

# UPPER PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY

## Policy 12D - Monitoring UPLC Fee-Owned Properties

Board approved 5/13/2014

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It is the policy of Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy (UPLC) to monitor any land it owns in fee at least once per year or more frequently if needed. Monitoring is the process of inspecting and documenting the conditions and changes of land over time. These inspections help ensure the property is not irreversibly damaged by malicious or negligent acts. Inspections help reduce safety hazards for users and prevent encroachment or unauthorized uses that may impair the value of the land, including conservation values. Monitoring also helps maintain public trust and saves time and money by identifying problems early, in time for effective remediation. Monitoring is essential for documenting violations as they occur, thus providing a record of activity over time in case legal action occurs. Regular monitoring can also provide a record over time for scientific analysis.

The UPLC monitoring program for all fee-owned land will ensure that:

- All fee-owned lands are inspected at least once annually or more frequently if needed.
- All boundaries are clearly identified and marked to prevent encroachment and trespass if threats make it necessary or when called for in a property Management Plan.
- All monitoring visits are documented in the project file.
- All potential and actual violations are identified and addressed quickly.

### **Additional monitoring requirements for Conservation Preserves**

On any land held to be held by UPLC as a Conservation Preserve, in addition to the above, UPLC will monitor the conservation values of the land and will be guided by procedures “11C2 Monitoring Procedure” and “11C3 Monitoring Form,” which include the standards and practices recommended by the Land Trust Alliance.

### **Qualifications of monitors**

Monitoring visits may be made by UPLC Staff, UPLC Board Members, Stewardship Committee Members, and/or volunteers trained by UPLC. All monitors will follow the UPLC monitoring policy and procedures.