



Sycamore Land Trust

Media Coverage

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Our Opinion: Peninsula preserve land trust's latest gift to future generations of Hoosiers

While we're on the topic of good news, the 48-acre Amy Weingartner Branigin Peninsula Preserve opened to visitors on Monday. That's the newest preserve of the Sycamore Land Trust.

Several people and organizations helped the land trust acquire the property. The preserve will never be developed but will be able to be enjoyed by the public.

An important aspect of that news is that the land, as its name suggests, is a peninsula that juts out into Lake Monroe and includes 1.7 miles of lake frontage. The preservation will help prevent erosion and sedimentation in the lake.

Congratulations to the three families, the Bicentennial Nature Trust, the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County and members of the Sycamore Land Trust for working together to make this preservation project possible. Good work also by the Hoosier Hikers Council, which built a trail that links the parking lot area to a road allowing for hiker access to the peninsula along a 1.1-mile trail and road.

The Sycamore Land Trust continues to move forward parcel by parcel in preserving natural spaces for Hoosiers of future generations. In July, it received 60 acres in a "bargain sale" from three families. That property, like this one, was strategic, in that it fit like a puzzle piece into some other land trust parcels and helped connect parts of Yellowwood and Morgan-Monroe state forests, Brown County State Park and Hoosier Natural Forest.

Since 1990, the organization has helped private landowners in more than two dozen Indiana counties protect more than 19,000 acres of land from future development.

Good work by all.