



ELC

Red Wing Environmental Learning Center

Volume 2022 No. 1

Spring 2022

Thank You Red Wing Wildlife League!

Red Wing is blessed to have such a variety of natural resources such as rivers, lowland forests, prairies, and limestone bluffs. These local resources were one of the main reasons that Red Wing was selected to be the home for one of Minnesota's first year-round ELC. Since the very beginning our mission has been to enhance the understanding and appreciation of the outdoors by the community of the Red Wing area, with an emphasis on youth. We accomplish this by getting the students out in the environment as much as possible, making the outdoors our classroom, with hands on learning and experience acting as the best teacher. One of the greatest classrooms we have had over the last 52 years has been the Red Wing Wildlife Leagues, 2700 acres in the Cannon Bottoms area. During this time thousands of students, parents and community members have trekked through this area learning, enjoying, appreciating, and exploring. We feel very strongly that a student must appreciate their local environment before they can ever hope to appreciate far off lands. We are so grateful for the support of the RWWL and access to this property over the last 52 years.

To become a member of the RWWL:

- Membership is limited to individuals that currently live in the Red Wing, MN area.
- Adult and Youth (under 18) memberships can be purchased at the Annual Meeting which is February 9th at the Legion or at Bank's 4-Season Sports in Red Wing, MN. Adult Memberships are \$45 and youth \$5
- Memberships last for the duration of a calendar year and may be purchased at any time during the year.
- Only current members can use RWWL property. It is not a right to use this land, it is a privilege. Please respect the land, structures, cabins, beaches and be courteous of other members.



Sign up online for spring programs
on the ELC Website

www.redwingelc.com

Click on Current Students tab.

Place your program requests in order of preference.

Registration deadline: February 15, 2022
after February 15th you will be placed on the waiting list.

ENTRY LEVEL PROGRAMS

Dress for the weather for all ELC programs

Entry Level programs are one day activities that allow students to try a program and be introduced to interesting natural environments in the Red Wing area.

EXPLORE THE BLUFF LANDS

Fee: \$20.00

Minimum Age: 6th Grade

Requirement for 6th and 7th graders
(to be taken once in the two years)

Bushwhack up and down the coulees and follow the spectacular limestone cliff edge as close as possible.

This challenging day offers outstanding scenic view high above Lake Pepin, eye level observations of turkey vultures and eagles,.



Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
April 1	April 14	April 15
9:00 am-3:00 pm	9:00 am-3:00 pm	9:00 am-3:00 pm

CORE PROGRAM

WHITewater KAYAKING AND RAFTING II

Prerequisite: Whitewater I

No prerequisite required for 8th grade and above

Proof of Covid vaccination with booster required

Fee \$100.00

ELC will provide kayaks and rafts

Very few activities offer outdoor enthusiasts as wide a range of experiences as kayaking. Whether you are in it for heart-stopping roller coaster exhilaration or the peace and serenity of getting lost in the moment, whitewater kayaking/ Rafting can never let you down. The spring runoff, makes central Wisconsin an amazing place to conduct our whitewater level II program. We will be running class 2 and 3 rapids while car camping on this paddling trip. Come join and see what all the excitement is about.

Activity/Time	Date
Orientation/ Skills 9:00 am- 3:00 pm	May 21
Trip Leave:9:00 am Return: 6:00 pm	May 27 May 30
Wrap up/Potluck 6:00-7:30	May 31

PIONEERING I – HAY CREEK CABIN

Minimum Age: 6th grade

Proof of Covid vaccination with booster required

Fee: 45.00

Live like those who first arrived in Minnesota by taking on the pioneering life. You will stay in a log cabin built by students who came before you. As you learn the survival skills of a pioneer, you will split wood, cook over a fire, maintain the trails, and play games.

Activity / Times	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-7:00 pm	April 26
Skills 4:00-7:00 pm	April 28
Trip: Leave 4:00- Return 1:00 pm	April 29- April 30

PIONEERING II-NORTH SHORE CABIN

Minimum Age: 8th grade

Proof of Covid vaccination with booster required

Fee: \$100.00

This is an extension of the Pioneering program. Students will take a trip to the cabin in Two Harbors. Learning pioneering skills while making improvements to the cabin, including prepping for the sauna construction and planting trees.

Activity / Times	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-6:30	May 17
Trip: Leave 2:00 Return 6:00 pm	May 19- May 22



CORE PROGRAMS

SPRING BACKPACKING I

Prerequisite: Explore and Camping

NOTE: *Backpacking I is highly recommended for Winter Camping I.*

Min Age: 6th grade, 8th grade and above no prerequisite

Fee: \$50.00

This is a two day backpacking trip through the Hay Creek area. Students will be introduced to general backpacking, camping and outdoor cookery. Students will learn to identify wildlife, food planning and orienteering with a map and a compass



Activity / Times	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-6:30	May 9
Trip: Leave 4:00 Return 1:00 pm	May 13- May 14

ELECTIVE PROGRAMS

EVENING SAIL

Fee: \$20

Proof of Covid vaccination with booster required

Minimum Age: 6th grade

Join us for an evening sail on the beautiful Lake Pepin. Bring something to grill on the back of the boat as we anchor in protected bays. Pick a group.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
May 17 th	May 19 th	May 24 th	May 25 th	May 26 th
4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm

FLOODWATER PADDLE

Fee: \$20.00

Minimum Age: 7th grade

Prerequisite: Canoe I

The spring floods provide a wonderful opportunity to explore and experience the Cannon Bottoms in the flooded state. There are many opportunities to observe various wildlife adapting to floods.

Date/Time
April 16
9:00 am-3:00 pm

TROUT FISHING OVERNIGHT

Minimum Age: 7th grade

Fee: \$50

This fishing program will be focused on fishing the brown trout of Wells Creek. We will spend the overnight on the banks of the creek. We will learn the habitat and structures where these browns reside. With a little luck, we will all land a few!



Activity / Times	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-7:00 pm	April 20
Trip: Leave 4:00 Return 4:00 pm	April 22- April 23



ELECTIVE PROGRAMS

FISHING ROD CONSTRUCTION

Minimum Age: 6TH Grade

Fee: \$75.00

This program will introduce the student to the art of building a fishing rod. Each student will make their own fishing rod with the help of DLF Custom Fishing Rods of Rochester Minnesota.

DLF is owned and operated by Dan Fryer, a member of the Custom Rod Builders Guild. Dan, a certified professional rod builder will assist each student in building a rod, starting with a blank and adding thread, creating thread art and will be certain that each rod is as individual as the student.

It takes approximately 20 hours to build a rod. The program days are in a open house format.

Times	Date
4:00-6:00 pm	March 14-18
4:00-6:00 pm	March 21-25



SUCKER FISHING

Minimum Age: 6th Grade

Fee\$15

Learn about and experience a popular type of fishing from yesteryear. Learn where and how to fish for this interesting fish on the Cannon River.

Activity / Times	Date
Fishing 4:00-7:00 pm	April 21



NORTH SHORE CABIN SPRING BREAK

Minimum Age: 8th grade

Proof of Covid vaccination with booster required

Fee: \$100.00

Take a trip up north and explore the Lake Superior ice formations and whatever else the season has to offer. Participants will stay the ELC's Two Harbors cabin where they will work on a cabin project, cook great food, play games and enjoy big fires.

Activity / Times	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-6:30	March 22
Trip: Leave 4:00 Return 1:00 pm	March 25- March 28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars!

The Wild and Scenic Film Festival

Saturday, April 23 at Hovda Hall

The ELC is hosting the Wild and Scenic Film Festival on Earth day this spring!

Considered one of the nation's premiere environmental and adventure film festivals, this year's films combine stellar filmmaking, beautiful cinematography and first-rate storytelling to inform, inspire and ignite solutions and possibilities to restore the earth and human communities while creating a positive future for the next generation.

Salsalicious

April 5, 5-8 pm at the St James

Financial assistance is available.

Fill out the online application on the ELC Website

www.redwingelc.com under the students tab or [Click here..](#)

Take a program a second time for 50% off the program fee!

First timers will have priority.

Does not include Fishing Rod Construction

Young Explorers Programs for 4th and 5th graders

YOUNG EXPLORER: TREK THROUGH NATURE

Fee: \$15

Our planet is an amazing place, but it needs our help to thrive! That's why each year on April 22, more than a billion people celebrate Earth Day to protect the planet from things like pollution and deforestation. By taking part in activities like picking up litter, planting trees or going for a hike and enjoying the world, we're making our world a happier, healthier place to live. We will hike out the Sand Point Trail, cook a supper over the fire and enjoy all the beauty that surrounds us. We hope you will join us!



Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
April 19	April 20	April 26
4:00 -7:00 pm	4:00 -7:00 pm	4:00 -7:00 pm

Tiny Trees Programs for 2nd and 3rd graders

TINY TREES: NATURE TREASURE HUNT

Fee: \$15

As the snow continues to melt away, nature reveals all kinds of treasures left during the winter months. Participants will explore and discover the Sand Point Trail, where participants are sure to find sheds, feathers, and other treasures that nature has left for them to find. Join us for this exciting and fun hike!

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
April 18	April 21	April 27
4:00 -7:00 pm	4:00 -7:00 pm	4:00 -7:00 pm

YOUNG EXPLORER: OUTDOOR COOKERY

Fee: \$15

Join us at the ELC Hay Creek cabin. We will build a fire and cook a meal of macaroni with a smoky flair. Pick a date:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
April 21	May 18	May 25
4:00-7:30 pm	4:00-7:30 pm	4:00-7:30 pm

YOUNG EXPLORER: ANTLER HUNT

Fee: \$15

Come join the fun of hunting for deer antlers. We will spend the day traversing hillsides, searching bedding areas and enjoying a spring day.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
April 5	April 7	April 12
4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm	4:00-7:00 pm

Adult and Family Programs

FAMILY WABASHA FLOODWATER PADDLE

Fee: \$20 per person/\$60 Family Cap

The spring floods provide a wonderful opportunity to explore and experience the driftless area by Wabasha. There are many opportunities to observe various wildlife adapting to floods. ELC will provide transportation and boats.

Times	Date
Paddle 9:00 am-3:00 pm	May 7

FAMILY FLOODWATER PADDLE

Fee: \$15 per person/\$40 Family Cap

There is special ambiance of paddling among the trees. Come explore the riverside woods by boat with a stop to cook dinner over a fire. ELC will provide equipment and staff.

Times	Date
Paddle 5:00-8:30 pm	May 24

FISHING ROD CONSTRUCTION ADULT

Adult Fee: *Varies Depending upon blank and handle selection*

This program will introduce the student to the art of building a fishing rod. Each student will make their own fishing rod with the help of DLF Custom Fishing Rods of Rochester Minnesota. DLF is owned and operated by Dan Fryer, a member of the Custom Rod Builders Guild. Dan, a certified professional rod builder will assist each student in building a rod, starting with a blank and adding thread, creating thread art and will be certain that each rod is as individual as the student.

It takes approximately 20 hours to build a rod. The program days are in an open house format.

Times	Date
6:30-8:00 pm	March 14-18
6:30-8:00 pm	March 21-25



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In honor of: _____

**Please make checks payable to:
Environmental Learning Center Endowment Fund**

Thank you for your support!



“Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush. ~Doug Larson