

Kansas Land Trust Easement Monitoring Policy

In accepting a conservation easement, the Kansas Land Trust (KLT) makes a major commitment to assume the legal responsibility to uphold forever the restrictions contained in the easement. KLT recognizes that building good relationships while also promoting landowner education and good land stewardship are the best methods for guaranteeing that conservation easements are upheld. Although most grantors of easements honor the terms of those easements, the possibility of noncompliance increases as time passes and property ownership is transferred.

Conservation easement monitoring is an annual documented visual inspection of a protected property to ensure that the terms of the easement are being upheld. KLT intends to supplement on-the-ground monitoring with aerial monitoring as appropriate given the site, landowner permission, and available resources. In order to protect easements granted to us, we will follow the monitoring practices outlined below.

Every easement area will be inspected at least annually by KLT staff members or trained volunteers to ensure that the landowner is complying with easement restrictions. The landowner(s) of private properties will be notified in advance of an onsite visit.

KLT will maintain annual documentation of conservation easement monitoring. This documentation includes the following contents:

1. Identification of the easement being monitored.
2. The date of the monitoring visit.
3. The monitor's name.
4. An easement map depicting boundaries and relevant easement features and land uses.
5. A description of the area that was observed during the monitoring visit.
6. Recorded observations including information on method of the inspection, environmental conditions, current land uses, encroachments, and human alterations since the last monitoring visit.
7. As appropriate photographs of the protected property will document observations.
8. Identification of questionable practices and possible violations with the terms of the conservation easement.
9. Pursuant to KLT's Conservation Easement Enforcement Policy, a summary of actions taken or agreed upon to address a violation.

Whenever change in ownership of an easement property occurs, KLT will offer as appropriate a meeting with the new landowner(s) in order to review easement restrictions and KLT's monitoring procedures.

Annual monitoring summaries will be reported to the KLT Board.

Approved by the Kansas Land Trust Board of Directors, August 24, 2021.



Judy Burch, Secretary