



THE CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY
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FREMONT, INDIANA 46737
clearlakeconservancy.org

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2023 REPORT

CLEARLAKECONSERVANCY.ORG

APRIL | 2024

The Conservancy is driven by a collective community goal: to preserve, protect, and manage the natural environment within the Clear Lake watershed and township for future generations.

It is through the collaboration and support of our generous community and partners that we can carry out this mission. Our gratitude is overflowing as we reflect on all that we have accomplished this past year. Together, we are proud to report that throughout 2023, the Conservancy and our supporters...



Engaged **876 COMMUNITY MEMBERS** through educational and outreach programs, including 4 sessions of Knee-High Naturalists, our Fun Day & Run in July, the Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Field Day for Steuben County Fourth Graders and public meetings updating progress of our ongoing Water Quality projects.



Invested over **2,560 VOLUNTEER HOURS** to support water quality testing, invasive plant removal, trail maintenance, land stewardship and organizational development. Volunteers include 16 Board members, 31 committee members and countless community supporters.

Received gifts and donations from **321 CONTRIBUTORS**, (56 of them new) with generous responses to the Year End and "Giving Tuesday" appeals and our summer Fun Day & Run, which demonstrated community giving of around 36% of our work. Thank you for your support!



Hosted a community-centered **FUN DAY & RUN** fundraiser with 156 runners participating in a 10K, 5K, or 1-mile walk/run and 30 youth participating in Fun Day activities. With representation from 28 sponsors, over \$50,000 was raised to support the ongoing work of the Conservancy.

Expanded the Legacy Society through additional members, now totaling **9 LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS** that have shared the naming of the Conservancy in their will, living trust, or as a beneficiary of retirement or financial accounts.

Gained more than **150 NEW FOLLOWERS** on our social media pages.



Continued the preservation and protection of **100 ACRES OF LAND**, including almost 2 miles of public trails, and set the stage to acquire 45 more acres of land in 2024.

Treated and reduced a major infestation of **EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL** in Clear Lake and Round Lake for a second year.



Gathered data through the **WATERSHED DIAGNOSTIC STUDY**, including full-scale data collection in two major inlets, one major outlet, and multiple point locations to better understand the unique dynamics of sediment and nutrient disturbance in Clear Lake and Round Lake.

Received a grant of over \$59,000 from the **MIDWEST GLACIAL LAKES PARTNERSHIP** and **U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE** to support our Watershed Diagnostic Study for improving water quality and monitoring fish habitat conditions.



Welcomed **NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**, Caroline Barth, as she brings knowledge of soil and freshwater nutrient cycling and returns to her favorite summer home at Clear Lake.

Accepted a \$4,000 grant from the **LAND TRUST ALLIANCE** to provide up to a 25% cost share of three lake-shore residential projects installing glacial stone and natural shorelines that absorb wave energy, reduce erosion, and protect sensitive habitats.

Grew the five-year old Vanguard endowment fund, named the **FOREVER FUND** by 35%, through generous donor contributions honoring outgoing President, Karen Horrell (the "Honoring Karen" campaign), personal donations and interest earnings.

The Conservancy Sustainers Program continued with generous support from 12 families who donate monthly, providing steady, year-round support for Conservancy operations. Every form of giving makes a difference in our work. All of our 2023 donors are proudly listed in the following pages. **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

SOARING EAGLE \$10,000+

Anonymous (2)
Chicago Community Foundation on behalf of Judy & Bill Greffin
The Community Foundation of Northeast Florida on behalf of Barb Wenger
Byram Dickes
Jack & Karen Horrell*
Jim & Annie Skinner
Steuben County Community Foundation on behalf of an Anonymous Donor

Kable Darrow
Karen & Steve DeVenney
Ann & Dick DeWert
Jim & Joan Eckstein
Greater Toledo Community Foundation on behalf of Ken Fankhauser
Bill & Chris Geiger
Jill & Grant Goeglein
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Stewart & Risa Griest
Mark & Mary Kay Hagerman
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Biz & Jim Martella
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Alison Rhinehart
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George & Kathy Schenkel
Mark & Josie Sweeney
Julie & Dan Taylor
Denny & Sheryl Vetter
Warren & Janet Ward
Amy Jo Young & Scott Yuengling

Cricket & Tereasa Gay
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Rob & Jane McMaster
Molly & Jeffrey Nagle
Alison Rhinehart
Don & Carolyn Schenkel
George & Kathy Schenkel
Mark & Josie Sweeney
Julie & Dan Taylor
Denny & Sheryl Vetter
Warren & Janet Ward
Amy Jo Young & Scott Yuengling

WATER WARRIOR \$250-\$499

Brian & Stacey Adams
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Kristin & Steve DeMello
Maureen Dibble
Dan & Pam Disser
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NATURALIST \$100-\$249

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The Balsler Family
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Julie Barth & Don Fleetwood
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Dwight & Carol Bieberich
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Joe & Leanne LeClere
Gretchen & Franz Leppla

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Ben Snyder
Greg Spangler
Timothy Speiser
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Susie Steel & Matt Roop
Cynthia Stone
Robin & Walt Sweeney
Kevin & Mary Tonne
Gregory VanCuren
Kevin & Chris Waden
Greg & Karen Williams
Debbie Wymer
Maria Zeman

Up to \$99
Anonymous (3)
Matthew Akemann
Joyce Augspurger
Chris & Lisa Baker
Peg Ballinger
Janelle Balonon
Jamie Bartrom of Beached Boys
Rick & Angie Behnfeldt
Carol Berning
Bok Family Partnership
Bonnie Brown
Cal & Laura Coy
Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne
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Joyce J. Crowl
Paula Drewek
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Mary Jo Fitzenrider
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Nina & Adam Rettig

Bree & Ralph Rolon
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Ken & Mary Scrogam
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Conner Slee
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Janet Steager
Laura Shank Storie
Cindy Stovall
Colleen & Brian Sweeney
Brit Thorp
Judy Troll
Jan Van Horn
Diane, Karen, & David Wehrenberg
Lynn Wehrenberg
Lauren Widenhofer
Brandon Wood

IN-KIND

Anonymous
Clear Lake Pub
Clear Lake Marina
Zach Dean and Kevin Mangum
Essentially Clean & More
Farmhouse Kitchen & Ale
Bill Geiger
Jack and Karen Horrell
Jay Ludgate
Tim and LuAnn McArdle
Amy and Adam Michael
Todd and Barbara Rumsey
Matt and Claire Timmer
Marty Zachrich

Deceased Contributors

*Conservancy Sustainer

INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT (January 1 – December 31, 2023)

ASSETS / NET WORTH

VALUE OF NATURE PRESERVES	\$ 4,261,043
OTHER ASSETS	\$ 22,086
UNRESTRICTED ACCOUNTS	\$ 434,066
RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS & ENDOWMENT**	\$ 442,189
TOTAL	\$5,159,384

REVENUES / EXPENDITURES

UNRESTRICTED GIFTS	\$ 216,881
RESTRICTED GIFTS SPENT	\$ 117,762
EVENT INCOME	\$ 50,285
GRANT (public and private) FROM FUNDERS	\$ 36,048
OTHER REVENUE (Interest, branded items)	\$ 11,366
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 432,343
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 308,712
NET REVENUES	\$ 123,631

** Does not include four funds totaling \$401,398.16 held at Steuben County Community Foundation for the benefit of Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy.