



# Livingston Land Conservancy

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

## *Land on the Horizon 2025 Looks Extra Special!*

### 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, Land on the Horizon Fundraising Event 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.

**September 8, 2025**

**October 13, 2025**

**November 10, 2025**

**December 8, 2025**

**January 12, 2026**

**February 9, 2026**

**March 9, 2026**

Almost everyone who loves the outdoors appreciates the beautiful fall season with its changing colors, bird migrations and "golden" twilight that makes our natural lands and farmlands look so special. What better time to hold the LLC's annual fundraiser, *Land on the Horizon*, on Friday October 3 at Chemung Hills Golf Club & Banquet Center in Oceola Township!

The event, which begins at 7:00pm, is fun, fast-paced and lively, featuring live and silent auctions, raffles, a chef-prepared dinner buffet and cash bar. The evening celebrates the beauty and rural character of the Livingston County area and supports the 1000+ acres of quality natural areas and productive farmland properties the LLC protects and is currently working on securing. We are particularly excited this year to introduce some new elements at the event:

- Nature Bingo - our own version of the classic game that uses LLC-specific and general nature references instead of just numbers, with a prize for the winner.
- Next Gen/Student sponsorships - LOH attendees can "sponsor" the attendance of young and/or student conservationists to celebrate and recognize our "Next Generation" of land stewards and environmentalists.
- "From the Heart" Auction - we get that some attendees simply don't need more "stuff" in terms of auction items, or perhaps they just weren't able to be the winning bidder. Here's a chance for everyone present to simply make a straight donation to support our work.
- To register online on the LLC website, we are using the nonprofit-friendly Givebutter platform that provides better reporting for us and easier registration and faster tax receipts for our donors/attendees.

Individual tickets are \$75 each (if purchased by September 24, (\$85 each after) and can be purchased at [livingstonlandconservancy.org](http://livingstonlandconservancy.org) or by using the ticket form in this newsletter. Sponsors and donated auction items are also still being accepted. All net proceeds from the event go to the LLC's Land Acquisition and Stewardship funds that support 17 different protected properties in Livingston County. For more information and questions, contact the LOH Coordinator, Rick, at [rethomasllc@gmail.com](mailto:rethomasllc@gmail.com). Please come join us for a great time AND a great cause!

**The 2024 Land on the Horizons fundraiser at the Chemung Hills Golf and Banquet Center was a huge success! The 2025 event promises to be even MORE exciting. Please join us on October 3, 2025.**



Livingston Land Conservancy  
P.O. Box 236

Brighton, MI 48116-0236

810-229-3290 (voice mail)

[livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com](mailto:livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com)

## ***Red Cedar Run Nature Preserve Trail Dedication and Other Summer Happenings!***

We held our annual meeting on June 11, 2025, at the Red Cedar Run NP in Fowlerville to dedicate the birding trail that was installed by BSA Troop 362 of Howell. We had over 30 folks attend, including troop members, to learn about the preserve and the trail. A birding walk was led by Laurel & Mitch Zoet of Wild Birds Unlimited of Brighton, plus we had the delicious bird cookies made by Laurel herself! We heard a variety of birds out there in the shrub thickets like the rose-breasted grosbeak, yellow warbler, and song sparrow. Thanks to all who attended and the volunteers who helped make this trail a public benefit.

The trail is open to the public from sunrise to sunset and the trailhead is located on the east side of Nicholson Road, south of Chase Lake Road. Parking is along the road. Please stay on the trail – there is an agricultural drain that has steep sides to it that runs through the middle of the preserve and is harder to see with all the summer growth. Staying on the trail will keep you safe! Visit our website to see the trail map: <https://livingstonlandconservancy.org/red-cedar-run-nature-preserve/>.



**Birding trail dedication at the Red Cedar Run Nature Preserve in Fowlerville – June 2025 (top left).**



**Birding trail signage at the Red Cedar Run NP (top right).**



**Story walk with local author Denise Brennan-Nelson, jointly hosted by the Brighton District Library and the Conservancy – June 2025 (bottom left).**



**New boot brush station installed at the Red Cedar Run Nature Preserve! Many thanks to the Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Shiawassee Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (GiLLS CISMA) for providing the station and installation at no cost to the Conservancy (bottom right).**

### ***In Memoriam—We are saddened by the recent passing of two Conservancy supporters:***

**Barb Krueger** – long-time dedicated member who served on the Board of Directors for a few years as well. She was committed to historic preservation and was a volunteer with the Hartland Area Historical Society, and was a gifted stain glass artist as well. She and her husband, Dick, regularly gave generously to our annual fundraiser, Land on the Horizon. Our thoughts are with Dick and the extended family.

**Jerry Spalding** – he was an avid hiker and outdoorsman. Loved his home and land that he shared with his sister, Nancy, and undoubtedly knew every natural feature that grew there. Our thoughts are with her and the whole extended family. We are honored to be one of the organizations for consideration to receive donations in memory of Jerry. Please visit either our Givebutter donation site at <https://givebutter.com/livingston-land-conservancy-inc-1>, the Conservancy website at [livingstonlandconservancy.org](https://livingstonlandconservancy.org), or send a check made out to the "Livingston Land Conservancy" and mail to P.O. Box 236, Brighton, MI 48116-0236, with "in memory of Jerry" in the note section.

**Rest in Peace to both Barb & Jerry – we appreciate their commitment to land preservation and the natural world.**



## President's Corner: Sara Thomas

I want to thank both my Board and the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) for supporting my attendance to the upcoming "Rally 2025: The National Land Conservation Conference" in Cleveland, OH in early September. We appreciate LTA for providing a scholarship, which is really helpful. These rallies are held annually but often are farther away, at least from us, like San Francisco, Rhode Island, or New Orleans. I am looking forward to meeting new people, learning updated information on all sorts of land conservation topics, listening to "gurus" in the land preservation field, and having fun, of course, like when we celebrate the closing dinner at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. I will take you "with" me via social media and share some of the interesting information and sights that come up along the way. Stay tuned!

### Mission

***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.***

### Consider a Gift to the Endowment Fund

Please consider donating to our endowment fund at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. This fund was started several years ago, provides a yearly distribution, 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 2025 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	_____	_____

Send my newsletter by: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ paper copy

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

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.

Members are:

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

Member # 1

Name (please print)

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Member #2

Name (Please Print)

Email



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Land on the Horizon fundraiser registration inside!

Facebook: @livingstonlandconservancy  
Instagram: Livingston\_land\_conservancy  
Email: livingstonlandconservancy@gmail.com  
Website: www.livingstonlandconservancy.org



*"Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air,  
drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to  
the influence of each".*

Henry David Thoreau

## Upcoming Events

### Land on the Horizon Annual Fundraiser

**Date:** Friday, October 3, 2025

**Time:** 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

**Where:** Chemung Hills Golf Club and Banquet Center,  
3125 Golf Club Road, Howell, MI 48843. (517) 546-4230.

See the cover article for more details!

### Farmers Markets

**Fowlerville:** September 13, 2025

**Brighton:** September 27, 2025

## We are Members of:



 **Land Trust Alliance**  
Together, conserving the places you love



**Marcee and Molly representing the Conservancy  
at the June Brighton Farmers Market.**