

Kansas Land Trust

Investing in Our Shared Conservation Legacy

You value land and our natural heritage. We guard those values. The Kansas Land Trust preserves special places in Kansas. We protect prairie, stream banks, woodlands, and habitats for wildlife and pollinators. Through guided walks, public trails, and outdoor education, we connect people with nature. Together with you, we preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

The Problem

- People change the Kansas landscape. In the early 1800s the Kansas horizon appeared endless - flourishing with grasses, wetlands, wildflowers, bison herds, and grassland birds. In 2021, of the original 240 million acres of prairie grassland in North America, only 4% remains. Our Flint Hills survive as the largest intact remnant of that tallgrass prairie.
- Today, city sprawl has paved over fertile farmland, uprooting farms, filling in wetlands, disrupting habitat, and crowding out green spaces. Runoff from cropland clogs reservoirs with silt, nutrients and herbicides, threatening our water supplies.
- Nationally Kansas ranks near the bottom with public access to land. While Kansans desire to be outdoors, they too often lack access to natural places.
- Global climate change alters temperatures, growing seasons, wildlife behaviors, and weather patterns. These changes jeopardize our food systems, biodiversity, and quality of life.

Elkin's Prairie, 1980's



Elkin's Prairie, 2019



Our Vision

Our quality of life, health, prosperity, and productivity arise from our connections to nature. They are rooted in access to healthy food, diverse habitats, healthy streams, clean air, and shared social relationships in nature. We envision a future in Kansas where people enjoy our natural lands, clean air and water, access to public spaces, and flourishing livelihoods provided by sustainable connections to the land. The Kansas Land Trust works with Kansas communities and individuals to:

Protect prairies and woodlands, preserving biodiversity, scenic landscapes, and wildlife habitat;

Preserve native stream banks, reducing flooding and protecting water downstream;

Expand public access to protected lands, enriching our connections to nature and each other;

Conserve agricultural lands generating livelihoods for farm families and resilient local food systems; and

Address climate change through habitat restoration and agricultural practices that sequester carbon in regenerative ecosystems.

Our Track Record

Since its founding in 1990, KLT has worked hard to earn and maintain your trust. KLT is a leader in conservation in Kansas. In 2013, KLT became the first land trust in Kansas to be nationally accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. We are proud to continue implementation of the Land Trust Alliance's standards and practices that ensure exemplary services to landowners, donors, and our partners.

KLT earned the Guide Star's Platinum Seal of Transparency and a clean audit from Cummins, Coffman & Schmidlein. We also are investing our stewardship funds to minimize their carbon footprint.



- ★ **We are adaptive and effective:** Working with other non-profits, we have developed educational tools for children and their caregivers to encourage safe and healthy interactions with the natural world.
- ★ **We generate a remarkable return on investment:** Averaged over the past 12 years, every donor dollar leverages another 18 dollars. Over the past 31 years, KLT conserved \$31,744,458 of farmland, wildlife habitat, riparian buffers, and public parks.
- ★ **We protect diverse lands:** KLT works with a diverse range of landowners conserving landscapes of all sizes, including prairies, prime farmland, heritage farms, riparian woodlands, rural and urban open spaces, and public parks.
- ★ **We focus on results:** KLT plans on completing 6 new conservation projects in the next two years. KLT annually monitors our all of our 77 protected lands ensuring conservation values are honored.



Your Support

With 31 years of conservation experience, the Kansas Land Trust strives towards protecting more special places. With your support, we pass on regenerative landscapes for the health and enjoyment of future generations.

We cherish your trust and generosity. Working with you, we engage others who share your love of natural places. Together we protect our iconic Kansas landscape for future generations.
Thank you for your continued support of the Kansas Land Trust!