

# 4 steps to get started

**Step 1:** Determine how much time you have available. Every little bit helps!

**Step 2:** Visit [michigannature.org](http://michigannature.org) or use the map on the back of this brochure to figure out if there are any sanctuaries in the area where you live, work or visit.

**Step 3:** Decide which projects you may be interested in from those listed to the right. For a list of scheduled Volunteer Days, refer to the Schedule of Activities in your current MNA Newsletter or visit [michigannature.org](http://michigannature.org)

**Step 4:** Contact the MNA office at (517)655-5655 to discuss specific project details and needs of the sanctuaries in your area.



The Schafer brothers remove invasive glossy buckthorn from Goose Creek Nature Sanctuary.



MNA has several volunteer opportunities available for people of all ages, including:

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Removing debris, trimming limbs, posting and maintaining trail markers

## INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL

Uprooting invasive plants or applying wetland-approved herbicide to cut stumps using a special applicator (Volunteers using or working around herbicide must be at least 15 years of age.)

## GARBAGE REMOVAL

## FIELD TRIP LEADERSHIP

Showing people a sanctuary and all it has to offer

## BOARDWALK AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

Creating bridges to cross rivers and boardwalks to travel through wetlands

## BOUNDARY IDENTIFICATION

Working with surrounding landowners and surveyors to locate and mark sanctuary boundaries

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Taking pictures of species and landscapes to help us monitor sanctuaries over time

## INVENTORY AND MONITORING

Recording plants and animals that you see or hear at different times of year

## GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS)

### DATA COLLECTION

Using a GPS unit to record locations of special features and create trail maps

## NATIVE SEED COLLECTION AND PLANTING

Helping restore a sanctuary by harvesting native seeds from its high-quality areas and planting those seeds in its degraded areas

## EROSION CONTROL

Stabilizing soil on slopes and installing hand rails to assist visitors climbing or descending steep sections of trail

## SIGN INSTALLATION

Installing entrance or general rules signs

## OTHER SPECIFIC SANCTUARY NEEDS



## OUR MISSION

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA), established in 1952, is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to acquiring, protecting and maintaining Michigan's unique natural habitats and rare or endangered species, and carrying on a program of natural history study and conservation education.

There are numerous land preservation organizations working within Michigan, however, MNA distinguishes itself as the state's first land preservation organization, and remains the only statewide land preservation organization devoted solely to Michigan.



Volunteers Bill Atkinson and John Fody take a moment to appreciate Brennan Memorial Nature Sanctuary in St. Clair County.



Each point on the map represents a sanctuary or preserve.  
For more information, go to [www.michigannature.org](http://www.michigannature.org)

Experience what the Michigan Nature Association is committed to protecting for you, your family, future generations, and nature itself by visiting one of our sanctuaries or preserves. With 165 nature sanctuaries and plant preserves in 56 counties, no matter where you live, you're never far from finding beauty and tranquility in nature.



michigan nature association

326 East Grand River Avenue  
Williamston, MI 48895  
(517) 655 - 5655

michigan nature association



Preserving Michigan's Natural Heritage Since 1952



Volunteer Opportunities

[www.michigannature.org](http://www.michigannature.org)