

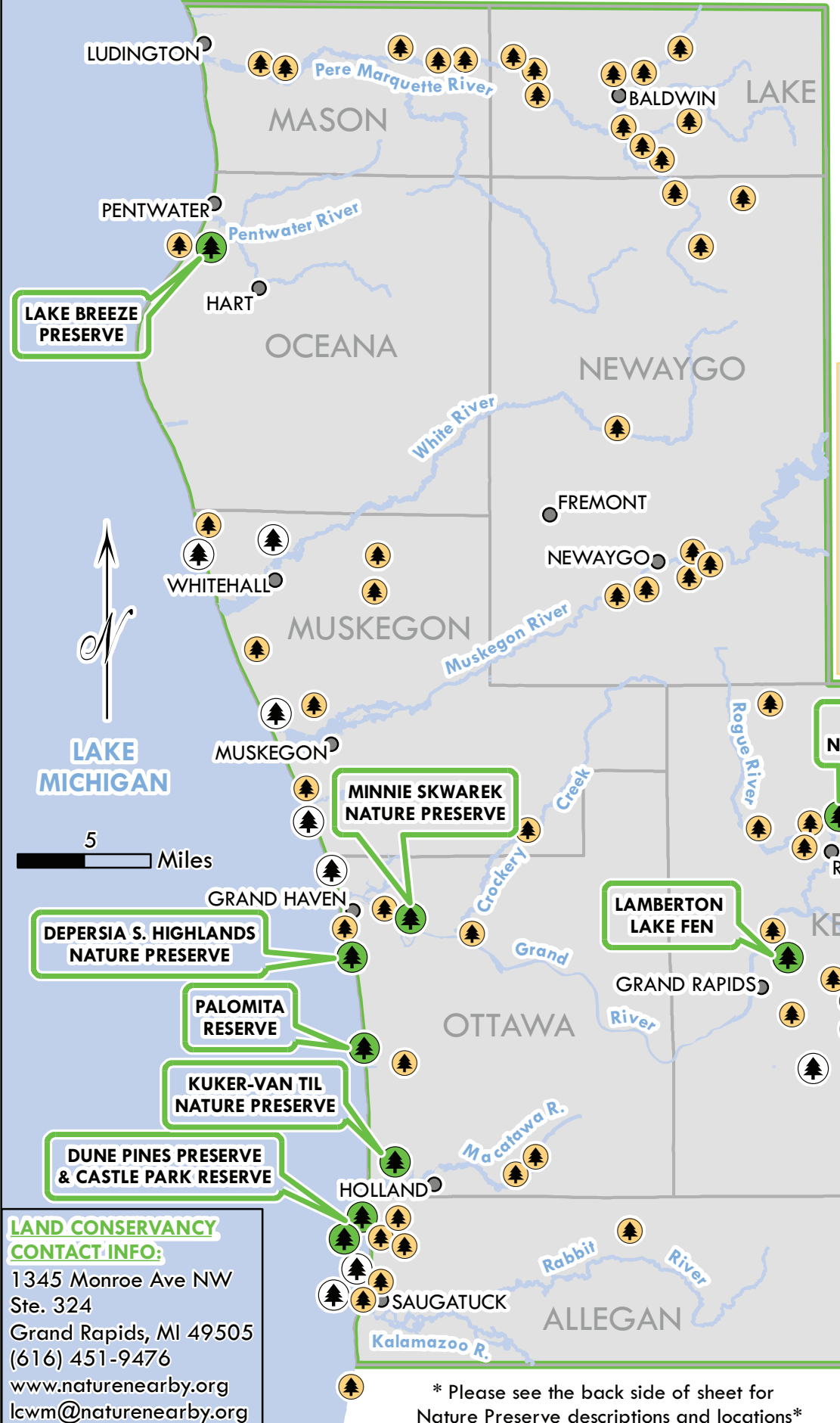
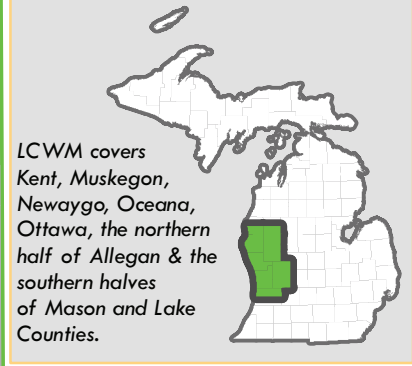
PROTECTED AREAS MAP



Land Conservancy OF WEST MICHIGAN

As of January 1, 2011, the Land Conservancy of West Michigan (LCWM) has protected, or assisted in protecting nearly 7,500 acres in West Michigan. This map shows these protected areas.

Land Conservancy Service Area



LAND CONSERVANCY CONTACT INFO:
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* Please see the back side of sheet for Nature Preserve descriptions and locations*

- Land Conservancy of - West Michigan Service Area
- Nature Preserves
- Conservation Easements
- Government Assists

LAND CONSERVANCY OF WEST MICHIGAN

NATURE PRESERVES

(These nature preserves are open to the public for foot travel only; no horses, bikes, vehicles, or hunting.)
Addresses are approximate, for directional purposes only.

Maas Preserve

17 acres; Kent County

The Maas Preserve is the only protected site, in Kent County, of the federally endangered karner blue butterfly. In addition to the karner blue butterfly this preserve is home to prickly pear cactus, explosions of lupine, a motley of beautiful butterflies and other unique species that share the oak savanna habitat. All of which make Maas a destination preserve. **Location:** 4400 12 mile Rd., Rockford. Parking is available at the White Pine Trail's Parking area on 12 mile Rd. in Rockford west of Northland Dr.

Brower Lake Nature Preserve

63 acres; Kent County

Rustic trails guide visitors through oak and pine forests, near wetlands, and to the top of a wooded ridge overlooking Big Brower Lake. The steep topography, spring wildflowers, barred owls, large trees, colorful songbirds, and even an occasional, wandering black bear enliven visits to Brower Lake Nature Preserve. **Location:** 8748 Je Ne Be Dr., Rockford. Four miles east of Rockford. From US-131, take 10 Mile Road east to Je-Ne-Be Drive north. Follow Je-Ne-Be Drive as it curves eastward around Big Brower Lake. Park at the trailhead.

Saul Lake Bog Nature Preserve

123 acres; Kent County

Saul Lake Bog consists of a great diversity of ecosystems including a floating-mat sphagnum bog, marshes, forested swamps, and pothole wetlands intermingled among dry forest and upland meadows. Highlights include sandhill cranes, bluebirds, meadowlarks, and unique bog plants. Rustic trail system with a boardwalk and bog overlook. Native prairie is being established in the field. **Location:** 10469 Six Mile Rd., Rockford, Grattan Township. Access driveway is at 10469 Six Mile Road. Follow the shared driveway north past two houses all the way back to the preserve parking lot.

The Wege Natural Area for the Study of Ecology

62 acres; Kent County

Adjacent to Lowell Area School's Wittenbach Agri-Science Center, this preserve is used for studies of nature and ecology. The trail leads visitors through a mature red pine plantation, dating back to World War II, and through a variety of stages of forest succession and along Lee Creek. Protected within the wooded, rolling terrain are a variety of small wetlands and a hillside seep filled with wildflowers. **Location:** 11715 Vergennes Rd. Lowell. Parking is available at the Wittenbach Agri-Science Center across from Lowell High School off of Vergennes Street. Trail located behind center.

Minnie Skwarek Nature Preserve

24 acres; Ottawa County

Rustic trails meander through pines, upland and lowland forests, over the creek, through spicebush-covered wetlands, and down to the Grand River. Highlights include spring wildflowers, pileated woodpeckers, migratory songbirds, owls, red fox, a diversity of trees, and a view of Dermo Island on the river. **Location:** 15050 Leonard Rd., Spring Lake Township. On south side of Leonard Street, 1/4 mile west of 148th Street. The preserve is accessible from Leonard Street and Boom Road.

Bradford Dickinson White Nature Preserve

45 acres; Kent County

The White Preserve harbors 2,000 feet of a cold water stream, steep hills and ravines covered in mature deciduous forest, and planted conifers. A diversity of native trees and shrubs provides a good variety of food throughout the year for wildlife. A foot path leads visitors from the parking area, through the pines, over the creek, and through the forested valley and hills. **Location:** 12589 36th St., Lowell. Southwest of Lowell in Lowell Township, Kent County, between Alden Nash Road and 36th Street. Parking and trailhead is located on 36th Street, just 1/2 mile from Alden Nash.

Dune Pines Preserve

13 acres; Allegan County

This beautiful back dunes forest is ideal habitat for migratory birds such as Merlin, warblers and other wildlife. Enjoy a moderate hike up the forested dunes through large beech and oak trees. **Location:** 4580 Audubon Rd., Holland. From M-31 in Holland, take the Matt Urban Trail west. It will turn into 48th, then 146th continue west until it turns into Audubon Dr.. Trailhead is on the north side of Audubon.

DePersia South Highlands Nature Preserve

13 acres; Ottawa County

This nature preserve offers spectacular forested dunes with views of Lake Michigan. There is no trail system at this preserve. Steep terrain. **Location:** 17950 Brucker St., Grand Haven Township. From US-31 take Robbins Road west, Lakeshore Drive south, Brucker Street west. Park on Brucker and walk in on South Highlands Park Drive.

Kuker-Van Til Preserve

45 acres; Ottawa County

A loop trail goes through a mixed hardwood pine forest with sand "blowouts" interspersed. This natural area, tucked within a well-developed landscape, is a haven for turkeys, fox, songbirds and migrating butterflies. **Location:** Park at Windstrom Park off Perry St. in Park Township. Hike west on bike path until preserve entrance on the north.

Palomita Nature Reserve

40 acres; Ottawa County

An overlook along the Grand Haven Township boardwalk provides excellent views of the diverse wetlands, waterfowl, water-lilies, and surrounding hardwoods and pines along Little Pigeon Creek. A footpath loops through the forest on the south side. Highlights include migratory raptors, shorebirds, ducks, and songbirds. Flocks of passenger pigeons once roosted here. **Location:** 10630 Lakeshore Dr., West Olive. The preserve is accessible from Lakeshore Avenue just south of Lake Michigan Drive in Grand Haven Township, north of Camp Blodgett. Palomita Nature Reserve is east of the road.

Lake Breeze Preserve

35 acres; Oceana County

Adjacent to a 65-acre LCWM conservation easement, this preserve protects a coastal forest of white birch, white pines, hemlocks, beech trees, maples, and oaks, and the watersheds of two creeks. Public access is allowed on the nature preserve, but not on the conservation easement. A trail begins at the preserve sign on Lake Breeze Drive and loops through the woods. **Location:** N. Lake Breeze Dr., Pentwater Township. Take Ridge Rd. to Lake Breeze Dr. Follow Dr. to trailhead.

Lamberton Lake Fen Nature Preserve

24 acres; Kent County

This preserve nestled within Grand Rapids is home to a rare wetland called a wet prairie fen. In addition to wetland plants, this preserve harbors habitat for colorful birds like the American redstart, rose-breasted grosbeak, green heron, wood duck, Baltimore oriole, and flicker. A forested tract on the northwestern side of the lake also protects Lamberton Lake. **Location:** 3118 1/2 Plaza Dr. NE, Grand Rapids. Turn onto Plainfield Ave. off I-96, in Grand Rapids then, right onto Lamberton Lake Drive, turn right onto Plaza Drive. Parking and trailhead are at the end of Plaza Drive.