



**MINNESOTA
LAND TRUST**

2356 University Ave. W #240
Saint Paul, MN 55114

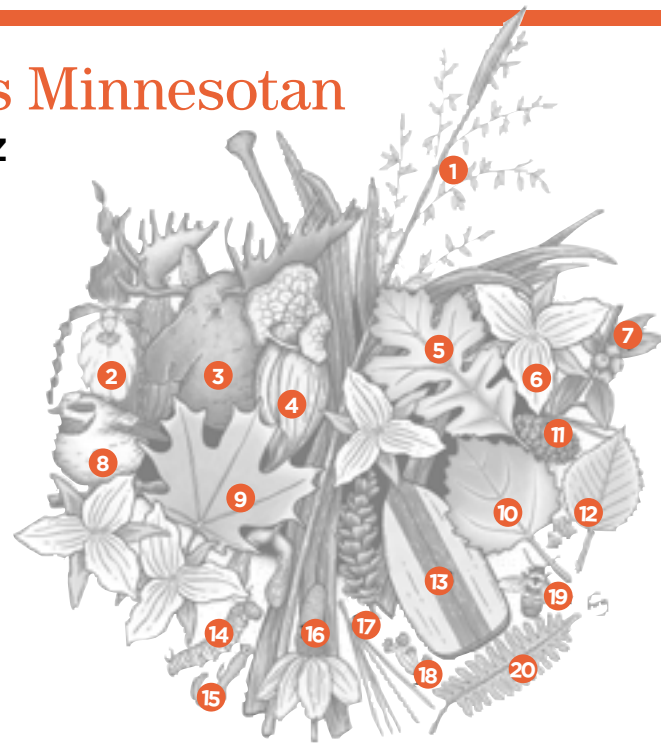
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All Things Minnesotan

BY HALEY GOLZ



In honor of the Minnesota Land Trust's **30th anniversary**, Haley Golz created this original artwork of Minnesota flora and fauna. Known for her intricate drawings of lichens, Haley is an artist and illustrator living in Duluth. She is also the Private Lands Restoration Program Manager at the Minnesota Land Trust. Visit www.lichenlandscapes.com to see more of her work.



- 1 Wild rice (Ojibwe: Manoomin) (*Zizania palustris*)
- 2 Yellow lady slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum*)
- 3 Moose (*Alces alces*)
- 4 Pitcher plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*)
- 5 Bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
- 6 Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*)
- 7 Blueberry (*Vaccinium* sp.)
- 8 Golden-winged warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)
- 9 Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)
- 10 Big-tooth aspen (*Populus grandidentata*)
- 11 Jack pine, cone and needles (*Pinus banksiana*)
- 12 Paper birch, leaf and nutlets (*Betula papyrifera*)
- 13 Canoe paddle
- 14 Monarch caterpillar (*Danaus plexippus*)
- 15 Fishing jig
- 16 Prairie coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*)
- 17 White pine, cone and needles (*Pinus strobus*)
- 18 British soldier lichen (*Cladonia cristatella*)
- 19 Rusty patched bumblebee (*Bombas affinis*)
- 20 Common polypody (*Polypodium virginianum*)

DESIGN BY BARBARA PEDERSON

> Our Saint Paul and Duluth offices are staffed with variable hours. Please call in advance if you would like to visit.

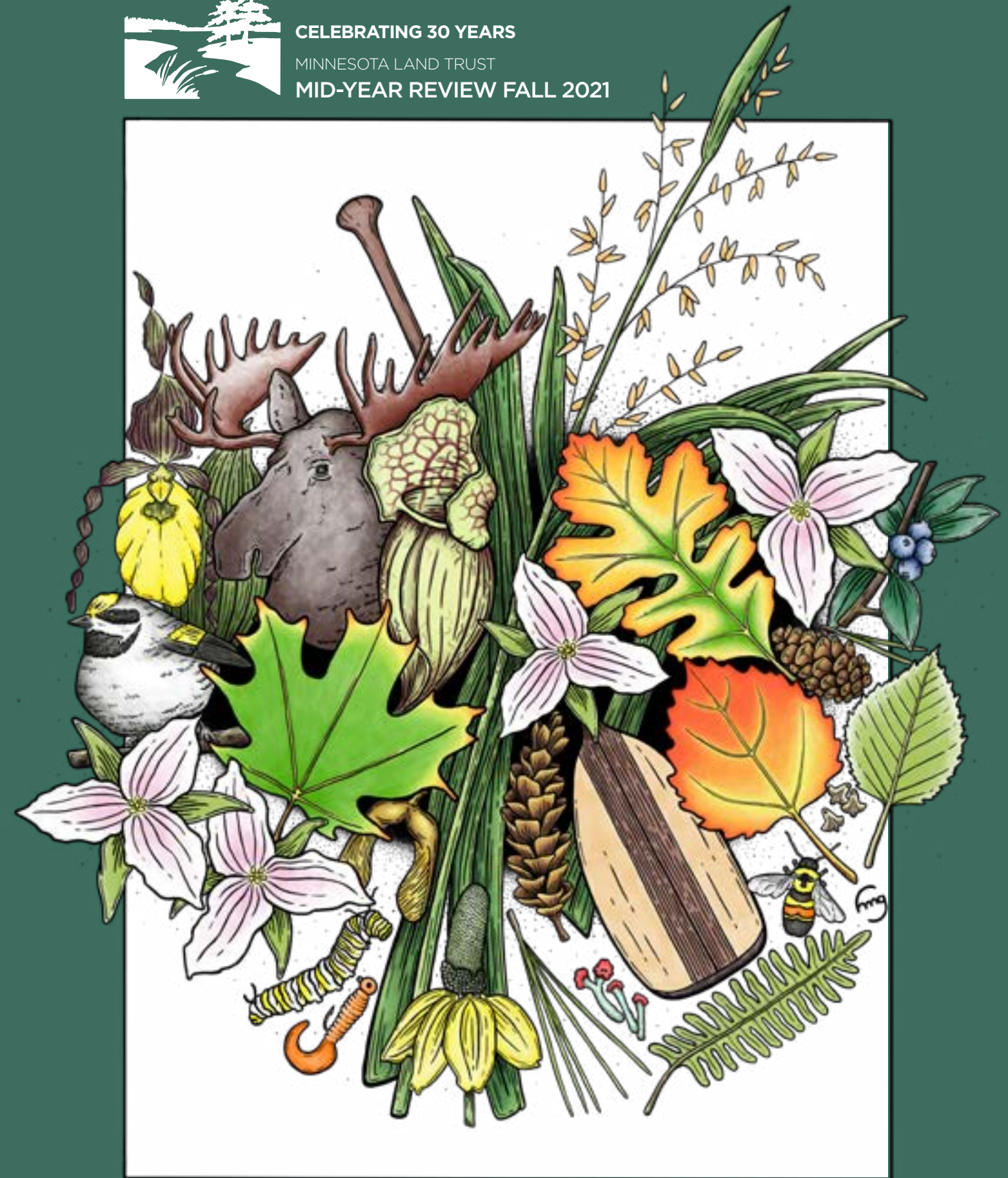
MINNESOTA LAND TRUST
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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
MINNESOTA LAND TRUST
MID-YEAR REVIEW FALL 2021



HALEY GOLZ

Ensuring nature thrives in Minnesota.
For everyone. Forever.



30 Years of Conservation

LEAVING MINNESOTA'S natural world in better shape than it exists today is a hallmark conversation among board members and staff. The discussion is one of scaling priorities and it involves decision-making of what needs to be done today and what, regrettably, must wait for another day. To do this critical work, the Land Trust has created a large family over the past thirty years, one that includes thousands of individuals from across the state, with different backgrounds, incomes, and ages all pulling together to advance a common cause of protecting and restoring Minnesota's beloved lands.

Perhaps no group was as instrumental in the Minnesota Land Trust's story as the founding board members. In 1991, eleven prescient people gathered to form the first board of the Washington County Land Trust which was incorporated with the express purpose of the preservation of "public benefit of open space." At that time, much of the "public benefit" was considered local: saving individual properties that contributed to the sense of place within the county.

When it went statewide in 1993 and incorporated as the Minnesota Land Trust, the range and scale of the "public benefit" changed with it. The Land Trust began to judge its projects not just on individual properties, but on how it could impact entire watersheds and provide habitat for wildlife, which often need large, continuous blocks of land. This was a bold move that proved to be instrumental in accomplishing conservation goals, and Minnesota's environment has reaped the benefits of

these early decision-makers.

But even those board members that made the foundational decision to take the organization statewide likely did not envision just how important land trusts would become on a national and global scale. To date, land trusts across the country have protected more land than all the national parks combined. And this work is more important than ever. Why?

Because Minnesotan's fundamental understanding has changed in recognizing just how pivotal Minnesota lands are to so many issues facing society today. For example, Minnesotans can expect:

An increased number of wildfires, hotter summers, deteriorating air quality and more dangerous storms and flooding.

A steady loss of species, including some that will become extremely uncommon in Minnesota to others that will be permanently extinct.

Youth recreating on a Land Trust protected property



HANSI JOHNSON

A challenge in keeping Minnesota's 10,000+ lakes healthy. The lakes are essential to the water cycle that feeds the flora and fauna and protects clean drinking water.

A food supply that is disrupted by invasive pests, diminishing topsoil, and climate stress.

An existing and possibly growing equity gap in who is able to enjoy and access Minnesota's recreational and natural outdoor areas.

The good news is that protecting Minnesota's remaining natural lands, restoring those that have been degraded, and engaging the next generation of conservation leaders are key strategies that the Minnesota Land Trust and many partner organizations are employing to address these issues.

So, what does the next 30 years look like at the Minnesota Land Trust? It's continuing our hands-on, "meat and potatoes" conservation with an even greater understanding of how this work can help address big, societal problems. It's building on the strengths of a non-profit land trust: stay flexible, stay adaptive, stay nimble — and boldly go do the work. And it's continuing to honor all of the individuals that have built the Minnesota Land Trust and will help us meet the conservation challenges of tomorrow.

Because one thing we know — the future will change — and the Minnesota Land Trust will be ready to change with it.



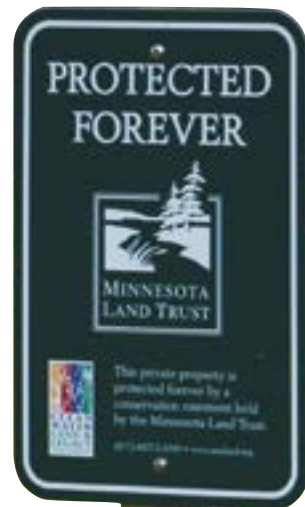
Help us meet the challenges of the next 30 years! Give at MNLAND.ORG/THIRTY



SUE STEINWALL



SUE STEINWALL



MILESTONE
1,000,000 feet of shoreline protected

2009



Restoration began in the Saint Louis River Estuary near Duluth

2011



MILESTONE
50,000 acres permanently protected

2016

Youth Outdoors Duluth was born to address equitable access to outdoor experience

\$5 Million Capital Campaign launched with 10-year Conservation Agenda to double our pace of work

2017

MILESTONE
5,000th site visit reached by volunteer monitors

2018

Private lands restoration program launched

2019

Saint Louis River National Water Trail established (2nd trail to be named in Minnesota)

2020

Land Trust staff size reaches over 30

2021

30 YEARS OF HISTORY

MILESTONE
Washington County Land Trust formed
First conservation project, 80 acres in Washington County

1991

MILESTONE
Name changed to the Minnesota Land Trust

1993



MILESTONE
100th land project completed

1998

National credibility established through accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission

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From board members to monitors, volunteers have had an enormous impact for the last 30 years. They are essential to conservation in Minnesota!

BOARD MEMBERS

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

John Bussey[^]
Austin Damiani
Liz Dillon
Tony Grundhauser
Brandon Haugh
Jeff Hayward
Ellen Jones
Jane Kingston
David Knoblauch
Bridget Levin
Alexis Ludwig-Vogen
Menaka Mohan[^]
Jim Payne
Nick Reinke[^]
Todd Reubold
Rick Rosvold
John Shardlow
Fay Simer
Rick Snyder
Peter Vorbrich
Mike Wiebolt[^]
Elizabeth Winton
Jane Wyatt
Jennie Zumbusch[^]

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Peggy Adelman
Eric Anderson
Kurt Apfelbacher
Dennis Atchison*
John Baird*
Ann Beaver
Robert Binger*
Victoria Boers
Robert Bruce
Robert Burns*
Robert Bush
Sonia Cairns
Colleen Carey
Christine Carlson
Steve DeLapp*
Susan Dunn
Tim Edman
Paul Egeland
Stan Ellison
Nichlas Emmons
Ted Erickson
Jim Erkel
Tori Flood*
Greg Fontaine

David Fransen
Brent Frazier
Brad Fuller
Tori Gagne
Patti Gartland
Greta Gauthier
Bert Gernentz
Wolfgang Greiner
Maurice Grogan
Jean Hamm
Rachel Hampton
Loren Hansen
Jane Harper*
David Hartwell*
Susan Heegaard
Tom Horner
David Hust
Patrick Hynes
Mary Jackley
Sharon Johnson
Wood Kidner
Woody Kingman
Carolyn Kohrs
Chuck Malkerson
Bob Marshall
Tina May
Jim Mayer
Mark McEathron*
John McIntosh
Hamlin Metzger
Caroline Miller
David Minge
Ted Mondale
Brad Moore
Chuck Moos
Samuel Morgan*
Mark Mortenson
Mark Norquist
Karen Oberhauser
Paul Olson

John Peck
Robert Pederson
Paula Pentel
Julie Perrus (Padilla)
Gayle Peterson
Melissa Peterson
Peter Pflaum
Tom Piper
Ginna Portman Amis
Jane Prohaska
William Rahr
Dan Rogers
Lee Ronning*
John Satorius
Kelly Scanlan
Jerry Schotzko
Kathleen Scott
Stanley Shepard
Mariana Shulstad
Dick Slade
James Stark
Hollis Stauber
Sue Steinwall
Jeff Strate
Shelly Sturgis
Joe Sullivan
Amy Sunderland
Rolf Svendsen
Harold Teasdale
Robert Voigt
Jim Waggoner
Brad Wallin
Peter Welles
Susan Wilson
Ted Wunderlich
Dunn Yoshitani

* Founding Board Member
[^] Newly-Appointed Board Member

PLANNED GIVING

The Land Trust's Legacy Society is growing! Please consider joining. Visit MNLAND.ORG/PLANNEDGIVING or call Jennifer Scholl at 651-917-6289.

SUE STEINWALL

STAFF UPDATES

RETIREMENT

With a grateful heart the Minnesota Land Trust congratulates a tremendous trio for their combined service of 50 years! **Gena Setzer**, Senior Staff Attorney will retire in December after 20 years; **Barb Farrell**, Paralegal will retire in November after 10 years; **Susan McCallum**, Director of Finance and Human Resources, retired in September after 20 years.



Gena Setzer, Barb Farrell, Susan McCallum

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Aimee Broten, Paralegal
Claire Colliander, Director of Finance and Operations
Pat Collins, Program Manager
Chad Kingstrom, Program Manager
Jennifer Scholl, Director of Development and Communications
Amy Schwarz, Staff Attorney



ROSLYNN LONG

VOLUNTEER MONITORS



Every year, more than 100 volunteer monitors — clipboards and now, smart phones in hand — visit our landowners and their protected properties. As an Accredited Land Trust, all of our conserved properties must be visited at least once every calendar year. That's a heavy lift. In 2021, the Land Trust

has 670 separate pieces of property to visit, from Kittson County to Houston County and from Cook County down to the southwest. Staff members, hired contractors, and satellite photos help, but every year, roughly half of the protected properties are monitored by able volunteers.

Since our first easement was recorded

in 1993, we estimate that over 300 different individuals have donated their time as volunteer monitors over the years. Volunteers have accounted for more than 5,000 monitoring visits since 2001. We also know that the average length of volunteer service is 7.6 years and that 65 volunteers have monitored for at least 5 years. Plus, there are 6

people who have volunteered for at least 20 years in a row.

That's dedication! And it is what conservation is all about. While we all get excited when we close an easement project, that is really only the first step in the long journey of stewarding that easement. Year-after-year, we must uphold our promise of perpetuity — and

our volunteers have been instrumental in helping us deliver on this promise for nearly thirty years.

So, while we recognize one individual every year through our John Peck Volunteer of the Year award, we are really thanking all of our volunteers. We mean it when we say that we literally couldn't do it without you.

VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE MONITORED FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS SINCE 2001:

TODD ARMBRUSTER | ROB AXTMANN | POLLY BAYRD | ANN BEAVER | TOM BEAVER | MARY BROWNING | MICHAEL BURNETT | TOM CLAPP | CRAIG COLD | DON CONNER | STEVE DELAPP | JENNA FLETCHER | BRAD FULLER | NONA GOERTZ | NED GORDON | RALPH GUNDERSON | KEN HAINS | CARTER HEDEEN | FLORENCE HEDEEN | TOM HOFFMAN | DAVE JACOBSON | PAM JOACHIM | CLIFF JOHNSON | BRIAN JUNGELS | BILL KALSEIM | DAG KNUDSEN | RYAN KUTTER | BETSY LAKE | PAM LANDERS | ROGER LANDERS | AL LARSON | LINDA LARSON | STEVE LEE | LINDA LIESTMAN | BILL MAJEWSKI | NORMA MALINOWSKI | DIANE MCGANN | BRYAN MCGINNIS | JOAN MEIEROTTO | CLINT MILLER | RAN MINER | BONNIE MORRIS | DENNIS MORRIS | MARY NEWSTROM | DAVE PALMQUIST | JOHN PECK | LINDA PECK | GINNA PORTMAN AMIS | DEENA REISMAN | STEVE REISMAN | CHUCK ROSE | KELLY SCANLAN | BOB SCHEIERL | HANK SCHEINOST | DENNIS SCHERBER | BRUCE SCHOENBERG | LEE SCHOLDER | PAUL SCOBIE | BETTY SELANDER | CHUCK SELANDER | STEVE SICHENER | GREG SOLBERG | BILL STEELE | GERY THEN | TERESA THEWS | HERM URBASIC | DAVID WHITE | RUTHANN YAEGER

*WE HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE ACCURACY AND ASK THAT YOU CONTACT US WITH ANY CONCERNS.



Treasured Places



“WE ARE THRILLED TO CONTINUE HONORING THE LEGACY AND DREAMS OF OUR FOUNDERS.”

^ This past September, Camp Olson opened its doors to host the Minnesota Land Trust’s annual event, Treasured Places. The Land Trust presented the Partner of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and Landowner of the Year awards. The event drew over 200 people who gathered outside to enjoy hiking, kayaking, and untold adventures!

Camp Olson YMCA

PARTNER OF THE YEAR



Camp Olson’s Board President, Jenny Sall and Executive Director, Russ Link

When stepping foot in Camp Olson, prepare for a fresh, cleansing breeze, the echo of a loon call, and an ethos committed to “preserving a paradise of beauty for youth and their leaders for years to come” per the words of camp founders E.O. and Bella Olson.

To cement the camp’s commitment to preserving the Northwoods, Camp Olson has permanently protected over 700 acres, nearly half of the camp’s land base, and 20,000 feet of shoreline on six lakes during the past three years. But their commitment did not stop there, they dedicated a portion of the money they received from the conservation easement to their endowment that supports youth scholarships, ensuring that the legacy of Camp Olson endures and is accessible for generations to come.

Board President of Camp Olson YMCA, Jenny Sall stated, “We are thrilled to continue honoring the legacy and dreams of our founders. These easements will provide Camp Olson a future of optimism, sustainability in our operations and on our property that supports our commitment to environmental stewardship for future generations.”

It probably comes as no surprise that Camp Olson was selected to receive the Partner of the Year Award. Camp Olson is truly living their values and leading by example through committing to conservation in a meaningful way.

“We are delighted that Camp Olson is preserving the Northwoods for generations to come and thrilled that together we are ensuring scholarships for the next generation of youth to respect and love the outdoor world,” says Kris Larson, executive director at the Minnesota Land Trust.

Bill Majewski

JOHN PECK VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Bill Majewski recalls that his involvement with the Land Trust began when he attended a recruitment meeting for volunteer easement monitors at the invitation of an old paddling partner. “I signed up and he didn’t” chuckled Bill. In the 15 years since, Bill has monitored 50 properties across northern Minnesota. “I really enjoy the enthusiasm of the landowners who grant the conservation easements,” he noted.

More recently, he put his woodworking skills to use to benefit the Land Trust, donating two beautiful common tern decoys he whittled for the Minnesota Made fundraiser earlier this year. Each carving took over 32 hours to create.

Remarkably, the longtime Duluth resident’s tenure with the Land Trust is dwarfed by yet another volunteer commitment, the clean-up and restoration of the St. Louis River. Bill has been committed to restoring the river since it was first listed as an Area



of Concern in 1987. After representing the City of Duluth on the original steering committee, he went on to serve as board chair for the St. Louis River Alliance and remains passionate about completing the work needed to delist the river.

“Bill has been essential to the success of the clean-up of the St. Louis River Estuary,” according to Director of Restoration Programs Daryl Peterson, “He is always a problem solver and willing to roll up his sleeves and volunteer.”

“I REALLY ENJOY THE ENTHUSIASM OF THE LANDOWNERS WHO GRANT THE CONSERVATION EASEMENTS.”

Dan and Cindy Rogers

LANDOWNERS OF THE YEAR

When Dan and Cindy Rogers ponder the question, “What do you leave for those who follow in your footsteps?” their unequivocal response is “open spaces, free from development.”

The Rogers watched the slow, but steady creep of urban sprawl and the subdivision of large farms into 5- and 10-acre homesites near their home south of Bemidji. In 2004, they decided to take action and made the decision to protect their land forever. They placed a conservation easement on much of their property and in subsequent years donated two additional easements, protecting more than 600 acres of beautiful landscape.

The large tracts of open fields, hardwood forests, and wetlands provide critical and needed habitat for species like black bear, wolf, white-tail deer, ruffed grouse, bluebirds, migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and humans!

Dan’s profession as a science educator at the Red Lake Indian Reservation provides him opportunity to convey the value of open green space to his students. By offering outdoor experiences at the high school like camping, Nordic skiing, and hiking, Dan hopes to impart a strong connection to the land.

Both Cindy and Dan say, “We feel a sense of gratitude that we are able to protect beautiful land for future generations. We are especially proud that our grandchildren will be able to enjoy and love the land, just as we have.”



“WE FEEL A SENSE OF GRATITUDE THAT WE ARE ABLE TO PROTECT BEAUTIFUL LAND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.”

