

# MAPLEHURST NATURAL AREA

June 2017



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### IS THE PROPERTY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

Until the property is protected forever and transferred to Milton Township, access is limited to attending hosted events. These events allow you to learn about the property and pertinent updates regarding its protection while also allowing us to meet as many people as possible and learn about the community's wishes for the property moving forward.

### WHEN WILL THE PROPERTY BE TRANSFERRED TO MILTON TOWNSHIP AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

We have until December 2018 to raise the funds needed to match the grant received from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Only when fundraising is complete can the property be transferred. The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy has taken out a loan to hold the property until December 2018.

### WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE BUILDINGS?

The buildings will be demolished or relocated this summer. We are in discussion with the Milton Township Fire Department about using some of the buildings for burning/training, which will benefit the Fire Department and reduce the cost of demolition. Updates, as they are available, will be shared at events and on our website: [www.gtrlc.org](http://www.gtrlc.org).

### WHAT WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY?

Once protected and open to the public, passive recreation such as hiking, cross-country skiing, hunting and fishing will be allowed. Milton Township intends to provide parking near the existing lodge and a trail to and around Lake Maplehurst. The Township will assess and use user feedback for consideration of additional amenities.

### ARE MOTORIZED VEHICLES OR BOATS ALLOWED?

No. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on the property. At this time, boating of any kind is also prohibited, although once the property is transferred to Milton Township, non-motorized boating will be allowed.

### HOW CAN I HELP?

We need your help to make the Maplehurst Natural Area a reality! There are volunteer needs on the ground and we must raise \$1.8 million by December 2018 to secure the local match required to protect Maplehurst and endow the long-term stewardship of this property.

Please donate to this effort or let us know about people you know who might be interested in supporting this project.

Also, help us spread the word by bringing friends to our guided events on the property.

To find an event or to make a gift to the Maplehurst Natural Area, visit our secure website at [www.gtrlc.org](http://www.gtrlc.org), or contact Kate Pearson, Senior Charitable Giving Specialist, at 231-929-7911 or [kpearson@gtrlc.org](mailto:kpearson@gtrlc.org)

To volunteer at the property, please contact David Foote, Director of Stewardship at 231-929-7911 or [dfoote@gtrlc.org](mailto:dfoote@gtrlc.org). Current volunteer opportunities include maintaining and marking trails that will be used for events and hikes arranged for potential donors; monitoring the property for signs of vandalism or trespass; assistance with hikes and other events; mowing parking and pathway areas; and assistance with conducting a flora/fauna inventory.