed for its connection to the legendary Aldo Leopold.

A photograph of a Great Blue Heron standing in a pond, its long neck and beak pointing towards the right. In the bottom right corner of the pond, a small frog is partially submerged in the water. The water has a greenish tint.

17,500 acres
owned and protected



Prescribed Burn in Oakland County
Photo by Fauna Creative

Being Good Stewards of the Land

Acquiring nature sanctuaries is only the first step needed to protect habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species; imperiled natural communities; and unique geologic features. Ongoing stewardship maintains the important conservation values of these places over time and enables visitor access to our popular sanctuaries. It is because of the dedication of our sanctuary Stewards, interns, and hundreds of volunteers that we are able to manage over 175 nature sanctuaries across our large state. Some of last year's stewardship highlights include:

Restored Lakeplain Prairie, Michigan's Rarest Natural Community, Along Saginaw Bay. MNA's Saginaw Wetlands Nature Sanctuary is home to one of the last remaining lakeplain prairies in the Great Lakes region, a globally rare and critically imperiled community type having lost 99% historic footprint. This past year marked the completion of a 41-acre restoration project funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Habitat Grant Program and the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.

Improved Habitat for the Red-Headed Woodpecker in West Michigan. A landscape-scale restoration grant led by the American Bird Conservancy and funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Habitat Grant Program enabled MNA to restore oak pine barren habitat for the red-headed woodpecker and other rare species at MNA's 245-acre Newaygo Barrens Conservation Area. MNA volunteers and staff completed 464 hours of work as part of the project.

Removed Invasive Species at Prairie Fens Across Southern Michigan. Due to the lost diversity of landscapes across lower Michigan, the unique qualities of prairie fen ecosystems position them to play a critical role in the future of rare species with declining populations. In 2024, MNA staff, seasonal workers, and volunteers improved approximately 60 acres of prairie fen habitat on our Oakland County sanctuaries through invasive species management, shrub removal, and prescribed fire.

Led a 'Learn to Burn' Class in West Michigan. Over 40 people attended a training led by MNA staff to learn about the importance of prescribed fire at an event hosted by the Newaygo County Environmental Coalition.

2,000+
hours contributed by MNA volunteers & stewards

186
Sanctuaries Monitored
(100%)

122

Stewardship Workdays & Guided Hikes



*Surveying at Wolf Lake Nature Sanctuary
Photo by Abby Pointer*

Advancing Our Science

MNA's sanctuary system serves as a living laboratory and benchmark for what conservation in Michigan can achieve. MNA's new science program is focused on building a broad research network across the state and region to advance conservation. Throughout 2024, researchers from Michigan State University, Grand Valley State University, Central Michigan University, and beyond used MNA sanctuaries across the state to collaborate, collecting data for dozens of research projects that will help us better understand Michigan nature.

Led a Public/ Private Partnership on Endangered Species Recovery. MNA collaborated with researchers, state and local partners on the fourth year of a 5-year US Fish & Wildlife Service Endangered Species Recovery Challenge Grant to assess the status of the federally threatened eastern massasauga rattlesnake, results of the project have included a landscape genetic analysis of 42 massasauga populations; detailed, long-term habitat, demographic, and disease assessments of 2 focal populations; and 150 acres of habitat restoration.

Played a Key Role in Efforts Save the Poweshiek Skipperling from Extinction. MNA is a key member of an international public/private partnership funded by US Fish and Wildlife Service. Partners are working to reverse the collapse in Poweshiek populations. Butterflies that were bred in captivity and released at an MNA sanctuary were surveyed last year and showed early signs of breeding in the wild. This is a huge step forward.

Awarded NASA Funding to Advance Regional Vernal Pool Mapping. Vernal pools play outsized roles in forested ecosystems, yet there is limited information on their distribution and status across the Great Lakes region. In 2024, MNA and partners were awarded a \$900,000 grant from NASA to develop and implement a strategic, effective, and sustainable framework for identifying and monitoring vernal pools in the region by pairing advanced remote sensing mapping methodologies with community science field verification.

Piloted Ecological Integrity Assessments at MNA Sanctuaries. MNA's science and conservation staff field tested a new science-based tool that will allow MNA to track progress of our conservation efforts over time. This is a major step toward a more systematic evaluation of our on-the-ground progress over time at our sanctuaries.

32

research projects
with partners





Herbarium Collection Field Day with the Girl Scouts of SE Michigan
Photo by Abby Pointer

Community Engagement

MNA works with a variety of passionate and engaged community groups who care deeply about the well-being of their place. MNA also works to connect children with Michigan nature through our education mini-grant program in an effort to educate the next generation of conservation leaders who will continue to protect Michigan's rich natural heritage.

Worked with 30 K-12 Schools to Connect 1,521 Students to Nature. In 2024, MNA assisted 30 classrooms in visiting state parks, local nature centers, and MNA nature sanctuaries across the state of Michigan. These field trip mini-grants are intended to assist K-12 teachers in developing educational and hands-on field trips to provide students with meaningful experience with Michigan's nature.

Piloted a Partnership with the Girl Scouts of Southeast Michigan. MNA piloted a new patch focused on conservation career exploration. Through a series of field days, high school aged scouts helped MNA survey for rare species, learned about the importance of managing habitat for endangered plants and animals, and practiced field skills in preparation for an outdoor career.

Engaged Community Scientists and Vernal Pool Partners. As a co-founder of the Michigan Vernal Pools Partnership and as its managing partner, MNA promoted the Vernal Pool Patrol, a community science program that trains volunteers to map and monitor vernal pools, across the year through active social media engagement, several vernal pool exploration events with local communities, and the organization of the Michigan Vernal Pools Partnership Annual Meeting, which drew over 300 virtual attendees.

Supported Professional Development for K-12 Teachers Across the Great Lakes Region. In 2024, MNA partnered with NOAA's Sea Grant program & MSU Extension to provide vernal pool materials and support to teachers who worked to develop vernal pool lesson plans as part of Sea Grant's 'Teaching Great Lakes Literacy Program'. These materials will be available by the end of 2025.



A Statewide Impact

For over 70 years, MNA members, donors, and volunteers have built an unparalleled statewide network of nature sanctuaries. Today, there is at least one MNA nature sanctuary in 58 of Michigan's 83 counties.

Alcona County

McAlvay Memorial

Alger County

Handford Memorial
Twin Waterfalls

Allegan County

Allegan Valley
Wade Memorial

Alpena County

Colby
Peter Memorial
Gull Island
Grass Island
Bird Island
Morris Bay

Antrim County

Cedar River
Green River

Baraga County

Baraga Old Growth
Lightfoot Bay

Barry County

Thornapple River
Thornapple Lake
Little Cedar Lake

Benzie County

Donald E. Hart

Berrien County

Four Macomb County
Ladies
Pepperidge Dunes
Trillium Ravine
Beck Memorial

Branch County

Kope Kon

Calhoun County

Campbell Memorial
Pennfield Bog
Fish Lake Bog
Flowering Dogwood

Cass County

Dowagiac Woods
Ruley-Shurte Woods
Radebaugh Memorial
Wilding

Chippewa County

Pat Grogan
Munuscong Lake
Lake Superior
Lake Huron Sand Dunes

Zeerip Memorial
Soo Muskeg
Schafer Family
at Roach Point
Carlton Lake Wetlands
Harvey's Rocks
Carey Memorial
Rocky Point Wetlands
Vermilion Point

Clinton County

A Looking Glass

Clare County

Alta Warren Parsons
Memorial

Delta County

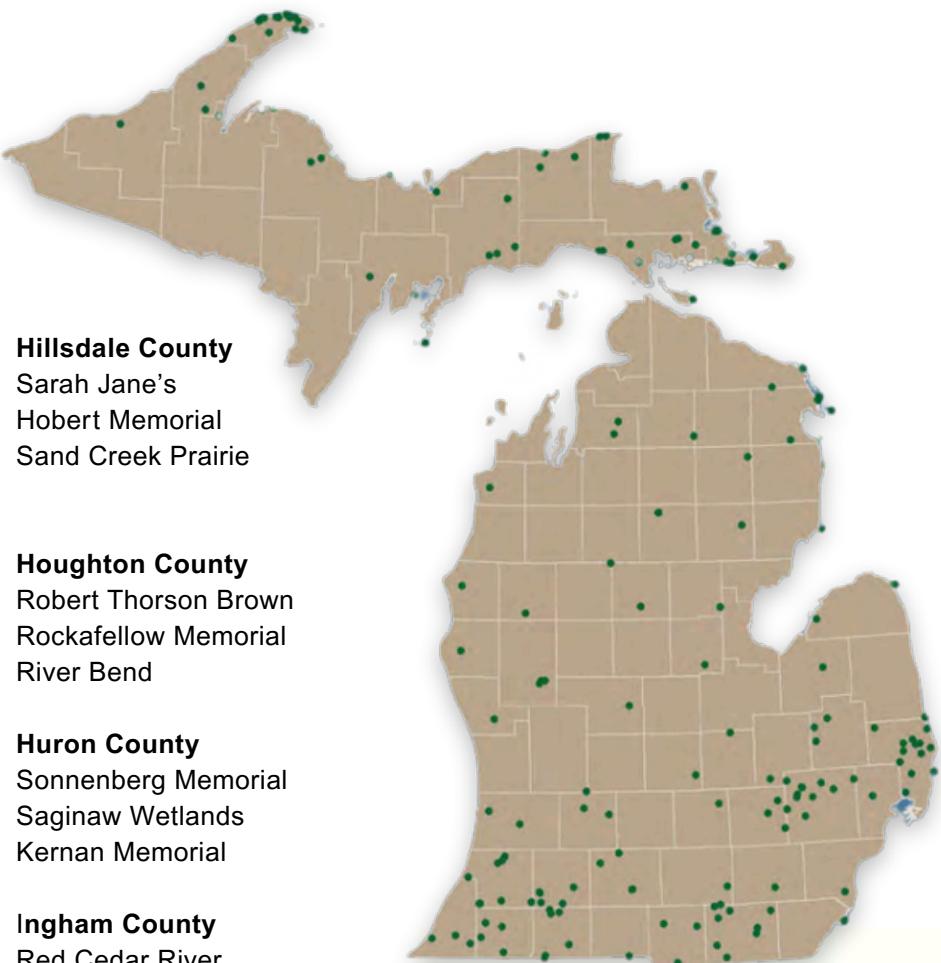
Martin Bay
Three Wilderness Islands
Bertha K Daudendiek

Genesee County

Dauner Martin
White Cedar Swamps
Zahrfeld Memorial

Gladwin County

Briggs Cox Memorial



Hillsdale County

Sarah Jane's
Hobert Memorial
Sand Creek Prairie

Houghton County

Robert Thorson Brown
Rockafellow Memorial
River Bend

Huron County

Sonnenberg Memorial
Saginaw Wetlands
Kernan Memorial

Ingham County

Red Cedar River

Iosco County

Frinks Pond

Kent County

Dolan

Keweenaw County

Dean Webster Memorial
Estivant Pines
Upson Lake
Keweenaw Shores I
Keweenaw Shores II
Klipfel Memorial
Rooks Memorial
Hylton Memorial

Keweenaw County cont.	Hudspeth Memorial H.E. Hardy Memorial	Monroe County Petersburg Swan Creek	Oscoda County Kenneth Luneack	Ray Memorial McGaw Memorial Jasper Woods Memorial
Gunn Memorial Grinnell Memorial Eagle Harbor Red Pine Dunes Cy Clark Memorial Black Creek Redwyn's Dunes Gratiot Lake Overlook John Helstrom Mariner's Preserve at Silver River Falls Ruth Johnson Memorial	Luce County Two Hearted River Swamp Lakes Moose Refuge Trout Lake	Montcalm County Krum Memorial	Ostego County Frost Pocket	Brennan Memorial Edna Newnan Alice Moore Woods St. Clair Lakeplain Forest
Mackinac County	Stratton Memorial Beaver Dam Fred Dye Scherer	Muskegon County Five Lakes Muskegon	Presque Isle County Mystery Valley Spitler Shore	St. Joseph County Prairie Banks White Pigeon River Sauk Indian Trail Chen Memorial Prairie Rhode Savanna
Lake County Pere Marquette	Epoufette Bay Bois Blanc Island Beavertail Point	Newaygo County Brooks Oak Pine Barrens Karner Blue Newaygo Prairie	Roscommon County Leatherleaf Jack Pine Bog Jackson Memorial	Hildegard Wintergerst
Lapeer County Petite Wetland Zucker Memorial	Michigan Meridian Hiawatha	Oakland County Lambs Fairbanks Clifford and Calla Burr Lakeville Swamp Timberland Swamp	Sanilac County Birch Creek	Tuscola County Wood Duck Doman
Lenawee County Martin Beland Miller Robert Powell Memorial Willow Lake Prairie Slough Goose Creek Grasslands McCulley-Bastian Broehl Memorial 1 Broehl Memorial 2 Tiffin River	Macomb County Wilcox Warnes	Yntema Wildlife Oasis Rose Center Wetlands Brandon Township Morgan Porritt Big Valley	Schoolcraft County Fox River Huntington Memorial Walker Memorial Cedar Lake Manistique Dune and Swale Fox River Wetlands	Van Buren County Phillips Family Memorial Black River Butternut Creek Barvicks Sand Dunes Bankson Lake Bog Great Bear Swamp Wolf Lake
Livingston County Bullard Lake Fen Lyle & Mary Rizor	Marquette County Braastad Echo Lake Mystle Justeson Memorial	Oceana County Genevieve Casey	Shiawassee County Shiawassee River	Washtenaw County Joan Rodman Memorial
Midland County	Franklin & Brenda Holly	Ogemaw County Lost Lake	St. Clair County Leonatti Memorial Louis G. Senghas Polovich Memorial Bertha A. Daubendiek Memorial Trillium Trail	Wayne County Evans Memorial
	Bullock Creek	Ontonogan County Theodore Hunt Memorial		
		Osceola County Osceola Woods		



2024 Prairie Fringed Orchid Count
Photo by Ayden Ehgoetz

Thank You to Our Supporters

We are so grateful to the thousands of individuals and families who believe in and support MNA. Their commitment results in the accomplishments described in this Year in Review, as well as so many more over our 70-year history. MNA's inspiring story, long history, and incredible track record of success are remarkable and only possible because of our donors and volunteers—we thank them all for their inspiring contributions to conservation in Michigan through their support of MNA. MNA is very appreciative of the contributions by each and every member, donor, and volunteer. We have made every attempt to be accurate in our donor list, which includes donations made in the fiscal year between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024; any name not included was done so unintentionally and we apologize for the omission.



Buttonbush (*Cephaelanthus occidentalis*).

Photo by Abby Pointer

\$10,000 and up

Melvin Czechowski
Ann Hancock
James Hewitt
Maura Jung
Kaye Kreutzfeldt
Nancy Maze

\$1,000 to \$9,999

Christiane Anderson
Doris Applebaum
David Baur
John Bradtke
Gerald and Rose Burke
Kristi Chapman
Joseph Cobe
Robert DeLap
Donald Diehl
Darcy Dye
Frank G. and Gertrude Dunlap
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Frank Moore
Paul Gambka
Tyler Glenn
Aubrey Golden
Rex Guelde

Robert Herbst
Heather Hewett
Alan Jones
Janet Joslyn
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Keweenaw Community
Foundation
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Diane Krause
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Mary Leys
Bruce Loughry
Scott MacLean
Main Manufacturing Products
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Family Trust
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Ronald Priest
James Rossman
Sandra Ruddick
Christine Samida
John Schlansker
Lynn Schram
Donald Stearns
Nancy Steiner
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Linda Woodworth
Guerin Wilkinson
Roger and Rebecca Tuuk



American White Pelicans by William Rowan
2024 Annual Photo Contest Winner

Thank You to Our Supporters

Wendy Umbriac
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Robert Van Eck
Margaret Welsch
Chris Wise
David Wood
Stanley Zasuwa
Cathleen Zepelin
Robert Ziel

\$500 - \$999

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Ameriprise Financial
Audubon Society of Kalamazoo
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Kim Beal
Rosemary Bell
Linda Belote
Greg Bodker
Carol Branch
Capital Area Audubon
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Gerard Szydlowski
Thomas Valli
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Walter Zarnoch
Ray Ziarno

\$100 to \$499

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Diane Arnold
James Barnes
Fran Barnwell
Hugh and Mary Lou Battley
Pat Beechem
Steve Begnoche
Danny Bennett
Vicki Berglund
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Catherine Blake
Mary Borkowski
Stacy Bosch
William Bradford
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Kurt Brauer

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Anthony Burton
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Douglas Clason
Irma Ellery
Lavern Elsholz
Jan Elsman
Wayne Falda
Sam Febba
Douglas Felch
Molly Cole

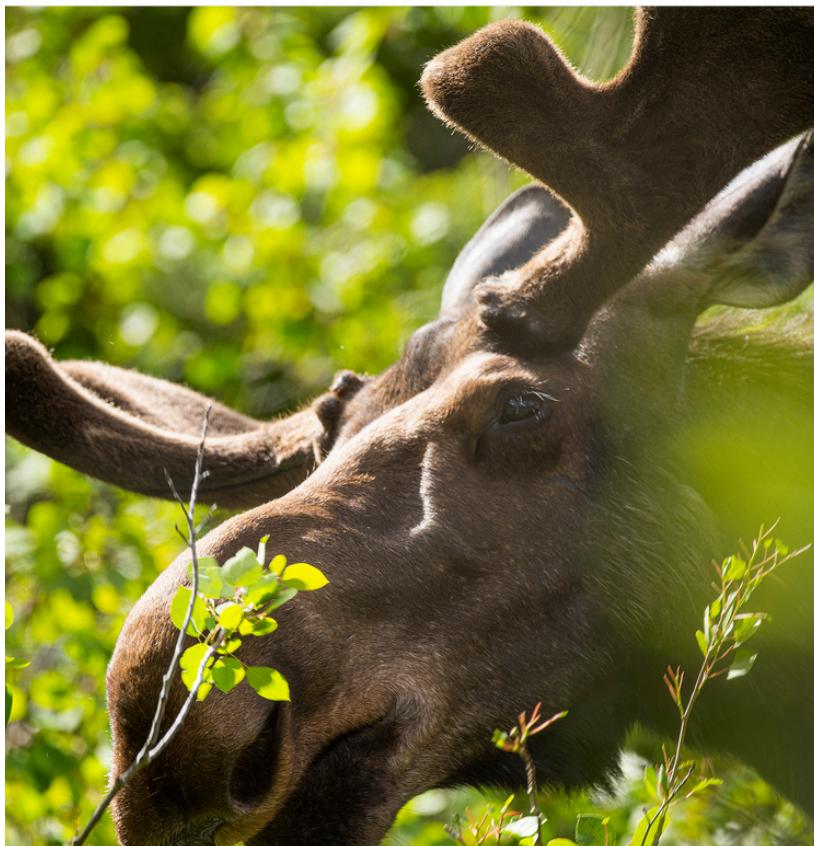


Leatherleaf. Photo by Abby Pointer



*Beavertail Point in the Les Cheneaux Islands
MNA Project Photo*

\$100 to \$499 Cont.



Moose (*Alces alces*). Photo by Lauren Ross

Maureen Conner
Michael Cooper
Linda Covey
Susan Cox
Sandra Crampton
Mary Crockett
David Crossett
Anne Crotser
Stephen Danis
Peggy Dankert
Beth Dannenberger
Catherine Davis
William Deephouse
David DeGraaf
Mike Devarenne
Gregory DeWeerd
Nancy Duffy
Harry Eick
Timothy Eiseman
Belinda Fenby
Jon Ferguson
William Ferguson
Janet Fisher
Lynda Foley
Robert Fountain
Mark Fox

Carl Freeman
Liz Gannon
George Gearhart
Malcolm Goodwin
Judith Grantz
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Thomas Gregory
Victor Gregowski
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Thank You to Our Supporters

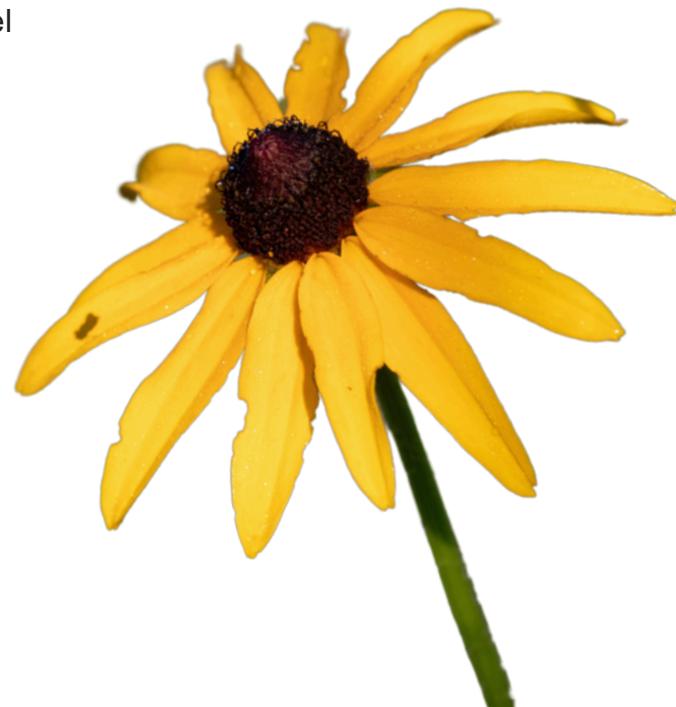
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Brian Jarsma
David & Gretchen Jewison
Kenneth Johnson
Rachel Juris
Janet Kahan
William Kail
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Ann Koski
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Barbara Philips Michel
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Sarah Pregitzer
Stephen Price
David Putt
Rada Radebaugh
Carol Rall

Arlene Rampson
Donald Reed
Patricia Richardson
David Richter
Mark Roberts



\$100 to \$499 Cont.

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Susan Ward
Albert Washburne
Celeste Watts
Jamie Watts
Annette Weiser
Geoff Weller
Catherine Whitney
William Wickers
Ronald Wurst
David Young



Poweshiek Skipperling (*Oarisma poweshiek*). Photo by Fauna Creative



Canada Warbler by Cassandra Hill
2024 Annual Photo Contest Winner

Save Michigan's Natural Heritage and Leave a Lasting Legacy

Make a Planned Gift to MNA:

- Include a bequest to MNA in your will or estate plan
- Secure dependable lifetime income by investing in a charitable gift annuity from MNA
- Donate stocks, bonds, or other securities directly to MNA
- Name MNA as a beneficiary on investment accounts or life insurance
- Donate conservation or non-conservation real estate or other property to MNA

Tax Identification Number: 38-6093404

To learn more about how you can join our *Guardians of the Future* and leave a planned gift to MNA please email Executive Director Garret Johnson at gjohnson@michigannature.org.



Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera praecox*).
Photo by Ayden Ehgutz



*Yellow Lake Reflection by Nathan Miller
2024 Annual Photo Contest Winner*

Guardians of the Future

By including MNA in their estate plans, such as a will, trust, or other planned gift, these dedicated people have joined a special group – our Guardians of the Future – who sustain MNA's work and leave a lasting legacy for many generations to come.

Delrae Abbott
Susan Abentrod
Alec Allen
Howard Anderson
Doris Applebaum
James Apsey
John Assenmacher
Robert Ayotte
Lawrence and
Christine Baer
Steve Benkert
Elizabeth Bishop
Greg Bodker
Patricia Boettger
Mary Borkowski
Carl Bouton
Jim Bricker
Jack Carso
William Cooke
Roger Cooney

Betty Debus
Dorothy Engelman
William Ferguson
Dorothy Fisher
Richard Foster
Stephen Fox
Caryl Freeman
Jeffrey Ganley
Myra Gibson
Barbara Haman
John Hand
Fay Hansen
Gretchen Hirsch
Neil Hodges
Brenda Holly
Franklin Holly
Richard Holzman
Shannon Horne
Nora Iversen
Abdeen Jabara

Rama Jinka
Sharon Johnson
Ronald Joseph
Janet Joslyn
Bill Kingsley
Kaye Kreutzfeldt
Bruce Loughry
Linda Luneack
Ralph Markel
JB McCombs
Donn Miller
Betty Muller
James Munro
Ernest Nassar
Jill Neuville
Anne Pancella
Jim Pifer
Gary Pomeroy
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Deborah Remer

Sarah Ritter
Michael Robold
Laurie Rosenberg
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Ruth Sablich
Judith Schmidt
Susan Schmitz
Mark Sellers
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Amanda Slawter
Elly Sullivan
Gerard Szydłowski
Scott Thomasma
Edward Trowbridge
Stewart Vining
Brian Wake
John Zachel
Cathleen Zepelin
Ray Ziarno



*Great Lakes Marsh Boardwalk by Laurie Jacobson
2024 Annual Photo Contest Winner*

Use Your IRA to Create a Lasting Legacy

A Tax-Saving Way to Protect Michigan Nature

You can help protect Michigan's irreplaceable natural heritage and save on taxes by supporting MNA through your IRA.

Special Opportunity for Those 70½ Years Old and Older

- You can give any amount (up to a maximum of \$108,000) this year directly from your IRA to a qualified charity such as MNA without paying income taxes on that money.
- Gifts of any value, up to \$108,000, are eligible for this benefit.
- This giving option is commonly called the **IRA charitable rollover** or **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)**.

Why Consider This Gift?

- Your gift may satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution (RMD).
- You pay no income taxes on the transfer, and it does not generate taxable income, helping you even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- A lower annual income level may help decrease your Medicare premiums and reduce the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax.

How to Get Started

Work with your IRA administrator to arrange your gift or reach out to MNA to discuss your plans and how your legacy will benefit Michigan's environment.

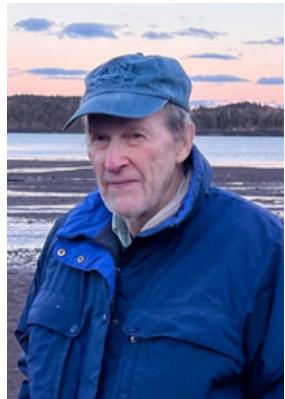


Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*). Photo by Abby Pointer



Keweenaw Sunset
Photo by Fauna Creative

Legacy



Ken Ross

1937-2024

In 2024, MNA was sad to hear about the passing of our former super-volunteer, Dr. Ken Ross. Originally from Red Beach, Maine, Ken was a long-time resident of Lenawee County and a professor of political science at Adrian College for 30 years until his retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1997.

During his time in Michigan, Ken founded the Environmental Council of Lenawee (ECOL) County, Michigan, published two volumes of Alaska environmental history, and devoted countless hours as a land-preservation volunteer for Lenawee County's Bicentennial Woods as well as Michigan Nature Association sanctuaries.

Ken is fondly remembered by MNA staff, who got to know him well during the time spent car-pooling to and from sanctuaries across southern Michigan over the years. In 2012, Ken was one of the first people to receive the Mason and Melvin Shafer Distinguished Service Award for extraordinary service to MNA. His absence as a volunteer was keenly felt when he moved back to Maine in 2020.

Upon returning to his roots in Maine and until his passing in 2024, Ken played a key role in several environmental campaigns around his beloved Cobscook Bay, including opposition to the Pennamaquan Dam, helping to found Friends of Cobscook Bay, and opposition to a proposed metallic mineral mine in Pembroke. He was the primary plaintiff resulting in the 2019 Maine Supreme Court decision; giving shore landowners the right to protect rockweed on their shores from commercial harvest, and in 2021 was a founding member of the Maine Rockweed Coalition.



Sherri Laier, Ken Ross, Eugene Lidster, and Don Reed at Goose Creek Grasslands

About Us

Our Mission

The purpose of MNA is to acquire, protect, and maintain natural areas that contain examples of Michigan's endangered and threatened flora, fauna, and other components of the natural environment, including habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants of the state of Michigan and to carry on a program of natural history study and conservation education. We envision a future where Michigan's rare, threatened, and endangered species, and imperiled natural communities thrive, and where they are valued by people and communities that embrace and benefit from Michigan's natural heritage.



Volunteer Crew for 2024 Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Bioblitz



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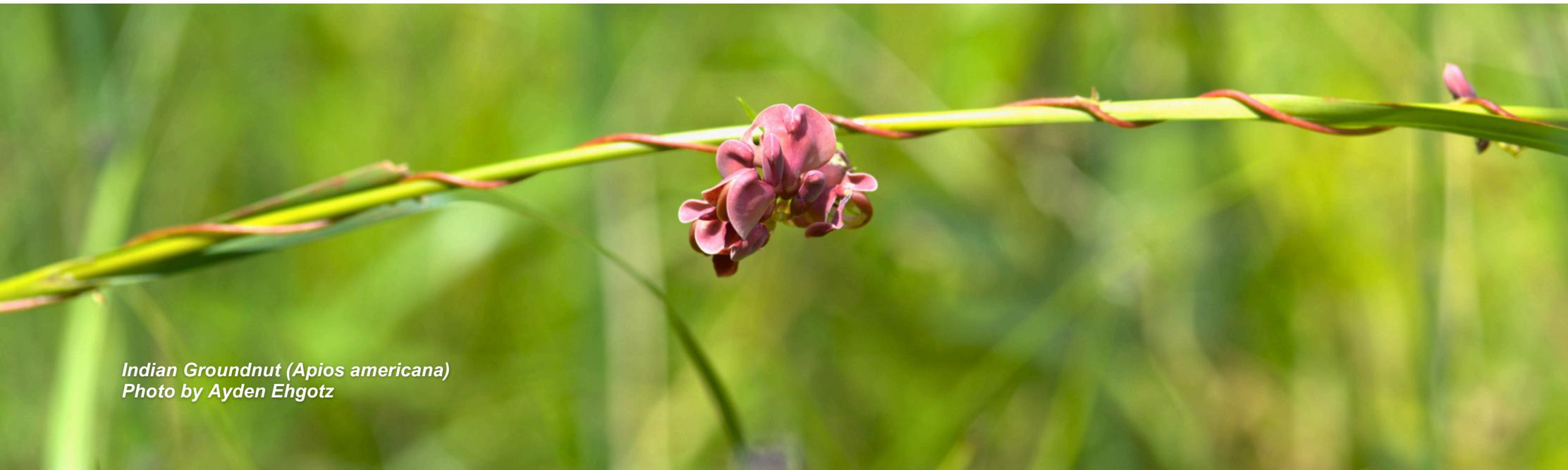
Au Sable River by Paul Mrozek
2024 Annual Photo Contest, 1st Place Landscapes



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Indian Groundnut (Apis americana)
Photo by Ayden Ehgoetz