

**Yes!** I am interested in becoming a Land Conservancy Stewardship Volunteer!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Phone # (opt.) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**I'm interested in:**

- Volunteering for Work Days
- Monitoring a Conservation Easement
- Becoming a Preserve Steward

**Please mail your completed form to:**

Jacqueline Bilello, Stewardship Coordinator  
Land Conservancy of West Michigan  
1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Ste. 324  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

phone: 616-451-9476  
email: [jacqueline@naturenearby.org](mailto:jacqueline@naturenearby.org)  
web: [www.naturenearby.org](http://www.naturenearby.org)



1345 Monroe Ave. NW  
Suite 324  
Grand Rapids, MI  
49505

Become a Land Conservancy of West Michigan

# Stewardship Volunteer



**Land Conservancy  
OF WEST MICHIGAN**

1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Ste. 324  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
ph: (616) 451-9476  
fax: (616) 451-1874  
web: [www.naturenearby.org](http://www.naturenearby.org)

# Land Stewardship

The Land Conservancy of West Michigan (LCWM) strives to preserve lands of high biological value in West Michigan for future generations. This entails maintaining and/or restoring lands for the native plants and animals using the best land stewardship techniques available.

*We are committed to being good stewards of the land entrusted to us.*



## Nature Preserves

The Land Conservancy of West Michigan owns and manages 13 nature preserves. These lands are acquired by donation and purchase. Preserves are managed in a way that maintains or improves their biological values, while allowing the public to enjoy their natural beauty.

## Conservation Easements

A conservation easement is a unique tool that allows landowners to retain private ownership, but permanently protects the land from ever being split up for development. We have 51 conservation easements that protect 3,226 acres. LCWM regularly monitors these properties to ensure the standards agreed upon are kept and the property keeps its biological integrity.

# How To Get Involved!

## Work Day Volunteer

If you enjoy getting your hands dirty, volunteer for one of our stewardship workdays to help maintain and restore the integrity of our preserves.



- Opportunities year round, open attendance
- Example of tasks include: removal of exotic species, removal of trash/fencing, native planting, etc.

## Group Opportunities

Groups enjoy coming together as a team to make a difference at one of our preserves. The following groups have had their own work days: United Way Day of Caring participants, Boy/Girl Scouts, nature clubs, private businesses, churches, garden groups, etc. If you belong to a group, call to find out how you can have a rewarding experience in some of the most beautiful places in West Michigan.

## Preserve Steward

Get an intimate relationship with one of LCWM's preserves by becoming its Steward. This is an ideal volunteer opportunity if you live close to a preserve.

Responsibilities include:

- Monthly visits
- Assist with general maintenance of the property
- Plan and/or lead workdays (optional)
- Document changes to the property

## Conservation Easement Monitoring

Help protect beautiful natural areas by monitoring private land protected with conservation easements.

Responsibilities include:

- Yearly visits
- Document changes to the property
- Complete necessary paperwork

Recommended skills include the ability to:

- Orient oneself without trails or signage
- Work with property owners
- Use camera for documentation
- Basic understanding of local plants and animals

## Why get involved?

LCWM continuously works to protect West Michigan's critical natural areas. As we grow, volunteers become increasingly necessary in ensure the long-term protection and care of our protected lands. As a Stewardship Volunteer, you will be out enjoying some of the most beautiful lands in our area, while securing their future.



## Become a Stewardship Volunteer!

Contact Jacqueline Bilello at 616-451-9476 or [jacqueline@naturenearby.org](mailto:jacqueline@naturenearby.org)  
or

Complete and mail the form on the reverse side to: LCWM, 1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Ste 324 Grand Rapids, MI 49505

**Volunteer training is provided.**