



Fire is a natural part of both forest and grassland ecology, and controlled burns is a tool MNA uses to effectively manage our sanctuaries and protect the vitality of Michigan's native plants and animals. Stewardship staff and volunteers at MNA have been out in the field taking on the task of controlled burning. Many MNA sanctuaries benefit greatly from these controlled burn units because it allows the native species to prosper and gain an edge over competing species. Controlled fires happen at Helmer Brook Prairie Plant Preserve, Saginaw Wetlands Nature Sanctuary and Big Valley Nature Sanctuary among others.