



Protecting land, natural resources, and open space in western Missouri and eastern Kansas for the benefit of today's communities and future generations.



## Platte Land Trust – Annual Report 2024

Platte Land Trust is at a pivot point as the organization prepares for the next five, ten, and twenty-five years of land protection in western Missouri and eastern Kansas. 2025 marks the conclusion of the current strategic plan. The Board of Directors begins the work for a future vision.

As our region continues to grow, the demand for and the price of land continues to increase. More farms are under threat from development and the corporate agriculture industry. Land loss, land access for new farmers, and cut agriculture funding sources bring challenges to protecting more land.

### Grow Land Holdings

- Protected 71 acres of farm land and wildlife habitat in Rock Port, MO.
- Total land holdings increased to 7 projects and 825 acres protected.
- Charlotte Sawyers Nature Area: extended the trail system and improved habitat. It remains open to the public every day for wildlife viewing.

### Grow in Financial Strength

- Sound fiscal management grows PLT reserves for land stewardship, legal defense, and land acquisition.
- Community support continues to diversify. Added a Music Bingo fundraising event and sponsors.
- MDC grants continue to support CSNA habitat improvements.

### Grow in Organization Strength

- Expanded community outreach at local events: Callery pear buy-back, Go Green environment fair, Fall Climate Fair, Conservation Federation of MO, and KC FARMERS coalition.
- Partnered with Cultivate KC on a USDA grant (awarded).
- Distributed 200 native plant shrub seedlings to the community.
- Board of Directors conducted a Leadership Development Initiative to set the foundation for future growth and sustainability.
- 540 hours contributed by volunteers for habitat improvements, community outreach, and events.

### Looking Forward

- Protect an additional 300 acres in 2025.
- Grow the land acquisition fund to protect more land.
- Hire staff in 2026.
- Expand Board of Directors and volunteers.
- Complete a master plan for Charlotte Sawyers Nature Area.

### 2024 Board of Directors

Jim Braddock, Treasurer  
Lisa Cowdrey  
Carla Dods, President  
Tom Jacobs, P.E., Vice President  
Nancy McDowell, Secretary  
David Perry  
Sydney Steele  
Matthew Strobbe  
Chris Wright

### **plattelandtrust.org**

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- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship