



Building a Water-Friendly Community

Annual Report
2019

Building a Water-Friendly 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 fish to eat, and clean water for swimming and boating in Torch Lake.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to our volunteer Board of Directors for their leadership and commitment to the principles and practices recommended by the Michigan Nonprofit Association:

Paul Beaupre
Margaret Comfort
Bonnie Drick
Barbara Lockrey
Patricia Narwold
Rob Nissly
Keith Ross
Emilee Syrewicze

Special Recognition

We would like to express our gratitude to Bonnie Drick, who served as our Board Secretary and Gallery Manager for the past three years. Her tireless efforts have made the TRUE BLUE Gallery a “must see” destination in northwest Michigan. Bonnie’s dedication to promoting stewardship has made a difference in the future of the Torch Lake Watershed.

THANK YOU, Bonnie!



FRESHWATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our Freshwater Education Program focuses on two initiatives: Stewardship — helping people care for water and Community Outreach — building a water-friendly community.

STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE:

Our Goal is to provide simple steps on how to care for water — the water we drink and the water in Torch Lake and its tributaries.

We want to engage everyone in actively caring for water: 5,600 landowners (shoreland owners, wetland owners, forest owners, farmers and other local business owners), as well as the thousands of visitors who enjoy our watershed year-round.

SERVICES

Online. We provide information on water-friendly practices through our website and free subscriptions to our monthly newsletter, TRUE BLUE News.

VISIT US:

www.conservetorch.org

In person. We're happy to answer your questions at the TRUE BLUE Gallery in Alden, MI. We're open five days a week from Memorial Day in late May to Alden Harvest Days in mid-October.

Special educational displays. We provide information on Swimmer's Itch and Household Hazardous Waste.

Free materials. We make it easy for you to care for water:

- **TRUE BLUE Living.** Easy changes you can make around your home. Recipes for water-friendly cleaners.
- **TRUE BLUE Landscaping.** Tips for water-friendly landscaping and lawn care plus native plant ideas.
- **TRUE BLUE Gardening.** Waterside-greenbelt designs, suggestions for water-friendly pesticides, fertilizers and compost.
- **TRUE BLUE Fun.** Info to make your Torch Lake time more fun: swimming, paddling and renting on the lake.

VISIT US:

TRUE BLUE Gallery
9046B Helena Road
Alden, MI 49612



FRESHWATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVE:

Our goal is to have everyone in our watershed actively caring for water: 7 townships, 4 villages, dozens of civic groups and nonprofit organizations, as well as more than 100 small businesses.

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIONS...

In The TORCH LAKE WATERSHED

Pathway Project. We enjoyed working with five business partners to design and install a new pathway with a butterfly garden to improve the entrance to the TRUE BLUE Gallery. We used pervious pavers to demonstrate a water-friendly alternative to traditional walkway materials like cement or flagstone.

Cyman Gardens installed the walkway and donated materials, Blue Star Landscape Supply and Rosetta Hardscapes donated pavers, Barker Creek Nursery donated a native serviceberry tree and flowering plants for the pollinator garden. Our landlord, Kevin Osterfeld-Claige Properties, donated funds for the installation.

TCC contributed the finishing touches: new benches with umbrellas and planters with colorful plants, which attracted more visitors in 2019.

Torch Lake Collaboration. We worked closely with the Three Lakes Association and the Torch Lake Protection Alliance to improve our relationships. We developed a memorandum of understanding and procedures for planning joint projects and communicating among the three organizations. The three groups will discuss issues, coordinate activities and improve communications.

Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Team.

Our volunteers attend quarterly meetings of this group, which provides opportunities to share information with 20+ conservation organizations working throughout the Chain of Lakes.

ERCOL Watershed Management Plan.

We recommended water quality monitoring and management activities to be included in the updated management plan, which will be released in the summer of 2020.



FRESHWATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVE

With **BUSINESSES**

Downtown Alden Business Association.

We were an active member of DABA again this year. Thanks to our volunteers Barbara Lockrey and Bonnie Drick for attending the monthly meetings.

The Kids Bucket Brigade was a hit in the Alden Days Parade with almost 30 children participating. Thanks to our volunteers, Bonnie Drick and Pat Pellett, who coordinated this activity.

We also participated in the Alden Evening Strolls weekly through the summer, Alden Sidewalk Sales (ours was indoors), and Alden Harvest Days.

DABA donated a portion of the proceeds from the first Alden Concert in the Park to three local, nonprofit organizations, including the Torch Conservation Center.

Watershed Businesses. There are more than 100 small businesses in the Torch Lake Watershed. We've established working relationships with more than 37 of them.

Paradise Properties. We shared information on TRUE BLUE Renting with more than 250 renters around Torch Lake.

Watershed Signs. Nine businesses gave permission for us to install signs marking the boundaries of the Torch Lake Watershed. Look for them as you drive around our country roads.

With **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Alden Men's Club. TCC donated an item for the silent auction at the Harvest Dinner.

Grass River Natural Area. TCC donated an item for the silent auction at the River Fest and participated in the Spring Kick-Off event.

Helena Township Historical Society. TCC shared information on TRUE BLUE Swimming with map of Torch Lake's public beaches.

Juniper Garden Club. TCC provided information on water-friendly lawn care practices.

Torch Lake Protection Alliance. TCC provided information on water-friendly living at the Taste of Torch Annual Meeting.



LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Our Goal is to engage all landowners in conserving land in the Torch Lake Watershed. Land Conservation requires us all to work together: landowners, local governments, conservancies, state and federal government agencies.

Conserving land is one of the very best ways to care for the water in Torch Lake and its tributaries...and, equally importantly, the quality of our drinking water.

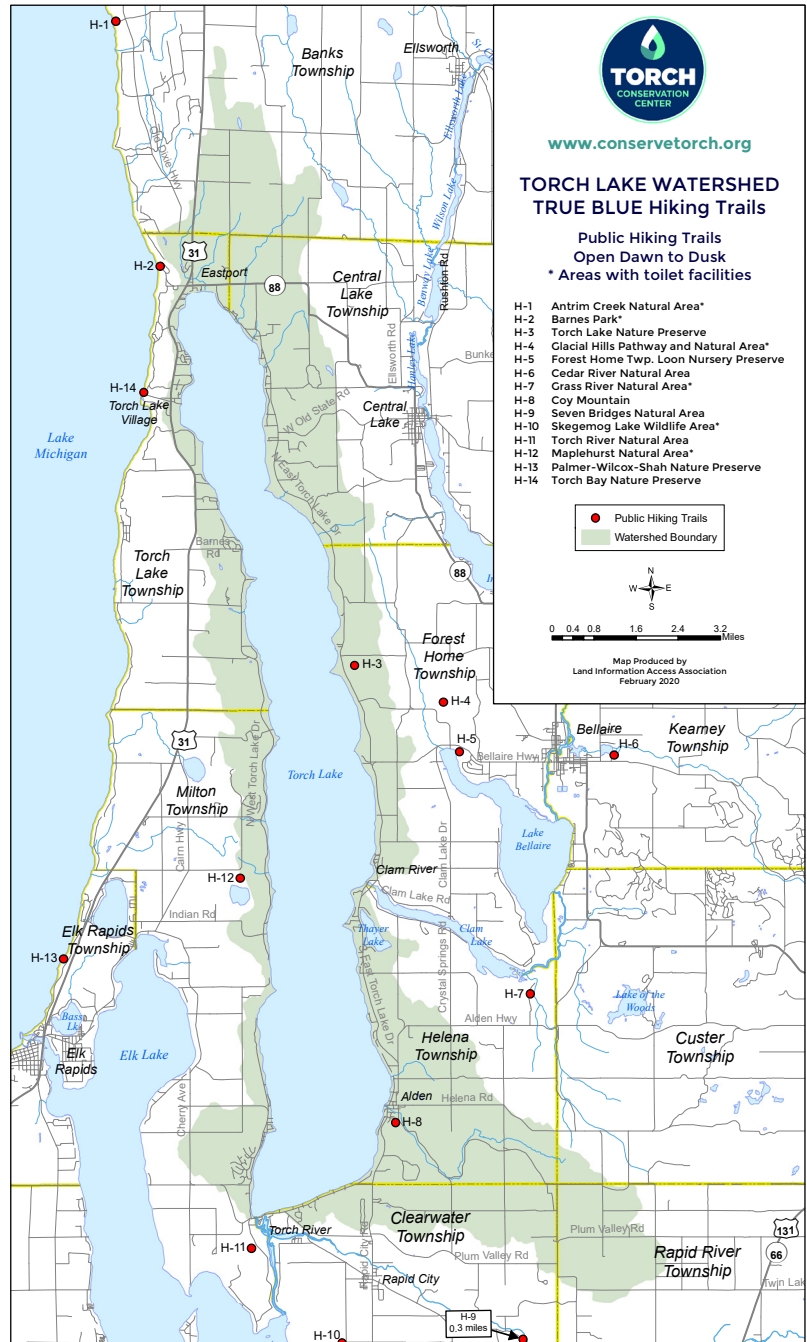
Ensuring high water quality requires that 50% of watershed land be conserved in its natural state according to the National Geographic Society.

In the Torch Lake Watershed, the number of acres of conserved land has increased to 1,221 acres or 8% of the watershed.

Because our Board of Directors has mandated that 10% of all donations to TCC go to our Land Conservation Fund, donors have contributed more than \$12,805.

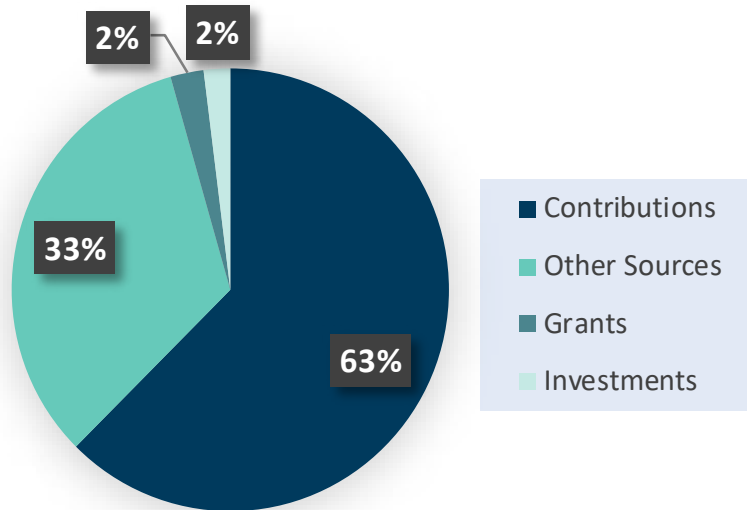
Conserved land has been preserved to protect water quality and provide outdoor recreational opportunities for future generations.

We hope you enjoy the hiking trails - all in public preserves around the watershed. These trails, pictured in the map to the right, are open from dawn to dusk.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2019 INCOME

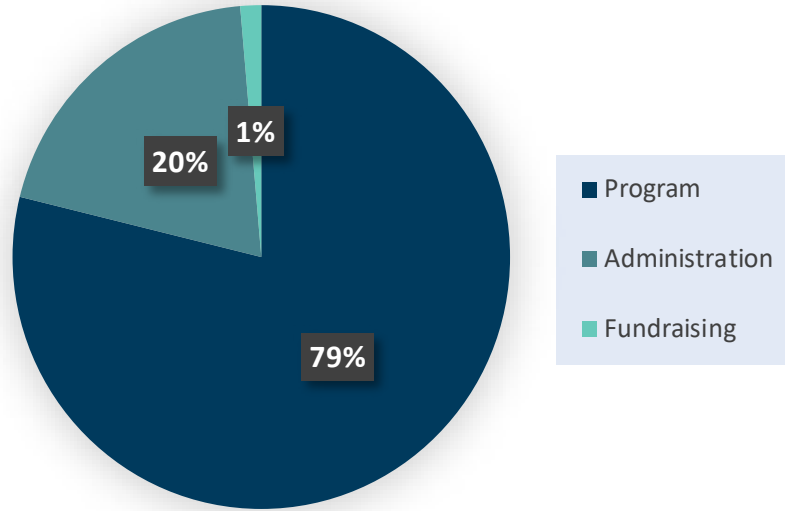


TYPE	INCOME	PERCENTAGE
Contributions	\$25,456	63%
Other Sources	\$13,492	33%
Grants	\$1,000	3%
Investments	\$797	1%
Total Income	\$40,745	100%



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2019 EXPENSES



TYPE	EXPENSES	PERCENTAGE
Program	\$26,714	79%
Administration	\$6,708	20%
Fundraising	\$460	1%
Total Expenses	\$33,882	100%



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>Dec 31, 19</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · Cash	
1010 · Cash in Bank	26,387.22
Total 1000 · Cash	<u>26,387.22</u>
Total Checking/Savings	26,387.22
Other Current Assets	
1030 · Donation in Transit	475.00
1402 · Stocks	2,917.23
Total Other Current Assets	<u>3,392.23</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>29,779.45</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>29,779.45</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
3010 · Unrestricted Net Assets	9,111.69
3020 · Temporary Restricted Net Assets	13,805.00
Net Income	6,862.76
Total Equity	<u>29,779.45</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>29,779.45</u>



MEMBERS 2019

Katherine Amerman	Jack Findlay
Brigitte Anderson	Joan Forgrave
Anonymous	Linda Fox
Kathy Armstrong	Laura Franseen
Jean Ashby & Kenneth Burger	Lisa Franseen
Kathleen Babb	Matthew Franzen
Steve & Lisa Bain	Susan Gates
Joan Banis	David & Marian Geohegan
Butch & Liz Bartz, Sr.	Annie Green
Marie Beaupre	Meredith Grider
Paul & April Beaupre	Michael & Mary Haley
William Beaupre	John & Julie Hamaty
Jerry & Drieka Bloom	Jonathon Harbaugh
Judith Blum	Bonnie Harrington
Anne Brasie	Emilie Hedlund
Bruce & Nancy Brown	Herrington - Fitch Family Foundation
Edward & Kathleen V. Brown	Paula Hilby
Allison Bruns	Jean Hoffner
John Buell, Jr.	Richard Hoxie
Ryan Burke	Carig & Ginger Hupp
Peter H. Byron	Caroline Jacob
Roger & Janice Byron	Richard & Nancy Jankowski
Sally Cadaret	Terri Jennings
Albert Cash	Brad & Rebecca Jensen
Mary Cheney	Joe Kaplan
Ernest Todd Collins	Brad & Joan Keller
Robert Comfort	Kirby & Nancy Keller
Thomas & Margaret Comfort	Sue Kelly
Mark & Maureen Cooper	Ronald & Bonnie Kershner
Peter Daily	Richard & Janet Knopf
Robert & Jamie Davidson	John P. Lambert
Phillip & Bonnie Drick	Kathleen Lang
Mary Elarton	Barbara Lockrey
Ryan Ferguson	Robert Logee



MEMBERS 2019

Janet Loveland
Robert Lyon
Dennis & Debra Malone
Kathleen Malone
Terrence Malone
Joseph & Norma Mariage
David & Nicole Martin
Laura McArtor
Lucy McArtor
Edward McDuffie
Robert & Karen Medsger
Ann Melfi
Janet Scott Miller
Julia Moran
Katherine Mueller
Andrew & Trish Narwold
Drew Narwold
Meg Narwold
Norm & Ann Neuenschwander
Nottingham North Family
Gregg & Carolyn Nowfel
William & Dorothy O'Donnell
Allison Oliver
Kevin & Deb Osterfeld
Linda Oxford
Patricia Pellett
Gary & Lynn Petty
Doris Pierson
Nancy Podurgiel
George & Nancy Powell
Donald Proux
Steven & Susan Rabinovitz
Mary Richards
Sue Ann Robert
Rodger's Grass Fed LLC
Nancy Rogers
Diane Roketenetz
Debbie Ross
Dexter & Kathleen Ross
John S. Ross, Jr.
Judy Ross
Keith Ross & Louise Doud
Thomas & Vickie Ross
William Ross
Terry Rowe
Maureen Sanders
Claire Scheibner
Gary & Jill Scheitler
Susan Schuler
Max & Ann Schwandt
Christian Stoldt
Suzanne Straebel
Judith Strickland
Emilee Syrewicze
David Varga & Barbara VanPelt
Thomas A. & Joan Volle
Thomas N. & Kathleen Volle
Suzanne Walker
Lisa Wangsness
Nancy DeWitt Watkins
Kevin & Kathy Watrous
Cyndy Wicker
Connie Wilson
William & Joan Wilson
Emily Yarosz
Barbara Young



SPECIAL GIFTS

HONORARIUM

Barbara Cadaret

Sally Cadaret

Margaret Comfort

Mark & Maureen Cooper

Patricia Narwold

Bonnie Drick

Patricia Narwold

Barbara Lockrey

Patricia Narwold

Ryan & Robin Russell

Alison Bruns

MEMORIAL

Paul Bennett

Ann Melfi

Margery Geohegan

David & Nancy Geohegan

Caroyln Keller

Brad & Joan Keller

Roy McNish

Suzanne Straebel



IN-KIND DONATIONS: INDIVIDUALS

Shawn Allen	Ed McDuffie
Alec Alspaugh	Kim Messerly
Don Alspaugh Estate	Julia Moran
Kathy Amerman	Diane Mortensen
K.C. Babb	Janet Mortens
Paul Beaupre	Meg Narwold
Betty Beebe Estate - Roy & Josie Ellison	Patricia Narwold
Mallory Bernard	Ron Nissly
Ruth Bloomer	Pat Pellett
Albert Cash	Lisa Powell
Patty Clark	Laura Roketenetz
Margaret Comfort	Debbie Ross
Thomas Comfort	Keith Ross
Bonnie Drick	Simon Ross
Pam Fellerhoff	Claire Scheibner
Lynn Fisher	Suzanne Straebel
Linda Fox	Emilee Syrewicze
Rosemarie Franco-Bell	Rosalyn Tyge
Mary Haley	Carolyn Vallarata
Craig Hupp	Barb VanPelt
Kids Bucket Brigade	Dana VanNoy
Kay Lang	Diane Verploegh
Jenny Lee	Suzanne Walker
Pam Linderleaf	Bev Wehr
Lisa Lirones	Shirley Weiss Estate
Barbara Lockrey	Dr. William G. Weiss, Jr.
Kate Logee	
Quinn Logee	
Laura McArtor	



IN-KIND DONATIONS: BUSINESSES

Antrim Conservation District - Wendy Warren, Heidi Shaffer & Mike Meriwether

Bailey Designs - Rachel Krino

Barker Creek Nursery - Terry Bertrand

Blue Star Landscape Supply - Clare Svec

Brick Wheels - Tim Brick

Brownwood Acres - Steve DeTar

Great Lakes Environmental Center
- Dennis McCauley

Claige Properties - Kevin Osterfeld

Copy Queenz - Cindy Lyskawa

Cyman Gardens - John & Kathy Cyman

Downtown Alden Business Association

Freshwater Solutions - Ron Reimink

Grand Traverse Regional Land
Conservancy

Grass River Natural Area - Jenn Wright
& James Dake

Helena Township Historical Society

Isiah Lavender Farm - Bev Eberhart

Juniper Garden Club

King Orchards - John & Betsy King

Land Information Access Association -
Paul Reiss

Michigan Garden Club Association - Janet
Hickman

Michigan Maps Online - Mark Stone

Muffin Tin - Butch Bartz, Jr.
& Cindy Howard

Naturescape Nursery - Jim Ricksfelder

North Country Restorations -
Mike Lambert

Paradise Properties - Gary & Jill Scheitler

Pine Hill Nursery

Prolmage Design - Alan & Tara Hubbard

Proof Positive Design - Eric Campbell

Rocky Top Farms - Tom Cooper

Rodger's Grass Fed Beef, LLC -
Rodger Dewey

Rosetta Hardscapes - Jake Manthei

Sleepytime Press - Bill O. Smith

Tailgate Joinery - Brad McArtor

Three Lakes Association - Mike Bertram,
Dean Branson, Becky Norris & Fred Sittel

Torch Lake Classics - Gary Hutchens

Torch Lake Protection Alliance - Brad
Gerlach, Sue Kelly, Gary Petty & Bob
Miliron

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 - Christine
Crissman & Sarah U'Ren

Widow's Peak Design - Laura McArtor

