

ISLAND

Lake Erie Islands
Conservancy
Presents



GREEN SCENE

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2021

Benjamin Woods Preserve Dedication

By Lisa Brohl

We are excited to announce that we will join the Put-in-Bay Township Park District in their dedication of the new Benjamin Woods Preserve on Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 2:00pm during Island Green Week. The 2.5 acres were purchased with funds from The Conservation Fund, a private donor and the Conservancy. A trail from the Benjamin Woods joins with the Cooper's Woods Preserve trails so access is available



Photo: Beautiful path in Benjamin Woods Preserve Photo by Lisa Benjamin

from either preserve. A celebration will be held at the Benjamin Woods Preserve parking lot on Langram Rd. with a reception to follow. Parking is also available at the Cooper's Woods Preserve parking area adjacent to the Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church. We wish to thank Katherine and Lisa Benjamin for working with us patiently on the purchase and their generous donation of a bicycle rack for the preserve.

Gump Construction will be busy this spring installing new signage from the Bright Idea sign shop, connecting trail, and fencing on site. Carl and Patty LoPresti have donated a bench to be placed in the parking area. Thanks to all of you for your help and support of our projects and we look forward to seeing you at the dedication! More details coming soon!

Our Mission:

To encourage conservation and Protection of Natural and Agricultural Lands in the Lake Erie Islands for the Benefit of Future Generations.



FUTURE GENERATIONS

Speaking of Future Generations.... Here is Maritima Market enjoying a warm spring walk at the Cooper's Woods Preserve! (Photo by Jessie Greene)

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More Grants = More Green Space! By Lisa Brohl

Put-in-Bay Township Park District Chair Kelly Faris delivers Clean Ohio Green Space applications to Andrew Brown, director of the Sandusky County Park District March 5. Fingers crossed for more island green space! We hope for good news on March 24 when decisions are made! Rare to get Kelly in the photo and not taking the photo! Thank you Marty Faris for photo!



Photo: Kelly Faris delivering Clean Ohio Green Space to Andrew Brown of Sandusky County Park District Photo by Marty Faris

I Know It's Taxing, But It's Time *By LEIC Board Member, Paula Ziebarth*

"I Know It's Taxing, But It's Time!" Every year, like clockwork, the date rolls around once more. April 15! We all dread it. We all know it's coming. We all fear the work involved. And yet, it is so important to our nation. It is especially important to our island communities and ecology. Time to pull invasive, non-native Garlic Mustard! Challenge your neighbors and friends. See who can fill the most trash bags with the stuff. LEIC appreciates all the volunteer pullers we get each spring in our nature preserves. This invasive herb has become one of the worst invaders of forests in the Midwest. Herb? Yes! Eat it if you like. We will share recipes with you! Shake your hand! Pat you on the back! -or- keep proper social distancing and give you two big thumbs up! You choose the accolade that suits. Garlic Mustard pulls make a huge difference in our woodlands, allowing our native wildflowers to thrive rather than disappear. We have some beautiful wildflowers that are just waiting to burst forth from the leaf litter: Dutchman's Breeches, Jack in the Pulpit, Spring Beauty, Wild Hyacinth, Virginia Waterleaf, White Trout-Lily, Large-flowered Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum* if you will) to name just a few. All striving, reaching blindly, seeking their rightful place in this world, only to be extinguished by a sea of Garlic Mustard...



Weed Warriors unite! Join us. Look for opportunities to eradicate the harrowing herb, the garroting garlic, the monstrous mustard. Last spring, my son Greg and I adopted Dodge Woods Preserve for our annual Garlic Mustard battle. We carefully bagged and disposed of over 20 large garbage bags of Garlic Mustard. It sounds impressive, but we really had nothing else to do during Covid lockdown. We look forward to seeing how our efforts may have changed the landscape this spring. And so come April 15 or so, we shall venture forth, with garden gloves and garbage bags and a sense of purpose. It's taxing, but it's time...



Photos: Garlic Mustard; Greg Ziebarth with more Garlic Mustard Photos by Paula Ziebarth



Garlic Mustard Pull Competition!

The City of Green near Akron, Ohio has issued us a challenge as to which community can pull the most garlic mustard in a day! We have accepted the challenge but need your help and lots of volunteers.

We will hold the Garlic Mustard Challenge May 6-12—will post the date on our Facebook, website, and email it when it is set. There is such a big problem with the invasive wildflower garlic mustard in Cooper's Woods we need help! The best way to get rid of it is to hand pull it before it goes to seed. It pulls easily just after a spring rain!

Brendan Morgan of EnviroScience will be here at the Cooper's Woods parking lot to arm us with strong garbage bags. Volunteers will head into the woods after an educational session on what garlic mustard looks like and how to pull it. We will fill our bags, take them back to the parking lot for weighing before dumping into a dumpster for removal so that seeds are removed from the site. After the bag is empty, grab some water and return to the woods to refill your bag. Southgate park in the city of Green is much larger at 200 acres but the density of garlic mustard is much higher at our 30 acre Coopers Woods so with enough helping hands we could win this. Weight will be calculated as total pounds pulled and pounds per

volunteer hour. The grand prize for winning this friendly competition is bragging rights and a sense of accomplishment.

Bring garden gloves to wear if you can. Some folks have had a rare allergic reaction to the strong garlic scented oils in the plant. We will have some garden gloves for those who need them still. We will also have cold drinking water in a large cooler container—please bring your own water bottle for a refill!

And remember you can take some garlic mustard home to eat—great in chip dip, pasta, salads, etc. Just do not take it home to plant!!!

We are working with EnviroScience to remove invasive plants/trees from our Cooper's Woods Preserve with funding from the Conservation Fund. They will be removing amur honeysuckle later this year by cutting and applying herbicide to the base. You can see their work from last fall with the piles of the cut brush left behind. This garlic mustard challenge and the Earth Day Challenge are all part of controlling the invasive plants so we can have a healthier Cooper's Woods for the future—with native plants and trees that support native wildlife!

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Aeroconservation, Aeroecology, and the Fauna of the Islands *By Kalen Cap*

Aeroconservation, Aeroecology, and the Fauna of the Islands As understanding of nature progresses, new science disciplines emerge. Two of these disciplines impact the fauna of our island preserves. Aeroecology and, more importantly to the layperson, aeroconservation are concerned with aerial habitat. Like fish that move, feed, mate, and experience their time in water, volant species may do so in the air. Aeroecology studies how airborne life interacts within its habitat of the aerosphere. Aeroecology emerged as its own discipline after a migration conference presentation by Thomas Kunz in 2007. One term for how people may better understand aerial habitat might be “smog.” The combination of smoke and fog impacts visibility. It affects personal mobility without being a land impediment. People drive slower in moving through smog or fog due to lower visibility in the aerial habitat. Have you ever caught a raindrop in your mouth? If so, you may well imagine flying animals catching their food in the air. Aerial habitat affects feeding behavior as well. Volant species like birds, bats, and insects, experience the aerial habitat for a significant part of their lives. Aeroconservation can help preserve the aerial habitat for our island fauna. It arose from studies of aeroecology, airspace habitat, habitat fragmentation, and human effects on airspace. According to Davy, Ford, and Fraser in their 2017 Canadian article “Conservation for the Fragmented Skies,” aeroconservation “seeks to understand anthropogenic (human) impacts on aerial habitats and how these impacts affect survivorship, behavior and diversity of aerial species, and to develop conservation tools for aerial habitats and biodiversity.” Our personal choices affect the airspace habitat for our island flying friends. Efforts on preserves, such as habitat site selection for purple martins, use principles of these two disciplines. For example, there are no trees within 40 feet of the Scheeff Purple Martin colony taller than its rigging. The science of aeroecology and

aeroconservation supports this aerial zoning. The bat habitat structure development on Middle Bass Island uses similar principles. The newer disciplines build from other longstanding sciences. Migration and aerial insectivores have been studied for decades, for example. Several recent journal articles on aeroecology look at purple martins, bats, and mayflies. These fauna are among the conservancy foci of the islands. New findings may better inform our future conservation efforts in their regards. Island residents and visitors already change behavior to impact the islands’ flying fauna. Both individual households and community governments turn off outdoor lights in late Spring. Lighting, with its many facets, is an aeroecology influence on our aerial fauna. Changing lighting can be a form of aeroconservation. Consider cell towers using red which is less impactful on bats compared to other colors of light. Let’s explore aeroconservation further in the upcoming year. Together, we can learn what more we can do for such efforts in our preserves.



Photo: Purple martin flying near their nesting gourds high above the blooms at Scheeff
Photo by Paula Ziebarth

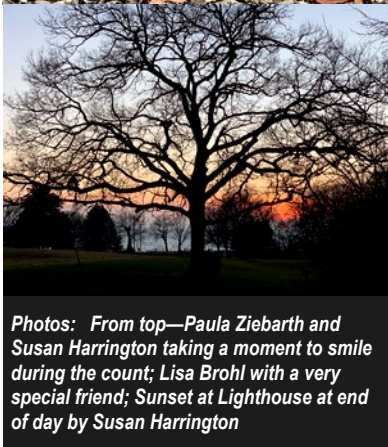
Lake Erie Islands Land Preservation Zoom Meeting *By Lisa Brohl*

We had a discussion at a Conservancy board meeting about interest in coordinating land preservation efforts with other Lake Erie Islands. We had meetings twenty years ago sponsored by the Nature Conservancy and more recently by the Lake Erie Islands Conservation Cultural Consortium group. No meetings were held by this group in 2020 due to Covid. The Great Lakes Islands Alliance scheduled for this past fall on the islands was also postponed until next year. It was decided that maybe this was a good time to try a Zoom meeting. The islands represent a unique set of challenges to preserve and we are in different counties or countries but share some of the same issues. Such a group may be able to allow us to assist each other with shared solutions or work on some topics together like pollinator habitat, invasive species management, bird nest boxes and habitat, etc. An invite was sent out to interested parties and on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 a group of twenty representing different islands and organizations met by Zoom. A list of things we could coordinate on were shared-funding sources, resources for fighting invasives, educational efforts, info on setting up ecotourism opportunities, loss of tax base issues, pollinator resources etc. The idea of forming a group for the Lake Erie Islands similar to the Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership for Biodiversity (LEAP-www.leapbio.org) was put forth. Members of the group planned to listen in on the next LEAP meeting March 17. The idea of having a publication focusing on the islands natural legacy similar to theirs (<https://www.leapbio.org/resources/a-legacy-of-living-places>) was brought up. The idea came up of having the Ohio Sea Grant/Nature Conservancy publication from 2009 updated (<https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/products/b2cc2/explore-the-lake-erie-islands-a-guide-to-nature-amp-history-along-the-lake-erie-coastal-trail>). More to come!

We are excited to see what will come of this new collaboration! Stay Tuned! Thanks to the following for participating!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>Lisa Brohl-Chair-Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, Put-in-Bay Township Park District</i> | <i>Jordan Killam-Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce</i> |
| <i>Linda Shull-Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, Membership Committee</i> | <i>Garrett Ormiston-GIS, Stewardship Specialist, Cleveland Museum of Natural History</i> |
| <i>Julene Market-Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Advisory Board</i> | <i>Ken Schneider-Assistant Land Steward, Cleveland Museum of Natural History</i> |
| <i>Paula Ziebarth-Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, Nest Box Programs</i> | <i>Jill Crosthwaite-Nature Conservancy Canada</i> |
| <i>Kelly Faris-Chair-Put-in-Bay Township Park District, Lake Erie Islands Conservancy</i> | <i>Emma Horrigan-Ontario Nature, Conservation Projects and Education Manager</i> |
| <i>Marsha Collett-Lake Erie Islands Conservancy</i> | <i>Sumiko Onishi, Pelee Island Bird Observatory</i> |
| <i>Kalen Cap-Volunteer, Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, PIBTPD</i> | <i>Andy McDowell-Western Reserve Conservancy, Western Field Operations</i> |
| <i>Renee Fultz-Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center</i> | <i>Kate Pilacky-Western Reserve Conservancy, Firelands Associate Field Director</i> |
| <i>Kristin Stanford, Education Outreach, Research Scientist, The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory</i> | <i>Matt Kovach-The Nature Conservancy, Lake Erie Coastal Program Manager</i> |
| <i>Neal Hess, Conservation Realty Group</i> | <i>Rick Gardner-Chief Botanist, Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves</i> |
| <i>Jackie Taylor-Kelleys Island Field Station</i> | <i>Erin Hazelton-Wind Energy Administrator -Ohio Division of Wildlife-Caves</i> |
| <i>Tom Pieratt- Village of Kelleys Island Park District and Recreation Board</i> | <i>Scott Butterworth-District 5 Manager, Ohio Division of Wildlife</i> |
| <i>Chris Ashley, Kelleys Island State Park, Manager</i> | |
| <i>Lori Stevenson, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Private Land Biologists</i> | |

Lake Erie Islands Christmas Bird Count *By Lisa Brohl*



Photos: From top—Paula Ziebarth and Susan Harrington taking a moment to smile during the count; Lisa Brohl with a very special friend; Sunset at Lighthouse at end of day by Susan Harrington

The Lake Erie Islands Count Circle of the Christmas Bird Count was held on December 20, 2020. It was a relatively warm day again this year with open water around the islands. Duck hunters were present offshore and have been a lot this fall which affected the count. Not as many birds were present at island feeders with the warmer weather this year either with numbers and varieties of sparrows missing. Total for all four islands together was 80 species and 40,992 individual birds counted.

Here on South Bass Island, we counted 5,347 birds from dawn to dusk, hearing eastern screech owls and great horned owls before dawn. The most numerous birds again were waterfowl—with 2,965 mergansers that were flying east across South Bass as the sun came up. Paula Ziebarth spotted our only common loon on South Bass and Elizabeth Heineman photographed a belted kingfisher at the pond with a fish in its mouth. Ruth Scarpelli found a common grackle at her feeder. Although not on count day, Susan Harrington found a common merganser and common redpolls during count week and Kit Knaser again had the lone tufted titmouse on all the islands at her feeder. Lisa Brohl, Paula Ziebarth, Susan Harrington, and Elizabeth Heineman drove and walked around the island to tally waterfowl and land birds. Russ Brohl, Kit Knaser, Susan Harrington, Ruth Scarpelli, Michelle Heineman, Sarah Toole, Pam Stephens, Jean Hilt, Maryann and Anita McCann, Julene Market, Randi Wertebach, Bob Glauser, Paul Ladd and Gay Pippert, Barb Chrysler, Janet Grantham, Sue Ferguson, and Jim O'Donnell each watched their feeders and yards that day to records the birds and woodpeckers who came to visit.

On Middle Bass, Teddi Keith-Morris, Tyler McClain, and Mariah Sherer walked and drove the forests and shores of the island to tally a total of 975 birds with the most numerous birds being Red-breasted Mergansers at 211. They found a peregrine falcon, ring-necked duck, and common redpolls, as well as swamp and song sparrows at Kuehnl. Sadly they found a dead red-tailed hawk near electric wires where there were remains of a fox squirrel.

Pelee Island got wild turkeys, horned larks, and eastern bluebirds—thanks to all the field and forested habitat there. They found the only common terns—first time for this bird on our island Christmas count and the only tundra and mute swans for the count. Pelee's most numerous birds were the large rafts of scap at 2,350. Participating in this year's count were Sumiko Onishi, Carol Takahashi, Karen Foster, Kim Gardner, Ron and Lynn Tiessen, Deb and Fred Billard, Kim Gardner, Alyssa and Matt Staples, Pete Samuels, Dale Adamson, Lisa and Brian Kipp, Deb Crawford, and Rob Tymstra.

The keen eyed observers at Kelleys found a purple sandpiper on the rocky shores, five saw-whet owls hiding in cedars, and one gray catbird. They also found surf and black scoters, one chipping and field sparrow each. Other good finds were purple finches, pine siskins and a late count week killdeer. At Kelleys, the most numerous bird was the red-breasted mergansers at 14,463 followed by 10,093 European starlings. Participants were John and Shaun Pogacnik, Tyler McClain, Mariah Scherer, Joshua Coppen, Tom and Paula Bartlett, Kit Kilen, Emily Beal, and Chris Ashley.

Final results and species counts will be posted on the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy website at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org once approved by Lake Erie Island Count Circle coordinator John Pogacnik. Thanks to everyone for participating!

	Pelee	SB	MB	KI	Total
Tundra Swan	2				2
Mute Swan	3				3
Canada Goose	450	245	10	26	731
Gadwall	94				110
American Wigeon				2	2
American Black Duck			3	4	7
Mallard	35	100	90	209	434
Redhead				1	1
Ring-necked Duck			1		1
Greater Scaup		2	17	102	121
Lesser Scaup		21		76	97
Scaup species?	2350	127			2477
Surf Scoter				1	1
Black Scoter				3	3
Scoter species?				4	4
Bufflehead	71	152	171	808	1202
Common Goldeneye	30	50	24	865	969
Hooded Merganser				1	1
Common Merganser			CW	121	121
Red-breasted Merganser	389	66	211	14463	15129
Merganser spp.		2965			2965
Diving Duck spp		9			9
Wild Turkey	620			1	621
Horned Grebe	5	2	5	22	34
American Coot	35				35
Mourning Dove	40	10			50
Killdeer				CW	CW
Purple Sandpiper				1	1
Bonapartes Gull				9	9
Ring-billed Gull	60	4	123	468	655
Herring Gull	51	219	27	273	570
Great Black-backed Gull	7	1	1	2	11
Gull spp.		18			18
Common Tern	3				3
Common Loon		1		5	6
Double-crested Cormorant	1	5			6
Great Blue Heron				1	1
Turkey Vulture				9	9
Bald Eagle	10	4	4	6	24
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1			1	2
Cooper's Hawk	5	3	2	5	15
Red-tailed Hawk	2	4	2	4	12
Eastern Screech-Owl		1		10	11
Great Horned Owl	2	5		6	13
Northern Saw-whet Owl				5	5
Belted Kingfisher	1	1		1	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	14	23	7	19	63
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				2	2
Downy Woodpecker	32	78	17	73	200
Northern Flicker	12	9	7	95	123
Peregrine Falcon			1	CW	1
Blue Jay	35	26	13	15	89
American Crow		29	2	103	134
Horned lark	14				14
Black-capped Chickadee	87	98	38	170	393
Tufted Titmouse			CW		CW
Red-breasted Nuthatch		2		9	11
White-breasted Nuthatch	14	33	7	16	70
Brown Creeper		3	7	9	19
Winter Wren			2	3	5
Carolina Wren	22	6	5	44	77
Golden-crowned Kinglet			1	6	7
Kinglet spp.		2			2
Eastern Bluebird	11			43	54
Hermit Thrush				41	41
American Robin	6	194	3	502	705
Gray Catbird				1	1
European Starling	254	256	65	10,093	10668
Cedar Waxwing	25			4	29
House Sparrow	63	248	15	409	735
House Finch	32	55	3	125	215
Purple Finch				6	6
Common Redpoll			CW	26	28
Pine Siskin				4	4
American Goldfinch	3	40	10	27	80
American Tree Sparrow	6		7	23	36
Chipping Sparrow				1	1
Field Sparrow				1	1
Song Sparrow	2		11	8	21
Swamp Sparrow			2	1	3
White-crowned Sparrow	1				1
White-throated Sparrow	5	18	7	77	107
Dark-eyed Junco		57	15	84	156
Sparrow species?				11	11
Common Grackle	15	1			16
Brown-headed Cowbird	1			34	35
Red-winged Blackbird				1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler		6		21	27
Warbler species?				1	1
Northern Cardinal	9	148	13	125	295
Individuals	4930	5347	975	29740	40992
Species	45	40	39	68	80

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Earth Week Checklist for April 19-23 and a Few More Things to Do!

Earth Week Checklist April 19-23



Have a parent initial this list and send picture of completed checklist to leinwca@gmail.com, prizes will be distributed at a later date.

****Eligible for Panther Pride Hours!****

- _____ Garlic Mustard walk at Cooper's Woods, Thursday April 22 @ 4pm
- _____ Ride Bicycle or take a walk
- _____ Pull 1 bag of Garlic Mustard
- _____ Pick up 1 bag of garbage
- _____ Send a picture of an upcycled item
- _____ Pre-order from LEIC Native Plant Sale (optional)



Send pictures to leiconservancy@gmail.com or
Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087



Anytime during Earth Week April 18-24, 2021, send a selfie or photo of yourself working to improve our island nature preserves to leiconservancy@gmail.com or text to 419-366-2087 to Lisa Brohl. We ask that you pull invasive garlic mustard from any of our preserves including the Cooper's Woods. Send a photo of you with garbage bag of the mustard. For instructions on how to pull and what it looks like, contact Lisa Brohl at the e-mail/phone above. We'll have instructions on our website and Facebook as well.

You may also take a selfie of yourself removing garbage from our preserves or anywhere on the islands. For proof, take and send a photo of your bag of garbage. Come enjoy native wildflowers and help keep our woods community healthy. Walk our shorelines and pick up litter at the same time.

What a great way to still honor Earth Week have something to do during this quarantine! Questions, let us know!

Here's another thing to do during Earth Week and especially on Earth Day (April 22) and even all year—Visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips/> and learn about "[51 Ways to Restore Our Earth](#)".

Thinking about a martin rig for spring?—Some things to consider *By*

Paula Ziebarth

Purple martins really love an open flyway. Space around rig allows them to hunt flying insects (they eat a lot of dragonflies) near their nest site, but they can also hunt a mile or more away if needed. Luckily, the islands harbor a plethora of flying insects for insectivorous birds and they do VERY well here. The main reason for the 40 foot minimum distance is to protect them from marauding hawks and owls. A large raptor perched in a tall tree near a rig can pick them off systematically. The greater distance between raptor perch and rig allows them a little more time to call alarm and escape. Purple Martins will shun sites too close to tall trees for this reason - not safe. I often see rigs sited in bad locations and Purple Martins won't use them.

Proper housing also helps. We have short tunnels on our gourds at Scheeff and double compartments on our Trio housing at the lighthouse. Not only does good housing give young more space to develop and thrive, it also makes it very difficult for raptor to reach into back of compartment to snag young. Another trick is to place one or more plastic decoys on top of rig or on perches nearby. Not only do these decoys attract Purple Martins when establishing a colony, they also serve to lure hawk to attack them (easy pickins) and give birds valuable seconds to get safe.

There are other key elements to keeping birds safe. #1 threat comes from non-native, invasive House Sparrows and European Starlings. Both species kill eggs/young/adults in nest compartments. We keep European Starlings

out (for the most part) with starling resistant entry holes. House Sparrows and European Starlings are trapped in housing or in gourds as soon as possible, humanely euthanized and recycled to help recovering raptors at wildlife rehabbers. Other threats on the islands include climbing predators like raccoons and snakes. Stovepipe predator baffles are a must to keep these from decimating colony.

Our Tree Swallows do great on the islands also. Tree Swallow colony at Scheeff was established in 2009 and did better this year than ever before (99 fledged this year vs. 66 year before in same boxes) . I did a few things differently this year. We replaced PVC baffles with larger diameter stovepipe to keep Eastern fox snakes from depredating birds, rubbed ivory soap on ceilings to keep wasps out, applied tanglefoot barrier on pole under baffle to keep ants out of boxes, and weed whacked around poles to deter ants and snakes.

If you have any questions, I am passionate about this stuff so happy to help (paulazbird@gmail.com).



Photo: Purple Martin Rig at Scheeff

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Sillick Wins Conservation Award

LEIC member Darlene Sillick won the Ohio Wildlife Diversity Conservation Award on March 5 at the annual conference. Darlene started with bird nest boxes in 1985 with an ODOW grant to set up nesting boxes for bluebirds and tree swallows and now has nest boxes for lots of different species all over the state of Ohio. She works with scout groups, Ohio Young Birders, and others to get these bird nest boxes up for the critical habitat needed for native cavity nesters.

Darlene is president of the Ohio Bluebird Society, co-advisor for the central Ohio chapter of Ohio Young Birders—in association with Columbus Audubon, serves on Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative committee, and more. She has assisted us with many projects including Columbus Zoo grants to purchase the purple martin rigs at Scheeff East Point and getting our osprey platform at the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve built. Thanks Darlene for all you have helped us achieve here on the islands and you sure deserve that award!

Below are links to some of the organizations mentioned above:

<https://ohiobluebirdsociety.org/>

<https://columbusaudubon.org/groups/central-ohio-young-birders/>

<https://obcnet.org/>



Photo: LEIC member Darlene Sillick with the Ohio Wildlife Diversity Conservation Award

Lake Erie Island Conservancy 2020 Financial Report *By Kelly Faris*

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy			Page 1	Land Protection Fund			Page 2
Year End Financial Report				Balance: Jan. 1, 2020			\$45,227.53
FINANCIAL From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2020				Income:			
General Fund				Donations	\$11,102.83		
Balance: Jan. 1, 2020		\$105,743.21		** Grant Cooper's Wds	\$ 2,010,798.28		
Income:						\$2,021,901.11	\$2,021,901.11
Donations	\$30,373.68			Expenditures:			\$2,067,128.64
Life Membership	\$8,000.00			Land Purchase	\$ 18,830.94		
Grant	\$21,000.00			Cooper's Wds	\$ 2,047,713.50		
Ad Sales	\$2,750.00					\$2,066,544.44	\$2,066,544.44
Sales	\$3,055.19			Balance: December 31, 2020			\$584.20
Support Dues	\$12,725.15						
Misc	\$772.00			Stewardship Fund			
Plant Sales	\$2,151.00			Balance: Jan. 1, 2020			\$2,425.00
AmeriCorp	\$1,500.00			Income:			
Bird Seed	\$4,107.97			Donations	\$0.00		
Middle Bass Music	\$2,538.50						\$0.00
Interest	\$586.85			Expenditures:			
				Site Review	\$0.00		
	\$89,560.34	\$89,560.34	\$195,303.55				\$0.00
Expenditures:				Balance: December 31, 2020			\$2,425.00
Land Acquis	\$13,211.36						
Signs/Benches	\$18,244.50			General Fund			\$130,572.95
Office Supplies	\$1,611.98			Land Protection Fund			\$584.20
Newsletter	\$1,808.55			Stewardship Fund			\$2,425.00
Insurance	\$694.00						
Postage	\$2,309.43			TOTAL ALL FUNDS			\$133,582.15
Symposium	\$66.09						
Transportation	\$1,103.50						
Fees	\$175.00						
Stipend	\$8,000.00						
Program Supplies	\$1,504.05						
Bird Seed	\$3,096.75						
Plants/Trees	\$1,354.70						
Calendar	\$1,170.27						
AmeriCorp	\$4,150.00						
Wed Site	\$3,631.00						
Brochure	\$921.11						
MB Music	\$1,678.31						
	\$64,730.60	\$64,730.60					
Balance: December 31, 2020		\$130,572.95					

Kelly Faris, Treasurer
Financial Status as of December 31, 2020

** Note: One Time Grant

LEIC Native Tree & Plant Sale ORDER FORM

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy (LEIC) is now taking orders for native trees and plants for the islands. We are using Riverside Native Trees and Natives in Harmony for our native tree and plant sale. Buying and planting native trees and shrubs is a great way to provide quality habitat for the birds, butterflies, moths and other wildlife on the islands. We are promoting the planting of native trees and shrubs because our wildlife are adapted to feeding on these plants and using them for shelter. By planting native species, you are making your land more attractive to birds, bees, butterflies, moths and a host of other desirable species. This fundraiser will be used to support the LEIC land preservation and restoration programs!

Trees: Native trees and shrubs are for sale in 3-gallon containers. The varieties available are swamp white oak, white oak, bur oak, northern red oak, hackberry, hophornbeam, honey locust, black cherry, sandbar willow, silver maple, sycamore, Kentucky coffee tree, and box elder. Shrubs offered are hoptree, ninebark, swamp rose, prairie rose, swamp rose mallow, buttonbush, bladdernut, and common elderberry. All these trees and shrubs are native to the islands and will thrive in this environment. They have been grown from Ohio seed stock by Riverside Native Trees in Delaware, Ohio. Order by using the order form found on www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org – can pay by credit card by calling Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087 or send a check.

New this year are wildflower kits from Natives in Harmony. We are offering three different kits-wet sun, dry rocky and full sun kits with 16 plants each of four varieties. Also offered is a spring wildflower kit with two quarts of four varieties. Reserve yours now for spring by using the order form at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org-can pay by credit card by calling Lisa at 419-366-2087 or send a check.

Plants: LEIC is also selling over 30 varieties of native perennial plants and flowers from Natives in Harmony from Marengo, Ohio. To order these, please call Gale at (419) 688-9800 and you can pay by credit card. This way your plants will be reserved as soon as you order!!! Natives in Harmony is very popular so order early!!

Order forms for wildflower kits and native trees and a list of individual native plants are available at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org or by contacting Lisa at 419-366-2087 or leiconservancy@gmail.com.

Beautify your yard and support the Conservancy! Orders may be placed until May 1 and we will arrange a pickup/delivery on the island in early May. For those on Middle Bass who wish to order, a pickup on Middle Bass will be set up as well.

Send Order Form and Payment to: LEIC, P.O.Box 461, Put-in-Bay, OH 43456
Please make checks payable to LEIC-Add \$5.00 for shipping/handling - Thank You for your support!!




Name _____


Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Riverside Native Trees Selection (Order from Lisa Brohl - 419-366-2087)

	TREES	Qty	Size	Cost	Total
	Northern Red Oak - well drained		3-4'	\$35	
	Bur Oak - can withstand drought or wet conditions		4-6'	\$40	
	Swamp White Oak - wet areas		2-4'	\$30	
	Hackberry – moist and fertile soil, also accepts variety even rocks and hillsides		4-6'	\$40	
	White Oak - can withstand drought or wet conditions		1-2'	\$20	
	American Sycamore - wet, banks and bottomlands		4-6'	\$40	
	Silver Maple – moist and fertile soil, swamps, streambanks, bottomlands		2-4'	\$30	
	Eastern Hophornbeam – wet to dry – strong hard wood		2-3'	\$25	
	Kentucky Coffee Tree – moist, alkaline soils - perfect for the Island		1-2'	\$20	
	Honey Locust – rich, moist bottomlands, slopes, and meadows – strong durable wood		3-6'	\$35	
	Sandbar Willow - moist to wet, temporarily tolerates standing water <small>photo: "Salix alba var. purpurea" © 2001-2004 by Clark Clark</small>		5-6'	\$40	
	Boxelder (Ash-Leafed Maple) – moist bottomlands, along streams and margins of ponds		4-6'	\$40	
	Black Cherry - moist but well-drained soil, strong valuable timber		3-4'	\$35	
	Total				

	SHRUBS	Qty	Size	Cost	Total
	Buttonbush - shorelines and swamps, moist soil, full sun, flowering is poor in shade or dry soil <small>photo "Cephalanthus occidentalis" by Refino Osorio (Dermotium)</small>		3'	\$25	
	Swamp Rose Mallow - moist to wet, full sun <small>(photo courtesy of Riverside Native Trees)</small>		4'	\$30	
	Swamp Rose - moist soil, creates colony/clump <small>photo by Bruce Collins, BIA/MIA Landscape Architecture, University of Georgia - Photo used with permission</small>		2-3'	\$25	
	Prairie Rose – medium to wet, well-drained soil, full sunlight to part shade, needs support <small>(photo courtesy of Riverside Native Trees)</small>		1'	\$20	
	Bladdernut - moist, well-drained or dryer, highly adaptable <small>(photo courtesy of Riverside Native Trees)</small>		2-3'	\$25	
	Ninebark - drought tolerant, full sun to part shade, clay, loam <small>(photo courtesy of Riverside Native Trees)</small>		1-4'	\$35	
	Hoptree - wet or well-drained, sun to partial shade <small>photo: "Hoptree (Ptelea triflorus)" by George Sticker</small>		4'	\$30	
	Common Elderberry - moist soil, creates clump quickly, sun <small>(photo courtesy of Riverside Native Trees)</small>		2-4'	\$25	
	Total				

Tree Leaf Photos obtained from "What Tree Is It?" - [DPLN-GHS](http://www.dpln-ghs.org) CC BY 3.0 

Natives in Harmony KIT Selection (Order from Lisa Brohl - 419-366-2087)

NEW This Year! – Purchase a Wildflower Kit for Your Yard. There are four options available to match your soil type/habitat. Each kit is \$48 each with either 16 plugs or 2 quarts of four varieties of plants. These varieties which are native to the Lake Erie Islands are grown by Natives in Harmony for us.					
Wet Sun Wildflower Kit – 16 Plugs of 4 Varieties – \$48 Each Kit		Kit Qty.	Full Sun Wildflower Kit – 16 plugs of 4 Varieties – \$48 Each Kit		Kit Qty.
Red (Swamp) Milkweed - sun to partial shade, moist soil, mid-summer to early fall	Cardinal Flower - full sun to shade, moist to wet, summer	\$48 ea.	Common Milkweed - full sun, moist to dry, all soils but prefers rich loamy soil, early to mid-summer	Bergamot - full to partial sun, moist to dry sandy or loamy soil, fields and thickets, mid-summer to fall	\$48 ea.
Obedient Plant - sun, moist, summer, hummingbirds, butterflies	Monkeyflower - partial to full sun, moist soil, mid-summer to early fall	Kit Total	Blazingstar - full sun, sand to clay, medium to moist, birds, butterflies, hummingbirds	Purple Coneflower - part shade to full sun, late summer	Kit Total
Rocky Dry Wildflower Kit – 16 Plugs of 4 Varieties – \$48 Each Kit		Kit Qty.	Spring Wildflower Kit – Two 1-qt containers of each Variety – \$48 Each Kit		Kit Qty.
Nodding Wild Onion - sun, will grow in rocky ground, summer	Wild Columbine - rocky, sun or part shade, spring	\$48 ea.	Virginia Bluebells - shade, woodland, spring	Mayapple - shade, woodland, spring	\$48 ea.
Whorled Milkweed - full sun, moist to dry, all soils but prefers infertile soil, early to late summer	Alumroot - sun or part shade, will grow in rocky ground, early summer	Kit Total	Large-Flowered Trillium - moist humus-rich soil, shade, mid-spring to mid-summer	Wild Hyacinth - sun to light shade, moist conditions, rich loamy soil, mid to late spring	Kit Total

Natives in Harmony PLANT Selection (Order from Gale - 419-688-9800)

Plants Names and Info	2.5" Plug (\$3) Qty.	Quarts (\$5) Qty.	Gallons (\$8) Qty.	Plants Names and Info	2.5" Plug (\$3) Qty.	Quarts (\$5) Qty.	Gallons (\$8) Qty.
Pearly Everlasting - sun, will grow in dry gravelly ground, wood edges, late summer				Virginia Bluebells - shade, woodland, spring			
Evening Primrose - sun, somewhat moist, prairies or thickets to lakeshore dunes, mid-summer to fall, honeybees, hummingbirds				Virginia Knotweed – shade to partial shade, moist well-drained, mid to late summer, woods and thickets			
Panicled Aster – full to partial sun, moist poorly drained, loam to clay, gravel to rocks, fall				Virginia Mountain Mint - part shade to full sun, rocky, summer			
Common Blue Violet - partial sun to light shade, moist loamy soil, prairie or woodland, mid to late spring				False Nettle - light shade, moist loamy soil, woodlands to swamps, mid-summer to early fall			
American Alumroot - sun or part shade, will grow in rocky ground, early summer				Tall Boneset - full to partial sun, humus-rich, wet to moist soil, late summer to early fall			
Frank's Sedge - full sun, moist to wet, fertile loamy or silty soil				Blue-stemmed Goldenrod - part shade to sun, rich loam, clay, rocky, late summer-early fall			
Fox Sedge - full sun, sand to clay, moist to wet soil, clumping, late spring to early summer				Grass-leaved Goldenrod - part shade to full sun, rocky areas, summer			
Hop Sedge – part shade, medium to wet soil, spring				Gray Goldenrod – full sun, dry, poor, rocky, clay soils, fall			
*Gray-headed Coneflower - part shade to full sun, late summer-fall, moist soil				Meadow Rue – full sun to part shade, average well-drained soil, late summer			
Wild Strawberry – full sun to partial shade, rich moist soil, late spring				Bottlebrush Grass - shade, woodland, tolerant of moist soil			
Nodding Wild Onion - sun, will grow in rocky ground, summer				Virginia Wild Rye Grass - tolerant of shade, moist soil			
Winged (Wing-angled) Loosestrife - full sun, wet to moist soil, poorly drained, mid to late summer				Canada Wild Rye Grass - full sun, prairie, any type of dry to moist soil, draws butterflies, pollinators			
Great White Trillium - moist humus-rich soil, shade, mid-spring to mid-summer				Purple Love Grass – full sun, dry, sandy or gravelly, late summer to early fall			
Whorled Milkweed - full sun, moist to dry, all soils but prefers infertile soil, early to late summer				Halberd-leaved Rose Mallow - full to partial sun, wet to moist, loam, silt, or some sand, mid-summer to early fall			
Cardinal Flower - full sun to shade, moist to wet, summer							
Quantity Totals	Plugs	Quarts	Gallons	Quantity Totals	Plugs	Quarts	Gallons
Price Each	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$8.00	Price Each	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$8.00
Native Plant Totals				Native Plant Totals			

Trees Total		Kits Total		Plants Total		Grand Total	\$
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The Plastic Crisis *By Kate Byrnes*

Plastics are destroying our planet. Plastics are being found everywhere, even in the deepest part of the ocean plastics were found. It is very important to reduce your plastic waste as best as you can. When you do find yourself using plastic it is important to find out before you throw it away if it is recyclable. Not all recycling systems are the same, which is why you need to find out what is recyclable where you live. An item can even say "recyclable" on it and not be recyclable where you live. Many steps to recycling are forgotten about, it is important to make sure when you go to recycle any plastic bottle that the cap and plastic wrapping on it gets taken off and thrown away. When recycling a cardboard pasta box, make sure that if there is a plastic window on the box that you take the plastic out before recycling. Never recycle a plastic bag, that is absolutely not recyclable. Make sure that any food containers that are recyclable are clean, empty and dry, that is necessary for the container to be recycled. Do not wish cycle ever, just because an item seems recyclable does not mean it is. It is important to check and make sure before putting that item in the blue bin, because if an item is not recyclable but is put in the blue bin it can contaminate other recyclable items. Those are some examples to show why it is so incredibly important that everyone educates themselves about the recycling system in their area. The following list shows what is and what's not recyclable in Put-in-Bay...

Acceptable Materials:

Newspapers: The entire newspaper including inserts.

Aluminum, steel, and bimetal: Food and beverage cans only.

Glass: Food and beverage containers only.

Plastic: Food and beverage containers marked with a #1 or #2 on them. **Plastic:** Detergent and soap containers marked with a #1 or #2 on them.

Misc. paper: Magazines, phone books, junk mail, paper board IE cereal boxes.

Do not recycle:

Containers with excessive foods or liquids still in the container. Containers that contained hazardous materials such as oil or anti-freeze. Styrofoam, aluminum foil, pie tins, Etc...

Light bulbs, ceramics, china, Etc...

Plastic wrap, plastic bags, flower pots, Etc...

Plastics marked 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 (These numbers are accepted at Catawba Island Township)

Scrap metal, batteries, Etc...

No needles or sharps.

https://cdn.website-editor.net/d9fcdebae15642b4abea557a1ffc564e/files/uploaded/recy_materials_resi.pdf

Please Protect Our Preserves— Keep Your Pet On A Leash!

Our Put-in-Bay Township Park District Preserves are posted that dogs must be on a leash to be in the preserve. Jane Coates Wildflower Preserve is posted "No Pets" by the wishes of one of the donors to the Preserve. All of our preserves were purchased with grants because of their value as wildlife habitat, their valuable plant communities, and as open space for all to enjoy. We have provided bags and garbage bins but continue to see droppings on our trails.



Why should you keep your dog on a leash at our preserves?

1. You should be considerate of other visitors who may not appreciate your friendly dog suddenly appearing in front of them. We are inviting bird watchers, photographers, and nature lovers to come and enjoy our preserves. Keeping your dog on a leash keeps everyone comfortable. Families walk these trails who may not know your dog.
2. Unleashed dogs cause wildlife stress. Whether your dog actually consumes birds or other wildlife, their presence off leash can cause stress and their droppings can spread parasites to local wildlife. Wildlife have a tough enough time making it without the added stress of your pet.
3. It is better and safer for your dog to be on a leash. They will have no unwelcome contact with wildlife like a bite in the nose and no unwelcome contact with other dogs or neighbors on the trail as well.
4. And last but not least, it is illegal. The Park District has their rules posted at the entrance to every preserve. If you choose to ignore these rules, we may have to not allow pets at all in our preserves if we cannot control the situation. Authorities will be alerted if your dog is off the leash and on a trail

We are lucky that our community now has a wonderful dog park on Port Authority property for dogs to run and enjoy in a fenced in area. This is the place to go to allow your dog off the leash.

Photos: Above—Sue Ferguson's Luna "helping" pick up debris at Scheeff East Point Preserve Below—Cooper's Woods Preserve sign showing request to leash pets and pick up after them



Freshwater Sensations

Christine Ontko
Bed and Breakfast
PO Box 307
419-366-1036
www.freshwatersensations.com



Welcome to The Boardwalk!

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Put-in-Bay, OH 43456
419-285-3695

www.OhioVacationLand.com
440-315-6000



Lee Hisey
Lake Erie Islands

LEIC Tote Bag & More for Sale *By Lisa Brohl*

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy still has recycled canvas tote bags made in the USA for sale for \$20. They are a great gift for any season!

We still have a variety of tote bags made by Jill Cooks from sail cloth that we have for sale as well. Images of these are attached. Larger bags are \$30 and the small bag is \$20.

We have both solid color Conservancy t-shirts for adults made in the USA with organic cotton and tie-dyed print shirts for kids for sale as well. \$20 each (*see below right*).

If interested in purchasing any of these for yourself or a gift any time of the year, please contact Lisa Brohl at phone or text at 419-366-2087 or e-mail at leiconservancy@gmail.com. Of course, the gift of a year membership with the LEIC would be a great option too (See note below)!



Become an LEIC Member for just \$25 for an entire year!
Please see page 15 for details.



LEIC T-shirts Available!

Any season is a great time to pick up an LEIC t-shirt! Here are new t-shirts in kids sizes and a new look for our adult tees. Still made in the USA of organic materials at LakeScreen Printing in Lorain, Ohio. Contact Lisa at 419-366-2087 or leiconservancy@gmail.com if you would like to purchase one.

AND/OR

An annual LEIC membership gives someone our quarterly newsletter and info on our programs. A donation to our Land Protection Fund in someone's name is a great gift that keeps on giving with the purchase of new preserves for us all to enjoy!

A Few 2021 LEIC Calendars Still Available!

As part of our celebration of our 20th year of land preservation on the Lake Erie islands last year, we offered calendars for sale. (*See below for info on the 2022 Calendars!*) These beautiful calendars still make perfect gifts and were designed by Susan Byrnes, Michelle Pennington, and Lisa Brohl. Each month includes most holidays, etc. and we have included most important dates for 2021 from LEIC, LEINWC, and OSU's Stone Laboratory. The few we have remaining are available by calling or texting Lisa at 419-366-2087 or leiconservancy@gmail.com. There is a small \$2 charge per calendar for shipping if you would like them mailed to you.

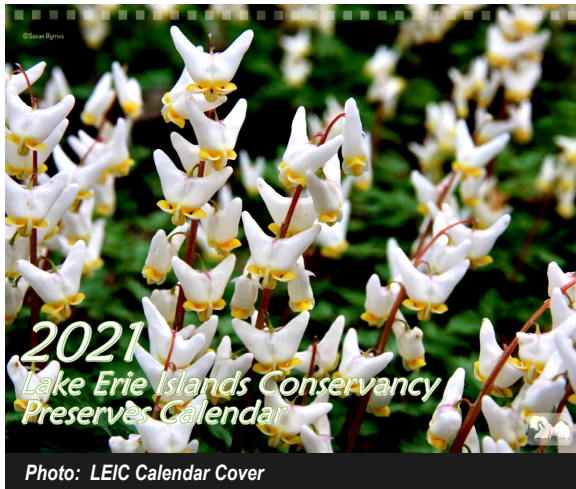


Photo: LEIC Calendar Cover

Attention Nature Lovers and Photo Buffs: Interested in submitting your Conservancy nature photo(s) for the 2022 LEIC Calendar? See instructions and details below!

- Send all of your Conservancy related entries to LEICPhotoSubmit@gmail.com with "2022 Calendar" in the subject line. Pics for the Newsletter can be sent there too!
- Include the photographer's contact info (name, email, phone, etc.), a short description of subject and details. Make sure to include where/when the photo was taken. Photos should be at least 300 dpi at 11.5" wide by 9" tall.
- If selected, you'll receive photo credit and 2 calendars!

We can't wait to see all of your wonderful submissions, so go enjoy the seasons of the preserves: spring, summer, fall, and winter!!



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Wishes Granted! *By Lisa Brohl*



Photos: Left to Right—Ken Farber lopping at one of the trails; Bruce Miles helping to plant trees; John and Paula Ladd sporting Save Cooper's Woods and LEIC T-shirts; Our Thank You note writer, Julene Market

We wish to thank Ken Farber for his very generous gift to the Conservancy to purchase bird banding equipment this winter! We will have a fund now to use for USGS master bander Tom Bartlett's Bass Island program. Thanks Ken for all your help at our preserves as well!

Bruce Miles answered our wish list to help with the Lawrence Evans Boardwalk project!! Thanks Bruce! We will need assistance

following through with the Clean Ohio Trails grant received for the project. Ken Farber has also volunteered to help with trail layout there and at other sites on Middle Bass.

We are also grateful to Julene Market and John and Paula Ladd for answering our wish for an AmeriCorps intern for 2021! We are interviewing now for the position! Thanks to the three of you!!!

LEIC and PIBTPD Wish List

It is a new year and the Conservancy has lots to do and needs your help! More people are discovering the preserves and walking the trails which is very exciting, but we need your help to build them, monitor them, and keep them maintained. Do let us know if you or anyone you know can help out with any of these items at leiconservancy@gmail.com or 419-366-2087. Or you may have skills you wish to contribute—please call! New members—Check us out at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org!

- Larger Office Space
- Assistance sorting, organizing office.
- Paper Shredder
- Volunteers Always Needed—spread mulch on trails, removed downed trees and pick up litter—garlic mustard pulling, amur honeysuckle removal—all preserves.
- Adobe, Access, and Arc GIS Programs or volunteers with these skills.
- Recycled Copying Paper, Ink for Printers (Brother LC 61, HP 970XL, HP 971XL—must not be generic)
- Golf Cart for Summer Transport of tools and people.
- Assistance with trail layout, construction, parking, mulching and signage with extension of the trail or boardwalk at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve and the Lawrence Evans Preserve
- Website and Social Media Assistance
- Recycling/garbage stations for Cooper's Woods and Benjamin Woods Preserves (1 each)
- Land Protection Fund donations for matching funds for upcoming grant applications to preserve forests on South Bass and Middle Bass Island.
- Possible housing for AmeriCorps Intern



Photos: Left—Turkey Vultures moving through Middle Bass this spring. Photo by Matt Richardson Right—Stories in the Snow at the MBI East Point Preserve. Photo by Chris Helman

Nature Zooms— Meetings 2021 Style

By Lisa Brohl

Covid brought us zoom meetings and conferences! We miss getting together after board meetings and at conferences—but attendance has been great at meetings—and so much good information available online from so many sources!

Here are some links to some great information/presentations from this winter! Sit back and enjoy!

- **Ohio Wildlife Management Conference**—Learn about butterflies, bats, sturgeon, turtles and more January 22, 2021
<https://ohiowildlife.org/services-2/>
- **Ohio Wildlife Diversity Conference** March 5, 2021—Go to this link to watch webinars from the conference including former Stone Lab instructor Dr. Mike Hoggarth on Freshwater Snails! Download the newest ODOW guides on Freshwater Snails and Millipedes. Buy a Wildlife Legacy Stamp!
<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/home/additional-resources/division-of-wildlife/2021-ohio-wildlife-diversity-conference-registration>
- **Ohio Bluebird Conference** March 6, 2021—LEIC Board Member Paula Ziebarth presented an entertaining session here titled Don't Pull That House Sparrow Nest!
<https://ohiobluebirdsociety.org/conference/>
- Our Canadian neighbors from Pelee Island held the **Pelee Island Research Conference** February 3, 2021 with speakers on pollinator, snake, plant, and fire research. You tube presentations available here.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/ONNature>



Photo: Here is Chair Lisa Brohl enjoying yet another online conference this winter from her home office! Photo by Russ Brohl



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A Special THANKS...

This winter we have enjoyed having trail monitors Teddi Keith Morris busy at Middle Bass and Marsha Parker on South Bass. Thanks for keeping an eye on things for us!

We can't thank Julene Market enough for continuing to write thank you notes when needed.

Thanks to Marty and Kelly Faris for picking up and mailing our December newsletter!

Paul Ladd and Russ Brohl cleaned out the wood duck box on the pond at Put-in-Bay just before the ice went. The box had been underwater the last few years so they replaced the pole with a taller one. It appears a muskrat may have been using it the last few years! Thanks Jody and Bob Frimel for access to the pond through their yard. (Photo of Paul Ladd on ice with box, Photo of Paul Ladd and Russ Brohl with box)



Thanks to Sue Ferguson for her pick up efforts at the Scheeff East Point Preserve—lots of shoreline debris with the high water. And great photos too (Photo of Sue Ferguson in front of Scheeff Sign)



Thanks Tom Thanasiu for helping Karen Wilhelm with the newest book at the Put-in-Bay StoryWalk® at Dodge Woods Preserve. It was a great book on owls donated by Julene Market in memory of Donna Pugh.



Lisa Brohl and Sue Ferguson visited Scheeff East Point Preserve with a wheel barrow and carried out a lot of debris. (photo of Lisa Brohl in front of truck)

Thanks Susan Byrnes for all the great photos you take for our Facebook and grants—shown here enjoying skiing at one of our preserves this winter!



Thanks to John and Robin Glauser of Middle Bass for working on the wood duck boxes at the Lawrence-Evans Parcel and the Kuehnle State Wildlife Area. Thanks also to Doug Sandwich for help with repairing them as the high water has been tough on the boxes. Looking forward to the wood ducks again this spring!



Spring is here! Welcome Spring! *See page 16 for additional details

Arbor Day Celebration at Tree City Site at Post Office—Friday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m.



Once again, Put-in-Bay, Ohio, has been named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to the goals and principles of the Arbor Day Foundation.

Put-in-Bay achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Put-in-Bay's Arbor Day Celebration will take place on Friday, April 30, 2021, at 4:00 pm. The Council of the Village of Put-in-Bay has allocated funds for Arbor Day expenses. On Arbor Day, a hop tree

(*Ptelea trifoliata*) will be planted at the Village Arbor Day site adjacent to the Put-in-Bay Post Office and village housing. The Commission will also plant a "Butterfly Garden" that will consist of a variety of pollinator plants that attract butterflies.

The hop tree also known as the wafer ash, stinking ash, and skunk bush is a deciduous tree native to North America. Indians used the leaves and seeds for seasoning and medicine for a variety of ailments. In the 19th century, German immigrants in Texas used hop tree seeds in place of hops to make beer. Thus "Hop Tree" got its common name.



Island Wide Garage Sale May 15—Conservancy Tables!

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will be participating in the Island Wide Garage Sale to be held on Saturday May 15, 2020 from 10:00am to 5:00pm with tables at the John and Paula Ladd residence at the corner of Catawba and Erie Avenue. We will have native plants, t-shirts, tote bags, and jams and jellies for sale. If you would like to donate any household items for sale that day, please bring in a box with your name with suggested pricing that morning at 8:30am. We

will ask that you pick up later anything that does not sell. Stacy Clink will be organizing for us. Questions contact her at scscout@embarqmail.com or Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087 or leiconservancy@gmail.com. The Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center will also have sales items at our location this year for purchase.



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Catawba Avenue

Erie Island Carts.com

At the Airport ~ Overnight rentals
and Reservations welcome

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Yardworks

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Dan and Valerie Kowalski Put-In-Bay, Oh 43456
Owners (419-) 285-2147

New and Renewing Members

Friends

Jan Anteau
 Judy Bransome
 Mary Brohl Nahan
 Tracy Burgess
 David and Louise Butz
 Kalen Cap
 Joe and Carol Cerny
 Bill and Carol Cherry
 Carl Cooper
 Karen and Mike Cummings
 John S. Doller
 Judy DuShane
 Martha Dykes
 Bil and Megan Gau
 Ed Isaly
 Luella Kacirek
 Tina Larson
 Susan Latham
 Charles Pearson
 Kate Pilacky
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Puffenberger
 Mary Pugh
 Maisie Ruchala
 Christine and Al Tielke
 Susan and Tom Seaberg
 Gerald Shanley
 Dianne Szabo
 Nancy Welter
 Woody Widmar

Supporters

Joan Booker
 Tom Brennan
 Darren Dunning
 Susan Ferguson
 Linda and Dave Frederick
 Mark and Marguerite Frey
 Ed and Paula Hubner
 Bill and Lois Jellison
 Dr. Andrew Jones
 Katherine Knaser
 Teddi Keith Morris
 Mary Ann and Bernie Meyers
 Mike Motyka
 John F. Shelley
 Fran Poe
 Steve, Sue, and Jenna Prahst
 Todd and Marie Rader
 Jeff Ramsbottom
 John Schrenk
 Bob and Dianne Smith

Loretta Smith
 William A. Sulesky
 Kathy and Nick Tagliaferri
 Sarah Toole
 Debra Woischke, gift from
 Rosalie Woischke McCool as
 Christmas gift

Contributors

Lisa and Harry Bircher
 Marsha and Ray Collett
 Stephen R. Cooks
 Patricia and John Fisher
 Bob and Jody Frimel
 Galen and Marina Guenther
 James Juknialis
 Mark Frederick, gift from Kraig
 Klopfenstein
 Matt and Amy Kutschbach
 Peggy and John Leopold
 Thomas Marsh
 Dave and Barb Nostrant
 Michelle and Joseph
 Pennington
 Linda and Mark Seeman
 Linda and Joe Shull
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 Hal Leitch
 Joe and Maria Link
 John and Louise Titchener

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Ad

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 Byrnes
 Century 21 Bolte Realty-Corky
 and Jerry McFlint
 Duff's Workshop-Duff and
 Katrina Spatafore
 Heineman's Winery
 Lake Erie Island Historical
 Society-Resale Shop
 Miller Boat Line
 Northern Exposure-Joe and
 Suzanne Kostura
 Put-in-Bay Candy Bar
 Yardworks



Life Members

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 Marv and Pat Booker
 Jon D. Brausch
 Jim and Betsy Brohl
 Russ & Lisa Brohl
 Linda and Dave Bugoci
 Valerie Chornyak
 David and Jacquelyn Clark
 Alan & Stacey Clink
 Gary and Carol Coates
 Ken and Jennifer Farber
 Frederick Fether
 Christian L. Geiss
 Richard Gump
 Scott Jackson
 Judy and Joseph Janicki
 Karen A. Jennings
 Mary and Tom Katzenmeyer
 John & Paula Ladd
 Georgia MacVean
 Julene Market
 Elaine and Howard Martens
 Mary Ann McCann

Michael McIntyre and
 Elizabeth Heineman
 Valerie Mettler
 Greg Millat
 Mark Nemec
 Chris and Kathy North
 Roger & Mary Parker
 Mary Ann and Rich Plewacki
 Hank & Gayle Polcyn
 Carol Richardson
 Richard and Carol Roberts
 Fritz and Pam Rudolph Fund
 of the Toledo Community
 Foundation
 Mary L. Staley
 Kristin Stanford
 Matt Thomas
 Carley Tobias
 Yardworks-Valerie and Dan
 Kowalski
 Zoe and Brad Titchener



NEW Life Members:

Lisa Benjamin
 Ron and Audrey Borchert
 Bob Krause

Donations/Grants

Roger and Mary Parker
 Joe Rutter-monthly
 Scott Pugh-Put-in-Bay Electric
 Lisa and Katherine Benjamin-
 Bicycle Rack for Benjamin
 Woods
 Nina and John Harrington in
 honor of Susan Harrington
 Jen Miller through United Way
 Jeff and Kendra Koehler,
 Trillium Sign for Cooper's
 Woods Preserve
 Ken Farber, Bird Banding
 Equipment Fund
 Cheryl Beal, One Digital
 Matching Gifts Program
 PennLine

Land Protection Fund

Darren Dunning
 James Juknialis
 Joe and Maria Link
 Bob Reynolds
 John Schrenk

AmeriCorps Intern

Donations

John and Paula Ladd
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THANK YOU!

Background Photo: Cooper's Woods in Winter by Susan Byrnes

The Put-in-Bay
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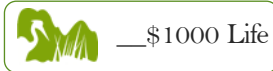
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LEIC Membership Form*

Membership Notices are sent out annually-
this is for new memberships-share with your friends

___\$25 Friend ___\$50 Supporter ___\$100 Contributor

___\$100 Friend/AD ___\$250 Steward ___\$500 Patron



Name _____

Spouse/Companion _____

Island Address PO Box _____ Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456

E-mail _____

Permanent Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Island # _____

In addition to my membership, I would like to donate to:

Land Protection Fund

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, to be used only for expenses related to the purchase of land.

I understand that I will receive a *Certificate of Donation* for income tax purposes.

Stewardship Fund

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Stewardship Fund to help maintain those properties owned by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

Please make checks payable to (LEIC) Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Please Send to: PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You!

*To join LEIC online, please go to

<https://lakeerieislandsconservancy.org/membership/>



IN MEMORIAM

Aaron "Ron" Manderbach

Aaron "Ron" Manderbach passed away in Las Cruces, New Mexico December 31, 2020 of Covid. Ron and his wife Marianne had been residents of Middle Bass Island since 1999 before moving full time to Las Cruces last summer. Ron had always enjoyed birds and he and his wife visited the bird banding station at Middle Bass. They donated a half acre of property to the Put-in-Bay Township Park District adjacent to the Costello Tract on Middle Bass last year for which we are grateful! Our sympathies to the family.



William "Bill" Sulesky



Conservancy member and South Bass Island resident William "Bill" Sulesky passed away on the island January 1, 2021. Bill loved trees** and purchased a number from our Conservancy Native Tree Sale to plant on his East Point property.

**Quercus macrocarpa (Bur Oak) illustration credit: Kim Kraeer, Lucy Van Essen-Fishman, IAN Image Library (ian.umces.edu/magelibrary/)

CITIZEN SCIENCE Opportunities!

April is Citizen Science Month! According to the Citizens Science Association, Citizen Science "is expanding the reach, relevance, and impact of science in almost every area of inquiry; in the field and online; through local and global efforts." SciStarter's motto is "Science we can do together" and their definition is Citizen science enables people from all walks of life to advance scientific research."

Here are just a few of the myriad wonderful Citizen Science opportunities and links:

- E-Bird-Cornell migration maps based on these observations <https://ebird.org/>
- I-Naturalist-record photos of plants, bugs, birds, mammals, you name it- <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- Bug Guide – get all your insect questions answered <https://bugguide.net/>
- Cornell – all things birds, Nestwatch, Feederwatch at <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/>
- Freshwater Snail – Send photos to mhoggarth@otterbein.edu
- Millipedes – @DearMillipede on Twitter or email derhennen@gmail.com
- Periodic Cicadas – Download Cicada Safari (Mount St. Joseph) onto your phone from the App store to record upcoming brood this summer. We only get annual cicadas on the island but take photos when you are on the mainland!
- Budburst – plant conservation initiative <https://budburst.org/>
- You can learn more about the Citizen Science Association at <https://www.citizenscience.org/> and ScitStarter.org at <https://scistarter.org/>.

Get out, get walking, have some fun with the family and do some amazing CITIZEN SCIENCE!

PO Box 461
Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456
Phone: 419-366-2087
E-Mail: leiconservancy@gmail.com

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Newsletter Editors

Lisa Brohl
Michelle Pennington

Stay active and get some much needed fresh air with LEIC events—keep checking our website and Facebook pages for more info!



July 17, 2021 for Middle Bass Music Festival (Tentative—Stay Tuned!)
August 7, 2021 for Middle Bass Poker Kayak Day (Rain Date—August 8, 2021)
August 7-15, 2021 for Island Green Week
August 8, 2021 for Benjamin Woods Dedication



A HUGE Thanks to Bostwick-Braun for printing assistance!!



Important Announcement

****All LEIC associated Events scheduled for the coming months could potentially be cancelled due to the current COVID-19 global pandemic. Please watch Facebook or the LEIC Website (<https://lakeerieislandsconservancy.org/>) for updates.**

Please Note: While we are hoping you and your family are taking appropriate measures to stay safe as we all navigate this challenging time, please remember that the Island Preserves (<https://lakeerieislandsconservancy.org/maps-of-the-lake-erie-islands/>) are all open and a wonderful place for you to get out and get some fresh air and exercise with your family. (Please remember: If you're taking your pets with you, make sure to follow posted rules—on leash, use provided doggie bags, etc.)

Please maintain a recommended distance of 6 feet from other preserve visitors while on the trails and do not congregate as a group in the parking areas. Also, please refrain from touching benches or brochure boxes with your hands unless using sanitizer.