

# Annual Report



**2018**

# COMMUNICATION HIGHLIGHTS

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## *Fostering a caring community*

### **Mission**

- Torch Conservation Center, Inc. is a local nonprofit organization promoting stewardship in the Torch Lake Watershed through freshwater education and land conservation to ensure a sustainable future for Torch Lake.

### **Vision**

- We envision a well-informed community in the Torch Lake Watershed working together to ensure safe drinking water, safe local food and fish to eat, and clean water for swimming and boating on Torch Lake.

### **Milestones**

- Reached more than 18,000 people through our social media.
- Collaborated with local and regional organizations on 5 projects.
- Talked with more than 1,300 visitors at the TRUE BLUE Gallery in Alden, MI.

### **Acknowledgments**

- Thanks to our volunteer Board of Directors for their leadership and commitment.

Peg Comfort, Chair  
Trish Narwold, Vice Chair  
Bonnie Drick, Secretary  
Emilee Syrewicze, Treasurer  
Barb Lockrey, Director  
Keith Ross, Director

# PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

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## *Partnering to maximize impact*

By working collaboratively, we can increase the impact of our programs in this wonderful watershed.”

*-Trish Narwold, Board Vice- Chair*

## **FRESHWATER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

### PARTNERING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- The Torch Conservation Center partnered with Three Lakes Association, Torch Lake Protection Alliance, Antrim Conservation District and The Watershed Center-Grand Traverse Bay on four projects funded by a \$15,000 grant awarded by the Dole Family Foundation.

Over 100 people attended “Lake Night” in August and learned about the four resources created by this project:

- 1) Torch Lake Water Quality Online Database (available at [www.gtbay.org](http://www.gtbay.org))
- 2) Torch Lake Assessment (available at [www.conservetorch.org](http://www.conservetorch.org))
- 3) Torch Lake Trend Analysis (available at [www.conservetorch.org](http://www.conservetorch.org))
- 4) ERCOL Watershed Field Station (located at Antrim Conservation District)

- The Torch Conservation Center completed the online Systems Practice Course with volunteers from the Three Lakes Association and Torch Lake Protection Alliance. Now, we better understand the Torch Lake Watershed as a system and have identified factors contributing to the decline of the natural shoreline around Torch Lake.

Because there is a direct correlation between the amount of natural shoreline around a lake and the water quality in the lake, we will develop materials to help shoreline property owners change to water-friendly landscaping along their shoreline.

- The Torch Conservation Center shared water-friendly gardening information with 450 attendees of the Elk River Garden Club’s Garden Walk: Color it Blue–Celebrate Water. Our booth provided information on native plants, natural shorelines and water-friendly landscaping.
- Our Board members participated in the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed Plan Implementation Committee (WPIT) monthly meetings and contributed information to many sections of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed Management Plan.

"Collaboration is an effective way to create the future." Peg Comfort, Board Chair

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

OPENING THE GALLERY- More than 20 individuals donated their time and energy, ideas and skills to help open the TRUE BLUE Gallery in Alden.

CELEBRATING LOCAL ART- 25 local artisans displayed their artwork in the Gallery and donated a portion of their sales to conservation. The artwork featured the natural and cultural heritage of our watershed.

### SHARING STEWARDSHIP

- Greeted more than 1,300 visitors to the Gallery and shared the importance of becoming active stewards of Torch Lake
- Distributed more than 400 copies of water-friendly tips for TRUE BLUE Gardening at the Elk Rapids Garden Club's Garden Walk
- Shared tips for water-friendly living to more than 350 households in our TRUE BLUE NEWS e-letter
- Received responses from nearly 17,000 visitors on Facebook
- Contacted more than 6,000 people through our website: [www.conservetorch.org](http://www.conservetorch.org)
- Installed more than 9 signs marking the boundaries of the Torch Lake Watershed
- Joined the Downtown Alden Business Association and participated in 3 local events: Alden Days Parade- Bucket Brigade, Alden Heritage Days- Scavenger Hunt, Strawberry Social
- Joined the Helena Township Historical Society and participated with the Strawberry Social Event, mobile sign and swimming beaches map

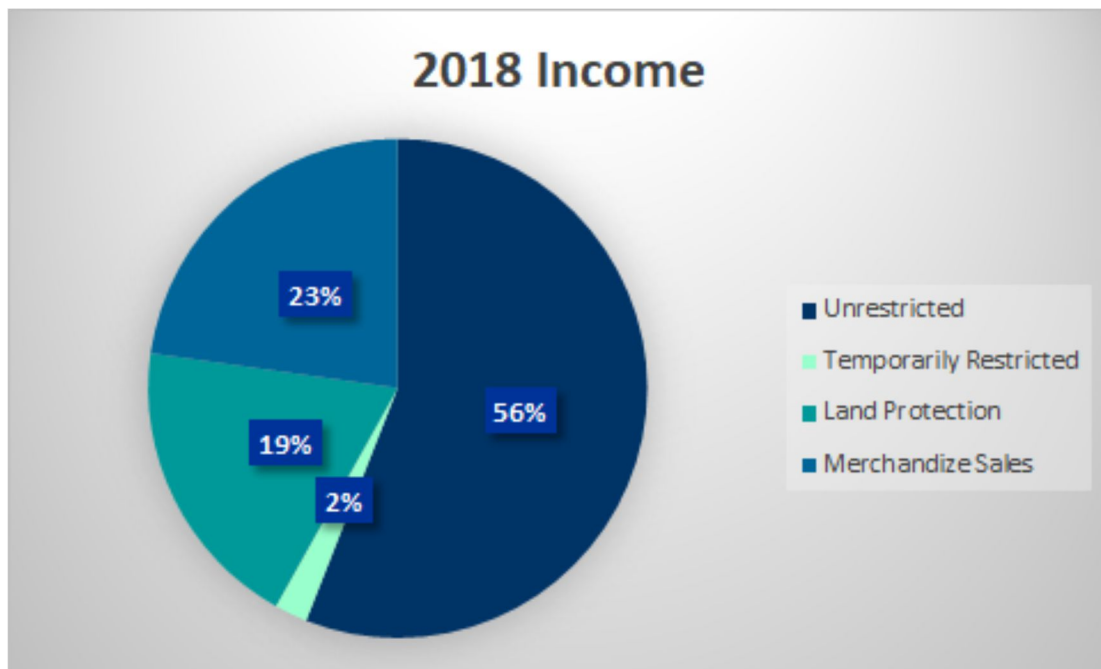
## LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

- Committed 10% of unrestricted donations to the Land Protection Fund
- Supported two major land conservation projects in the Torch Lake Watershed: Maplehurst Natural Area in Milton Township and Torch Ridge Farm Purchase of Development Rights Project in Forest Home Township. Led by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, these two projects will protect nearly 800 acres in our watershed.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

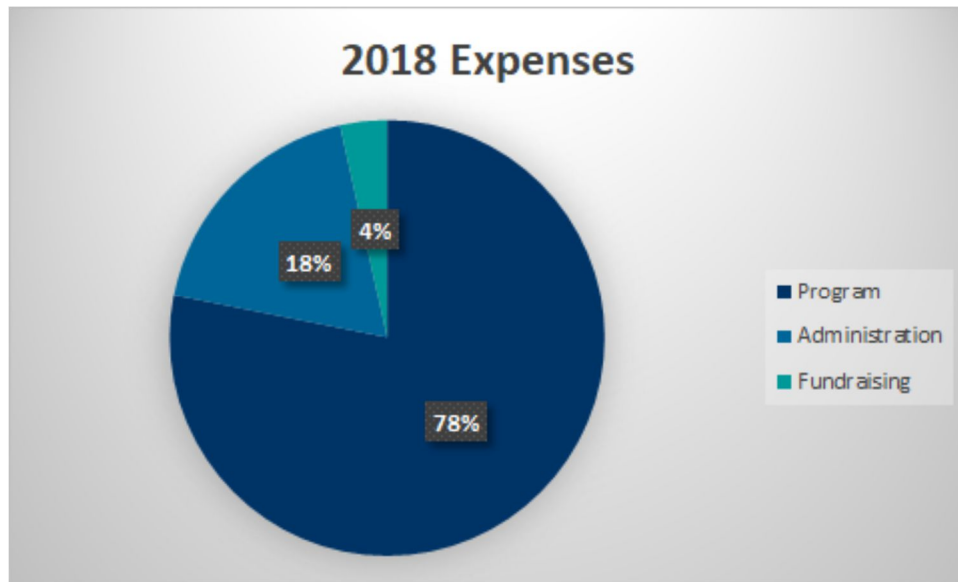
*Building a sustainable future*

## 2018 Income



Unrestricted Contributions	\$20,648.18
Temporarily Restricted Contributions	\$791.00
Land Protection Fund	\$7,044.00
Merchandise Sales	\$8,402.01
TOTAL Income	\$36,885.19

## 2018 Expenses



Program	\$30,014.56
Administration	\$7,075.04
Fundraising	\$1,339.07
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$38,428.67</b>

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

				Statement of Financial Position	Dec 31, 18
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Checking/Savings					
1000 · Cash					
1010 · Cash in Bank					21,642.33
Total 1000 · Cash					21,642.33
Total Checking/Savings					21,642.33
Other Current Assets					
1402 · Stocks					1,562.68
20201 · Prior Year Carryover					3,368.47
22000 · Land Protection Fund					7,044.00
Total Other Current Assets					11,975.15
Total Current Assets					33,617.48
TOTAL ASSETS					33,617.48
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Other Current Liabilities					
2130 · Payroll Tax Payable					360.32
Total Other Current Liabilities					360.32
Total Current Liabilities					360.32
Total Liabilities					360.32
Equity					
3010 · Unrestricted Net Assets					34,800.64
Net Income					-1,543.48
Total Equity					33,257.16
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY					33,617.48

# FINANCIAL PARTNERS

*Thanking our generous donors*

## Members

Anonymous

Don Alspaugh

Brigitte Anderson

Ransom Anderson

Jean Ashby

Willis Ashby

Awakening Health

Kathleen Babb

Steve and Lisa Bain

Butch and Liz Bartz, Sr.

Paul and April Beaupre

William Beaupre

Mallory Bernard

Jerry and Drieka Bloom

Ruth A. Bloomer

Richard and Judith Blum

Anne Brasie

Bruce and Nancy Brown

Edward and Kathleen V. Brown

John A. Buell, Jr.

Ryan Burke

Peter H. Byron

Roger and Janice Byron

Albert Cash

Mary O. Cheney

Mary Chenoweth

Ernest Todd Collins

David and Diane Comfort

Judith Comfort

Robert Comfort

Kristofer Cooper

Mark and Maureen Cooper

Jane Coulter- Voight

Peter Daily

Robert and Jamie Davidson

Christina Dewey

Philip and Bonnie Drick

Ralph and Frances Dunlop, Jr.

Mary Elarton

Ryan Ferguson

Lynn A. Fisher

Sallie Foley

Linda Fox

Rosemarie Franco - Bell

Thomas Gilbert and Marsha Smith

Annie Green

Meredith Grider

Virginia Griffis

Michael and Mary Haley

Bonnie Harrington

Emile Hedlund

Herrington- Fitch Family Foundation

Hilby Family Fund

Bruce and Paula Hilby

Jason Holman

Richard Hoxie

Theodore and Caroline Jacob

Terri Jennings

Bradley Jensen and Rebecca Benson

Kirby and Nancy Keller

## Members– Continued

Kathleen Lang	George and Nancy Powell
Sharon LeRew	Lisa Powell
Barbara Lockrey	Diane Roketenetz
Robert Logee	Bruce and Susan Ross
Janet Loveland	Debra Ross
Robert Lyon	Dexter and Kathleen Ross
Kathleen Malone	John S. Ross, III
Kevin and Sue Malone	Judith Ross
Terrence Malone	Keith Ross
Bo Manning and Catalina Salas	William Ross
Joseph and Norma Mariage	Terry Rowe
George Martin, Sr.	David Sawin
Laura McArtor	Claire J. Scheibner
Lucy E. McArtor	Gary and Jill Scheitler
Edward McDuffie	Susan Schuler
Robert and Karen Medsger	Rodman M. Smythe
Ann Melfi	Ray and Jennifer Spurlock
Robyn Miller	Geoffrey Sternlieb
Julia Moran	Beth Straebel
Mindy Morton	Suzanne Straebel
Virginia Mouch	Judith Strickland
Roberta Mylan	Emile Syrewicze
Andrew and Trish Narwold	Scott Thompson
Drew Narwold	Traverse City Noon Rotary Club
Meg Narwold	Mary Lee Jontz Turk
Robert Nissly	Rosalyn Tyge
Nottingham North Family	Barbara Van Pelt
Gregg and Carolyn Nowfel	Diane Verploegh
Kevin and Deb Osterfeld	Stephen and Regina Volle
Linda Oxford	Thomas A. and Joan Volle
Patricia Pellett	Thomas N. and Kathleen Volle
David Peterson	Kent and Suzanne Walker
Laurie Petrie Roche	Melissa Montgomery Wangsness
Rodger's Grass Fed Beef, LLC	Beverly Wehr
Doris Pierson	William G. Weiss, Jr.
Nancy Horn Pitts	Connie Wilson
Nancy Podurgiel	William and Joan Wilson
Helen Scott Powers	Emily Yarosz
Steven and Nancy Riecker	

## Memorials

### **Norma Cacle**

Mary Elarton

### **Nancy Godwin**

Judith Comfort

### **Patricia Jones**

Tom and Peg Comfort

Philip and Bonnie Drick

Kirby and Nancy Keller

George Martin

Lucy McArtor

Ray & Jennifer Spurlock

Suzanne Walker

### **Charles Melfi**

John A. Buell, Jr.

### **John Melfi**

Mary Chenoweth

### **Vi Patchen**

Bonnie Harrington

### **Carolyn Robbins**

Helen Scott Powers

### **Hale Ross**

Ryan Ferguson

### **Ruth Smythe**

Rodman M. Smythe

### **Betty Tufts**

Steven and Nancy Riecker

## Honorariums

### **Peg Comfort**

Anne Brasie

Ryan Burke

Rob Comfort

Kristofer Cooper

Mark and Maureen Cooper

Christine Dewey

Bonnie Harrington

Emilee Hedlund

Kirby and Nancy Keller

Barbara Lockrey

Laura McArtor

Trish Narwold

Nancy Horn Pitts

Nancy Powell

Lisa Powell

Nancy Rogers

Debra Ross

Keith Ross

Mary Lee Jontz Turk

Melissa Montgomery Wangsness

Connie Wilson

### **McArtor Family**

Bruce and Paula Hilby

### **Trish Narwold**

Richard and Judith Blum

Geoffrey and Shoshannah Sternlieb

## In-Kind Donations

### INDIVIDUALS

Shawn Allen  
 Don Alspaugh Estate  
 K.C. Babb  
 Betty Beeby Estate– Roy & Josie Ellison  
 Mallory Bernard  
 Ruth Bloomer  
 Nancy Brown  
 Becky Logee Carpenter  
 Albert Cash  
 Peg Comfort  
 Tom Comfort  
 Jane Coulter– Voight  
 Bonnie Drick  
 Lynn Fisher  
 Chuck Forman Estate– Lana Rowe  
 Linda Fox  
 Rosemarie Franco– Bell  
 Kearsten Frusti  
 Mary Guntzviller  
 Shelly Johnstone  
 Nancy Keller  
 Kids Bucket Brigade– Alden Days Parade  
 Kay Lang  
 Lisa Lirones  
 Barb Lockrey  
 Kate Logee  
 Quinn Logee  
 James Manning  
 Lucy McArtor  
 Ed McDuffie  
 Julie Moran  
 Diane Mortensen  
 Janet Mortensen  
 Virginia Mouch  
 Andrew Narwold  
 Drew Narwold

Lisa Powell  
 Nancy Riecker  
 Diane Roketenetz  
 Ann Logee Roessner  
 Keith Ross  
 Claire Scheibner  
 Suzanne Straebel  
 Emilee Syrewicz  
 Rosalyn Tyge  
 Carolyn Vallarta  
 Barb Van Pelt  
 Dana Van Noy  
 Dave Varga  
 Diane Verploegh  
 Suzanne Walker  
 Shirley Weiss Estate– Bill Weiss

### BUSINESSES

Antrim Conservation District– Heidi Schaffer & Tom Clement  
 The Blue Heron– Dan Ryska  
 Brownwood Acres– Steve DeTar  
 Copy Queenz– Cindy Lyskawa  
 Claige Properties– Kevin Osterfeld  
 Elk Rapids Garden Club  
 Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy  
 Grass River Natural Area– Haley Breniser and Jen Wright  
 Great Lakes Environmental– Dennis McCauley  
 Helena Township District Library  
 Helena Township Historical Society  
 King Orchards– John & Betsy King  
 Land Information Access Association– Paul Reiss & Rob Astor  
 Michigan Maps Online– Mark Stone  
 Muffin Tin– Cindy Howard & Butch Bartz, Jr.

Naturescape Nursery– Jim Ricksfelder  
 Paradise Properties– Gary & Jill Scheitler  
 Paradise Properties– Gary & Jill Scheitler  
 Pear Tree– Jim & Jan Schilling  
 Pro Image Design– Alan & Tara Hubbard  
 Proof Positive Design– Eric Campbell  
 Rocky Top Farms– Tom Cooper  
 Rodger's Grass Fed Beef, LLC– Rodger Dewey  
 Sleepytime Press– Bill O. Smith  
 Tailgate Joinery– Brad McArtor  
 Three Lakes Association– Becky Norris & Giannine Casassa  
 Torch Lake Protection Alliance– Brad Gerlach & Sue Kelly  
 Traverse Tax & Accounting– Laura Dagwell  
 Village Market– Kevin Young  
 The Warm Fuzzy– Lou Slyker, Sue Archer, Leta Male  
 Water Fire Vineyards– Chantal LeFebvre  
 The Watershed Center–Grand Traverse Bay– Christine Crissman & Sarah U'Ren  
 Widow's Peak Design– Laura McArtor