

***Red Wing  
Environmental Learning  
Center***



**2014 Capital Campaign**

***Grow With Us- We Are  
Branching Out!***

***Celebrating Our History And  
Building Momentum For The  
Future!***

### ***Our History:***

The Red Wing Environmental Learning Center (ELC) has brought children outside for the last 44 years – making it one of the oldest year-round centers for outdoor, environmental education in the state of Minnesota. The ELC is seeking your support with a capital campaign to renovate the former Hi Park Dairy Farm.



Using the outdoors as our classroom and experience as the best teacher, the ELC adheres to an old Chinese proverb, “I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand”. The experiences and activities of the ELC train our youth for environmental awareness and leadership in our community and world.

### ***ELC Strategic Plan:***

Recently the Environmental Learning Center purchased an old dairy farm from the Red Wing School District. The dairy farm and grounds need to be renovated before we can operate from this location. We are moving to this location in response to our recently completed ELC strategic plan.



In this plan, we identified goals that will help the ELC move forward into the future with strength and enthusiasm. These goals include:

- ***Increase access to students***
- ***Increase visibility of the ELC within the community***
- ***Expansion and protection of ELC resources***
- ***Increase the impact and strategic use of our financial resources***
- ***Increase diversity of students***

#### ***The Future and your help:***

For the last 44 years, the ELC has led the state and nation in outdoor, environmental education. This new location near the Red Wing schools and the ELC's rich history of quality programming will benefit all students and families in the area. As the ELC moves forward, we will do so with great intentionality and respect of our history, while meeting the new opportunities and challenges that exist in our community and world, but this can only be accomplished with your help!



The ELC Board of Directors has established a budget of \$400,000 for this specific project. This includes items such as the purchase of 442 Guernsey Lane property, energy efficient windows, a large shed for storage of boats, trailers and vans, and further growth of the ELC Endowment fund to support the ELC program now and into the future.

## **We need Your Support!**

This is an exciting time as we build momentum and excitement for the next 44 years of educating and inspiring our youth and community, but this will only be accomplished with your support. So how can you support the ELC?

- **Volunteer:** As we continue to complete the facility at 442 Guernsey Lane, we will need help painting, flooring, and finishing this site.
  - **Donate:** We have established a budget and have begun to raise the funding to support this transition. At the new facility we will develop a donor wall, and we ask that you consider making a financial commitment to support the ELC.
  - **Learn and Share:** We invite you to contact the ELC and schedule a visit with an ELC staff person or Board member to learn more about this exciting time and we hope that you will share this with others in our community
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Bruce Aulse, retired ELC Director wrote in a letter of support:

*‘As we look to future ELC challenges and opportunities, one thing remains constant. There will always be a need to help young people connect with their natural environment through experiential learning. I will conclude by asking for your support to help the ELC fulfill their long range goal of helping our youth develop respect for their environment, themselves and each other through outdoor hands on learning.’*

### **Red Wing Environmental Learning Center**

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