



EAU CLAIRE COUNTY

LAND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

“ Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land. ”

Aldo Leopold

American author, scientist, ecologist, forester, and environmentalist, 1887-1948



Eau Claire County

DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
LAND CONSERVATION DIVISION



The Eau Claire County Land Stewardship Program, created by the County Board in 2010, was formed to protect and preserve key lands that offer recreational opportunities for the public and have significant ecological value for future preservation. Support from the public is crucial to the success of the Land Stewardship Program as there is increasing pressure to develop and fragment lands which threaten our natural resources.

What is the Land Stewardship Program?

The Eau Claire County Land Stewardship Program is a framework to facilitate the protection and preservation of land tracts within Eau Claire County that meet the following priorities established by the Land Conservation Commission:

- Significant Ecological Value
- Recreational and Public Access
- Strong Community Support
- Good Value for County Residents
- Sustains Resource Base and Quality of Life
- Proximity to Water
- Wildlife Habitat
- Ability to Leverage Funding
- Development Threat
- Full Acquisitions



“ A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.”

John James Audubon
French-American ornithologist, naturalist, and painter, (1785 - 1851)

Program Facts

- Program provides an opportunity for Eau Claire County landowners to protect and preserve the natural beauty of their land for future generations
- Managed by the Eau Claire County Land Conservation Division with oversight and direction provided by the Stewardship Subcommittee of the Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission
- Provides fair and equitable assessment and processing for all potential properties of interest through the *Policy and Procedures for Program Administration*
- Self-funded program through community donations and grants
- Separate financial account, as directed by County Code, ensures restricted funds for the Eau Claire County Land Stewardship Program use only



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can you accept easements as well as complete land purchases?

A: Yes and yes! In acquiring land, we do prefer to hold the full title to the property; however, if there is something a land donor or financial donor has in mind, the Stewardship Subcommittee would be happy to take it under consideration.

Q: What does a typical project look like?

A: There is no set model for what an Eau Claire County Stewardship Program project looks like. All acquisitions do need to be recommended by the Stewardship Subcommittee, which are forwarded on to the Land Conservation Commission for review before it goes to the full Eau Claire County Board for approval. Projects are reviewed based on annual priorities set by the Subcommittee under parameters listed in the *Eau Claire County Stewardship Fund Policy and Procedures for Program Administration*.

Q: Who manages the property after a purchase?

A: Unless otherwise assigned, the property will be managed by the Eau Claire County Land Conservation Division to ensure public accessibility while also protecting the environmental resources at the site. If they chose to, the Land Stewardship Subcommittee can make a recommendation to Eau Claire County on how the property can best be managed and protected. Land donors also have the option of indicating how they would like their donated property managed.





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721 Oxford Ave | Suite 3344 | Eau Claire, WI 54703

POSTAGE

PROTECTING AND PRESERVING

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY LAND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Who do I contact for more information?

If you are interested in protecting and conserving your property, making a land donation, providing a public easement to your property, management ideas and options, donating to the on-going awareness and fundraising programs, please contact our office or any member of the Stewardship Subcommittee.

Eau Claire County – Land Conservation Division

Attn: Land Stewardship Program

721 Oxford Ave., Suite 3344

Eau Claire, WI 54703

TEL (715) 838-6226 | FAX (715) 839-6277

EML LCD@co.eau-claire.wi.us

WEB www.co.eau-claire.wi.us (search for Land Stewardship)

How do I make a financial donation to support on-going awareness and to put toward acquiring important habitats and critical ecosystems in Eau Claire County?

To make a donation, please send your tax-deductible donation to the Eau Claire County Stewardship Program. You will be recognized in the following Land Stewardship and Preservation Giving Levels:

\$20 - \$99	LEADER
\$100 - \$499	STEWARD
\$500 - \$999	PROTECTOR
\$1,000 - \$4,999	GUARDIAN
\$5,000 +	LEGACY

If you are interested in participating in the Land Stewardship Program please contact the Land Stewardship Office and we can discuss ideas that match your wishes.

Please talk to your tax advisor or call us on how your donation can become a substantial tax benefit to you and your family.

Thank you for your on-going financial support and your interest in land stewardship and preservation.

Donations to the Eau Claire County Stewardship Program, Department of Planning & Development – Land Conservation Division, are tax deductible.