



NORTHWOODS LAND TRUST

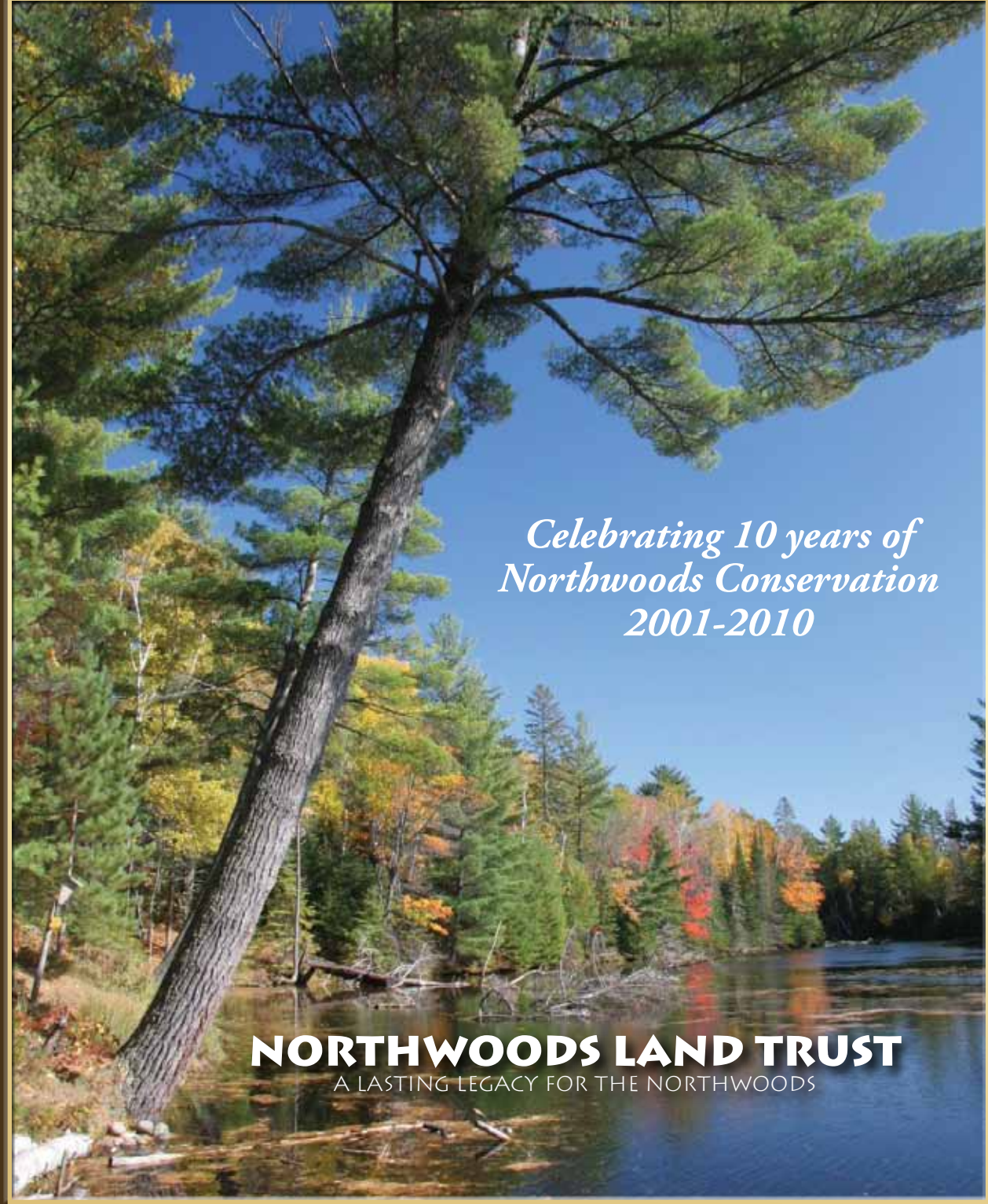
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Regarding her family's
conservation agreement:
*"It's an opportunity that
will never come again.
Once developed, the
land can never be
gotten back."*
-Melanie Kern



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*Celebrating 10 years of
Northwoods Conservation
2001-2010*

NORTHWOODS LAND TRUST
A LASTING LEGACY FOR THE NORTHWOODS

From the President...



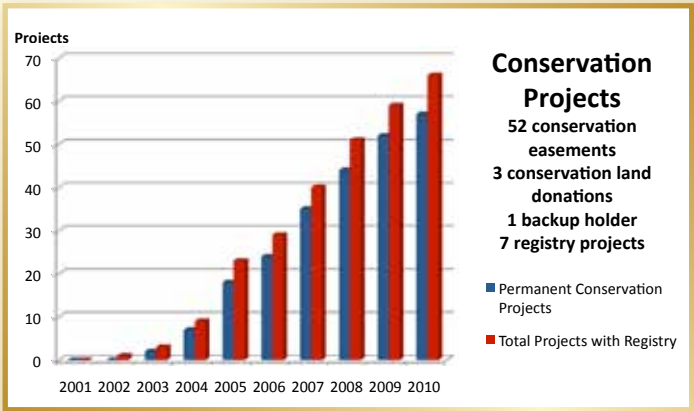
“I am especially fond of white pine, so I was thrilled to see more white pine on the property.”
-Donna (& Walt) Gager

Wow - has 10 years gone by fast! It is hard to think back to when our small, but dedicated group of diverse community leaders from the region first got together in 2001, volunteering their time and expertise to try to help protect some of this beautiful northwoods. But here we are, 10 years later, with over 5,000 acres and 28 total miles of lake and river shorelines permanently protected!

Many changes have occurred in this decade - on global, national, state, local, and especially on family levels. But one thing we know - these lands and waters we have conserved will continue to be protected as a lasting legacy for the generations to come.

We hope you will enjoy this sampling of quotes from some of the many conservation-minded friends we have worked with over the past decade. We invite you to help continue these northwoods protection efforts in the next 10 years!

- Mary Schwaiger, Board President



OUR MISSION:
The Northwoods Land Trust promotes conservation by private landowners of natural shorelands, woodlands, wetlands and other natural resources, as public benefits for present and future generations in Vilas, Oneida, Forest, Florence, Iron and Price Counties and the surrounding region.

On the cover: Don & Sue Kratsch property on the Eagle River.
Produced with assistance from the Dale Druckrey Conservation Fund of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.



“I’ve seen way too many cases of people who wait too long. They find out that the family member they left their land to, doesn’t treat it the way they treated it. It can be a death, divorce, or other things can happen, and suddenly these lands are worth more to someone developed than they are protected. The conservation easement assures me the land is protected.”
-Tim Hagen

2001-2



Kern Property Snipe Lake

“One of the great amenities of the area at the present time is silence. Out here you can hear nature making its own sounds.”
-Keith McCaffery

The Northwoods Land Trust - A Beginning

by Executive Director Bryan Pierce

I didn’t know what I was getting into in the summer of 2000 when we invited Vicki Elkin of Gathering Waters Conservancy to talk about voluntary conservation options for lake property owners. This regional Lake Leader Training workshop was conducted in Eagle River and sponsored by the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership - the Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin-Extension and Wisconsin Association of Lakes.

With nearly 3,000 lakes, Vilas, Oneida and Forest Counties have the largest number of inland freshwater lakes in Wisconsin, and one of the highest concentrations in the world. They are well worth protecting.

As the Vilas County UW-Extension Agent, one of my projects included helping to found the Northwoods Land Trust. The organization was incorporated in February of 2001 with recruitment of an outstanding, 12-member volunteer Board of Directors. By July of 2001, NWLT received our IRS 501(c)(3) tax exemption determination and we were in business.

During that first year, volunteers helped us design the NWLT logo and our first newsletter. In 2002 we also received our first contribution of \$400 to establish our Land Stewardship endowment fund for annual monitoring and legal defense of our conservation land and easement properties.

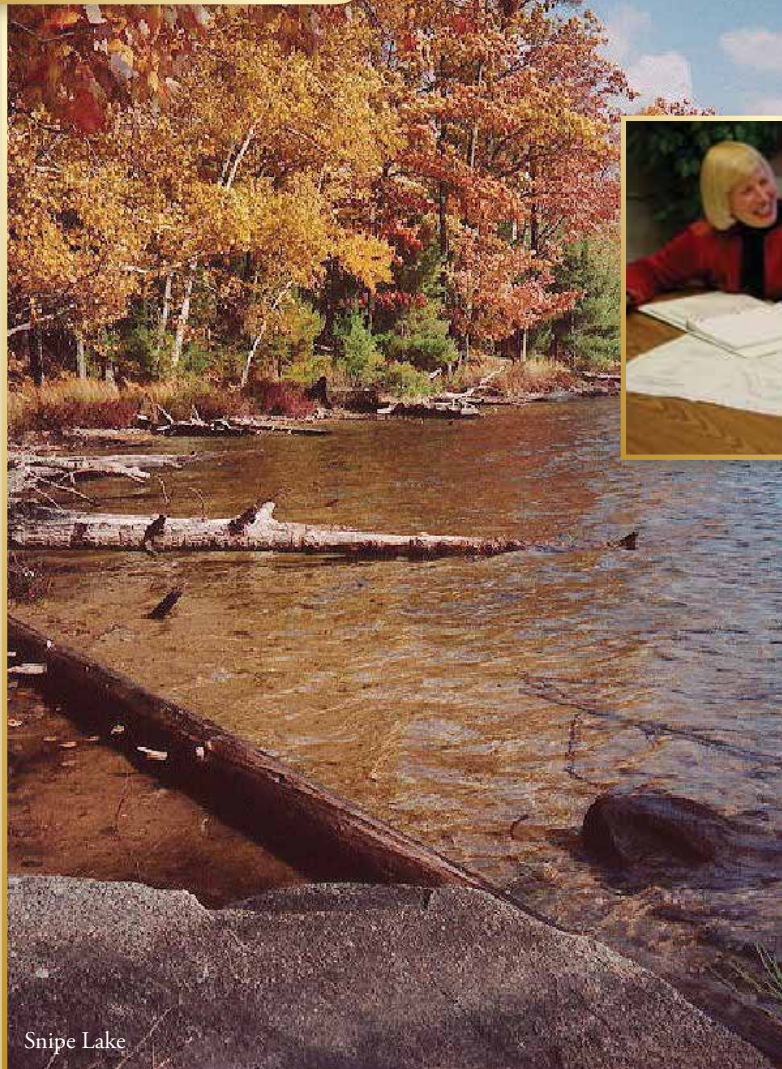
Five different families participating in those early meetings expressed interest in conserving their lakefront properties. By 2005, all five of those families had protected their lake shorelines in perpetuity!

“You need places. Some would say, it’s just woods. It goes a lot deeper for me.”
-Tannie Bragiel

2003

"It was pretty empty for a long time, but then development took off on Snipe Lake. It was hard to see it change. I've been thinking about how to preserve the land for years."

-Willa Schmidt



Snipe Lake

The first two land protection agreements, or conservation easements, were signed in 2003. These agreements protect a total of 29 acres and over 2,500 feet of natural frontage on two lakes in Vilas County.

The Preserving Mother Earth land trust group in Lac du Flambeau merged into the Northwoods Land Trust in 2003. NWLT's website went online at www.northwoodslandtrust.org.

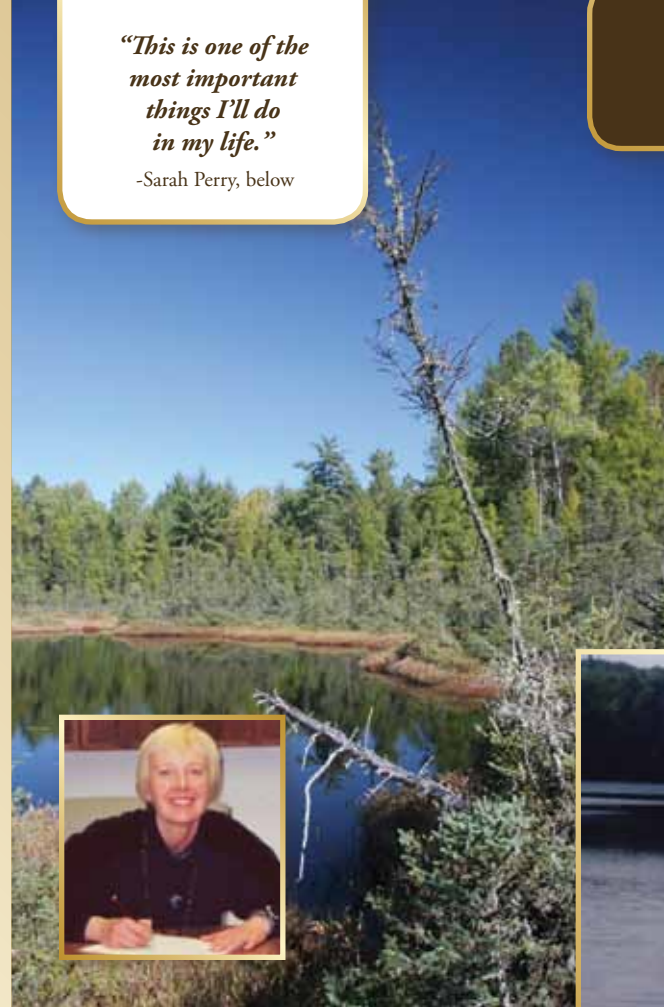
The first Conservation Area Registry technical assistance project was also completed on nearly 200 acres near Land O' Lakes.



In December, 2003, Willa Schmidt (right) and the Powell family represented by Ben and Barbara Powell signed NWLT's first two conservation easements protecting natural shorelines on Snipe Lake and Heart Lake in Vilas County.

"This is one of the most important things I'll do in my life."

-Sarah Perry, below



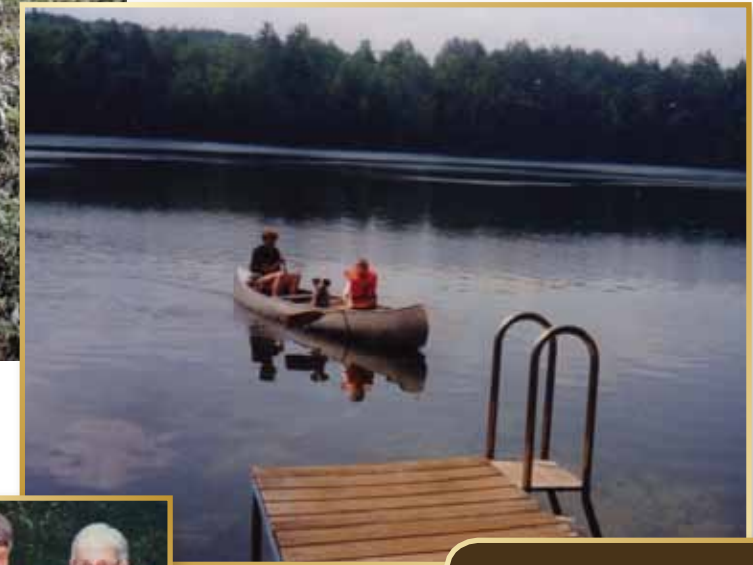
"I'd like my great, great grandchildren to remember my parents and what they left. The land and beauty of the property keeps them alive. I am delighted that this land will never be developed. Money is a big attraction, but you can never get the land back."

-Robin Greenwald

2004

In January of 2004, after receiving funding support through a DNR Lake Protection Grant, Bryan Pierce was hired full-time as the Executive Director. NWLT established a professional office with space provided courtesy of Reach & Schwaiger CPAs in Eagle River.

NWLT topped 100 acres and over one mile of lake shorelines protected. Appraised values of donated conservation easements exceeded \$1.5 million. Our land stewardship endowment fund reached \$50,000. In cooperation with area land trusts, NWLT agreed to extend our service area to include Florence, Iron and Price counties.



"Preserve this beauty that is fast vanishing. I hope you feel the joy and pleasure that comes from protecting your land."

- Ellen McKenzie (left with sister Joann Kindt above)

"My twelve year old grandson expects the land to be his when I and his mother and uncle are gone. In 100 years, I want my land to look just exactly as it is today."

-Betty Beverly, above (with grandson)

2005



Mud Lake

"I'd like to be able to tell my great grandchildren that I protected the property so that they and their great grandchildren will be able to enjoy the same things that I have been able to enjoy in my lifetime."

-Tom Turriff

In 2005, NWLT was granted a record 11 land protection agreements conserving nearly 6 miles of lake and river shorelines and about 1,650 acres. "For the Love of the Land... A Landowner's Conservation Guide to Protecting Your Northwoods Property" was developed, printed and mailed to over 1,000 lake property owners in Vilas County as a pilot project. The first five-year strategic plan was adopted by the Board.

"I got tears in my eyes when I read the conservation easement document the first time. It brought home the reality of my responsibility for the land, and that I can do something to protect part of the northwoods for the future."

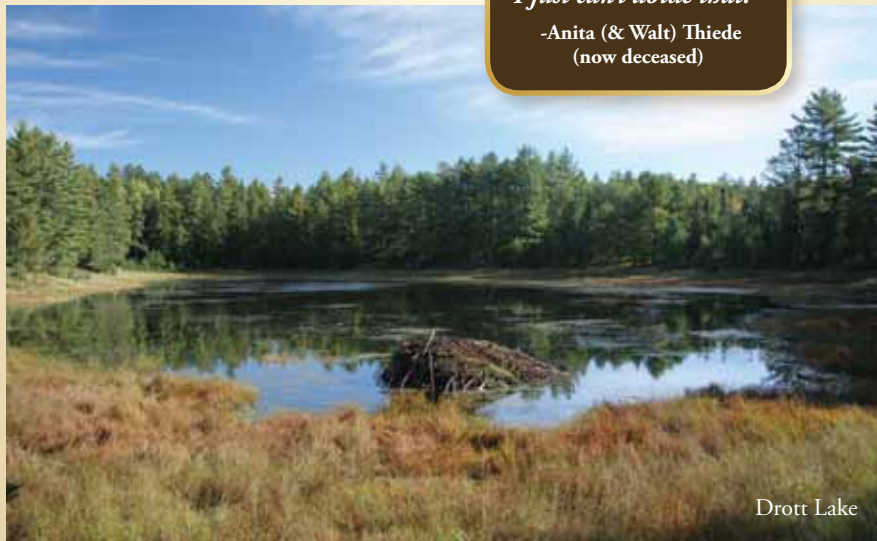
-Meta Reigel (above with Naturalist John Bates)

"Someone could come in and subdivide it and put in about twenty homes. I just can't abide that."

-Anita (& Walt) Thiede (now deceased)

"It was a magnificent piece of property. I was so impressed with the hills and valleys, the lakes and how diversified the timber was on it. This land was something I felt should never be developed."

-Tom Pawlacyk



Drott Lake



In 2006, NWLT topped 2000 protected acres. Our first outright conservation land donation was received - the 144-acre Thunder Lake Wildlife Conservation Area near Three Lakes in Oneida County.

Four properties were listed in NWLT's new conservation buyer/seller program. Luida Sanders established the Charles A. & Ida C. Sanders Northwoods Memorial Fund through the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin to honor the memory of her parents and support NWLT's conservation efforts.

The Land Stewardship endowment fund for annual monitoring and legal defense exceeded \$100,000.

Thunder Lake Wildlife Conservation Area



Sunset Lake

"The one thing I've learned over 31 years at the DNR is that you must protect corridors on rivers in order to protect the quality of the river. The best way to protect corridors is to have restrictions that run with the land for many generations."

-Bob Martini (right)



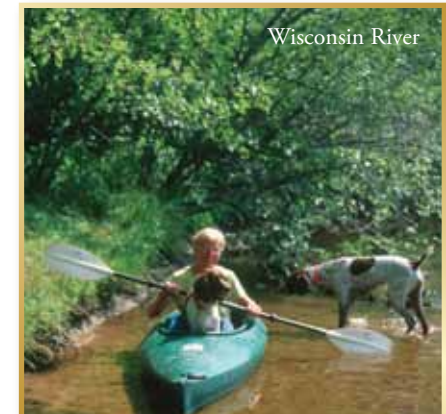
Deerskin River

To her grandchildren: "I protected this land so I could tell you: See? This is what the Northwoods should look like."

-Diana Anderson

"Not a day goes by that I don't think how lucky I am to live on this beautiful river. I get tremendous peace of mind just knowing it will be protected forever."

-Bev Engstrom (right)



Wisconsin River

Protecting the Northwoods for today and for all the tomorrows to come...

● Land Protection Agreements (Conservation Easements):

Carl Anderson Estate
Diana Anderson
Catharine (Betty) Beverly
Donald, Jeffrey, Sylvia & David
Behm & Jeanette Schachtner
Tannica & James Bragiel
Paul Brown, Jeffrey Brown &
Laura Kavanagh (Linda Pierson Estate)
Richard Bostwick & Barbara Arms
Jean & Jerry Crawford
Dr. David & Minka Dawson
Roger Degriss
Richard Eggleston & Anita Clark
Virginia & John Elsen
Beverly Engstrom
Dr. Walter & Donna Gager
Doris Greenwald Estate
Timothy Hagen
DiAnne & Terry Hatch
Highlands Limited Partnership of
Wisconsin (Wellenstein family-
Rick, Charles, Michael, Anna, Bart)
Sybil & Howard Holtzer
Charles & Carol James
Thomas & Ellen Katsich
Theodosia & Melanie Kern
Don & Sue Kratsch
Mary Lewandowski
Dr. Gene & Phyllis Likens
Robert Martini & Kathleen Vick-Martini

*"I really, really like the woods.
I like the elbow room, the
fresh air, the quiet. I like to
hear the animals - it's
just nice. I want it to stay
that way too."*

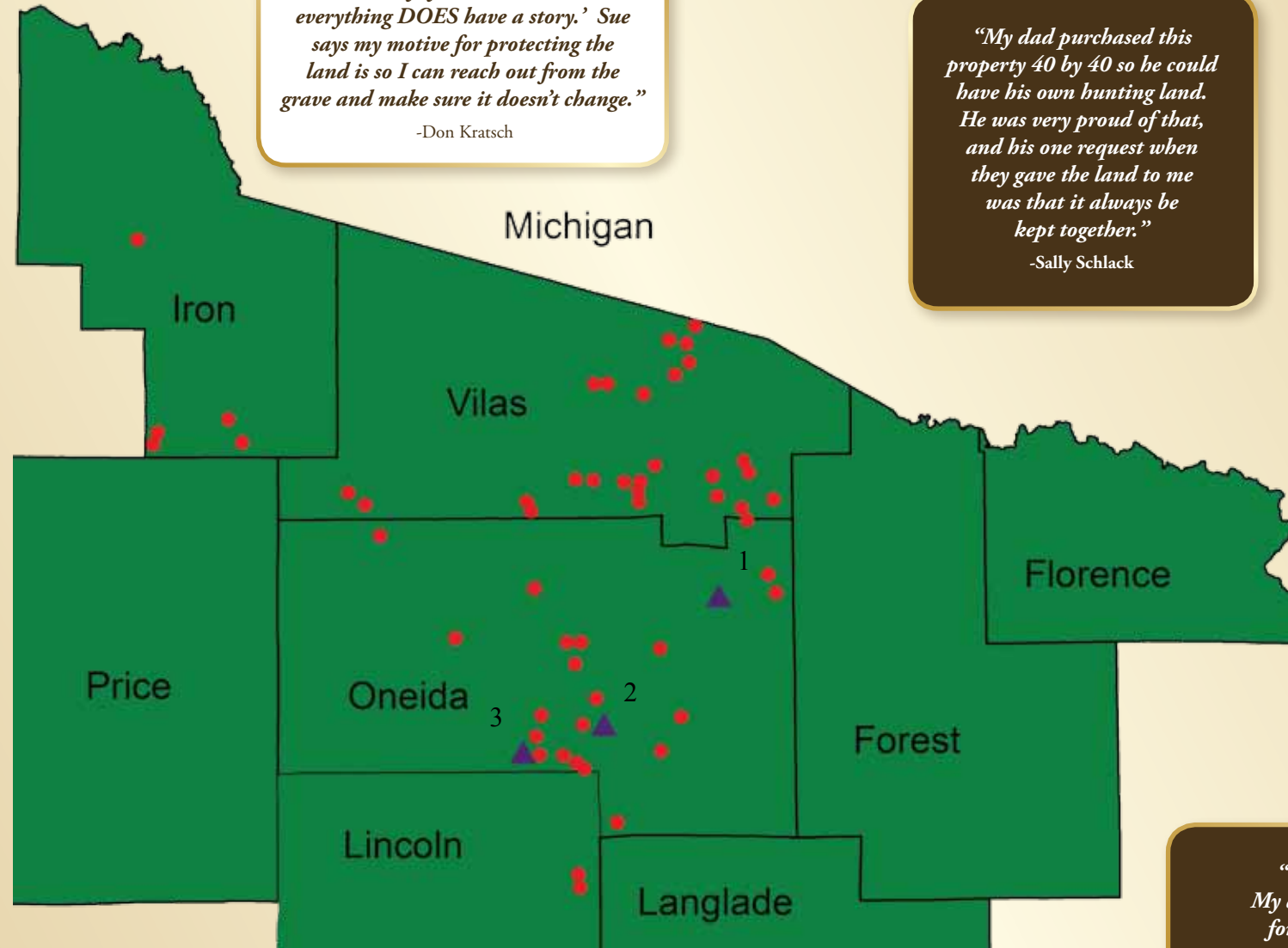
-June Wedell

*"My kids always complain that
'everything at the cabin has a story'
and I say 'yes, that's because
everything DOES have a story.' Sue
says my motive for protecting the
land is so I can reach out from the
grave and make sure it doesn't change."*

-Don Kratsch

*"My dad purchased this
property 40 by 40 so he could
have his own hunting land.
He was very proud of that,
and his one request when
they gave the land to me
was that it always be
kept together."*

-Sally Schlack



● Land Protection Agreements (Conservation Easements) continued:

Keith & Jocelyn McCaffery
Ellen McKenzie & Joann Kindt
Albert & Kathryn Nagy
Thomas & Eileen Pawlacyk
Sarah Perry & Jessie B. Perry Estate
Lee & Margo Popovich
Ben, Glenn, Ken & Roger Powell families
Meta Reigel
Roland & Ruth Rueckert
Sally & Bud Schlack
Willa Schmidt
Eugene & Elenore Streich
Walter & Anita Thiede
Helen & Richard Thomas
Thomas Turriff
William & Joy Vancos
June Wedell
Walter & Janet (Nina) Wellenstein
Jeffrey Wiesner & Sara Ford Wiesner
Harry & Candy Whidden

▲ NWLT Conservation Land Donations (Open to the Public)

1. Thunder Lake Wildlife Conservation Area -
Anonymous donor
2. Holmboe Conifer Forest State Natural Area -
The Nature Conservancy
3. Dugan Squash Lake Nature Preserve -
Patrick Dugan & Sue Hausserman-Dugan

*"We have a long family history of trying to conserve.
My dad's philosophy was always that it (the property) was
for hiking and wildlife and was never to be developed.
It's just a family legacy. We've always been
'northwoods and outdoors.' To be able to do something
to sustain that is really important."*

- Jeff Wiesner

*"I think if you are going to live side by side with neighbors along
the river, you might as well live in the suburbs."*

-Rich Eggleston

2007

NWLT topped 10 miles of total lake and river shorelines protected and over 3,000 acres with another 12 land protection projects completed. NWLT also provided technical assistance to the Last Wilderness Conservation Association and is a backup easement holder for LWCA.

In 2007, NWLT received the Wisconsin Land Trust of the Year Award from Gathering Waters Conservancy.



"It was our parents' view that this place should always be a place of sanctuary. We have fortunately been able to maintain this vision. Future generations can look across the lake at the land just as their great, great grandparents saw it when they first came here."

-Al Nagy (pictured with son Lucas, wife Kathryn and sister Alice Fager above).

The Holmboe Conifer Forest State Natural Area was re-dedicated and the ownership was transferred from The Nature Conservancy to NWLT.



"I love the thought of people going down the river, and as they look over at this property, it will appear wild to them forever."

-Bill (& Joy) Vancos

"The land itself is so unique. The river frontage has not been touched ever since we've been here - it is pristine. You don't take anything with you, but you can leave things for other people intact, and that was my thought about protecting the land."

-Harry (& Candy) Whidden

"Sometimes the greatest things in life are not money or being wealthy. Some people thought I was nuts and said I was signing away millions of dollars, and they are right, I am. But at least I can be happy when I go wandering about the property, knowing that it is protected."

-Roger Degris

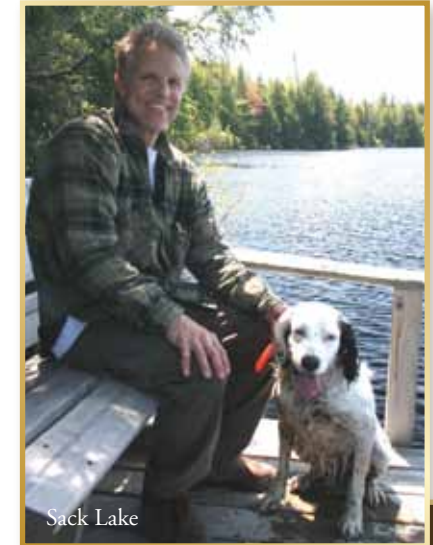


In 2008, NWLT topped 4,000 acres protected, with total appraised values of donated conservation lands and conservation easements exceeding \$10 million.



2008

On Earth Day, 2008, Roger Degris (left) signed a conservation agreement conserving his 20-acre peninsula on Squash Lake with over 3,800 feet of frontage. The signing was witnessed by students from Rhinelander's Northwoods Community School and staff from the Wisconsin DNR.



"Not having any children, I've always struggled with what would become of the property when I'm gone. What attracted me was the wilderness quality, and I was thinking of some way to preserve it without selling it."

-Rich Bostwick (above)

"Living a busy life in the city with lots of cars and people, you come up here and it is quiet."

-Helen (& Richard) Thomas (left)

2009



In 2009, NWLT added Trisha Moore as a half-time Conservation Specialist. NWLT received our first “trade land” donations from the estate of Carl Anderson and two donors who preferred to remain anonymous. These properties are intended to be sold to support our conservation mission.

Our third donation of conservation land with over 4,000 feet of frontage on a unique esker peninsula became the Dugan Squash Lake Nature Preserve.

“I know where I’m going to have my ashes put. It makes us feel really good to be able to do something for posterity, to know that it will be protected in perpetuity.”

-Pat Dugan (with Sue & NWLT Board left)



NWLT’s largest single conservation agreement to date was granted to protect over 800 acres and the Fredrich’s Flowages by the Wellenstein family. This land is adjacent to a 595-acre property previously protected by the Wellensteins.

“I have a love for that land. I grew up there and saw how pristine it was.”

- Walt Wellenstein (pictured from left - Michael, Rick, Nina, Anna, Charlie, Walt and Bart)

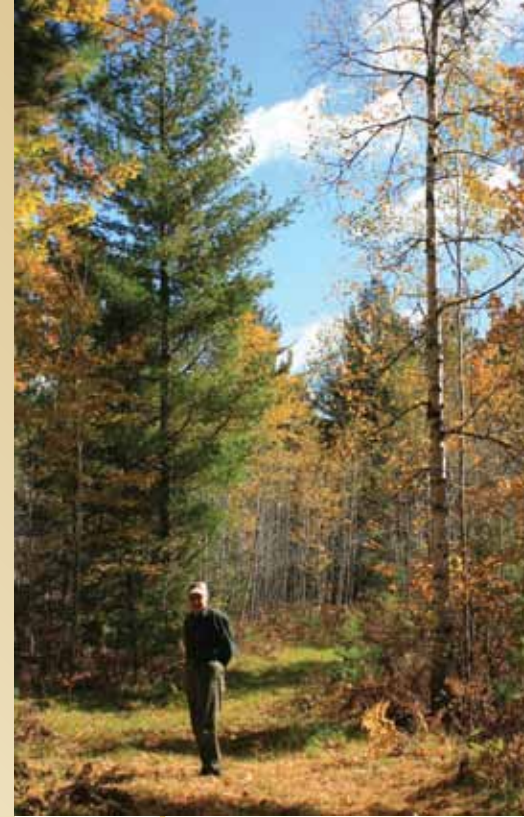
“Our parents enjoyed the beauty, the seasonal variation, and the annual renewal of the property - and the tranquility that it brought to each of them. On both a personal and professional basis, I not only enjoyed the process, but I also feel a great sense of satisfaction.”

-David Behm



Fredrich's Flowage

2010



By 2010, NWLT had received conservation easement and land donations protecting over 5,000 acres of land and over 28 miles of lake and river shorelines.

After consulting with neighboring land trusts, NWLT also agreed to serve northern Langlade County.

With great volunteer assistance, NWLT annually monitors over 50 conservation land and easement properties.

“Kids follow their parents, and they have grown to understand our land ethic. They have passed that on to the grandkids as well.”

- Dr. David (& Minka) Dawson (above)



Volunteer Bill Reardon (left) with landowner Don Kratsch

“This is an opportunity to save the forests from getting broken up and subdivided. These beautiful woods and all of the wildlife...this is what the northwoods looked like years ago.”

- Lee & Margo Popovich (left with sign)

Northwoods Land Trust Board of Directors

Our thanks to all of these special volunteers who have made such a positive impact on the land trust through our first ten years!

Founding Board Members

Mary Schwaiger	Eagle River	2001-Present	*President
Jim Holperin	Eagle River	2001-2011	Past Vice-President
John Huppert	St. Germain	2001-Present	Past-President
Willa Schmidt	Madison	2001-Present	*Secretary
Tiffany Lyden	Eagle River	2001-2002	Past-Treasurer
Tom Ellis	Eagle River	2001-2005	Past-Treasurer
Ed Drager	Vail, CO	2001-2006	
Clifford Haskins	Laona	2001-2004	
Martha Milanowski	Eagle River	2001-2004	
Bryan Pierce	Eagle River	2001-Present	Past-President
Roger Sabota	Rhineland	2001-2004	
John Seibel	St. Germain	2001-2001	
Lisa Wood	Eagle River	2001-2003	

Other Directors

Roxanne Poupart	Lac du Flambeau	2003-2005	
Cathy Techtmann	Pence, WI	2003-2005	
Timothy Hagen	Rhineland	2004-2006	Past-Treasurer
Mitchell Olson	Madison	2004-Present	
Bob Martini	Rhineland	2004-Present	*Vice-President
Jerry Parker	Phelps	2004-2010	
Pete Davison	Crandon	2005-Present	
Dan Wisniewski	Madison	2005-Present	
Beth Tornes	Lac du Flambeau	2005-Present	
Sue Coffman	Eagle River	2005-Present	*Treasurer
Meta Reigel	Waupaca	2006-Present	
Ed Mouw	Rhineland	2006-2009	
Frederick Rikkers	Verona	2008-2009	
William Dickens	Rhineland	2009-Present	
Scott Craven	Madison	2011-Present	
Mike Meyer	Woodruff	2001-Present	

* Current Officers



“Our most magical experiences are walking through the woods. We walk every part of the woods every time we come. We need to be connected to the land to be healthy.”

-DiAnne Hatch

Staff

Executive Director
-Bryan Pierce, 2004-Present
Conservation Specialist
-Trisha Moore, 2009-Present

Committing to the Future... FOREVER



“Perhaps it was the looming 90th birthday that started me thinking about the past. I had what can only be described as an inspiration about the

possibility of a memorial to my parents. I signed the papers along with a check for \$2,000 to establish the Charles A. and Ida C. Sanders Northwoods Memorial Fund. The money is held by the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. When it reaches \$10,000, the Northwoods Land Trust will receive annual payments to support their work of preserving natural shorelands, woodlands, wetlands and other natural resources as public benefits for the present and future generations. This got quite a lot of publicity among environmental groups. It is hoped that other families who love the northwoods and/or were pioneers in Northern Wisconsin will establish similar funds or contribute to them.”

-Luida Sanders

2011 & Beyond

“It’s like a jewel you treasure.

We are leaving our nature preserve land and our lake cottage in Wisconsin to the Northwoods Land Trust. We want to know that part of our beautiful lake shoreline will remain natural forever.”

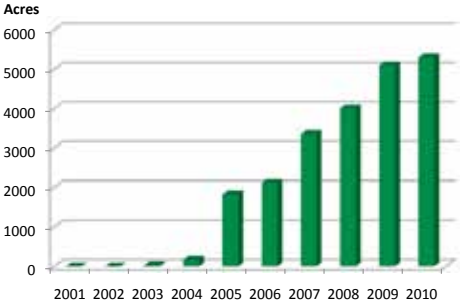
-Sybil Holtzer (right) describing her planned bequest of property on Big Portage Lake in Vilas County.



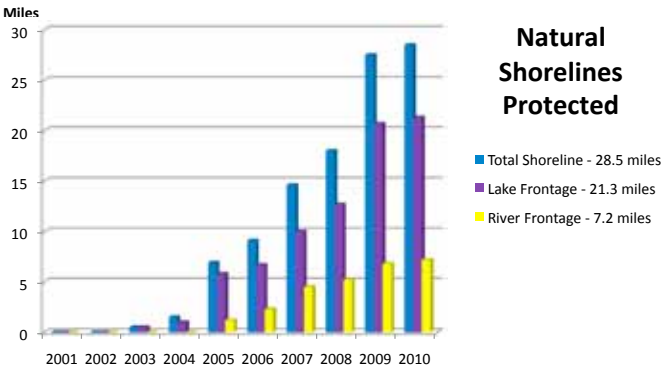
OUR 2020 VISION

Looking ahead, the vision of the Northwoods Land Trust is to double the number of private land conservation projects completed and double the number of acres protected in the northwoods - 100 projects with over 10,000 acres - by the year 2020! This is truly an ambitious goal, but one we firmly believe we can reach with your help! Please consider pledging your support to help protect our beautiful northwoods shorelands, woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat - for now and for the future. There are many ways to lend your support and leave a legacy that lasts for the northwoods. Please let us know if you would like more information or for us to contact you to discuss options for supporting the Northwoods Land Trust.

Conservation Land Protected 5,306 acres



Natural Shorelines Protected



YES - I'd like to help keep the northwoods the northwoods!

- ☐ Conservation easement or conservation land donation
- ☐ “Trade” land donation such as a residential or commercial property
- ☐ Bequest or other planned gift in a will
- ☐ Donation of stocks, bonds or life insurance
- ☐ Other contribution? _____

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

