



WILD
YOUR NEIGHBOURS,
OUR MORaine

YOUR OAK RIDGES MORaine LAND TRUST
GRATITUDE REPORT



WELCOME TO YOUR GRATITUDE REPORT! Here you'll meet your neighbours and fellow Land Trust donors who make our work possible. You'll read about an amazing new property that has been protected forever. And you'll meet your wild neighbours here on the Moraine—the species-at-risk that live here and need our help, now more than ever! Come on, let's meet your neighbours!

Together with you, we take action every single day to protect more land and precious habitat for all our neighbours on the Moraine. Your gifts help us work with engaged and passionate citizens to protect properties and inspire neighbours of all ages and abilities to connect with, and fall more in love with, our Moraine, every day.

Your gifts also protect your wild neighbours—the endangered, at-risk and wild species that live here on our Moraine, the surrounding Greenbelt and in Simcoe County.

Thank you for your crucial support of your Land Trust!

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan".

Susan Walmer,
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Norris".

Chris Norris,
Board Chair



A LEGACY OF HOPE— THANK YOU JAN AND ISOBEL!

“We have witnessed first-hand the devastating effects of climate change across many countries but especially here in Canada. Consequently, we are delighted that, through our donation to the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust to purchase this spectacular, ecologically-sensitive property, the Trust was able to leverage support from both the Government of Canada and York Region. Together, we are committed to preserving the integrity of our land for our community and Canadians.”

— Drs. Jan Oudenes and Isobel Ralston, MapleCross Fund

MAPLECROSS NATURE RESERVE—PROTECTED FOREVER!

The 80-acre MapleCross Nature Reserve has been lovingly restored by the previous owner, who has planted and cared for over 10,000 trees to help naturalize fields and clean our air, while also reestablishing a wetland to help clean and protect our local ground water.

The nature reserve is a key link between the Happy Valley Forest (the largest intact block of deciduous forest on the Oak Ridges Moraine), and the Pottageville Swamp complex, both significant environmental features for the community. Protecting this corridor—a mix of forests, wetlands, cold-water creeks, fields and meadows—is a vital step in combating the impacts of climate change.



Bobolink



MapleCross Nature Reserve

The protection of these lands were made possible by the generous support of the MapleCross Fund, the Government of Canada through the Natural Areas Conservation Program, Regional Municipality of York, ECHO Foundation, York Environmental Stewardship, and private donors.

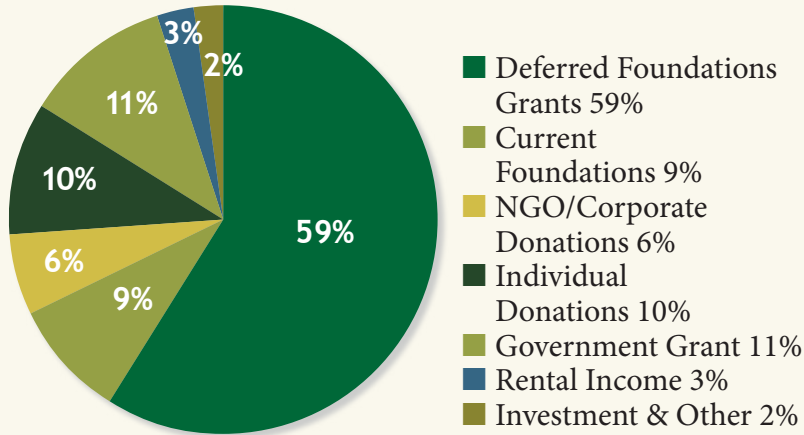


Monarch on Goldenrod

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK FOR NATURE!

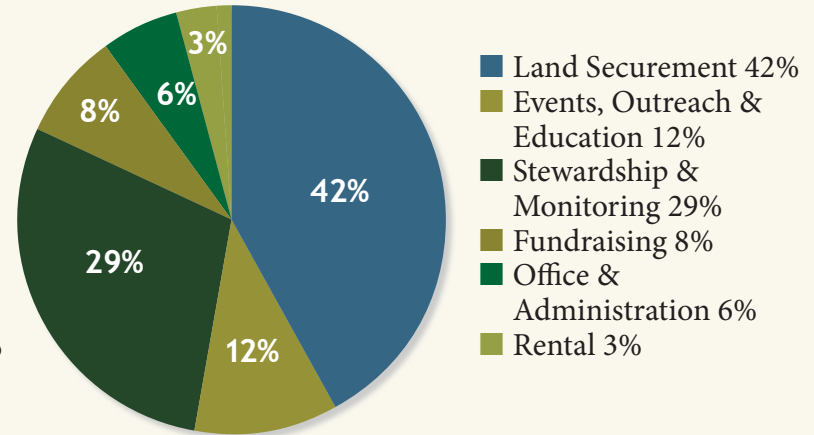
OUR REVENUE

Thank you! Donors like you combining forces with foundations, corporations and government have made a difference! Here is where our money comes from:



OUR EXPENSES

Every gift protects land, saves habitat for species, and engages citizens in learning about the Moraine and Greenbelt. Here is where your money goes:



*Year Ended December 31, 2018

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR NEIGHBOURS— OUR AMAZING DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

With your support we identified 907 species, including 450 different types of plants and over 100 species of birds! During one of the night surveys, we stood in awe as two different owls called into the night and several endangered bats darted around over our heads—a truly magical moment! Your support helped us host 4 BioBlitzes and 16 workshops, on 7 protected properties. Thanks to the efforts of 545 incredible BioBlitz volunteers!

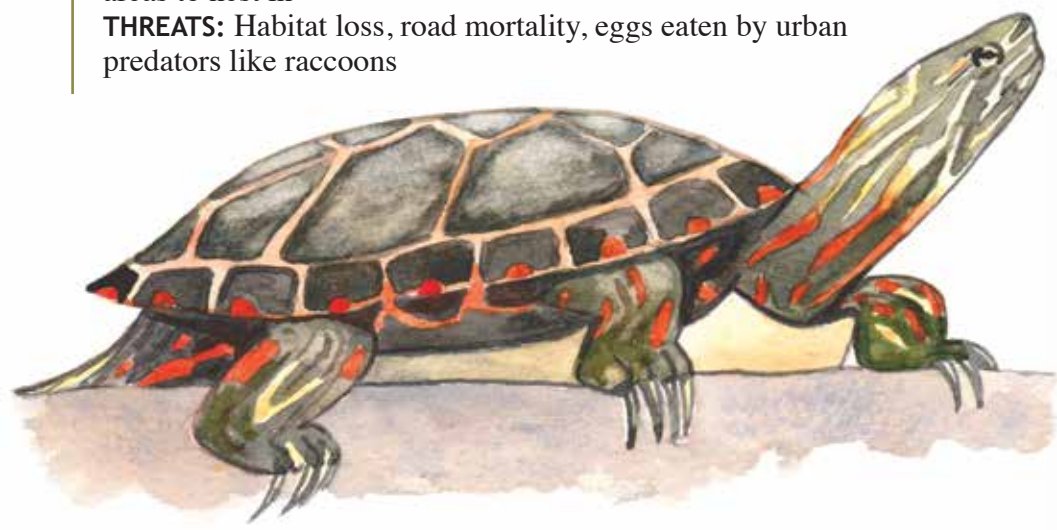


Your gifts also help connect our neighbours to the peace and serenity of nature. Our 2018 forest bathing sessions were so much more than just a walk in the woods; they were truly extraordinary experiences.

Your Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is deeply grateful to every single donor, volunteer and citizen who contributed. This is your Land Trust. **THANK YOU!**

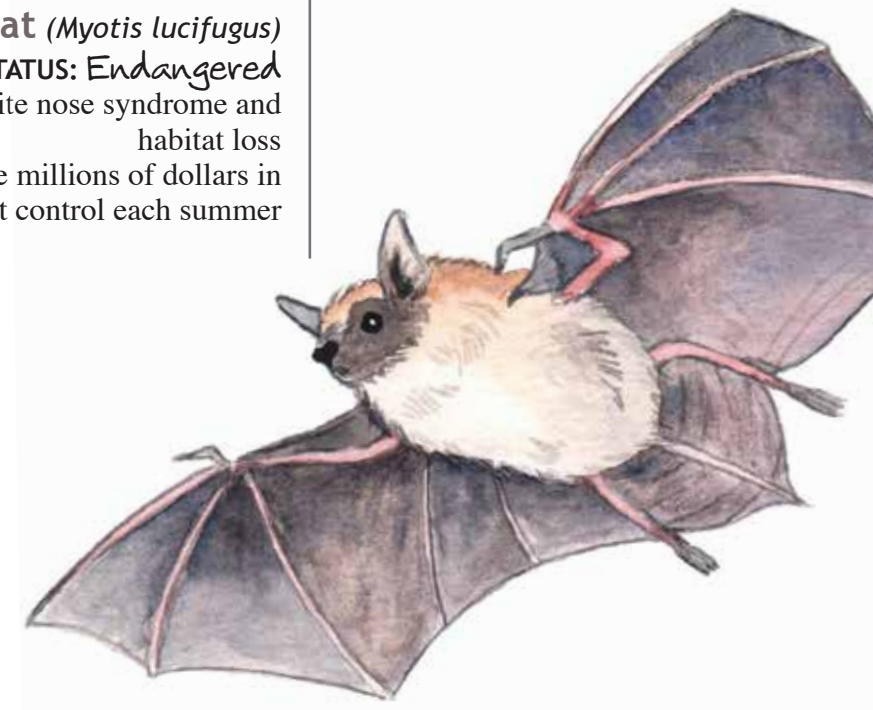


Eastern Wood-Pewee
(*Contopus virens*)
STATUS: *Special Concern*
HABITAT: Can be found in a variety of habitats
FUN FACT: More often heard than seen, loudly singing "PEE-ah-WEE" from the trees



Midland Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta marginata*)
STATUS: *Assessed as Special Concern*
HABITAT: Slow moving water with soft bottoms, lots of plants and logs to sunbathe or bask on, sandy and gravelly sunny areas to nest in
THREATS: Habitat loss, road mortality, eggs eaten by urban predators like raccoons

Little Brown Bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)
STATUS: *Endangered*
THREATS: White nose syndrome and habitat loss
FUN FACT: Bats provide millions of dollars in free insect control each summer



Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)
STATUS: *Threatened*
HABITAT: Tall-grass prairies, nests on the ground
THREATS: Loss of grasslands means they nest in hayfields and risk having nests and young killed when hay is cut
FUN FACT: Sounds like R2-D2



Purple Twayblade (*Liparis lilijfolia*)
STATUS: *Threatened*
HABITAT: Grows in colonies in a variety of habitat and soil types, but mostly in open and partially open areas, and a few deciduous forests
CHARACTERISTICS: Pretty little orchid with geometric purple-brown flowers



Butternut
(*Juglans cinerea*)
STATUS: *Endangered*
IMPORTANCE: A major source of food for many birds and mammals
THREAT: Butternut Canker, which is currently devastating populations



WILD YOUR NEIGHBOURS ON OUR MORAINE

Our Oak Ridges Moraine is home to many wild and at-risk species. Keep your eyes and ears open for these special species—and know that your support of the Land Trust helps protect them and their precious habitat!



Eastern Flowering Dogwood
(*Cornus florida*)
STATUS: *Endangered*
HABITAT: Grows on floodplains, slopes, bluffs and ravines and is best identified in spring when in bloom
FUN FACT: The parts that look like white flower petals are actually leaves

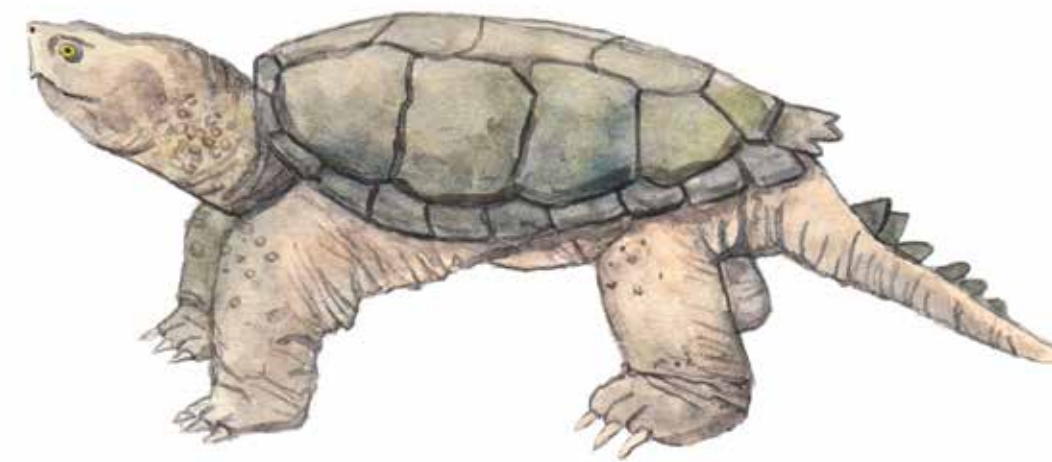


Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*)
STATUS: *Special Concern*
HABITAT: Dense shrubby undergrowth of wet, mixed forests and swamps
CHARACTERISTICS: Small black and yellow songbird, beautifully patterned with white spectacles and a fancy black necklace

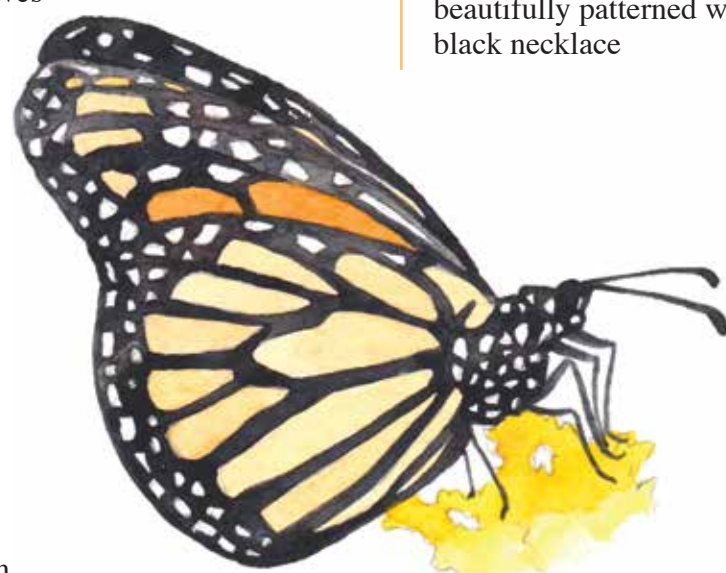


Western Chorus Frog
(*Pseudacris triseriata*)
STATUS: *Threatened*
CHARACTERISTICS: A tiny species! Only 2.5cm in length and weigh about 1 gram
THREAT: Habitat loss
FUN FACT: Spring call similar to a fingernail along a plastic comb, quiet and secretive for the rest of the year

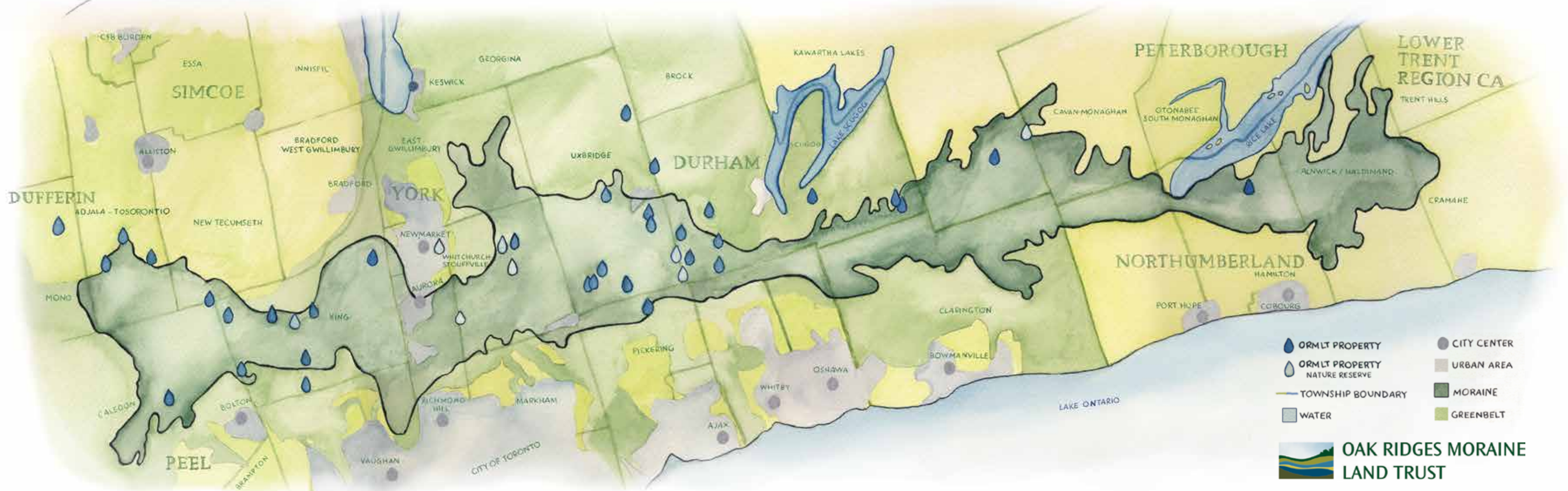
Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*)
STATUS: *Special Concern*
HABITAT: Shallow areas of slow moving water with soft bottoms to rest in while sticking pointy nose just above surface to breathe
FUN FACT: Called the King of Turtles, Canada's largest freshwater turtle looks like a modern-day dinosaur



Barn Swallows
(*Hirundo rustica*)
STATUS: *Threatened*
THREATS: Habitat destruction (they nest in old barns and other structures), drop in insect populations
FUN FACT: Beautiful jewel-coloured aerial acrobat



Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)
STATUS: *Assessed as Endangered*
HABITAT: Adult monarchs feed on a variety of plants for nectar, but their caterpillars only eat milkweed as they grow and prepare to transform into beautiful butterflies
FUN FACT: Every adult Monarch will only make a one-way migration





OAK RIDGES MORaine LAND TRUST

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Thank you to our partners for their support.



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