

Annual Report



2017

COMMUNICATION HIGHLIGHTS

Fostering a caring community

Mission

- Torch Conservation Center, Inc. is a local nonprofit organization helping ensure a sustainable future for the Torch Lake Watershed by conserving land and promoting freshwater stewardship.

Vision

- We envision a well-informed community in the Torch Lake Watershed working together to ensure safe drinking water, safe local food and fish to eat, and clean water for swimming and boating on Torch Lake.

Milestones

- Engaged 80 volunteers and doubled our membership.
- Talked with more than 1,000 visitors at the Torch Lake Welcome Center and TRUE BLUE Gallery in Alden, Michigan
- Reached more than 3,500 people through our social media.

Acknowledgments

- Thanks to our Board of Directors for their leadership and commitment.

Peg Comfort, Chair
Trish Narwold, Vice Chair
Bonnie Drick, Secretary
Emilee Syrewicze, Treasurer
Barb Lockrey, Director
Dave Peterson, Director
Keith Ross, Director

PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

Partnering to maximize impact

By working collaboratively, we can increase the impact of our programs in this wonderful watershed.”

-Trish Narwold, Board Vice- Chair

FRESHWATER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- The Torch Conservation Center partnered with Three Lakes Association, Torch Lake Protection Alliance, Antrim Conservation District and The Watershed Center-Grand Traverse Bay on three projects funded by a \$15,000 grant awarded by the Dole Family Foundation.

The Great Lakes Environmental Center in Traverse City conducted a National Lake Assessment of Torch Lake to establish baseline data describing the current condition of the lake. The near-shore zone was identified as a source of nutrients and toxins. A joint committee is now developing a plan for long-term monitoring of the lake.

The Antrim Conservation District coordinated the creation of an online database consisting of all of the studies that have been conducted on Torch lake over the past 50 years. This database will be uploaded onto The Watershed Center’s website to ensure public access. ACD will also establish a work station in their office for future data entry.

The Torch Conservation Center will coordinate a public workshop on the database and the National Lake Assessment.

- The Torch Conservation Center participated in Plus Acumen’s Systems Practice course with Three Lakes Association and Torch Lake Protection Alliance. The purpose of the course was to better understand the Torch Lake Watershed as a system and to identify factors contributing to the decline of the natural shoreline around Torch Lake.

Because there is a direct correlation between the amount of natural shoreline around a lake and the water quality of the lake, we are working together to develop a program to protect the high water quality of Torch Lake.

- The Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed– Watershed Plan Implementation Team (WPPIT) meets monthly to update partners on their various projects. Our Board members participate in these meetings.

“Collaboration reduces overlaps and improves the efficiency of our services. It multiplies the positive effects of our actions.”

Peg Comfort, Board Chair

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

- More than 60 individuals donated their time and energy, ideas and skills, so we could open our doors as the Torch Lake Welcome Center in Alden.
- Twenty local artisans brought their artwork to the new TRUE BLUE Gallery and donated a portion of their sales to conservation. The artwork celebrated the natural and cultural heritage of our watershed.
- Over 1, 200 visitors came to the Center and learned about the importance of becoming active stewards of Torch Lake.
- We distributed hundreds of water-friendly tips for TRUE BLUE Gardening and TRUE BLUE Living.
- Our TRUE BLUE NEWS e-letter carried tips for water-friendly living to more than 200 households in 2017.
- Nearly 3,500 visitors have responded to our photos and posts on Facebook.
- More than 6,000 people have visited our website to learn more about caring for the Torch Lake Watershed.

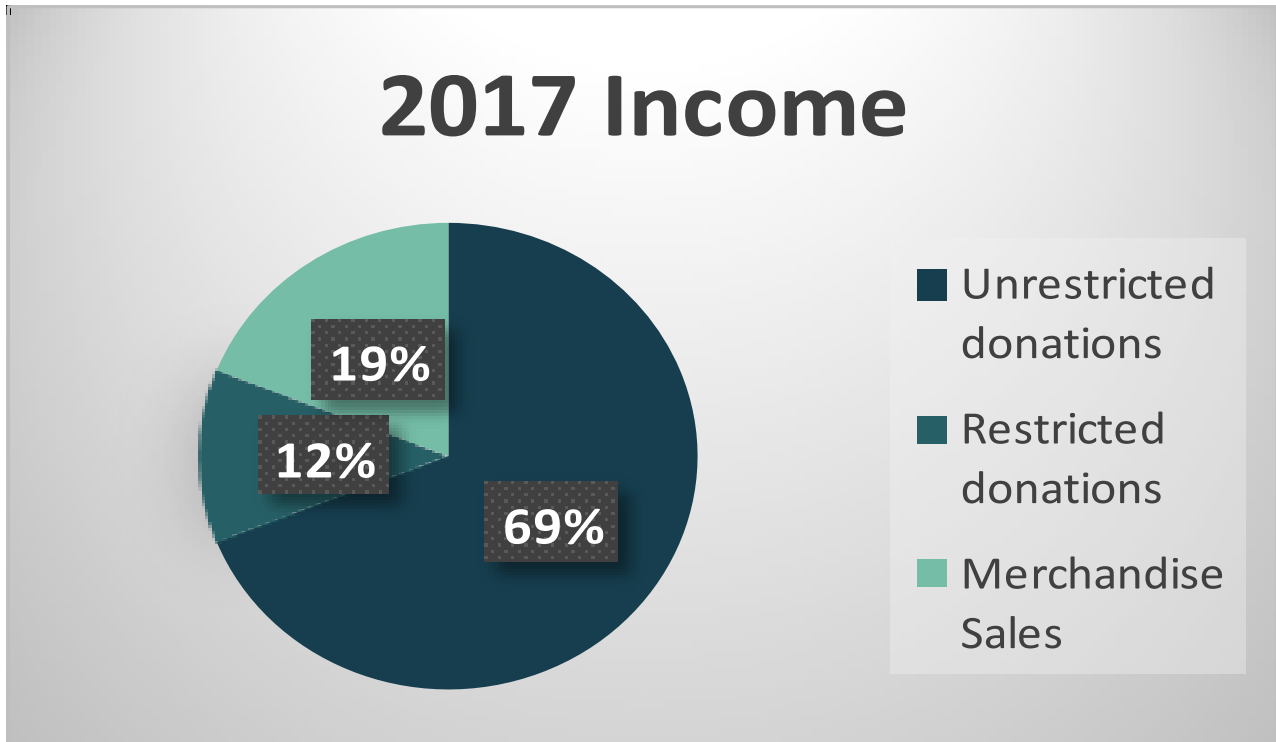
LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

- Several of our visionary donors established the Land Conservation Fund and the Board pledged to donate 10% of unrestricted donations to the fund annually.
- We donated to two major land conservation projects in the Torch Lake Watershed: Maplehurst Natural Area in Milton Township and Torch Ridge Farm Purchase of Development Rights Project- Forest Home Township. Led by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, these two projects will protect nearly 800 acres in our watershed.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

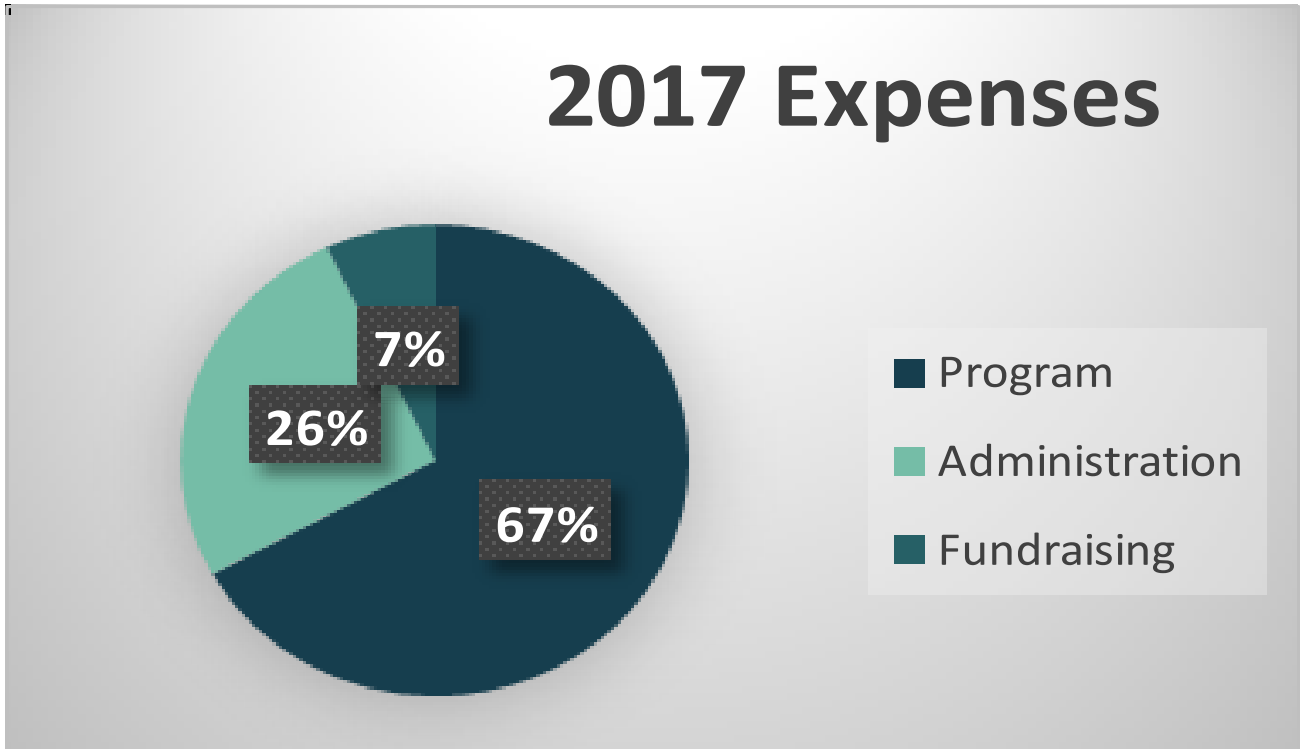
Building a sustainable future

2017 Income



Unrestricted Contributions	\$25,656
Restricted Contributions	\$4,546
Land Conservation Fund	0
Merchandise Sales	\$7,080
TOTAL Income	\$37,282

2017 Expenses



Program	\$22,698
Administration	\$8,922
Fundraising	\$2,294
TOTAL Expenses	\$33,914

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Torch Conservation Center, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
 As of December 31, 2017

	Dec 31, 17	Dec 31, 16	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
1000 · Cash				
1010 · Torch Conservation Center	23,307.98	20,959.70	2,348.28	11.2%
1040 · Petty Cash	625.00	0.00	625.00	100.0%
1000 · Cash - Other	-1,874.81	0.00	-1,874.81	-100.0%
Total 1000 · Cash	22,058.17	20,959.70	1,098.47	5.2%
Total Checking/Savings	22,058.17	20,959.70	1,098.47	5.2%
Other Current Assets				
1030 · Undeposited Funds	2,330.00	60.00	2,270.00	3,783.3%
Total Other Current Assets	2,330.00	60.00	2,270.00	3,783.3%
Total Current Assets	24,388.17	21,019.70	3,368.47	16.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	24,388.17	21,019.70	3,368.47	16.0%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
3010 · Unrestricted Net Assets	21,019.70	6,501.74	14,517.96	223.3%
Net Income	3,368.47	14,517.96	-11,149.49	-76.8%
Total Equity	24,388.17	21,019.70	3,368.47	16.0%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	24,388.17	21,019.70	3,368.47	16.0%

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Thanking our generous donors

Member — \$25+

Shawn Allen

Erika Anderson

Awakening Health Counseling

Jean Ashby and Kenneth Burger

Willis Ashby

Kathleen Babb

Stephen and Lisa Bain

Butch and Liz Bartz, Sr.

Marti Beals

Marie Beaupre

Paul and April Beaupre

Robert Beaupre

William Beaupre

Paul and Bonnie Bennett

Judith Blum

Gary and Linney Brunk

Peter Byron

Roger and Janice Byron

Virginia Cash

Dorothy Cole

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David and Diane Comfort

Kristofer Cooper

Mark and Maureen Cooper

James and Nancy Cox

Peter Daily

Robert and Jamie Davidson

Henry Drettmann

Ralph and Frances Dunlop Jr.

Lynn Fisher

Steve and Sallie Foley

Charles Forman Estate

Linda Fox

Joan Banis Gehlert

Thomas Gilbert and Marsha Smith

GT Regional Community Foundation

Meredith Grider

Mike and Mary Haley

Kristine Hallett

Herrington Fitch Family Foundation

Robert and Jeanna Honer

Richard Hoxie

Craig and Ginger Hupp

Ted and Caroline Jacob

Brad Jensen and Rebecca Benson

Patricia Heyl Jones

Kirby and Nancy Keller

Ron and Bonnie Kershner

Member — \$25+ (Continued)

Richard and Janet Knopf	Bruce and Susan Ross
Gerald and Patricia Kolb	Tom and Vickie Ross
Kathleen Lang	Debra Ross
Barbara Lockrey	Judith Ross
Robert Logee	William E. Ross
Kathleen Malone	Terry Rowe
Kevin and Sue Malone	Claire Scheibner
Terry Malone	Gary and Jill Scheitler
James Manning	Edwin and Dorothy Schoonmaker
Joe and Norma Mariage	Susan Schuler
Mike and Sandra Mathers	Max and Ann Schwandt
Lucy McArtor	Steve and Linda Shalit
Edward McDuffie	Rodman Smythe
Robert and Karen Medsger	Ray and Jennifer Spurlock
Ann Melfi	Sterling Police Association
Diane Mortenson	Christian Stoldt
Mark Nelson	Elizabeth Straebel
Robert Nissly	Suzanne Straebel
James and Rebecca Noffsinger	Judith Strickland
Tripp and Deedie O'Donnell	Karen Swanson
Allison Oliver	Emilee Syrewicze
Patricia Pellett	Scott Thompson
Carlene Peregrine	Robert and Anne Tucker, Jr.
Rodger's Grass-Fed Beef, LLC	Dave Varga and Barbara VanPelt
Doris Pierson	Diane Verploegh
Nancy Podurgiel	Steve and Gina Volle
George and Nancy Powell	Tom and Joan Volle, Jr.
Mary Richards	Kent and Suzanne Walker
Laurie Petrie Roche	William Weiss, Jr.
Daniel Roketenetz	

Member — \$25+ (Continued)

Dana VanNoy
Kent and Suzanne Walker
William Weiss, Jr.
Dave Wilson and Val Fimbers
William and Joan Wilson
John Zoller

Aqua \$250+

Don Alspaugh
John Buell, Jr.
Mary Cheney
Tom and Peg Comfort
Phil and Bonnie Drick
Annie Green
Holly Hatch
Pro Image Design, Inc.
Andrew and Trish Narwold
Dexter and Kathleen Ross

Turquoise \$500+

Ruth Bloomer
Albert Cash
Margery Geohegan
John P. Lambert
Keith Ross
John S. Ross, Jr.
David Sawin
Tom and Cottie Volle, Sr.

Indigo \$1000+

Jerry and Drieka Bloom
Wayne and Maryellen Breece
Bruce and Nancy Brown Charitable
Foundation
Hilby Family Foundation
Kevin and Deb Osterfeld
Lynn White

Memorials

Barbara Schuler Beaupre

Robert Beaupre

Jay and Lizzy Breece

Wayne and Maryellen Breece

Marjorie Cole

J.P. Lambert

Kenneth P. Geohegan, Jr.

Margery Geohegan

Patricia Heyl Jones

Barbara Lockrey

Mike and Sandra Mathers

Edwin and Dorothy Schoonmaker

Robert and Anne Tucker

Chester Leski

Nancy Podurgiel

Mary K. McDuffie

Edward McDuffie

Charles Melfi

Paul and Bonnie Bennett

John A. Buell, Jr.

Virginia Cash

John Melfi

Paul and Bonnie Bennett

Janet Narwold

Tom and Peg Comfort

Ann Melfi

Thomas and Kathleen Volle, Sr.

Bruce Petrie, Sr.

Tom and Peg Comfort

Laurie Petrie Roche

Sue Ross

Dave Wilson and Val Fimbers

Marion Simpler

Lynn White

Clifford F. Thompson

Scott Thompson

Honorariums

McArtor Family

Hilby Family Foundation

Steve and Nancy Riecker

Lynn White

Jinks and Barbara Ross

Dexter and Kathleen Ross

Keith Ross

Allison Oliver

In-Kind Donations

Shawn Allen
Don Alspaugh
Antrim Conservation District
Sue Archer
K.C. Babb
Marti Beals
Betty Beeby Estate
Ruth Bloomer
Haley Breniser
Connie Brigham
Haley Breniser
Brownwood Acres
Albert Cash
Peg Comfort
Tom Comfort
Mark Cooper
Maureen Cooper
Tom Cooper
Christine Crissman
Crosshatch
James Dake
Laura Dagwell
Steve DeTar
Rodger Dewey
Bonnie Drick
Josie Ellison
Roy Ellison
Lynn Fisher
Chuck Forman Estate
Linda Fox
Fruit Fast
Kearsten Frusti
Grass River Natural Area
Mary Guntzviller
Charles Hallett
Cathy Harden
Alan Hubbard
Tara Hubbard
Shelly Johnstone
Trish Jones
Kay Lang
Chantal LeFebvre
Lisa Lirones

Barb Lockrey
Bob Logee
James Manning
Laura McArtor
Ed McDuffie
Julie Moran
Diane Mortensen
Janet Mortensen
Andrew Narwold
Drew Narwold
Meg Narwold
Trish Narwold
Naturescape Nursery
Caroline Paul
David Peterson
Lisa Powell
Leslee Preece
Pro Image Designs
Dan Reszka
Jim Rickfelder
Nancy Riecker
Steve Riecker
Diane Roketenetz
Rocky Top Farms
Keith Ross
Lana Rowe
Claire Scheibner
Lou Slyker
Emilee Syrewicze
The Watershed Center-Grand Traverse Bay
Sarah U'Ren
Barb VanPelt
Dana Van Noy
Diane Verploegh
Suzanne Walker
The Warm Fuzzy
Water Fire Vineyards