



## Red Wing Environmental Learning Center

Volume 2023, Number 4

Winter 2023-2024

### SIGN UP FOR WINTER PROGRAMS ONLINE TODAY!

[www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)

*Click on Current Students tab.*

Place your program requests in order of preference.

**Last day to sign up is November 15, 2023**  
after 11/15/2023, you will be placed on the waiting list.



Take an overnight program a second time for  
**50% off the program fee!**  
*First timers will have priority*

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on current events!

[Red Wing Environmental Learning Center](#)



### ARE YOU NOT SIGNING UP BECAUSE OF THE COST OF PROGRAMS?

Please know that our goal is to get young people in the woods; exploring, learning and experiencing all that there is to offer.

We know that when a student takes multiple programs, or there are multiple students in a family the cost can start to add up.

If a student is not signing up for programs because of the cost please contact Laura at ELC so that we can help.

Please contact Laura Schmidt  
[laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com)

## ENTRY LEVEL PROGRAMS: EXPLORE

Entry level programs are one day programs that allow a student to try a program and be introduced to interesting natural areas in Red Wing.

### EXPLORE THE CANNON BOTTOMS

**Age minimum: 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Fee: \$25.00**

This one day adventure is an amazing opportunity to get out and explore an area right out our back door. The Cannon Bottoms area is over 2700 acres of wilderness and the wintertime is one of the best times to be out in it. We will look for various signs of animal life, explore beaver lodges and simply enjoy the great outdoors in the winter. Lunch will be cooked over a fire. Pick a group:

Group 1	Group 2
December 2	December 9
9am-3pm	9am-3pm



## CORE PROGRAMS

### CROSS COUNTRY SKIING I

**Age minimum: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Fee: \$55.00**

From cross country skiing techniques to dressing properly for the cold, this program will prepare you to explore the woods in the spectacular season of winter. Ski local trails, see tracks and signs of wildlife and finish up with a moonlight ski. ELC will provide equipment.

Pick a group.

Activity/Time	Group 1	Group 2
Orientation 4pm-6pm	January 2	January 8
Session 2: 4pm-6pm	January 3	January 9
Session 3: 4pm-6pm	January 4	January 10
Session 4: 12pm-5pm Memorial Park Ski	January 5 *School Day	January 11 *School Day
Session 5: 4pm-8pm Moonlight ski	January 6	January 17



### CROSS COUNTRY SKIING II

**Age minimum: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Prerequisites: Cross Country Skiing I (no prerequisite for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and above)**

**Fee: \$150.00**

Time to enjoy the north shore winter playground! We will ski the rivers and trails near the ELC rustic cabin where we will stay in Two Harbors. You will learn about some of the local flora and fauna in this area and observe and identify some of the common winter birds that occupy this area.

Activity/Time	Date
Orientation/Skills: 4:00-6:00 pm	January 16
Trip: Leave : 4:00 Return: 6:00	January 18- January 21
Wrap-up Potluck with Participants and Parents 6:00-7:30 pm	January 23

### WINTER PIONEERING I

**Minimum Age: 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Fee: \$55.00**

This program is an opportunity for ELC students to step back in time and experience what life might have been like with no running water or electricity. You will stay in a log cabin built by ELC 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/Time	Date
Cabin Skills: 4:00-6:00 pm	December 5
Overnight: Leave: 4:00 pm Return: 1:00 pm	December 8- December 9

Please contact [laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com) to discuss payment options if needed.

## CORE PROGRAMS

### PIONEERING II

**Minimum Age:** 7<sup>th</sup> grade

**Fee:** \$150.00

The North Shore of Lake Superior provides a plethora of winter exploration opportunities. We will snowshoe, ski, skate or hike several of the local rivers and trails. The evenings will be spent at the Two Harbors Cabin.

Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation; 4:00-5:30	December 12
Trip: Leave: 4:00 pm Return: 6:00 pm	December 15- December 18



### WINTER CAMPING I

**Minimum age:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Fee:** \$150.00

Learn the basics of winter camping, including:

Fire building skills and outdoor cookery.

Ice crossing and basic ice rescue.

Animal track identification.

Prevention and treatment of hypothermia and frostbite.

We will spend one night at the Two Harbors cabin and one or two nights in the snow.

Activity/Time	Date
Orientation/ Skills:4:00pm-6:00 pm	January 4
Trip: Leave : 4:00 pm Return: 6:00 pm	January 12- January 15

### WINTER CAMPING II

**Age minimum:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Prerequisite:** Winter Camping I

**Fee:** \$150.00

Three days of winter camping , cross country skiing and ice fishing. Travel on cross country skis and build snow shelters.

Learn and practice skills necessary for safe and enjoyable winter exploration.

We will travel to the Porcupine Wilderness Area near Drummond, WI.

Activity/Time	Date
Orientation/skills: 4:00-6:00 pm	February 13
Trip: Leave: 9:00 am Return: Approx 5:00 pm	February 16th February 19 <sup>th</sup>
Wrap up: 6:00 pm -7:30 pm	February 22

## ELECTIVES

### POOL KAYAKING

**Minimum Age:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Fee:** \$35.00

Come learn the basics of whitewater kayaking in the YMCA pool. We'll work on paddle strokes, balance, and rolling techniques. At the end of the day, we'll play water polo in our kayaks.

See adult dates in the adult programs section!

Pick a group:

Activity / Time	Group 1	Group 2
Skills: 6:30-8:00 pm	December 5	December 12
Skills: 6:30-8:00 pm	December 6	December 13
Skills: 6:30-8:00 pm	December 7	December 14

### MOONLIGHT CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

**Fee:** \$20.00

**Prerequisite:** Cross Country Skiing I

This is an amazing opportunity to ski by only the light of the moon! We will explore a local area and cook dinner over an open fire. A perfect winter experience! **Pick a Group:**

Group 1	Group 2
January 18	January 23
4:00-8:00	4:00-8:00

Please contact [laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com) to discuss payment options if needed.



**WILD SKATE**

**Minimum Age: 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Fee: \$25.00**

Grab your skates (ELC can provide) and skate the Cannon Bottoms. We will spend the day exploring and will cook lunch over a fire.

Group 1	Group 2
January 15	January 19
10:00 am-3:00 pm	10:00 am-3:00 pm

**ICE CLIMBING**

**Minimum Age: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Fee: \$40**

Come learn the basics of ice climbing in the backyard of Ed Ward and Heather Nagel. They are farming ice to climb. No experience or equipment needed.-just the desire and a little physical fortitude. Pick a group or note in registration if you would like to go multiple times.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
February 6	February 8	February 13
4:30-8:00 pm	4:30-8:00 pm	4:30-8:00 pm

**ICE FISHING**

**Minimum Age: 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Fee: \$30.00**

*Participants 16 years of age or older need an angling license.*

This program will introduce participants to the various techniques of ice fishing in the local backwaters. Pick a group or note in registration if you would like to go multiple times.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
January 6	February 10	February 19
9:00 am-3:00 pm	9:00 am-3:00 pm	9:00 am-3:00 pm

**WINTER MULTISPORT ON THE NORTH SHORE**

**Fee: 150.00 (does not include Lutsen pass or alpine ski equipment)**

**Minimum Age : 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

We will be heading to the North Shore to embrace the best of what's around, we will be based out of the scenic and rustic Two Harbors Cabin. We will be skiing / snowboarding at Lutsen on Friday. Saturday we will be Cross Country Skiing on the Cascade, Onion Rivers and/or Pincushion ski trails in Grand Marais. The last day we will ski the local trails, before heading home. ELC can provide gear as needed.

Activity/Time	Date
Orientation: 4:00 pm-6:00pm	January 29
Trip: 1:00-6:00 pm	February 1-February 4



Please contact [laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com) to discuss payment options if needed.

**Adult and Family Programs**

**New participants start registration under the students tab. Already have an account? Sign up at <https://elc.force.com/s/>  
*First come/serve for sign ups. Space is limited***

**ADULT ICE CLIMBING**

**Fee: \$50**

Come learn the basics of ice climbing in the backyard of Ed Ward and Heather Nagel. They are farming ice to climb. No experience or equipment needed.-just the desire and a little physical fortitude.

Group 1	Group 2
February 20 4:30-8:00 pm	February 22 4:30-8:00 pm

**FAMILY SKI OR HIKE THE CANNON BOTTOMS**

**Fee: \$20 PP/\$60 Family Cap**

Spend an evening skiing or hiking by moonlight and cooking dinner over a fire in the River Bottoms. ELC can provide skis or snowshoes.

Group 1	Group 2
January 13	February 24
10:00 am-3:00 pm	10:00 am-3:00 pm

**YOUNG EXPLORERS 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Graders**  
 New students should fill out form under the students tab at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)  
 Winter deadline is November 15<sup>th</sup>. After November 15<sup>th</sup> you will be put on a wait list.

**YOUNG EXPLORER : CABIN FUN AND GAMES**

Fee: \$15  
 Spend the morning or afternoon at the Hay Creek cabin!. We will build a fire, play games and possibly sled.  
 Pick a group.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
January 15	January 15	January 19	January 19
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30pm	9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm



**YOUNG EXPLORER: BACKYARD BIRD COUNT AND FEEDER CONSTRUCTION**

Fee: \$20:00  
 Have you ever wondered what kind of birds live in your backyard? Let's explore what it is like to be a bird so that we can understand their unique habits and be able to identify our common backyard neighbors by sight and call.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
February 12	February 14	February 15	February 16
4:00-6:30 pm	4:00-6:30 pm	4:00-6:30 pm	4:00-6:30 pm

**YOUNG EXPLORER: WINTER TRACKING**

Fee: \$15  
 Winter is a great time to look for animal signs. Students will learn about how animals are adapted to survive winter and go hiking looking for signs of animals. We will also play games to investigate how animals behave and dig in the snow to create dens like our animal friends.

**YOUNG EXPLORERS SLEDDING AT FRONTENAC**

Fee: \$15  
 Join us sledding at Frontenac for an afternoon. ELC will provide transportation and sleds if needed..

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
February 3	February 3	February 10	February 10
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm	9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
December 9	December 9	December 16	December 16
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm	9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm

**Tiny Trees 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**  
 New students should fill out form under the students tab at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)

**TINY TREES: WINTER SURVIVAL**

**Fee: \$15**  
 Learn skills to help survive our cold winters. Students will get to build shelters, build fires, and work as teams utilizing survival skills.

Group 1	Group 2
January 6	January 6
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm

**TINY TREES: WINTER WONDERLAND ART**

**Fee: \$15**  
 Students will explore our winter wonderland using ice and snow to create art. The group will create snowmen, ice sculptures, and other eco-art. Students will also hike and play games together.

Group 1	Group 2
December 2	December 2
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm

**TINY TREES: SNOWSHOEING AND SLEDDING** Fee: \$15

Hike through our winter wonderland using snowshoes and learn how to identify tracks and follow them. Students will also get a chance to go sledding

Group 1	Group 2
February 17	February 17
9:00 am-Noon	12:30-3:30 pm

Please contact  
[laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com) to discuss  
 payment options if needed.



## **Environmental Learning Center Staff**

Jason Jech – Executive Director  
[rwelcjason@gmail.com](mailto:rwelcjason@gmail.com)

Brad Nagel –Field Instructor  
[rwelcbrad@gmail.com](mailto:rwelcbrad@gmail.com)

Chad Nelson – Field Instructor  
[rwelcchad@gmail.com](mailto:rwelcchad@gmail.com)

Laura Schmidt – Office Manager  
[laura@redwingelc.com](mailto:laura@redwingelc.com)

## **Board of Directors**

Brittany Hauser  
David Ritter  
Craig Johnson  
Erin Augustin  
Joe Gadiant  
Travis Bray  
Jen Olson  
Josh Hanson  
Lisa Bayley  
Cait Larsen  
Chris Heineman  
Adriana Thuerauf  
Kim Nelson

### **Red Wing Environmental Learning Center Bruce Ause Endowment Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution amount: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Thank you for your support!**

