

# Your Support IN ACTION

Hey Neighbour! I'm Loraine from the Moraine and I'm here to share with you, my fellow Caretakers, how your support of our Land Trust made such a huge impact in 2017—and to share some ambitions and dreams for 2018!

## NEW PROPERTIES PROTECTED— AND MORE TO COME—WITH YOUR SUPPORT!

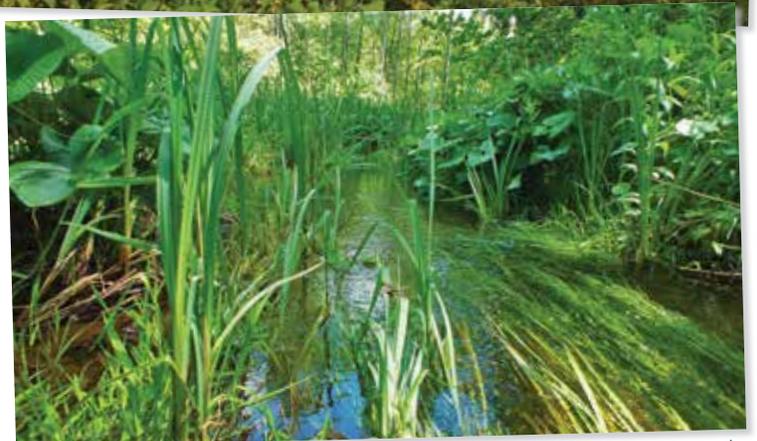
You helped us protect more precious properties—forever! One new 13 acre property is located at the headwaters of the Central Lake Ontario watershed. **Did you know that across the Moraine we protect the headwaters of 65 different streams?** This new property is a special 'water recharge zone', is almost entirely covered by forest and serves as a crucial wildlife corridor within a much larger forest mosaic. And another is 15 acres of swamp forest, part of a regional and provincial-wide significant wetland ecosystem. These properties provide habitat for a number of species at risk, including the nocturnal Eastern Whip-poor-will and the threatened Blanding's Turtle.

Right now, we are working on 4 new properties, covering 334 acres of wetlands, forests, meadows and agricultural fields. And we already know that several species at risk also reside on these properties, including the endangered Butternut tree, Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark. **We need your help right now to protect these properties forever!**



What's a water recharge zone? I'll tell you! The land where rain or snow seeps down into an aquifer is called a recharge zone. And it's vital for groundwater health! Your support today means we can protect more rivers, streams and forests!

2018 protected Moraine Vista



2018 property

## BLITZING THE MORAINE!

You helped us 'bioblitz' 3 properties this year, recording and tracking every single species we saw—birds, insects, amphibians, plants—oh my! **Together, we identified over 730 species—almost 400 of which were not yet known to us!** We found species at risk including Monarch, Bobolink, and even found the Eastern Wood-Pewee on all 3 properties! We also assess plant species along the edges of water bodies, as well as look for aquatic invertebrates like insects and worms. Our BioBlitzes are engaging and inspiring, and also allow us to collect valuable data to help us monitor and track species and ecosystem adaptations due to climate change.



Thanks to our intrepid volunteers who explored forests, meadows and wetlands! Will you help grow this amazing program in 2018?

**With your renewed support, we want to host 14 educational workshops and 4 BioBlitz events in 2018!**

Gray Treefrog hopping over to a BioBlitz



Hunting Dragonflies

*“Land trusts are a creative approach to conserving Ontario’s biodiversity, especially as our natural areas and species are further pressured by climate change. By acquiring natural heritage lands and by thoughtful stewardship, land trusts, like the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, can help Ontario both adapt to and mitigate climate change. Land trusts can be local solutions to the global problems of biodiversity loss and climate change.”*



– Dr. Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

In 2017, we hosted a series of events and engaged citizens like you in conversations about climate change. With your help, in 2018 we want to continue with critical climate change outreach, and our dream is to protect habitats and green corridors for the most threatened species that live in our region. Your contribution and support will save the rich biodiversity of the Earth.



Your gifts are a way for you to take local action on climate change by nurturing the resilience of this truly precious ecosystem.

**How about you?** What matters most to you about our Moraine? When you give today, share your wish or your promise for our Moraine in 2018 with us. I can't wait to hear your heartfelt messages! Thank you!