Our Mission
Support and strengthen the land trust community to serve as a powerful voice for land and water conservation in Texas.

Our Vision
A strong land trust community conserving essential land and water across Texas.

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Program Overview

Introduction
The Texas Land Trust Council (TLTC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that builds and supports a strong, active coalition of more than thirty organizations working to conserve the lands and waters of Texas. Since the late 1990s, TLTC has served as a powerful voice for conservation to protect drinking water, Texas' iconic wildlife, and the rich natural and cultural heritage of the state. Together and in partnership with private landowners and citizens, it works to ensure that the Texas landscape – rich in history, natural resources, breathtaking views and recreational opportunities – can be left intact for all citizens today and in the future.

TLTC and its member organizations believe the conservation and preservation of Texas land is of critical importance to the strength and future of Texas. To date, TLTC and its members have helped to conserve more than 1.75 million acres statewide.

Texas Land Trust Council Program Areas
Land and water conservation are essential to a healthy Texas. Our lands protect our water supply, provide habitat for our fish and wildlife, preserve our agricultural heritage, and improve our quality of life. To support and advance land conservation across our state, TLTC focuses on several program areas:

Education – TLTC maintains a strong focus on education and training, to ensure that Texas land trusts are keeping pace with land conservation trends nationally. The Texas Land Conservation Conference is the preeminent statewide meeting for anyone working in the field of land and water conservation, including non-profit organizations, private landowners, government staff, volunteers, businesses and agency partners interested in conservation issues. The annual three-day conference attracts around 300 attendees and brings in experts from around the state and nation to provide an exceptional opportunity for shared learning and engagement in order to advance land and water conservation in Texas.

Outreach & Advocacy – TLTC advocates for land trusts in Texas, promoting the many benefits of our collective conservation work. Land trusts conserve Texas’ special lands and waters by permanently protecting them from development for the benefit of people, wildlife and our economy. TLTC works to coordinate land trust advocacy at the federal and state level, developing a robust coalition with a unified voice to build strong, sustained support for land conservation in Texas. To this end, each year we also host an annual land trust leaders retreat, the Texas Land Trust Assembly, where our members gather to strengthen relationships and engage with each other on issues that impact our collective work.

Technical & Financial Assistance – TLTC seeks to provide pertinent conservation related tools and information to land trusts, landowners, and the general public. These include our Conservation Lands Inventory database and maps of land trust conserved lands, our Conservation Easement Guidebook for landowners, as well as a wealth of information on our website, including our Land Trust Directory. In addition, our Transaction Matching Grants Program awards small grants to cover costs associated with granting a perpetual conservation easement, offering a meaningful incentive to landowners who wish to conserve their private land for the public good.
2019 Program Highlights

Texas Land Conservation Conference

Our premiere educational event, the Texas Land Conservation Conference, offers three days of training and workshops on topics related to all types of public and private land and water conservation efforts. With several hundred attendees each year, this event is critical to the continued strength and integrity of the land conservation movement in Texas. The 2019 Conference focused on topics ranging from water policy and carbon markets, to advocacy and conservation easements, from Farm Bill programs to the ecological impact of the proposed border wall in Texas. The conference is essential to strengthening the depth of knowledge of the conservation community and inspiring excellence in our work.

Conservation Advocacy

TLTC leads the coordination of land trust advocacy at the state and federal levels to enhance funding tools and policies that support land and water conservation. In February, we held our 4th state land trust advocacy day, holding more than 60 legislative visits in one day, including meetings with the Speaker’s office and committee members from House Natural Resources, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Senate Finance, and House Appropriations, among many others. TLTC also held our first-ever legislative briefing to share information about our report on the economic benefits of conserved lands in Texas.

In April, TLTC led our Texas delegation to Washington D.C. for the 8th annual Land Trust Advocacy Days. Together, with more than 100 land trust advocates from across the country, we met with our Texas congressional delegation and their staff, as well as Senator Cornyn’s office, to advocate for conservation programs and funding. Advocacy is essential to building support for the programs and funding that help us to undertake this important work.
2019 Program Highlights

Transaction Matching Grants Program

TLTC funded two conservation easement projects in 2019 through our matching grants program. This program helps to cover legal and due diligence costs associated with recording a conservation easement. This year we awarded $18,720 in funding toward two conservation easement projects, one in the central Texas prairie and one in the Hill Country, that permanently conserve 2,000 acres. Working in partnership with land trusts and landowners across the state, these lands are now forever preserved to enhance water resources and wildlife habitat, provide places for outdoor recreation, and preserve our agricultural heritage.

Economic Benefits of Conservation

TLTC continues to provide results-oriented tools to educate the public and decision-makers on the importance of land conservation. In 2019, TLTC released a study of Texas land trust conservation lands to quantify some of the economic benefits of the lands protected to date by Texas land trusts. Our results estimate that these lands are providing more than $1 billion in benefits to Texas taxpayers each year. Of this amount, 47% is linked to flood prevention and damage reduction, 16% can be attributed to supporting rural economies, and 37% represents benefits for water quality and quantity. By putting a dollar value on the benefits of conserved lands, we can better articulate the significance of these lands and the substantial value that conservation brings to the economy.
2019 Partners & Donors

The Texas Land Trust Council wishes to acknowledge and thank all of our 2018 financial supporters including our land trust and professional members, foundation grantors, conference sponsors, and individual donors. We could not carry out our work without their generous support. Thank you.

Land Trust Members
Aransas First
Audubon Texas
Bayou Land Conservancy
Big Thicket Natural Heritage Trust
Cibolo Conservancy
Coastal Bend Land Trust
Colorado River Land Trust
Connemara Conservancy
Conservation Force
The Conservation Fund
Cradle of Texas Conservancy
Ducks Unlimited
Frontera Land Alliance
Galveston Bay Foundation
Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas
Guadalupe Blanco River Trust
Hill Country Conservancy
Hill Country Land Trust
Houston Audubon
Katy Prairie Conservancy
Native Prairies Assn. of Texas
The Nature Conservancy- Texas
Pines and Prairies Land Trust
San Marcos River Foundation
Scenic Galveston
Texas Agricultural Land Trust
Texas Cave Management Assn.
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Upper Trinity Conservation Trust
Valley Land Fund
Wilbarger Creek Conservation Alliance
Wimberley Valley Watershed Association

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King Land & Water
Land Trust Alliance
Law Office of Burgess Jackson
Lower Colorado River Authority
M. Gale & Associates
Medina Valley Surveys
Resource & Land Management, Inc.
San Antonio River Authority
Shield Ranch
Siglo Group
SK Foundation
Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Resources
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation
The Trust for Public Land
Thomas Kelsey, Attorney at Law
Uhl, Fitzsimons, Jewett, Burton & Wolff
USDA- NRCS
Valbridge Property Advisors
Clifton Ladd
Daniel Lindsey
Elisa Donovan
Frank & Jenny Davis
Garrett Pennell
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James & Tammy King
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Jordan & Whitney Gossett
Julie & Clifford Shackelford
Katherine Romans
Lauren Fuller
Leesa Brieger
Linda Olson
Mary Ann Placentini & Drexel Turner
Myron Hess
Robert & Margaret Ayres
Robert Mace & Wendy Weiss
Roel & Angelica Lopez
Sandi Skrei
Sara Wilson
Sharon Rizzo
Sherry Sultenfuss
Stephanie Prosser
Tamera Bounds
Ted Siff & Janelle Buchanan
Thomas Kartrude
Todd & Sharmon Votteler
Tom & Ann Kelsey
Travis & Ashley Phillips

~ Thank You ~
## 2019 Financials

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations/Gifts</td>
<td>$18,380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$30,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program/fee Income</td>
<td>$7,050</td>
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<td>Conference</td>
<td>$115,107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$70,300</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$241,812</strong></td>
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### Expenses

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<tr>
<td>Administration and Audit</td>
<td>$15,848</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$2,169</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs (Including Conference)</td>
<td>$189,701</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$207,718</strong></td>
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### Special Funds/Projects:

<table>
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<th>Special Funds/Projects</th>
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<tr>
<td>YTD Expenditures on Transaction Grants (Restricted)</td>
<td>$18,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Income Payable in 2020 (Restricted)</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transferred to Operating Reserve Dec 31, 2019</td>
<td>$7,218</td>
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