



**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY**

6851 S. Sprinkle Rd.

Portage, MI 49002-9708

GEORGE U. WISE, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY  
6851 S. SPRINKLE RD.  
PORTAGE, MI 49002-9708



**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN  
LAND CONSERVANCY**

**ONCE IT'S GONE,  
IT'S GONE  
FOREVER**



**PLANNED GIVING  
THROUGH THE OAK LEGACY**

Make a commitment as part of your estate, and you'll become a member of The Oak Legacy. By planting the seeds, you will provide the resources needed for the success of our ongoing land conservation efforts.

Like the mighty oak that starts as a small acorn, your gift over time will grow. The Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy invites you to give a lasting gift and join with other visionary members of The Oak Legacy. By acting together, we can choose to leave a healthy forest for our children and their children to enjoy.

## THE OAK LEGACY PLANNED GIVING OPTIONS

### WHY THE OAK?

Oaks are largely long-lived trees that graced our pre-settlement savannas, uplands, and even bottomlands. The oak produces one of the larger tree seeds, yet the acorn is very small in comparison to what it becomes: a giant over centuries.

Estate gifts, too, can become giant sources of revenue over time for Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy's (SWMLC) perpetual mission of land protection and land stewardship.

### WHAT NEXT?

Your decision to make a planned gift should be discussed with an experienced professional — such as an attorney, accountant or financial advisor — for maximum benefit to you and your heirs.

A representative from SWMLC is available to work with you and your advisor(s) on a planned gift program that works for you.

## HOW TO JOIN THE OAK LEGACY

To join The Oak Legacy, notify the SWMLC office of your intended gift personally or through your attorney. The details of your plan are always treated confidentially. While you may remain anonymous, we hope that you will let us honor you publicly by listing your name with the other Oak Legacy members. And, as a member, you will receive a Certificate of Recognition acknowledging your gift.

Please let us honor you by including you as a member of The Oak Legacy.

Periodically, SWMLC will arrange a special tour or program for you and the other Oak Legacy members.

For additional information, please contact:

George U. Wise, Development Director  
or

Peter D. Ter Louw, Executive Director  
Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy  
6851 S. Sprinkle Road  
Portage MI 49002

Telephone: (269) 324-1600

Fax: (269) 324-9760

E-mail: [ConserveLand@SWMLC.org](mailto:ConserveLand@SWMLC.org)

Website: [www.SWMLC.org](http://www.SWMLC.org)

## HOW YOU CAN PROTECT LAND

You can protect land in southwest Michigan with lifetime gifts or gifts through your estate. Some options for giving are:

- Cash
- Life insurance
- Marketable securities
- Real property or development rights
- Personal property
- Retirement accounts
- Charitable gift annuities
- Charitable remainder trusts
- Donor-advised funds
- Wills
- Trusts

Thoughtful planning on your part can:

- Provide major tax savings today.
- Ensure financial security for your family in the future.
- Yield substantial gifts for your preferred nonprofit organization in perpetuity.

By making a planned gift to the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, you will help to ensure that we carry out our primary mission of protecting land.

**COMMIT TODAY  
TO PROTECT THE FUTURE.  
ONCE IT'S GONE,  
IT'S GONE FOREVER.**



- Yes**, I would like to learn more about becoming a member of The Oak Legacy.  
Please have a representative of Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy contact me.
- I have already included SWMLC in my estate plan, and my preference is:
- Yes, please include my name as a member of The Oak Legacy, and print my name in The Oak Legacy Register as it appears below.
  - No, please do not publish my name.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY**

A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization