

## Annual Report 2016



# NORTH OAKLAND HEADWATERS LAND CONSERVANCY



NOHLC's mission is to conserve the woods, fields, streams and other natural resources in the headwaters area of the Clinton, Shiawassee, Flint and Huron Rivers.





NOHLC.org

Deer Lake Center, 7150 Dixie Hwy Suite 2, Clarkston, MI 48346 248-795-2808



## Finances

In 2016 we completely turned around the finances of the NOHLC. In 2015 we were \$7,000 in the red, but in 2016 we are \$14,000 in the black.

 Raised \$6,000 for current and long-term stewardship of Mud Lake property by hosting two events: a Mud Ball and a house party at the home of Bob and Suzy Fluck.

 Raised \$18,000 for stewardship, land acquisition and operations at our 14<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser Wild Night Out.

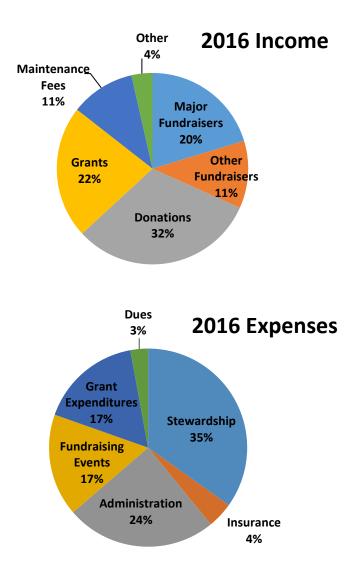
 Repurposed a \$20,000 grant from The Carls Foundation to support office operations.

 Received a \$1,000 grant from the Wildflower Association of Michigan to develop a native plant display at the Voorheis-Beardsley property next to a popular walking and biking path.

 Received a \$3,000 grant from the Land Trust Alliance to prepare for reaccreditation.

 Received a \$4,000 grant from Rose Township to match an \$8,000 MDNR grant to control invasive species. Our expenditures will be reimbursed upon completion of the project September 30, 2017.







### Growing our Team

We continue to expand our staff with talented people dedicated to our mission. New in 2016:

 Miranda Wheeler is our part-time administrative outreach assistant. She is increasing our social media presence by building on the progress made by board member Basia Dabrowski.

 Shannon Steel is our land protection specialist. She has a BA in geography from UNC Chapel Hill, and she works on locating potential preservation properties, personalized outreach and on-site visits with landowners.

• Volunteer Rachel Ferrero is helping the conservancy manage the lengthy re-accreditation process.

# People

Board President: Emily Duthinh Vice President: Jean Garmlich Secretary: Bette Moen Treasurer: Marilyn Zigarac Past President: Christopher Benedict

#### Directors

Basia Dabrowski Mike Dougherty Sharon Gardner Robert Inskeep Susan Julian Greg Kazmierski

Office Manager Robert Inskeep

**Stewardship & Land Acquisition** Susan Julian

Office Staff Mary Herzenstiel Miranda Wheeler

Performance Auditors Mary Blanchard Sue Topping

## Protect

• Worked with the Oakland County CISMA along with 23 government and non-profit agencies to control 6 species of invasive plants in northwest Oakland County.

♦ Acquired 20 acres of former wetlands from Eagle Ridge LLC for a restoration project in junction with the DEQ. This includes the pristine Sashabaw Creek.

 Inspected 100% of our 1,500 acres to create management plans for 2017.

 Managed 640.20 acres of our properties with dedicated funds.
This includes planting native plants, creating pollinator habitat, marking boundaries, removing invasives and planting native bushes.

 Improved 864.29 acres of our properties without dedicated funds by maintaining trails and improving habitat.



The 50-acre Bridge Valley easement has intact habitats including a fen and old growth trees.



In June, Fiat Chrysler's Motor Citizens volunteered at the Voorheis-Beardsley Preserve in Clarkston.

1,504 acres protected



## EASEMENTS | 1,099 Acres

### **0 to 7 acres** Campbell .25 Thomson Preserve .5 Deer Wood Hollow .5 Oakland Crest II .5 Gill Landing 1 Oakland Hill I 1 Oakland Hill II 1 Round Lake Shores 1.2 Oakland Crest I 1.5 Cedar Park I 4 Hall's Connector 5 Waterworks Wetlands 5.2 Bailey Preserve 5.2 Oakhill Hollow 6.8

7 to 20 acres Robert E. Shell Fen 8.9 Poquosin II 9 Pine Knob Country II 10.3 Cedar Park II 10.5 Steeple Ridge 11 Waterford Hills 11 Poquosin I 12 Schwartz Preserve 12.7 Long Lake Village 12.9 Ingomar Farms 13 Village Park 14.9 Whipple Tree Lane II 17 Old Sturbridge 19 20 to 250 acres Hummingbird Ridge 25.2 Davis Lake Overlook 36.7 Bridge Valley Reserve 50.8 Suzanne G. Knorr 52 Clarkston Woods 59.49 Forest Point Acres 62 Hidden Ridge 69.97 Haddon Nursery 79.6 Thread Creek Farm 97.23 Liberty Golf Preserve 120 Camp Wathana 250

NOHLC has not leased any of its property in its 44-year existence. NOHLC does sublet the office within its leased office space at the Deer Lake Center. The office is sublet to the Oakland Conservation District.

## PROPERTY OWNED | 406 Acres

#### 0 to 4 acres

Dixie Independence .11 Holly Lakeview Preserve .25 Bald Eagle Lake Lots .5 Princeton Independence .69 Whipple Lake Preserve 2.6 Heather Haven 3 Victoria Preserve 3.2 Keller Sanctuary 3.5

#### 4 to 15 acres

Cranberry Lake Shores 4.2 Eaton Wet Meadow 4.5 Voorheis-Beardsley Farm 8 Tully Lake Preserve 14.7 Rattalee Shoreline 15

#### 15 to 115 acres

Sashabaw Creek 20 Buckhorn Complex 23 Mud Lake 35 Nels Kimball Sanctuary 41 John R. Schmude 55.4 Nolta-Brennan 60 Springfield Nature Preserve 111

# Outreach

♦ Hosted 44 students from the International Academy, 30 volunteers from Fiat Chrysler and Cisco Systems and 32 individual volunteers, who removed invasive species and maintained trails at 3 of our public-use properties.

 Contacted 140 owners of property located in the headwaters of the Huron River. Prepared land owner management plans for 20 residents, who own a total of 400 acres of potential preservation properties.

 Increased communication and publicity efforts with mailings, newsletters and regular posts on Facebook. Introduced bi-monthly electronic news briefs.

 Submitted video "Land is my Inspiration," produced by board member Mike Dougherty of Silent Light Photography, to a national competition. Placed in the top 10.

 Annual Meeting emphasized our continued concern for water protection with a talk by James P.
Pistilli on the Flint Water Crisis.





### 2015 Bullen Award Volunteer Lora Perkins is this year's recipient of the NOHLC Bullen award. Lora is the co-chair of the stewardship committee, one of our most active and engaged groups. She manages inspections on



all of our properties and helped organize our native plant sale. "She is such a loyal supporter that we consider her a staff member," says board member Sue Julian. "She volunteers in the office nearly every week." Your dedication is an inspiration to all of us. Thanks, Lora, for all you do to make this organization succeed.