

The Lake Huron shoreline is a stunning natural resource, stretching along 200 miles of Michigan's northeastern shore and thumb area. In addition to its magnificent coastline, the Lake Huron basin also includes more than 15,000 square miles of important forested areas, prime agricultural land, inland lakes and thousands of miles of rivers and streams.

Many Michigan residents know the region as the perfect location for fishing, camping, hunting, biking, birding and other outdoor pursuits. With such abundant beauty that is readily accessible, we all have a responsibility to preserve it for today and the future.

Land conservancies can help.



Lake Huron Alliance

Great Lake, Great Land!

Lake Huron Alliance • P.O. Box 734 • Bay City, MI 48707
www.lakehuronalliance.org • info@lakehuronalliance.org



Financial assistance for this project was provided, in part, by the Michigan Coastal Management Program, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce.

Additional funding provided by
The Conservation Fund.

Copyright © 2006 by the Lake Huron Alliance. All rights reserved.

GREAT LAKE, GREAT LAND!

A GUIDE TO
CONSERVATION OPTIONS
FOR LANDOWNERS
IN MICHIGAN'S
LAKE HURON BASIN



PRESENTED BY THE

Lake Huron Alliance

A Resource for All of Michigan

Lake Huron's coastline contains the largest remaining areas of Great Lakes coastal wetlands and lake plain prairie in existence today. These relatively small patches of land serve as vital pathways for maintaining our rich natural habitats.

The Lake Huron basin provides habitat for thousands of species of birds, waterfowl, plants, fish and wild game animals, including many that are endangered and threatened species. The region's open spaces, dense forests, natural wetlands and clean water provide habitat necessary for maintaining these populations. Every year, we lose more natural areas and the habitats of many animals continue to shrink, sometimes disappearing entirely.

As habitat degrades, so does water quality. Lake Huron relies heavily on its tributaries, many of which have been severely degraded because of sedimentation, pollution and poor land use practices. Wetlands serve as natural filters for pollutants. Without these important natural areas, the beauty we know in the Lake Huron basin would disappear.

About the Alliance

The Lake Huron Alliance is a partnership of land conservancies in Michigan's Lake Huron basin, working together to promote conservation of the region's natural resources, shoreline, open spaces and forests.

Land conservancies are private, non-governmental organizations that work with individuals, families, communities and other organizations to strengthen the public's knowledge of land conservation and protect land with significant natural, aesthetic and/or



historic resources. Conservancies help to protect farms and working landscapes, forests, peaceful views, open spaces and other properties that are important to wildlife, our communities and our quality of life. Through the use of conservation easements, land donations and purchase of land, Alliance members ensure that our important resources remain protected – forever.

The Alliance is made up of these organizations:

- Chippewa Watershed Conservancy
- The Conservation Fund
- Headwaters Land Conservancy
- Little Forks Conservancy
- Michigan Karst Conservancy
- The Nature Conservancy
- Oakland Land Conservancy
- Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

Preserving Our Natural Spaces

Each of us plays a role in safeguarding our region's precious natural resources. You can help conserve and protect our important open spaces and native habitats for future generations in several ways.

1. Volunteer your time and expertise to assist local land conservancies, who work to slow the rapid loss of natural resources in our region.

2. Consider donating land to preserve it for future generations. Land donation to a land conservancy is one of the best ways to protect and conserve land, and often provides you with significant tax advantages. Conservancies and groups like the Lake Huron Alliance can help you establish a long-term plan that will help conserve your property, and protect it from future development.
3. Investigate a conservation easement for your land. Lake Huron Alliance members work closely with landowners to establish conservation easements which restrict or minimize development on an owner's property so that it can remain in its current state, while at the same time allowing you to utilize the property for many recreational or commercial pursuits. Most conservation easements do not require public access.
4. Make a tax-deductible donation to your local land conservancy to help maintain and purchase more land in the future.
5. Learn about the benefits of conserving land. Citizens and communities need to know and understand the natural benefits the region offers, and should work together to develop preservation plans that consider the needs of the area.

Learn More about What a Land Conservancy Can Do for You

Preserving land is not only for the present. If we act now, future generations will enjoy the same natural resource benefits that we do today.

Contact the Lake Huron Alliance at 989-892-9171 to learn more about land conservancies in the Lake Huron basin or visit www.lakehuronalliance.org.

