



# ELC

## RED WING ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

### Summer 2021

#### Who's Ready to Play This Summer?

Francis of Assisi once said, "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

It is hard to believe that on March 20th, 2020, the ELC "eddiied" out along with most of the United States. During this time, we continued to scout the rapids and talk with as many people as possible as we worked to develop our plan to "peel out" of the "eddy"! For over 50 years the Red Wing ELC has brought our young people out into the natural world to explore, develop lifelong friendships and a wide variety of skills that will serve them well after their time in our program. Over these 50+ years we have conducted thousands of safe programs, not because we eliminate the risk, but rather by identifying and managing the risk that we encounter along the way, with a huge thanks to our amazing ELC staff!



As you will see we have put together a "normal" schedule for this summer, and we hope you are as excited as our ELC staff to get back together hiking in the woods and paddling on the rivers. I wanted to let you know our expectations for this summer and how we plan to keep our students and staff safe while on these amazing adventures.

Programs will continue to have a more local focus- we will be asking parents to drop off and pick up their student. Please try your best to be on time and maybe even consider putting staff cell numbers in your phone in case we need to call you.

We will continue to do our absolute best to maintain 6 feet of physical distancing. When closer than 6 feet we will expect masks to be worn.

We continue to follow CDC and MDH guidelines and procedures, which includes wearing masks and sanitizing hands.

For extended programs or programs where we feel that maintaining distance and wearing a mask are not feasible- we will ask that students show a negative COVID test or proof of vaccination. Students who get into these programs will be sent more information about when and where these COVID test can be secured.

We have a plan; we are excited, and we know we can safely do this! So check out all that we have planned- grab a friend and lets safely get back together and outside! Who is ready to eddy out with us on the next great adventure?

#### **Financial Assistance is Available**

The online application is available at  
[www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)

Sign up online at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com) under the students tab.

The last day to sign up is April 23, 2021  
Sign ups after will be put on a wait list for full programs.

# ENTRY LEVEL PROGRAMS

Sign up under the students tab at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)

Entry Level Programs are one day activities that let students try an activity and be introduced to the natural areas in the Red Wing region.

## EXPLORE HAY CREEK

Min Age: entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Fee: \$15

Required for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders (taken once in the 2years)

Hay Creek is a clear, beautiful stream, perfect for a refreshing swim in the heat of the summer. Search for critters, learn the local flora, and experience a Minnesota stream ecosystem.

Meet and pick up will be at Hay Creek cabin parking lot.

Directions will be given with the schedule

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*



| Group 1     | Group 2     | Group 3     |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| June 30     | August 17   | August 20   |
| 10 am -2 pm | 10 am -2 pm | 10 am -2 pm |



## EXPLORE BIKE TOURING

Min Age: entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Fee: \$20.00

Take on the world on two wheels, under your own human power. Go for a bike ride with the ELC for the day while learning basic bike safety and enjoying the beautiful local bike routes.

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1   | Group 2   | Group 3   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| June 28   | July 1    | August 13 |
| 9 am-3 pm | 9 am-3 pm | 9 am-3 pm |

## EXPLORE CANOEING

Min Age: entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Fee: \$20.00

Hop in a true Minnesotan boat, the canoe, and explore the backwaters of the Mississippi River. Practice paddling, steering, and communicating with your canoe buddy and explore the diverse river ecosystem.

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1   | Group 2   | Group 3   | Group 4   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| June 7    | July 14   | July 16   | August 9  |
| 9 am-3 pm | 9 am-3 pm | 9 am-3 pm | 9 am-3 pm |

## ELECTIVE

### CATFISHING

Minimum age: 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Fee: \$25

We will canoe down to Red Wing Wildlife League beach where we will camp and fish all night for Flathead Catfish.

| Times             | Group 1              | Group 2              |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4:00 pm – 9:00 am | August 10- August 11 | August 23- August 24 |

**Financial Assistance is Available.**

The online application is available at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)

# CORE PROGRAMS

## BIKING I: GRAVEL AND SINGLE TRACK

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

**Prerequisite for 7<sup>th</sup> grader:** Explore Bike Touring

**8<sup>th</sup> grade and above:** no prerequisite

**Fee:** \$60.00

This program will explore the best of what Red Wing has to offer for mountain biking as well as exploring some new trails in the surrounding area. We will focus the first day on local trails and backroads. The second two days will be biking with an overnight.

Students will need their own mountain bike and helmet.

| Activity/Times                     | Date            |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Orientation/Skills 9:00am – 2:00pm | June 7          |
| Trip: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm            | June 9- June 10 |

## BIKING I : TRAILS AND BACKROADS

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

**Prerequisite for 7<sup>th</sup> grader:** Explore Bike Touring

**8<sup>th</sup> grade and above:** no prerequisite

**Fee:** \$60.00

This biking program will explore what pretty Red Wing has to offer for backroad biking as well as exploring the Cannon Valley Trail. We will focus the first day on local trails and backroads. The second two days will be biking with an overnight.

Students will need their own bike and helmet.

| Activity/Times                     | Date                 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Orientation/Skills 9:00am – 3:00pm | August 9             |
| Trip: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm            | August 11- August 12 |

## SEA KAYAKING I

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

**Fee:** \$60.00

Time to pack the hatches, tuck in the skirts, and grab a paddle for a trip down the backwaters and tributaries of the Mississippi River. Learn the basics of sea kayaking and spend a night on a beach along the river.

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Activity / Times                     | Group 1   | Group 2          | Group 3     |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------|
| Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm  | June 8    | June 28          | July 19     |
| Trip Meet: 9:00am<br>Pick up: 2:00pm | June 9-10 | June 29- June 30 | July 20- 21 |

## CANOEING I

**Prerequisite :** Explore Canoeing

**8<sup>th</sup> grade and above:** no prerequisite

**Fee:** \$60.00

It's time to pack the canoe for an overnight excursion along the Cannon River. Prior to the overnight, you will spend time improving your steering skills, learning how to waterproof your gear for the boat, and searching for wildlife on the Vermillion and Mississippi rivers.

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Activity/Times                             | Group 1         | Group 2          | Group 3              |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Orientation/Skills 9:00am – 3:00pm         | June 7          | July 12          | August 16            |
| Skills: 9:00am-3:00 pm                     | June 8          | July 13          | August 17            |
| Trip :<br>Leave: 9:00am<br>Pick up: 2:00pm | June 9- June 10 | July 14- July 15 | August 18- August 19 |

## SAILING I

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

**Fee:** \$60

Come and learn to sail. Time will be spent learning the parts of the boat and sail, the dynamics of sailing and how to put the two together to SAIL.

We will spend time on several different types of sailboats and visit numerous waypoints around Lake Pepin. *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Activity / Times        | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3   |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Intro: 9:00am - 3:00pm  | June 21 | July 6  | August 24 |
| Sailing 9:00 am-3:00 pm | June 22 | July 7  | August 25 |
| Sailing 9:00 am-3:00 pm | June 23 | July 8  | August 26 |

**Are you an 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader and would like to try ELC for the first time ?**

**Its not too late!**

**Call Laura Schmidt 388-7339 for 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade for program placement.**

**Financial Assistance is Available.**

**The online application is available at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)**

## CORE PROGRAMS

### CANOEING II

**Prerequisite:** Canoeing I

**Fee: \$100.00**

Spend a day paddling local rivers and planning for a three day, two night trip on the Zumbro River. We will explore the best of what's around with fishing, camping and fun on the river.

| Activity / Times                       | Dates               |
|--|---------------------|
| Orientation/Skills:<br>9:00am - 3:00pm | June 15             |
| Trip Leave: 8:00am –<br>Return: 4:00pm | June 16-<br>June 18 |

### SAILING II

**Prerequisite:** Sailing I

**Fee: \$100.00**

Sailing II will consist of two days of sailing to freshen up our terminology and skills. Our overnight will be spent in a leeward point somewhere on Lake Pepin.

| Activity / Times          | Dates                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sailing Skills<br>9am-3pm | August 30                   |
| Sailing Skills<br>9am-3pm | August 31                   |
| Trip: 9am-<br>3pm         | September 1-<br>September 2 |

### SEA KAYAKING II

**Prerequisite:** Sea Kayaking I or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above no prerequisite.

**Fee: \$100.00**

Time to explore beyond Red Wing's Mississippi. Come take an extended trip exploring the backwaters of the Mississippi River starting in Red Wing and heading downriver through locks and dams to Wabasha. *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Activity / Times                           | Group 1             | Group 2           |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Orientation/Skills:<br>9:00am - 3:00pm     | June 14             | July 6            |
| Trip Leave at 9:00am –<br>Pick up: 2:00 pm | June 15-<br>June 17 | July 7-<br>July 9 |

### CANOEING III

**Prerequisite:** Canoeing I and II and negative Covid test

**Fee: \$200**

Canoe III will be a seven day adventure into the heart of the BWCA. The main part of our trip will be along the MN and Canadian border, a historical trade route of the Voyageurs. Tie on your favorite fishing lure, grab your paddle and let's canoe.

| Activity                              | Dates               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Orientation/Skills: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | June 14             |
| Trip: Leave 8:00 am<br>6:00 pm        | June 21-<br>June 27 |

### SEA KAYAKING III

**Prerequisite:** Sea Kayaking II

**Fee: \$200**

Join us for a five day sea kayaking trip in the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. We will head up to Munising Michigan where we will paddle for six days along the picturesque shoreline of Lake Superior. Highlights will include sea caves, ship wrecks light houses, sand dunes, beaches, side hikes in a virgin forest and along trout streams.

| Activity                              | Dates                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Orientation/Skills: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | August 13              |
| Trip: 8:00 am<br>6:00 pm              | August 16<br>August 21 |



**Financial Assistance is Available.**

The online application is available at [www.redwingelc.com](http://www.redwingelc.com)



## YOUNG EXPLORER PROGRAMS

### Entering 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### YOUNG EXPLORERS: SAILING

**Fee: \$15.00**

Join us for a day of sailing on the beautiful Lake Pepin on the ELC 27 foot Tarton sailboat.

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3   | Group 4   |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| June 29 | July 1  | August 23 | August 27 |
| 1pm-4pm | 1pm-4pm | 1pm-4pm   | 1pm-4pm   |

#### YOUNG EXPLORERS: LOG ROLLING

Fee: \$10

The sport of log rolling dates back to the 1800's. Spend an hour learning the techniques of balance, core strength, and agility to stay on a log. *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1   | Group 2    | Group 3   | Group 4    |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| June 15   | June 15    | July 13   | July 13    |
| 10am-11am | 11 am-noon | 10am-11am | 11 am-noon |

#### YOUNG EXPLORERS: CANOEING

**Fee: \$15**

You will spend this session in a true Minnesota boat, the canoe. During the day you will explore the diverse Mississippi River backwaters, practice paddling, steering and communicating with your canoe buddy. *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1   | Group 2       | Group 3   | Group 4       |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| June 16   | June 16       | July 12   | July 12       |
| 9am- noon | 12:30-3:30 pm | 9am- noon | 12:30-3:30 pm |



## TINY TREES- AT HOK SI LA

### Entering 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> Grade

#### BUG HUNT

**Fee: \$10**

Do you love collecting bugs? Do you like to make them pets? Then this class is for you! We will collect bugs and then use magnifying glasses and an insect guide to further learn about and enjoy these crawling critters! Our world would be quite different without them! *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1 | Group 2    |
|---------|------------|
| June 10 | June 10    |
| 10-12   | 12:30-2:30 |

#### BACKYARD BIRDS

**Fee: \$10**

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. *Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1  | Group 2       |
|----------|---------------|
| July 8   | July 8        |
| 10-12 pm | 12:30-2:30 pm |

#### NATURE ART

**Fee: \$10**

Come create a natural work of art using materials gathered around Hoki-si-la Park. You will have various examples to create your artwork after, or use your own creativity to make an original masterpiece!

*Please sign up for all available groups using the same program priority and ELC will pick the group.*

| Group 1  | Group 2       |
|----------|---------------|
| August 5 | August 5      |
| 10-12 pm | 12:30-2:30 pm |



## 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)

## 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!**

## Board of Directors

|                 |                        |
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| Scott Lutjen    |                        |



**“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I – I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.” Robert Frost**