

I. Introduction to the Conservation Organization Board

Nuts & Bolts of Lake Associations

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**We help people
protect the
places that make
Wisconsin
special.**



**We strengthen
Wisconsin's land trusts**

**we advocate
for supportive public
policies**





we are the voice of the land trust movement

we provide
technical
assistance

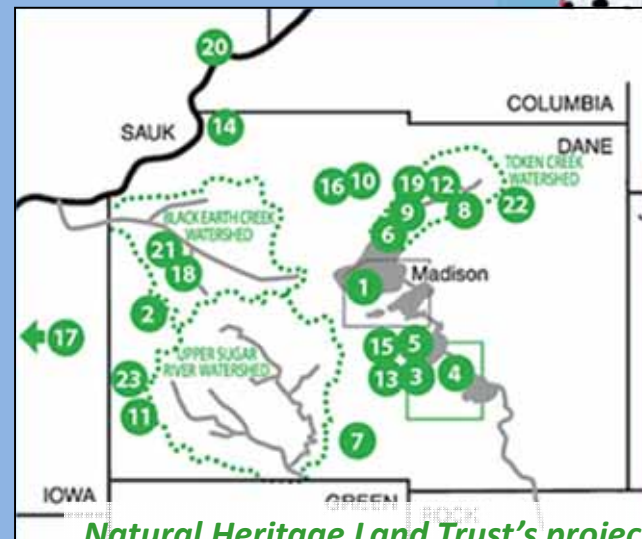


Wisconsin Land Trusts

Diverse, vibrant community:

- Work in variety of geographic scales
- Many have professional staff
- *Protect varied resources:* waterways, wetlands, woodlands, farmland, prairies, scenic vistas
- Focus efforts in priority conservation project areas

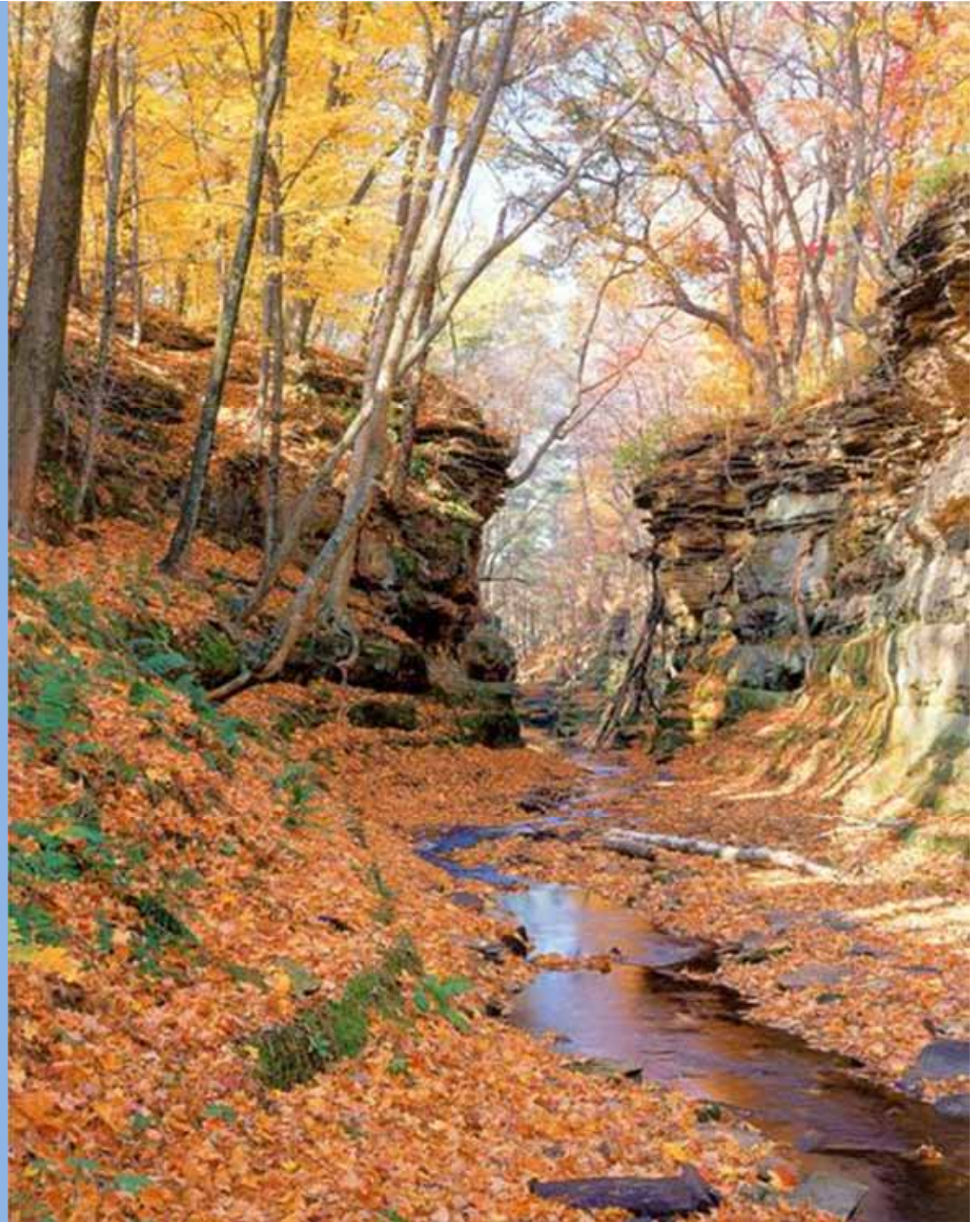
West Wisconsin Land Trust's region



Natural Heritage Land Trust's project areas

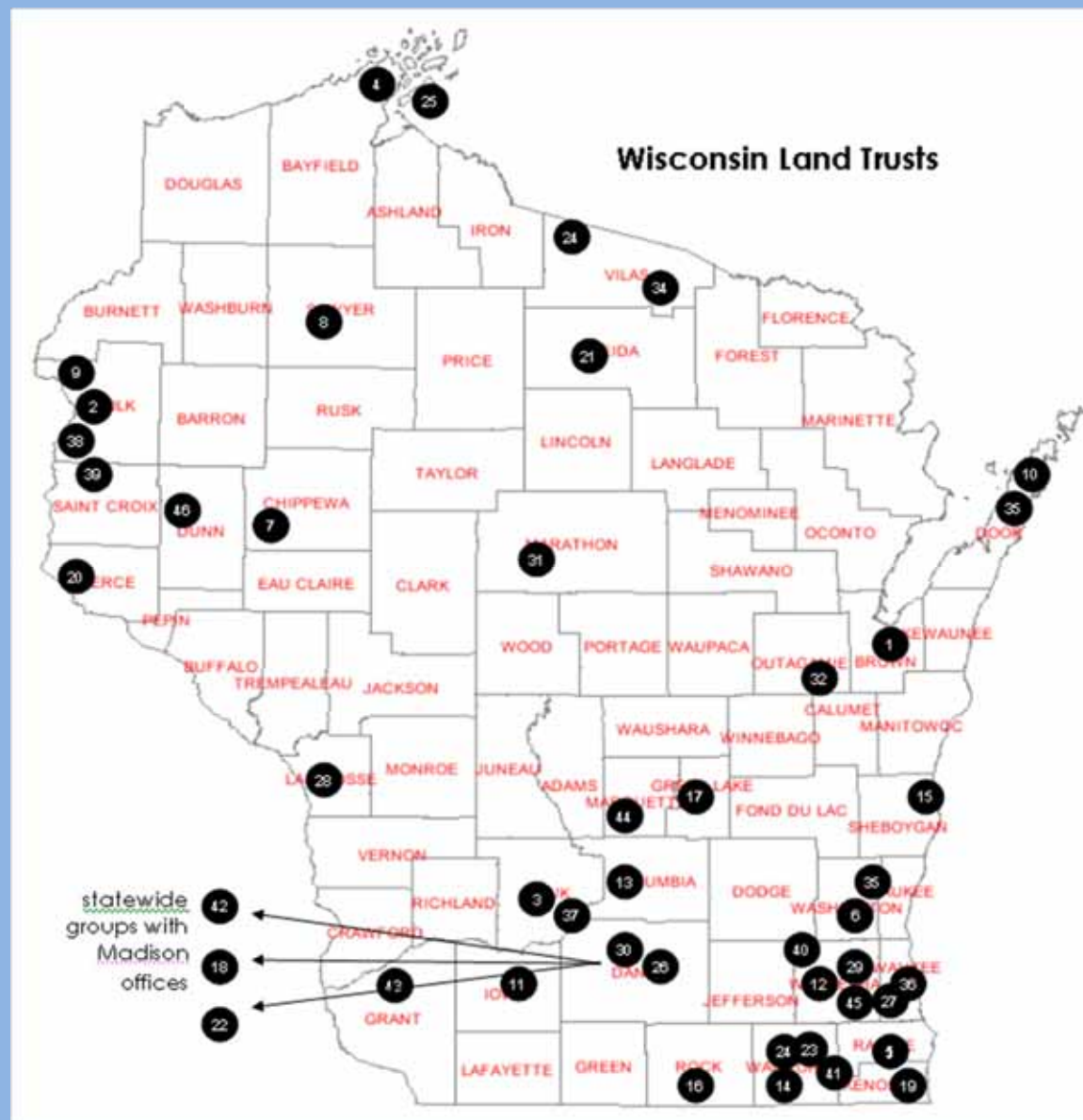
Wisconsin Land Trust Community

- 50+ land trusts in the state
- About 60% are all volunteer
- Average 20 years old

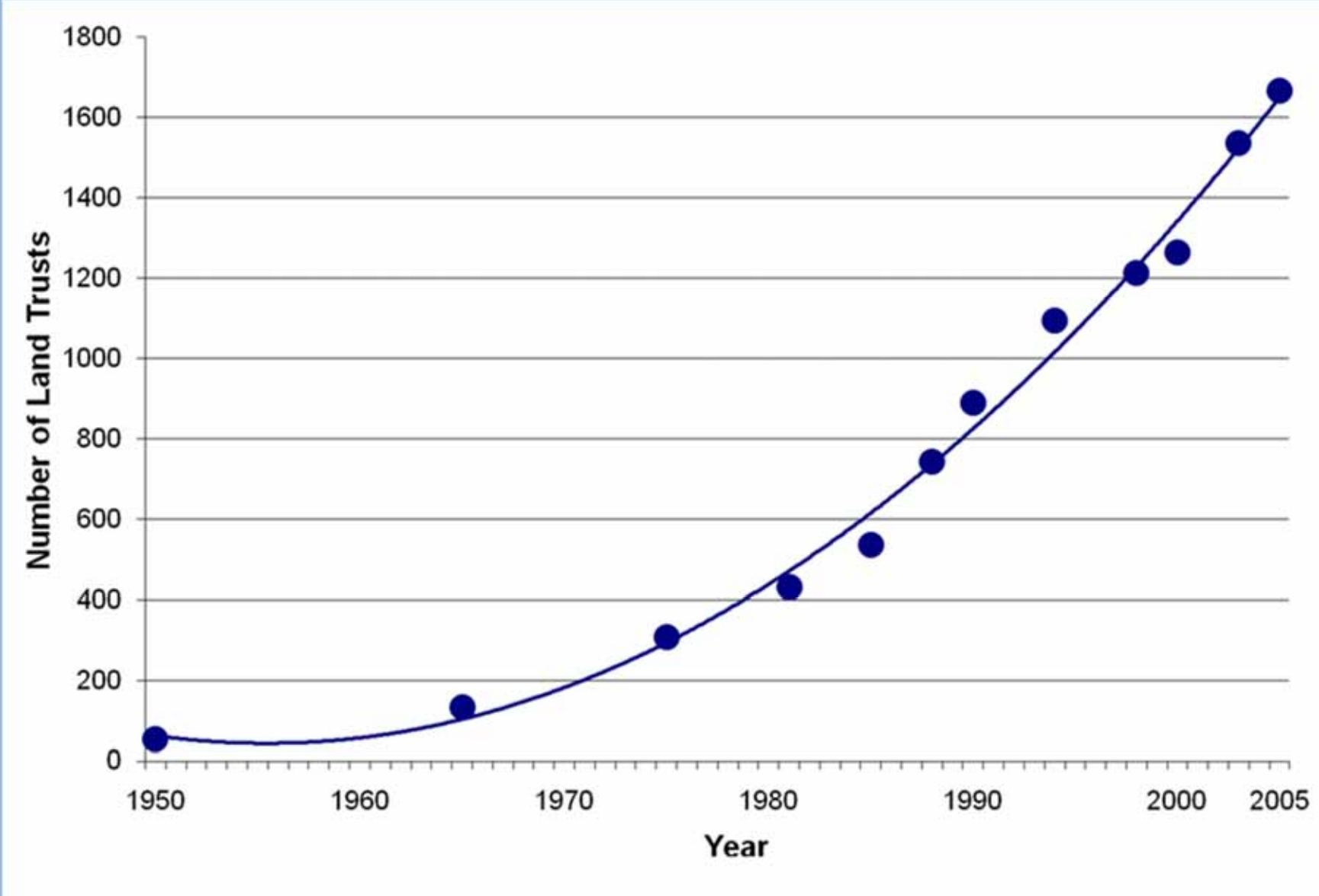


Wisconsin Land Conservation Data* 2005-2009

- 80,000 – 280,000 acres
- Land protected by land trusts = \$175 million in assets
- # of land trusts and contributors has remained constant

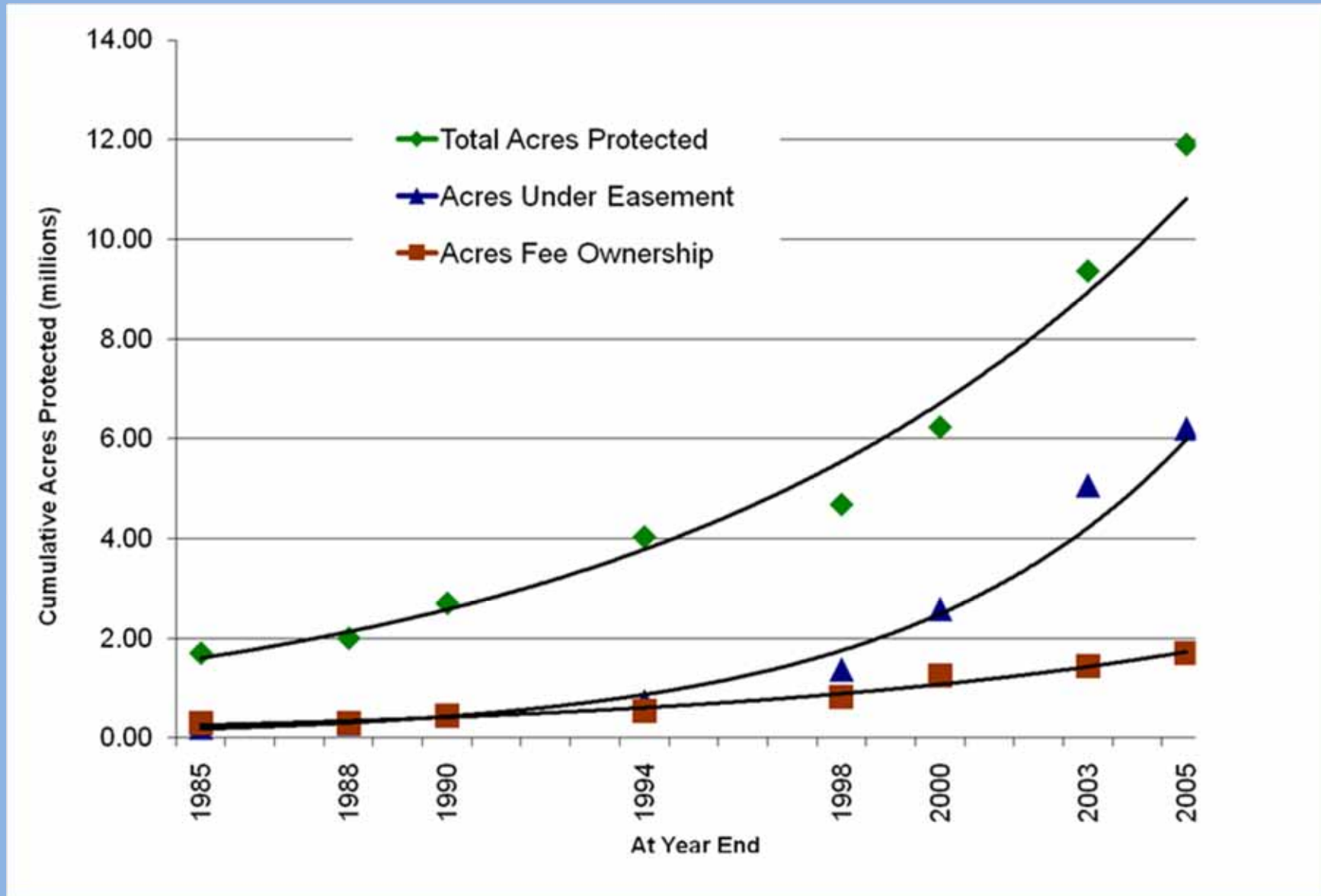


Growth in the Number of Land Trusts Nationally



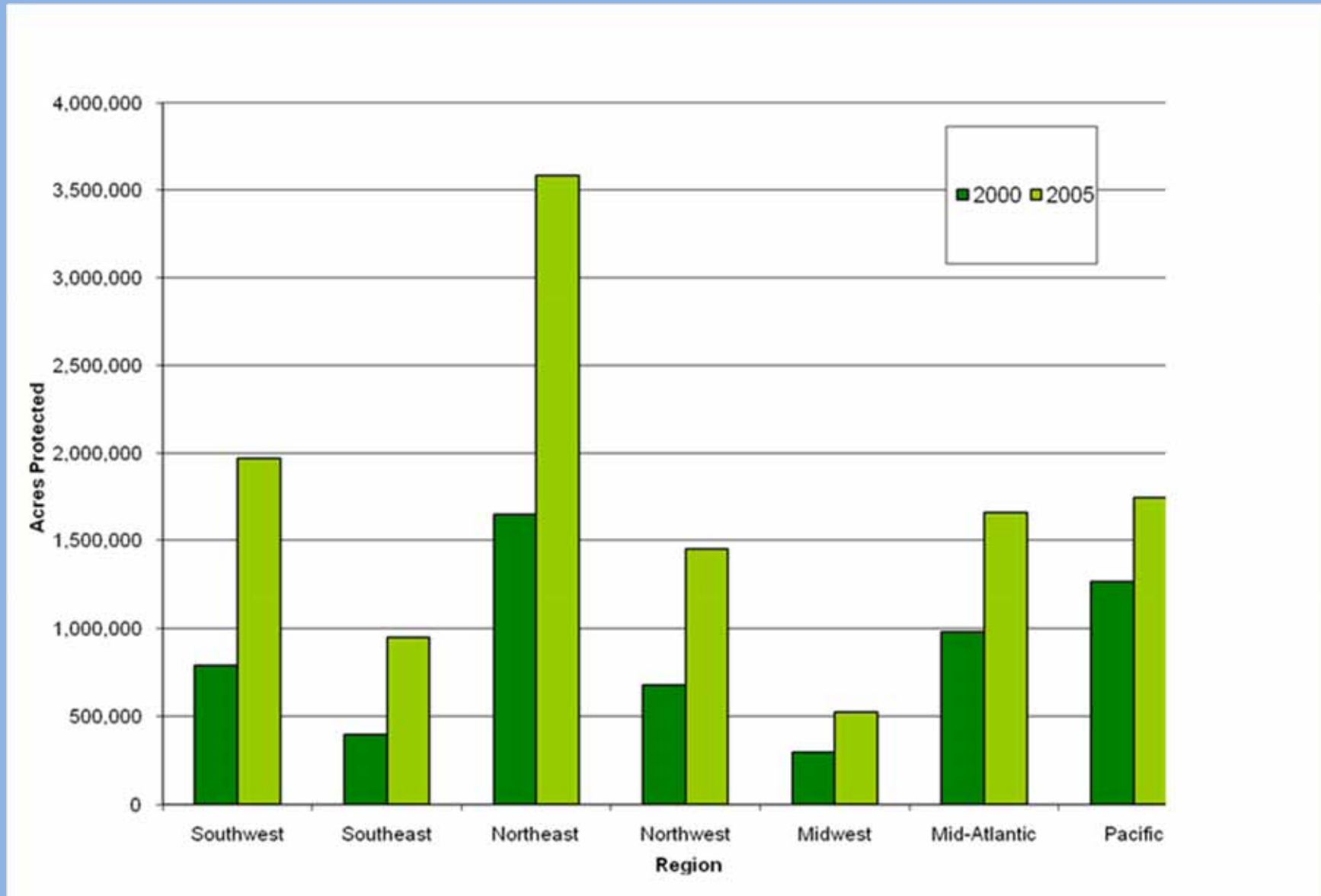
Source: Land Trust Alliance 2005 Census Data

Trends in Private Land Protection Nationally The Growth of Conservation Easements in the Last Decade



Source: Land Trust Alliance 2005 Census Data

Growth of Land Protection by Region (2000 & 2005)



Source: Land Trust Alliance 2005 Census Data

LEAP

Land Trust Excellence and Advancement Program



- Strengthening individual land trusts
- Strengthening the fabric of Wisconsin's land trust community
- Advancing strategic, collaborative conservation
- Preparing land trusts for Accreditation

More info at gatheringwaters.org/land-trust-services/leap/

Land Trust Standards & Practices



Organizational Strength

1. Mission
2. Compliance with Laws
3. Board Accountability
4. Conflicts of Interest
5. Fundraising
6. Financial and Asset Management
7. Volunteers, Staff and Consultants

Standard 3: Board Accountability

- A. Board Responsibility
- B. Board Composition
- C. Board Governance
- D. Preventing Minority Rule
- E. Delegation of Decision-Making Authority
- F. Board Approval of Land Transactions

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gathering waters
conservancy