Our Vision
Thriving, prosperous communities nourished by vibrant natural areas, working farms and healthy cities

Our Mission
To provide the people of our region with essential natural assets through land conservation and restoration

Funding for the Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report was generously provided by the Sandra L. and Dennis B. Haslinger Family Foundation
In the past, we have written in our annual report about measurements. It is important to measure things, and yet some things cannot really be quantified. For example, we count the acres we preserve each year, but we are unable to measure the comfort that Inga Schmidt (page 9), Ray Dellefield (page 17) and Bill Abell (page 23) feel knowing that the land they love will forever be preserved. Both are profoundly important to us and to our community.

Today, with bated breath, we look forward to celebrating a measurable milestone that was once a distant dream... the permanent preservation of 50,000 acres!

In 2005, Chagrin River Land Conservancy wrote a planning document that both called for and governed the merger that created Western Reserve Land Conservancy out of eight small land trusts operating across northeast Ohio. At that time, those eight groups had preserved approximately 8,000 acres over a 20 year history, or just 400 acres per year. And yet we dreamed of so much more when we wrote:

One hundred years from now the Western Reserve will still have a working landscape of prime agricultural soils, clean and clear running waters, open and undeveloped places, blocks and corridors for birds and wildlife; in short, a breathtaking natural area that supports all life forms in harmony. The Western Reserve will contain a 50,000-acre network of preserved land woven into the very fabric of the region. Working together we can realize this vision.

Turns out that truer words were never spoken. Ten years since our merger, we will realize this vision. Increased capacity has enabled Western Reserve Land Conservancy to preserve an average of more than 4,000 acres per year over the last ten years. This translates to 1,000 percent more land preserved per year than before the merger. While we do not know exactly when we will complete a project that will put us over 50,000 acres, we are confident it will occur on or before December 31, 2016.

And now, 11 years since we set that big-hairy-audacious-goal, we are prepared to both dream of and accomplish so much more!

A few years ago, we completed a comprehensive conservation plan with countless partners from around the region. Published as a book in 2012, it is known as Common Ground. The good news is that, including the 50,000 acres we have permanently preserved, our region is now served by approximately 300,000 acres of conservation land. The concerning news is that conservation scientists estimated that our region needs about 600,000 acres of conservation land to thrive. At our current rate of land conservation, which is 1% of our land area annually, this will require 75 years to accomplish. That is simply not acceptable; we must take steps now to increase the pace of conservation.

Today, we share a larger vision with all of our partners... the dream of a vast interconnected network of parks and preserves, of farms and forests, and of streams and lakes, connected through our cities, through our suburbs, and into the countryside. Serving more than four million people who live and work in our region, this network of cherished and essential natural assets will set us apart from the rest of the world. The people of our region will live in harmony with nature. Our region will thrive and prosper both in ways that we can quantify and ways that we may never be able to measure.

Western Reserve Land Conservancy exists because of all of you and for all of you. Thank you for supporting our mission and for helping us to realize our vision of thriving, prosperous communities that are nourished by vibrant natural areas, working farms and healthy cities.

Rich Cochran
President & CEO
Elizabeth Juliano
Board of Trustees Chair
Tracking our Results

During the 2016 fiscal year*, Western Reserve Land Conservancy permanently preserved another 54 properties – a record number for the organization – totaling nearly 4,100 acres. By the close of the 2016 fiscal year, the Land Conservancy had permanently preserved 622 properties totaling 46,726 acres.

Other fiscal year 2016 highlights:

- We have now protected land in 24 counties. The Land Conservancy preserved its first property in Carroll County in fiscal year 2016.

- Trumbull County (9,150 total acres) saw the largest increase in permanently preserved acreage this past fiscal year and continues to lead the region in acreage permanently preserved. Ashtabula County (7,172 total acres) also saw the second largest increase in acres preserved given a number of farmland and watershed projects. The Grand River Watershed saw the largest jump in protected land for the organization – totaling nearly 4,100 acres. By the close of the fiscal year, the Land Conservancy had planted 622 properties totaling 46,726 acres.

- Working with partners, we have now created more than 135 public parks and preserves across the region.

- Our land stewardship team visits each of our preserved properties at least once a year. That means our employees and trained volunteers make more than 620 visits per year to make sure protected land remains in its natural condition. Visits to a few of our larger protected tracts are done by aircraft.

- An astounding nine new county land banks were formed across Ohio during fiscal year 2016, and an additional seven were formed by the end of the 2016 calendar year, bringing Ohio’s total to 40. County land banks can safely hold vacant, abandoned and tax-foreclosed properties. The requirement by the U.S. Treasury that a county must have a land bank in order to access demolition dollars was the primary impetus for the increase in land bank interest.

- At the close of fiscal year 2016, the Land Conservancy had planted more than 2,100 robust trees with individual and corporate volunteers as part of the Reforest Our City community reforestation program. An additional 1,400 trees will have been planted by the end of the 2016 calendar year.

*July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016
Inga Schmidt picked up a pair of binoculars and went birdwatching for the first time in 1976.

“There was something about using those binoculars,” she described, “something about being able to see the details of birds up close that was a completely new experience. It provided immense aesthetic pleasure. Since that first little outing, birds have filled my life with activity.”

While many avid birders travel the world to see unique species, Schmidt is pleased to document species and manage ideal bird habitat on her property in Geauga County.

Twenty years ago, Schmidt and her husband, Bruce Lindsay, purchased their home tucked into a small clearing on 30 acres of forested land in Bainbridge Township. When opportunities arose to purchase neighboring properties, the couple acquired those parcels to protect them from development. Today, the property boasts a rich diversity of habitats including 48 acres of field, grass meadow and emergent wetlands, as well as approximately 60 acres of mature hardwood forest that tower over two headwater streams flowing directly into the State Scenic Chagrin River. The property provides shelter, food and nesting areas for wildlife including foxes, coyotes, squirrels, skunks, groundhogs, turtles and the nearly 180 bird species documented by Schmidt.

With a desire to permanently conserve this place for the birds, the couple donated a conservation easement on their 110-acre property to Western Reserve Land Conservancy in 2015.

“This property is meticulously managed for wildlife, making it an oasis of flora and fauna in a highly developable part of Bainbridge, Chagrin Falls and Bentleyville,” emphasized Brett Rodstrom, vice president of eastern operations for the Land Conservancy. “We worked with Inga and Bruce to incorporate their specific management guidelines for the property in the easement to ensure it remains an oasis. This is a great example of how the Land Conservancy works with landowners to tailor easements in order to realize their conservation vision.”

Schmidt thanked the Land Conservancy for guiding her through the ‘labyrinth of ways’ one can permanently conserve land. She added, “You can spend a lifetime lobbying for causes, sending money to organizations, signing petitions, but you never really see the results. Working with the Land Conservancy, you see the impact instantly and permanently.”
Urban Planning Capacity Grows with Impactful Internship Experiences

In the ever-advancing electronics industry, former Keithley Instruments CEO and President Joseph Keithley understood that the company needed to develop new ways to meet the emerging and specialized measurement needs of their customers.

“This demand required an inflow of smart, creative, young people – interns, co-op students and new hires,” Keithley explained. “Each year, 15 to 20 students would join our team in these roles and absolutely energize our team. Our supervisors worked to create meaningful, useful work experiences and the students learned within their peer group.”

Upon retiring, Keithley sought opportunities to employ the successful internship model he had created at Keithley Instruments to a strong interest of his: improving the livability of Cleveland and its inner-ring suburbs.

He began identifying impactful community planning organizations with the help of Cleveland Foundation staff. Keithley traveled to his alma matters, University of Michigan and Cornell University, to pitch the internship opportunities to faculty and staff. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

Keithley has generously sponsored interns from both universities, these students have worked with Western Reserve Land Conservancy’s Thriving Communities program, as well as with the Cleveland Restoration Society, Holden Forests & Gardens, LAND Studio and University Circle Incorporated.

“These internships are a win-win-win,” explained Keithley. “The experiential learning opportunities strengthen students’ academic studies and career development. They attract and introduce the best and brightest talent to our city. And, in many cases, this talent is staying here in Cleveland to improve our communities and make our public spaces more vibrant.”

Jessie Masters and Isaac Robb, both graduates of Cornell University’s City and Regional Planning Master’s program, wholeheartedly agree.

Masters interned for University Circle Incorporated during the summer of 2015 before interning with the Land Conservancy in 2016. After working on a variety of planning and greening projects for the organizations, she landed a full-time job with the Cuyahoga Land Bank. Though Masters, a Columbus native, never considered living or working in Cleveland, she said, “My internships were both incredibly positive experiences. I plan to stay here permanently.”

Robb concurred. After interning with the Land Conservancy during the summer of 2015, he was hired as the Land Conservancy’s new manager of urban projects. In this role he is responsible for redevelopment scenario planning, supporting urban open space projects, as well as assisting with the Land Conservancy’s property inventory program. Robb explained, “If it were not for my internship sponsored by Mr. Keithley, Cleveland would never have been on my radar. The positive momentum here is palpable and I’m proud to be a part of it.”
Ohio’s Second Oldest Park District Strikes Balance Between Conservation and Connection

For the better part of Summit Metro Parks’ 95-year history, attention was focused on building and programming the Summit County park district.

Since accepting its first gift of land – a small, triangular plot near today’s Sand Run Metro Park – Summit Metro Parks has grown to manage 14,300 acres, including 16 developed parks, several conservation areas and more than 125 miles of trails. Expanded outdoor recreational and educational opportunities attract an average five million visits each year to the natural areas across Summit County.

Within the past 15 years the park district has focused on finding a strategic balance between conserving and managing its high quality natural resources and also inspiring its visitors to connect with these special places.

“It is essential to engage the community in our parks, but it’s also important to protect the natural features that make Summit Metro Parks unique,” explained Nathan Eppink, director of community engagement for Summit Metro Parks. “For the first 80 or so years of our history, we built trails to take people to places worth highlighting in our parks. In these early days, there was no inventory of the types of habitat or sensitive species in the areas which we forged trails. That philosophy has changed quite a bit.”

The thinking changed with the establishment of the park district’s natural resource management department and appointment of their new chief of natural resources management, Michael Johnson, in the early 2000s. Johnson and his team began conducting natural resource inventories of park parcels and evaluating land for active recreation opportunities (like biking) and passive recreation opportunities (like hiking and bird watching), as well as conservation areas with high quality natural resources not suitable for human recreation. The inventories inform park plans and ensure essential natural assets will be protected.

“Visitors may get a glimpse of unique areas, like the ferns, mosses and lichens growing on sandstone ledges at Liberty Park, but do not hike through and harm this fragile ecosystem,” explained Johnson.

Over the past two years, Western Reserve Land Conservancy has partnered with Summit Metro Parks to permanently preserve nearly 100 contiguous acres of forested land and high-quality wetlands in Twinsburg and Twinsburg Township as well as a 36-acre parcel adjacent to Summit’s Bike & Hike Trail in Stow. The Stow property is noted to have one of the last vestiges of high quality beech-maple forest remaining in the city. It may be years before Summit Metro Parks opens this land to the public, as the deliberate natural resource inventory and planning process takes time.

As Ohio’s second oldest park district looks towards its second century of operation, the results are clearly worth the wait. Projects planned to come online within the next few years include the opening of Confluence Metro Park in the Portage Lakes Area and Maple Grove Metro Park in Hudson, the expansion of the multipurpose Freedom Trail to the University of Akron campus and the restoration of the Cuyahoga River in the Cascade Valley Metro Park.

“Summit Metro Parks’ strategic conservation efforts and unique community engagement efforts are to be commended,” noted Keith McClintock, vice president of conservation for the Land Conservancy. “We are thankful to work with such an outstanding partner.”
Established by Hiram College in 1967, the James H. Barrow Field Station is known today as one of Ohio’s most spectacular outdoor classrooms. Located just three miles from campus in Portage County, the 545-acre facility fuels hands-on research experience for students. It is an active research and educational facility that enhances not just the sciences and environmental studies programs, but provides enrichment and inspiration for students in all majors.

With the help of Western Reserve Land Conservancy and funding from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance, nearly half of the field station property has been permanently preserved with a conservation easement.

The protected property includes unique habitats including superior-quality wetlands, the second largest uncut maple-beech forest in Ohio, over 4,600 linear feet of high-quality primary headwater streams and nearly 2,000 linear feet of Silver Creek, a designated State Resource Water and one of only four cold water streams within the Mahoning River watershed.

“As we discover more about plant and animal diversity on field station property, the importance of conservation efforts becomes even more apparent,” explained Jane O’Brien, Butterfly Hill Garden manager and sustainability coordinator for the James H. Barrow Field Station.

The station’s diverse and healthy forest that provides habitat for at least 30 long-distance migrant species including the Cerulean Warbler (federal and Ohio Species of Concern status), the Brown Creeper and Magnolia Warbler (Ohio Species of Special Interest status) and the locally rare American Woodcock. Additionally, North American river otters frequent Eagle Creek on the property.

“By working together with our conservation partners, we have preserved a gem in the Hiram community for future generations of college students and local residents.” emphasized Chris Szell, director of conservation project management for the Land Conservancy and Hiram College graduate.

Szell explained that funding for the project was generously provided by the Ohio EPA through the Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program (WRRSP), a program designed to counter projects that may jeopardize the health of Ohio’s water resources. Communities receiving Water Pollution Control Loan Funds can reduce the total amount of money that is required to be paid back to the Ohio EPA if they sponsor a qualified WRRSP project that protects water resources. The City of Akron sponsored the James H. Barrow Field Station project and was critical to the completion of the project.

“Students years from now may not know exactly the significance of this project,” concluded Szell, “but we can be assured that many will be exposed to this beautiful resource.”
Ray Dellefield knew every nook and cranny of his 42-acre property in Lorain County before he purchased and preserved it years later.

The 94 year old recounts, "We moved into this neighborhood when I was seven years old. This was the place my older sister would visit in the spring when all sorts of wildflowers would grow. Really, it was the place where all the neighborhood kids would come and play. I grew up here playing in the ravine."

One of the most beloved features of the Dellefield property is the steep hemlock ravine in which waterfalls cascade their way to the river through a towering shale box canyon. Years after he played in the beautiful ravine, it seemed fate brought Dellefield back to it.

Dellefield raised his family in nearby Wakeman Township, where he also ran a successful auto body repair shop. He explained that "we often dropped repaired cars in Vermilion. I was dropping off a car on Darrow Road and came down here on River Road, when I saw the for sale sign in the front yard of the property and thought, 'oh boy!' Just a few weeks prior to this, Dellefield met an old friend of his sister's that was selling real estate and "low and behold, the property was being sold by the agency he was with. It just seemed we were meant to have this special place."

Today, the property includes about 22 acres of forested land which contains roughly 3,200 linear feet of high quality tributaries to the Vermilion River and approximately 20 acres of active agricultural land, currently used for row crops. The property adjoins Lorain County Metro Parks' 1,300-acre Vermilion River Reservation, one of the premier parks in the district. Dellefield's property also provides habitat for a rich diversity of plant and tree species, some of which are rare or threatened in Ohio. An active bald eagle nest is also located in the Vermilion River Reservation near the property.

Additionally, an extensive collection of Native American artifacts has been found on the property. Some of these artifacts date back to 12,000 B.C., representing Paleo, Archaic and Woodland Indian time periods. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History conducted archeological research on the property in 1974.

After seeing "so much property just being sold off and houses being built," explained Dellefield, "I just couldn't see this place being developed." He donated a conservation easement on his property to permanently preserve the ecological, agricultural and historical significance of this special place.

Ray Dellefield, was the 2016 recipient of the Grimm Family Conservation Medal, one of the Land Conservancy's highest honors. The medal recognizes a conservation-minded landowner with "a deep and abiding passion for our mission, who has preserved land in a charitable manner, who views land as a precious resource and not as a commodity, and who has forgone significant financial value to preserve land."
20 Acres of “a special place” Permanently Preserved in Medina County
Mary and Claude Cuchna granted a conservation easement on their 20-acre property in southwest Medina County. Prime agricultural land makes up approximately 11 acres of the property where hay has been actively produced for the past several years. The property also contains approximately seven acres of a former orchard that is managed by the landowners for wildlife habitat. A small wet meadow is also located on the property; the wetland helps feed the headwater streams of the Black River’s East Branch. When asked why they preserved this land, Mary Cuchna responded, “It’s important to preserve special places like this on our earth before they’re gone.”

Coastal Parkland to Open in Marblehead
Land platted for a residential subdivision on the shores of Lake Erie was acquired by the Land Conservancy and transferred to the Village of Marblehead. The village will soon open the 5-acre parcel as a coastal park, named after prominent local Coastguardsman Lucien M. Clemens. The public park will provide Marblehead residents, vacationers and tourists with non-motorized boat access to Lake Erie, ideal fishing and birding opportunities, as well as a place to relax and enjoy the Lake Erie scenery.

Hoffman Forest Permanently Conserved in Erie County
The 40-acre Hoffman Forest MetroPark, leased for the past 20 years, was acquired and permanently conserved by Erie MetroParks with the help of the Land Conservancy. Hoffman Forest MetroPark features three distinct ecological communities: mature maple-hickory-oak forest, meadow that has been recently reforested, and creek valleys formed by two small, intermittent branches of Old Woman Creek. The park is an important piece of the Old Woman Creek watershed, supporting the conservation of one of Ohio’s last remaining natural estuaries.

Reforest Our City Efforts Grow
On Arbor Day 2016, Western Reserve Land Conservancy partnered with Cleveland Metropolitan School District’s East Tech and Collinwood high schools to plant 200 trees with the help of local government officials, school staff and corporate volunteers. Plantings like this throughout the year have resulted in thousands of new trees helping reforest the City of Cleveland. Western Reserve Land Conservancy looks to expand the Reforest Our City community forestry program to other communities across the region during the upcoming year.
Cleveland Property Inventory Shows Progress
Western Reserve Land Conservancy, in collaboration with the City of Cleveland, surveyed all of the more than 158,000 residential, commercial and industrial parcels in Cleveland – and the buildings associated with them – to provide an updated snapshot of the condition of those properties. The survey results indicate that without the aggressive effort of the city and its partners to reduce blight in Cleveland neighborhoods, the number of vacant and distressed properties would be much higher. Cleveland Neighborhoods by the Numbers, a comprehensive report on the inventory, can be found on the Land Conservancy’s website.

First Property Preserved in Carroll County
Jerry and Barb Graham, who own a 375-acre farm in Carroll County, granted Western Reserve Land Conservancy five contiguous conservation easements permanently preserving the property. The Graham’s picturesque small cattle operation is indicative of most Carroll County farms, whose rolling hills and knobs provide lush pastures and hay fields while the lowland areas remain largely natural providing ample wetland and stream habitat corridors.

Key connectors in the Grand River Gorge Protected
The Land Conservancy assisted Lake Metroparks in the permanent preservation of two properties, a 15-acre parcel in Madison Township and a 72-acre parcel of the former Camp LeJnar Girl Scout Camp, which expand on conservation corridors along the Grand River and Paine Creek in Lake County. Lake Metroparks was awarded funding to acquire and permanently preserve both properties; the Land Conservancy holds a conservation easement on the properties which will be used as passive parkland.

Fifth-Generation Farmer Preserves 52 acres in Portage County
Donald Sampson III, and his wife, Adrian, permanently preserved 52 acres of family farmland with a purchased conservation easement funded through the Clean Ohio Conservation fund, Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program, administered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The farm, located in Deerfield Township, produces hay, corn, soybeans, wheat and other foods for the Sampson’s dairy operation.

1,500 Continuous Acres Preserved in Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties
After more than 10 years of concerted efforts involving numerous conservation partners, the Land Conservancy permanently preserved 1,477 contiguous acres in Orwell Township in Ashtabula County and Bloomfield Township in Trumbull County. Referred to collectively as Sugar Island Preserve, the conservation complex includes the historic Grand Valley Ranch and Greg Cahlik Preserve. The property is located in a key wetland conservation corridor and boasts over 1,100 acres of diverse habitat for fish and wildlife including hardwood forest, wetlands, vernal pools and old field habitat. Additionally, W.I. Miller and Sons permanently preserved 300 acres of farmland adjacent to the Sugar Island Preserve with a donated agricultural easement held by the Land Conservancy.
We live in different places across the region. Some live in farmhouses surrounded by acres of crops, others next to neighbors in suburban subdivisions. Some live adjacent to parkland with mature forests, and others on bustling blocks in the heart of a city. No matter where one resides, everyone lives in a watershed.

We depend on our lakes, rivers and streams – and the land around them – to provide clean water for drinking, irrigation and industry as well as habitat for wildlife.

Through the support of Dominion, Western Reserve Land Conservancy launched a Watershed Mini Grant Program in 2015 to serve organizations working to protect and improve watersheds throughout Ohio. The program is patterned after a similar Dominion-backed grant initiative in Pennsylvania. Dominion partners with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy on that program to help watersheds in that state.

To date, Dominion and the Land Conservancy have awarded a total of $70,025 to 23 different watershed groups statewide for marketing, promotions and outreach efforts as well as project-specific costs.

‘From more traditional planting projects along streambanks to unique education programs in schools and communities,’ explained Jon Logue, director of corporate and foundation relations for the Land Conservancy, ‘I’m impressed by the diversity of the projects funded.’

Four organizations have been recognized with Spotlight Awards and grants of $5,000 each in support of larger water quality or restoration projects. This year’s spotlight award winners included the Captina Conservancy for their Repair-A-Riparian Project in Belmont County and the Little Beaver Creek Wild and Scenic River Advisory Council for their Greenway Trail Culvert Replacement project in Columbiana County. Last year’s spotlight winners included Chagrin River Watershed Partners and Cuyahoga River Restoration. Pictured here is grant recipient Merv Bartholow of Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow (center) with Mike Reed, general manager of pipeline operations for Dominion (left), and Betsy Juliano, board chair of the Land Conservancy (right).

“Ohio’s watershed groups provide an important service to the larger community by recognizing potential threats, devising plans, taking corrective actions and educating the public,” said Rich Cochran, president and CEO of the Land Conservancy. “Many of these groups work with a skeleton staff on very limited budgets. We hope we can fill some of this void. We are extremely grateful to Dominion for partnering with us on this project.”

“Dominion is proud to partner with Western Reserve Land Conservancy on the Watershed Mini Grants Program. Funding meaningful projects that encourage the understanding, appreciation and preservation of our environment is a key focus for us. Congratulations to all of the award winning watershed organizations across Ohio.”

- Tracy Oliver, director of media & local affairs for Dominion
A Passionate Partnership

William G. Abell, Jr.’s family has owned a 221-acre farm near Rock Creek in Ashtabula County since 1865.

Though Abell vividly remembers making weekend trips to the farm with his parents and paternal grandmother throughout his childhood, it wasn’t until he returned to the property after teaching and traveling abroad that he began to truly appreciate the land. He added, “That appreciation has grown ever since. This property is my passion, a source of great enjoyment as I maintain and improve it through the seasons.”

With no heirs to pass the land onto and a desire to maintain the farm forever, Abell donated a conservation easement to permanently preserve the property in 2007.

“It was a pleasure to work with Bill to preserve his family’s land almost a decade ago and a pleasure to work with him today,” shared Brett Rodstrom, vice president for eastern field operations for the Land Conservancy. This past year, Abell eagerly partnered with the Land Conservancy to acquire and permanently preserve an additional 60-acre parcel adjacent to the farm. Rodstrom added, “We thank Bill for sharing his passion and partnering to advance our collective mission.”

Abell is also a member of the Land Conservancy’s White Oak Legacy society, a special group of supporters who have made a lasting commitment to land protection through a variety of estate-planning tools, including bequests in a will or trust, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, IRA designations or gifts of life insurance.

Members include:
Anonymous (6)
Mr. William Abell
Stanley & and Hope Adelstein
Dr. Jay Ankeney & and Dr. Julie Clayman
Edward Baker and Anna van Heeckeren
Thomas E. Baker &
Peter and Molly Balunek
Mr. and Mrs. Peter O. Benson
Mr. Richard C. Berg
Susie Brown
Ms. Jane C. Busch
Mr. Richard and Dr. Jennifer Cochran
Margaret E. Cummins
Beau Daane
Charlotte Karson Daiber
Ted and Anne deConingh
Mr. Othmar Elber &
Louise M. Foster
Mark Frank
Roger Fuhrmeyer
Laurel Gress
Dick & and Sue Grimm
Corinne P. Hadley
Mary Jane Hartwell
Jeff Holland and Marjorie Muirden
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Hyde
Ferdinand & and Marguerite Jereb
Jereb
Kathy K. Leavenworth
Elsie Lutman
John and Kathryn Makley
Claire and Sandy McMillan
Bruce Merchant and Sandra Reel
Nora Lynn Nemec
Hugh & and Greta Pallister

Faith E. Pescatore
Dr. George Peterson &
Dr. John B. Peterson &
Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Rainger
Marc and Nancy Rubin
Mrs. Arlene J. Sahr
Franz and Beth Sauerland
Rose Scheff &
Inga Schmidt and Bruce Lindsay
Virginia Shaw
Charlotte Stafford &
Herbert J., and Faith Swanson
Karin Tanquist and Patrick Coy
Jean P. Thompson &
Judith Ann and William Tucholsky
Bill and Cynthia VerDuin
Dr. Barry Walker &
Mary & and Bill Weber
Helen Wheeler
Dick and Jane Whitehead
Carter and Genevieve, Wilmot
Mr. Arthur P. Ziegler Jr.

If interested in joining our White Oak Legacy Society, please contact Land Conservancy staff at (440) 528-4150
Thank you

Creating thriving, prosperous communities for future generations is perhaps the most important thing we can do today. Your support helps us do just that.

At the end of the 2016 fiscal year, Western Reserve Land Conservancy had permanently preserved more than 46,700 acres; preserved nearly 200 farms; created more than 135 public parks and preserves; and planted more than 2,100 robust trees through our Reforest Our City Program. We could not do this work without your remarkable support.

Thank you!

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### Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2016 and 2015

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### Statement of Revenue and Expenses
July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

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<tr>
<td>LP Program Revenue</td>
<td>$2,200,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer of Conservation Lands</td>
<td>10,803,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Program Revenue</td>
<td><strong>13,003,923</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Philanthropic Revenue</td>
<td>1,751,648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>1,452,793</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>300,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Donations</td>
<td>171,276</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events Net Revenue</td>
<td><strong>3,676,217</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>18,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Investment Revenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,699,097</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Expense</td>
<td>14,988,993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>719,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>745,236</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,453,660</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>210,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES        | $34,737   |
Western Reserve Land Conservancy Donors

Visionary
$25,000+
Anonymous (2)
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Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Inc.
Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation
Dorrinson Foundation
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Warren & Zaonn Little Dusenbury Charitable Trust (IMA)
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The Betcher Foundation
Ann. C. Brieche
Charles M. and Helen Brown Memorial Foundation
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United Way of Greater Lorain County
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Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hodgdon
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Baker
Robert and Ingrid Bahler
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bacha
Robert and Ingrid Bahler
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Baker
Our gratitude to the following individuals whose vision in 2006 was to merge into one organization, and become members of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy Founders Society.

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Ames Family Foundation (The)
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Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Golub
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Mr. David B. Moore

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Dee Konick
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Carol and Daniel Fishwick
William Prior
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Amy Chaloupka
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Estate of John W. Mitchell

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Rita St. Swick
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Valley Art Center, Inc.
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Estate of John W. Mitchell

We apologize for any omissions. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please contact Gina Pausch at 440-528-4150 or gpausch@wrlandconservancy.org
We are grateful to those who have volunteered their time and energy in support of our mission. Thank you!

Angela Adkins - Ohio EPA
Cody Adkins - Ashland County Commissioners
Ronnie Bailey
Ty Bailey
Linda Bailiff - Ohio Public Works Commission
Ned Baker
Jake Balsiger
Judy Balsom - Marblehead Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
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A special thank you goes out to all the federal, state and local elected officials who have supported our land conservation and urban revitalization work.