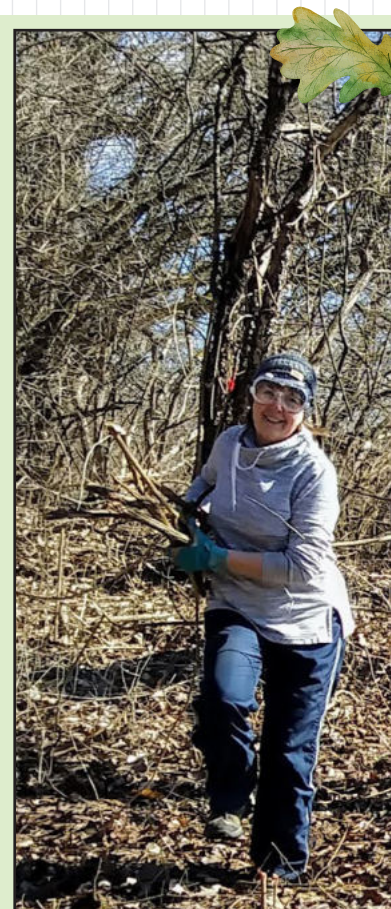


2020 Gratitude Report The Land Conservancy of McHenry County



There were over 1,000 reasons to be grateful at TLC in 2020.

You are one of those reasons!

Despite a global pandemic and challenging economy, TLC members, supporters and volunteers stepped up to ensure that the land we all love was taken care of for the benefit of all living things – today and forever.

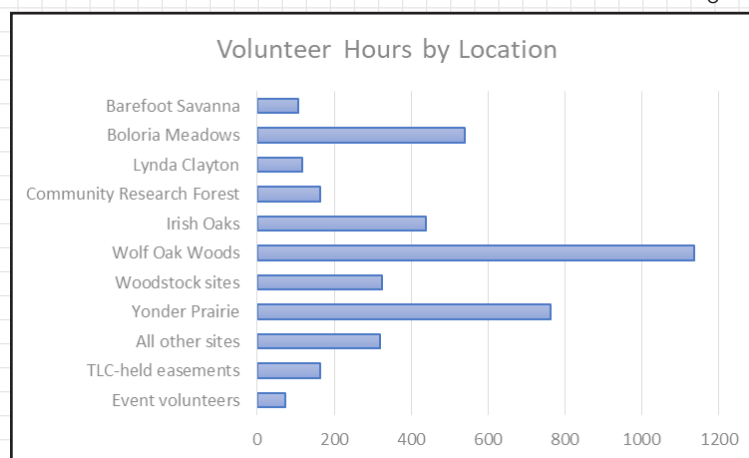
➤ The 2020 gratitude report includes a list of those who contributed funds and donated items. The list does not even begin to capture the significance of each of the donors to the organization.

➤ Volunteer crews at TLC's sites put in a record number of hours clearing buckthorn and honeysuckle – staying socially-distanced, especially from the folks with chainsaws!

Over 4,100 hours were donated by 75 volunteers in 2020. The vast majority of the time was spent doing restoration at TLC preserves, as shown in the chart. That is equivalent

to more than two full-time people, which would cost over \$80,000 to replace with paid staff. Once you factor in taxes, worker's comp insurance, equipment and training, the number is probably close to \$90,000. WOW! Thank you volunteers!

Continued on Page 3





Note from Lisa

As another expression of gratitude, we decided to recognize members who have supported TLC's work over many years. This steadfast support means so much, and it has made a profound difference in the local landscape and the health of our communities. THANK YOU!

Staff were meticulous in trying to determine who of our current members have been members for at least 20, 10, five and three years. I know some folks have been members longer, but our database

doesn't capture much before 2000! For instance, I am pretty sure that Virginia Peschke and Bill & Alice Howenstine have been members for 30 years! However, without any documentation, I didn't want to share inaccurate or incomplete information, so we stuck with what we know.

If you think we made a mistake, please let us know so we can correct the database where necessary!

Whether you are on the 20-plus year list or a new member, please know that your support makes a difference in our community that generations will enjoy.

Thank you all!! ❤️

Lisa

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

P.O. Box 352
Woodstock, IL 60098
815-337-9502

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ConserveMC.org

Wednesday Walks in May and June

Get outside and enjoy some exercise and company on beautiful trails. Join TLC for a simple nature walk every Wednesday in May or June. Attend eight of the nine walks and get a TLC shirt and free six-month gift membership! (Masks and registration required).

Dates: May 5, 12, 19, 26 and June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Free, please register online at ConserveMC.org. Registration closes one day before each walk. Each event limited to 20 participants.

May 5: Wolf Oak Woods (near 9100 IL-120, Woodstock)

May 12: Donato Conservation Area (Donato Conservation Area, near 700 Ridgeland Ave, Woodstock (at intersection of Gerry Street and Ridgeland Ave)

May 19: Ryder's Woods (750 Kimball Ave, Woodstock)

May 26: Trout Valley Fen (Park at the Trout Valley Barn, 167 Country Commons Rd, Trout Valley. There will be a short walk to the fen).

June 2: Boloria Meadows (park next to 7219 Millburne Court, Bull Valley)

June 9: Yonder Prairie (1100 S. Rose Farm Rd, Woodstock)

June 16: Westwood Conservation Area (near 1599 Hillside Trail, Woodstock)

June 23: Hennen Conservation Area: (4622 Dean St, Woodstock)

June 30: Gateway Nature Park (Heritage Lane, Harvard)



It's a great time to get outside and go for a walk! Sign up for one or all Wednesday Walks at ConserveMC.org.

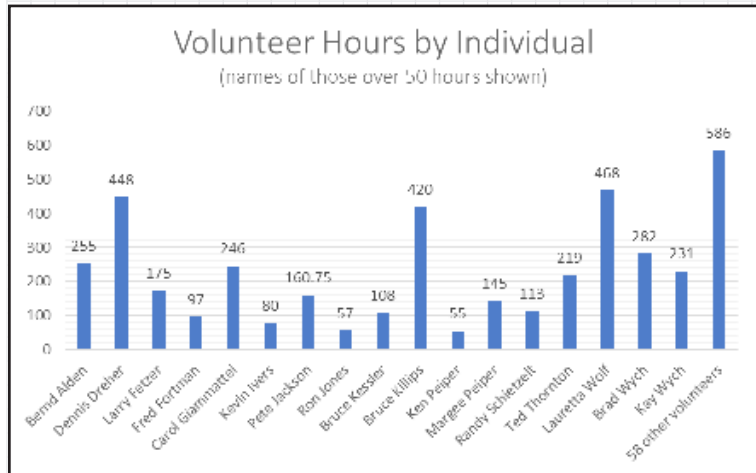
Welcome New Members

Margaret Anthony | Deerfield
Richard Bennett | Cary
Jessica Beverly | Woodstock
Rebecca Brown | Menasha, WI
Carol Dafcik | Algonquin
Anthony DiMarcantonio | Mundelein
Winona Dulka | Springfield
Sherryl & Stephen Ehren | Woodstock
Donald & Felicia Englert | Williams Bay, WI
Irina Kipervaser | Buffalo Grove
Christine Kraner | South Bend, IN
Kelly & Hans Kuningas | Crystal Lake
Ann Lankford | Martinsville, IN
Pat Lawlor | Marengo
Phillip Markison | Marengo
James & Gay Mather | Woodstock
Kim McCallister | Woodstock
Trish McGeedy | Harvard
Wade Merritt | Crystal Lake
Sharon Miller | St. Charles
Ingrid & Brent Mullane | Huntley
Denise Pitcher | Huntley
Kathleen Roberson | Woodstock
JoAnn Schindler | Algonquin
Karen Stahlecker | Woodstock
George Stark | Woodstock
Calvin & Brooke Steinhoff | Hebron
Donna Stephens | Woodstock
Kristin Thakkar | Crystal Lake
Terri Tomicki | Crystal Lake
Kenneth Walsh | Madison, WI
Ann Warren | Crystal Lake
Neil Whitman & Jane Richards | Spring Grove
Terry Willcockson | Woodstock
Matthew Wormley | Woodstock

Continued from Cover

With weekly workdays, Wolf Oak Woods led the pack 😊 with more than 1,000 volunteer hours. The site's volunteer stewards, Pete Jackson and Lauretta Wolf, estimate that 75 percent of the site has been cleared of buckthorn, honeysuckle and bittersweet. In 2020, an Eagle Scout built a kiosk near the parking area and two benches were installed under the Wolf Oak. These amenities make the site more welcoming for the growing number of visitors.

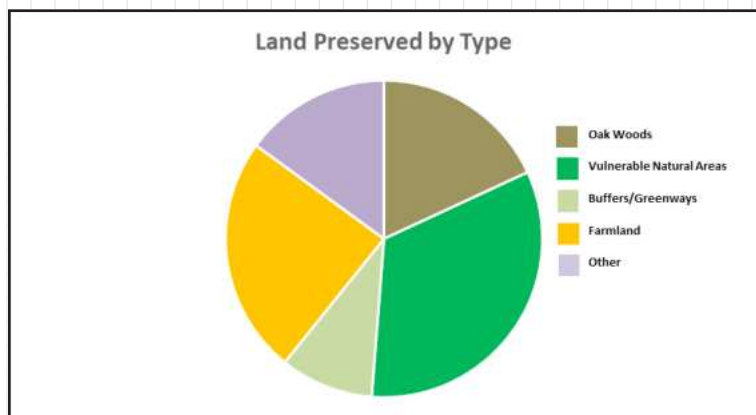
Seventeen individuals donated over 50 hours each, accounting for nearly 75 percent of all volunteer hours in 2020, and three of them spent over 400 hours each taking care of the land at TLC preserves.



TLC preserved more land in 2020.

An additional 103 acres were preserved in 2020, bringing the total preserved to more than 2,800 acres. TLC was founded 30 years ago to help the residents of McHenry County leave a lasting legacy of land for the benefit of all living things – people, plants and animals. You have accomplished so much! Thank you.

TLC's three main land preservation programs are Vulnerable Natural Areas, Oak Woods, and Farmland. When we include the associated buffer areas and greenways that connect natural areas, 85 percent of all the land preserved by TLC falls into one of these three categories.



TLC Open House: 30 year anniversary

Spend time with TLC staff hiking Hennen Conservation Area and learning about all that TLC has to offer the community. From restoration, farming, easements and sustainability sales to Art of the Land, Dia de Los Muertos and volunteer workdays for all ages, TLC has something for everyone.

Date: Saturday, May 22, 1-4:00 p.m.
Location: Hennen Conservation Area, 4622 Dean St. Woodstock
Fee: Free, please register at ConserveMC.org



TLC's Land Preservation Work 1991-2020



● Fee Owned ● Conservation Easement

Battle against Buckthorn and its Buddies Webinar

Want some practical tips on how to rid your property of invasive tree species such as buckthorn and honeysuckle? Join Sarah Michehl from The Land Conservancy to learn how to control these species and receive native tree and shrub replacement recommendations. You'll also learn about the Conservation@Home program and how our local native flora can make a difference to the ecological health of McHenry County.

Date/Time: June 2, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

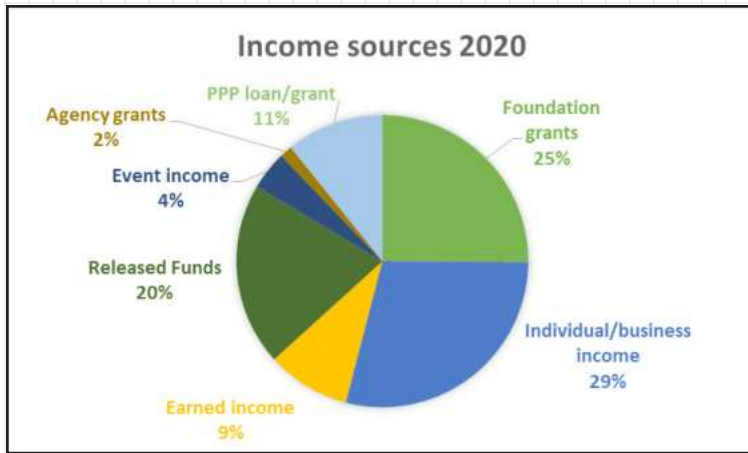
Fee: Free, please register online at ConserveMC.org



2020 Annual Financial Report (unaudited)

Our 2020 financial audit won't be complete until June, but here's a snapshot of the operating income and expenses.

Operating Income 2020: \$547,400



*TLC received a Payroll Protection Program loan in April that was forgiven after we showed that no staff were cut.

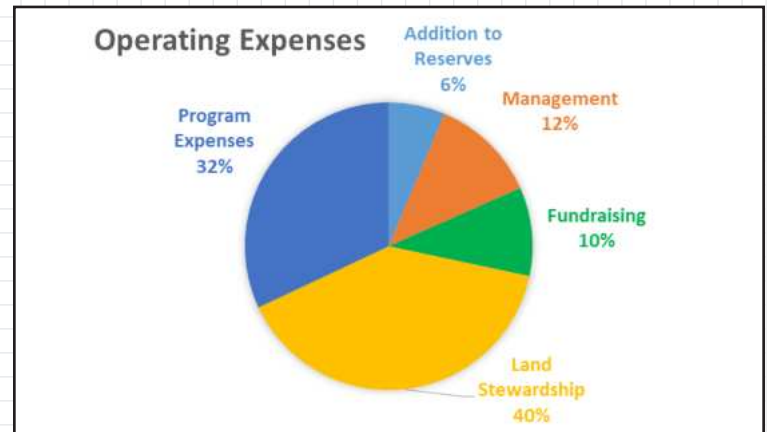
This represented 11 percent of the operating income in 2020.



TLC Ecologist Megan Oropeza with the Blanding's turtle, a species that is endangered in Illinois, she found during a prescribed burn at one of TLC's properties this spring. What a great example of how TLC's members are preserving land for life!

Land Stewardship expenses are broken out from the more general "program expenses" category in the following chart because managing land has become such a large part of TLC's overall operation. In 2012, TLC's land stewardship program was bare-bones, and consisted of volunteer work days and some contractors doing restoration work on Yonder Prairie and the Land of Oz. Today, with 656 acres of land owned, two full-time staff, and grant-funded contract work at several sites each year, TLC's land management program is a professionally run program that the organization is very proud of.

Because of the nature of 2020, management and fundraising expenses are estimated to be a bit higher than usual, with a combined percentage of 22 percent. In most years, these expenses are kept below 20 percent combined.



*Any surplus in 2020 was added to the operating reserve to help fund operations in 2021 if needed.

Balance Sheet Overview, 12-31-20

Total current assets	\$ 1,301,985
Land value	\$ 3,784,643
Equipment (less dep.)	\$ 1,598
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 5,088,227

2020 Donors



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Lynn and Henry Zbierski 🏠

Grants 2020

For Purchase of Crowley Oaks

Illinois Clean Energy
Community Foundation

\$25,000-\$99,000

Grand Victoria Foundation
Searle Funds at The Chicago
Community Trust
Gaylord and Dorothy
Donnelley Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

Willow Springs Charitable Trust

\$1,000-\$9,000

The Community Foundation for
McHenry County

Full Circle Foundation

Illinois Clean Energy
Community Foundation

Environmental Law and Policy Center
of the Midwest

Up to \$1,000

The Nature Conservancy

Each member and donor provides the support needed to realize TLC's mission and vision. Thank you!

Every effort is made to ensure all information is accurate. Please let us know if an error was made so we can correct our records.

\$500-\$999

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Margo Blair

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🍏 Apple Creek Fund

🌳 Crowley Oaks Fund

🍏 Easement Endowment Fund

🍏 Irish Oaks Stewardship Fund

🏠 Thompson Road Farm Project

*Deceased in 2020

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🌳 Crowley Oaks Fund
🌳 Boloria Meadows Stewardship Fund
🌳 Irish Oaks Stewardship Fund
~ The Land Conservancy Endowment
Fund at the Community Foundation
for McHenry County
🌳 Wolf Oak Acquisition Fund
*Deceased in 2020

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🍀 Irish Oaks Stewardship Fund

*Deceased in 2020

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Marie and Milan Nikitovich

In Memory of Denis Bowron
Nancy Bowron

In Memory of Jane Collins
Virginia Peschke

In Memory of Mary McCormack
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In Memory of Carol Dingle
Ted Thornton

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In Memory of Judy Thornton
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Marjorie Thornton, Nadine Thornton,
Caro Lynn Whaples, Kim Yazell,
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In Memory of Gerald "Jerry" Worth
Elaine Worth

In Honor of Orrin and Patricia Bangert
Timmie and John Clemetsen

In Honor of Susan Carpenter
Stephenie Szumny

In Honor of Hugh and Marlene Frisbie
John Buckley

In Honor of Mike Grossman
Mary Grossman

In Honor of Sue and Carl Hayden
David Ripple

*In Honor of Joe Rubino***
The Charles M. Grant Foundation

- 🌳 Crowley Oaks Fund
- 🌳 Irish Oaks Stewardship Fund
- ** Third Generation Oak Fund

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Evan Petrie

In Honor of Ted Thornton
Kim Yazell

In Honor of Jerry Tokars
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In Honor of Bill Wingate
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Memorial/Celebration Oaks

Oak Grove

In Memory of Peggie Stromberg
Linda Balek, Lisa Haderlein and Tom Cubr,
Robin and David Hall, Glenda Maki,
Jennifer Luniewicz-Martins
and Michael Martins,
Robert McCormack,
Sandra and Daniel Scheinfeld,
Nancy and Randy Schietzelt,
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In Memory of Milan Babich
Patricia Dokman

In Memory of Eberhart Biesenthal
Brandie and Michael Dunn

In Memory of Thomas Cabilao
Kara Canga-Arguelles

In Memory of Greg Carlstedt
Colleen and David Zeiger

In Memory of Gloria Elna Dembinski
Linda Standley

In Memory of Donna Gibson Doering
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In Memory of Hubert A. "Jerry" Flack Jr.
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In Memory of Charles Frantz
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Shirley Schumer

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In Memory of Judy Thornton
Lisa Haderlein and Tom Cubr

In Memory of Catherine Vertucci
Linda Standley

In Honor of Patricia Dokman
Patricia Dokman

In Honor of Sharon Kemp
Lisa Kemp

Pair of Oaks

In Honor of Major Zac Calamante
Liz Calhoun

In Honor of Barbara Schneider
Ellen Schneider

In Honor of Gus and Alfie Sobolak
Caroline and William Sobolak

In Kind

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Syrup Restaurant
Walgreens
Katherine Weber
Wheel Werks
Lauretta Wolf
David Zeiger

Sustainability Sale Pickup and Plant Sale May 14 and 15



Pick up your pre-ordered plants on May 14 and 15 and check out the limited selection of native plants for sale during pickup.

It's time to pick up your Sustainability Sale pre-orders. We'll also have a limited quantity of native plants for sale onsite (new this year) on a first-come, first-served basis! Knowledgeable staff will be on hand to answer your plant questions! Masks are required.

Dates: May 14 and 15, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location: 2222 Dean St. Woodstock

Tree and Shrub Identification Class

Learn how to identify common native trees and shrubs with Megan Oropeza, TLC's restoration ecologist. The class will be held outside, so dress for the weather. Masks are required. The class is limited to 20 participants.

Date: Saturday, June 5,
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Location: Hennen Conservation
Area, 4622 Dean St. Woodstock

Fee: \$10, please register at ConserveMC.org



If you've ever wondered, "What kind of tree is that?" this is the class for you.

Happy Anniversary TLC Members! Thank you for your years of support!

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P.O. Box 352
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FIELD NOTES

Includes 2020 Annual Report Financial Statement and list of donors

May/June 2021

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Volunteer Appreciation Event at Irish Oaks Savanna

Attention all TLC volunteers! You are invited to a fun afternoon at Irish Oaks. This outdoor event is free to all volunteers, and is in appreciation for all of the hard work you do! Bring a folding chair, wear a mask, and come ready to enjoy an afternoon with the TLC community.



All TLC volunteers are invited to the volunteer appreciation event at Irish Oaks Savanna in Harvard.

Date: Saturday, June 12, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: Irish Oaks Savanna, 19019 Lincoln Rd. Harvard

Fee: Free, please register online at ConserveMC.org

Spring Wildflower Walk

Join TLC on a wildflower identification walk. We'll take you through a high-quality woodland, help you learn a little about each wildflower, and provide identification tips. We'll meet in the parking lot at Ryder's Woods. Registration is required, and the group size will be limited to 20. Masks are required at this event.



Take a walk in the woods and experience the beauty of spring wildflowers like bloodroot, pictured above, at this outdoor event.

Date: Saturday, May 15, 9-11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$5 per person, please register at ConserveMC.org

Location: Ryder's Woods, 750 Kimball Ave. Woodstock

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 5: Wednesday Walk at Wolf Oak Woods. Near 9100 IL-120, Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

May 12: Wednesday Walk at Donato Conservation Area. 700 Ridgeland Ave., Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

May 14 & 15: Sustainability Sale Pickup. 2222 Dean St. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

May 15: Spring Wildflower Walk. Fee: \$5 per person. Register at ConserveMC.org. 9-11:00 a.m.

May 19: Wednesday Walk at Ryders Woods. 750 Kimball Ave., Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

May 22: TLC Open House – 30-Year Anniversary. Hennen Conservation Area, 4622 Dean St. Woodstock. Fee: Free. Register at ConserveMC.org 1-4:00 p.m.

May 26: Wednesday Walk at the Trout Valley Fen. Park at the Trout Valley Barn, 167 Country Commons Rd, Trout Valley. There will be a short walk to the fen. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

June 2: Wednesday Walk at Boloria Meadows. Park near 7219 Millburne Court, Bull Valley. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

June 2: Battle against Buckthorn and its Buddies Webinar. Fee: Free. Register ConserveMC.org 1-2:00 p.m.

June 5: Tree and Shrub Identification. Hennen Conservation Area, 4622 Dean St. Woodstock. Fee: \$10, register at ConserveMC.org. 10:00-11:30 a.m.

June 9: Wednesday Walk at Yonder Prairie. 1100 S. Rose Farm Rd, Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

June 12: Volunteer Appreciation Event. Irish Oaks Savanna, 19019 Lincoln Rd. Harvard. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. 3-6:00 p.m.

June 16: Wednesday Walk at Westwood Conservation Area. Near 1599 Hillside Trail, Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

June 23: Wednesday Walk at Hennen Conservation Area. 4622 Dean St., Woodstock. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

June 30: Wednesday Walk at Gateway Park. Heritage Ln. Harvard. Fee: Free, register at ConserveMC.org. Noon-1:00 p.m.

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County
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