



ELC

RED WING ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

Volume 2016 Number 2

Summer 2016

We want to welcome all our students, new and old! We are so excited that you are with us. As you look through the summer newsletter, I hope that you find yourself as excited as we are about the summer adventures that are in store for you. Please take time to look through the whole newsletter and if you have any questions please feel free to contact us. **Here are just a few things that we wanted to highlight for you. See page two for details:**

- **Community Brick Oven Pizza nights**
- **Advanced Fisheries**
- **Bluffs and Brews**
- **Solar Power Up: 2016 Earth Week Event**



Parent Informational Meeting

Students Welcome
Have questions about ELC or
would like to see the facility?
Join us!
Thursday April 14, 2015
6:00pm – 7:00pm
ELC Building
442 Guernsey Lane

Sign up online at
www.redwingelc.com under the
students tab.

Required annual online forms should be
filled out with summer sign ups.
The forms are available under the students
tab.

Sign up deadline is April 17th
After April 17th, you will be put on a wait list.
Sign ups are not on a first come first served
basis.

Financial Assistance is Available.
The online application is
available at
www.redwingelc.com

Community Brick Oven Pizza Nights:

On the third Thursday of each month from 6-7:30pm the community of Red Wing is invited to come to our new facility and enjoy brick fired pizza, join in conversation with others in the community and potentially enjoy a presentation, slide show, music, ultimate frisbee or something completely different. There will be special guests that will be invited each month as a way to express our thanks for all they do for the ELC and community. These guests will include, Red Wing Shoe, Red Wing Public Schools, Xcel Energy, Red Wing YMCA, Red Wing Area Seniors and The Red Wing Chamber. Cost will be simply a free will donation. We will begin doing these community nights on May 19 and will go through October. We hope you will join us!

Advanced Fisheries:

This summer we are partnering with Xcel Energy and their Environmental Department to offer an in depth studies our local fish and their habitat. Time will be not only be spent fishing, shocking, identifying and analyzing fish, but also learning about the degrees of education that can land you a future job in this field. Finally, at the conclusion of the course the students will help in the establishment of an aquarium, which will be on display here at the ELC with various native fish. It should be an amazing opportunity!

Bluffs & Brews:

Bluffs & Brews is a collaborative program between the Red Wing Environmental Learning Center and the Goodhue County Historical Society that began in 2015. There are three sections to a *Bluffs & Brews* program. First, the group explores a local history topic through an engaging presentation and Q & A session. Immediately after, the group explores the outdoors, specifically a local area that represents the historical topic discussed. Following the outdoor adventure, the group convenes at a local restaurant to reflect on the experience, and for an opportunity to win a free pair of Vasque shoes.

Price per program: Members: \$15 | Non-members: \$25

Program cost includes equipment rental.

Contact Goodhue Historical Society for more information and registration

Email: education@goodhistory.org

Phone: 651.388.6024

•Paddling the Vermillion River and Exploring Our Impact

Saturday, June 18th, 3-6:30 PM

The first *Bluffs & Brews* of 2016 takes participants on a canoe-bound journey through the nearby Vermillion River. Prior to embarking on the river adventure, the group will hear about the history of human interaction with the river—including industrial pollution, fishing, and recent attempts to clean the river.

•Paddling the Chippewa River to Lake Pepin

Saturday, July 16th, 3-6:30 PM

The second *Bluffs & Brews* program shifts to a Wisconsin river. The group will go on a journey along the Chippewa all the way to the entrance of Lake Pepin. The historical discussion for this program will focus on the Lake Pepin, specifically, on the pre-contact Native American groups that made Lake Pepin a cultural center for hundreds of years before white settlement.

•Paddling the Mississippi River Backwaters & Learning about "Big Muddy"

Saturday, August 27th, 3-6:30 PM

The final *Bluffs & Brews* program of 2016, this program takes the group along the backwaters of North America's mightiest river: the Mississippi. Prior to the paddle, learn about the Upper Mississippi River's influence on Red Wing, and what makes the stretch of the river from Saint Anthony Falls to Cairo, Illinois, so unique.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Solar Power Up: 2016 Earth Week Event

Solar Power Your Home, Business or Farm

April 19, 2016 7:00 – 8:30 pm (Doors open at 6:30 pm to view RWHS Sustainability Club Projects)

Red Wing Public Library, Lower Level, 225 East Ave.

This free 90-minute seminar will educate homeowners, small business owners and farmers on the benefits of solar energy. Solar power has never been more affordable or easier to obtain. This community education event will help you navigate the process of going solar and help you understand all options.

Here's What We'll Cover:

Experts will explain the basics of solar systems

How to own your own system & financing

How solar garden subscriptions work

How to determine if solar is right for you

Speakers:

· Dathan Lythgoe, Midwest Renewable Energy Association, will present on owning your own solar panel system

· Chris Meyer, Southeast Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) Coordinator, will present on solar garden subscriptions

Interested in joining the Red Wing Paddle Club?

Contact Dee Bender at
deeRedWing@gmail.com.

Find great walking, biking and hiking maps at

Live Healthy Red Wing

www.livehealthyredwing.org

Interested in Biking?

Saturday, May 7th, 2016

5th Annual Tour de Red Wing Ride for Kids

www.redwingrotary.org/Tour.html

Saturday June 4, 2016

5th Annual Tour de Pepin in Lake City MN

<http://lakecity.org/news-events/tour-de-pepin/>

Smithsonian Water/ ways program

This fall, Red Wing gets to play host to a new Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit entitled *Water/Ways*. *This exhibit will run from October 1 - November 13, 2016*. There are numerous partners involved and there will be numerous activities that the public is welcome to participate in. This traveling exhibit and community engagement initiative will allow us to explore the meaning of water to our local identity, history, and faith traditions, as well as to envision the future of water. The details for this are still being developed- so stay tuned.

ENTRY LEVEL PROGRAMS

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 THE BELLE CREEK

Min Age: entering 6th Grade

Fee: \$20

**ELC
Favorite!**

Belle 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.

Pick a group:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
June 22	August 8	August 16	August 24
10 am- 3 pm	10 am- 3 pm	10 am- 3 pm	10 am- 3 pm



EXPLORE ROCK CLIMBING

Min Age: entering 6th Grade

Fee: \$20.00

Climb real rock outside right here in Red Wing! Spend half a day in the shadow of Barn Bluff, climbing the limestone. Learn the basic process of tying knots, communication, rock climbing safety, and the history of Barn Bluff.

Dates: (choose one)

EXPLORE BIKE TOURING

Min Age: entering 6th 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.

Dates: (choose one)

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
June 3	June 3	August 22	August 22
9am-12 pm	12 pm-3 pm	9am-12 pm	12 pm-3 pm

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
August 9	August 24	September 1
9 am-3 pm	9 am-3 pm	9 am-3 pm



EXPLORE CANOEING

Min Age: entering 6th 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.

Dates: (Choose one)

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
June 10	August 16	July 25	July 12
9 am-3 pm	9 am-3 pm	9 am-3 pm	9 am-3 pm

CORE PROGRAMS- LEVEL I

BIKE TOURING I

Minimum Age: 7th grade

Prerequisite for 7th grader: Explore Bike Touring (Bike Intro)

8th grade and above: no prerequisite

Fee: \$60.00

Learn and practice bike touring safety, equipment and techniques. You will need your own bike and bike rack for your bike. Other equipment will be discussed at orientation. Trip will be on the WI back roads with an overnight along Lake Pepin.



Activity/Times	Group 1	Group 2
Orientation/Skills 9:00am – 3:00pm	July 6	August 29
Trip: Leave: 9:00am Return: 3:00 pm	July 7- July 8	August 30- August 31



SEA KAYAKING I

Age: 7th 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.

Activity / Times	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	June 28	August 15	August 23
Trip Leave: 9:00am Return: 3:00pm	June 29 June 30	August 16 August 17	August 24 August 25

CANOEING I

Minimum Age: 7th grade

Prerequisite for 7th grader: Explore Canoeing (Canoeing Intro)

8th grade and above: no prerequisite

Fee: \$60.00

It's time to pack the canoe for an overnight excursion along the Red Cedar and Chippewa River in Wisconsin. 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.



Activity/Times	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Orientation/Skills 9:00am – 3:00pm	June 6	June 13	August 2
Skills 9:00am – 3:00pm	June 7	June 14	August 3
Trip :Leave 9:00am Return 3:00pm	June 8 June 9	June 15 June 16	August 4 August 5

ROCK CLIMBING I

Minimum Age: 7th grade

Prerequisite for 7th grader: Rock Climbing Intro

8th grader and above: no prerequisite

Fee: \$60.00

Equip yourself with the basic knowledge and skills of belaying and rock climbing. You will not only have ample opportunity to climb on Red Wing's historic limestone at Barn Bluff, you will learn how to belay, tie knots, and conduct yourself as a knowledgeable and safe rock climber.



Activity/Times	Group 1	Group 2
Orientation :9:00am – 3:00pm	June 6	June 28
Skills: 9:00am – 3:00pm	June 7	June 29
Skills:9:00am – 3:00pm	June 8	June 30
Rain date, If needed 9:00am – 3:00pm	June 9	July 1

CORE PROGRAMS- LEVEL II



BIKE TOURING II

Minimum Age: 8th Grade
Prerequisite: Bike Touring I
Fee: \$100.00

We will be biking along the river towns of the Mississippi on the rolling backroads of Wisconsin. There will be plenty of beach time as we camp along the shores of the river after a day of biking. We will explore vast bluffslands, farm lands, and the little river towns along the way.

Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	August 16
Trip Leave: 8:00am – Return: 4:00pm	August 17 August 19
Wrap-up/Potluck for parents & participants 6:00- 7:30 pm	August 25



ROCK CLIMBING II

Minimum Age: 8th Grade
Prerequisite: Rock Climbing I
Fee: \$100.00

Begin to learn how to safely set up on top rope. Practice crack and face climbing techniques. This program will spend three days of climbing and camping at Devil's Lake, WI where we will also learn about the geology of the area.

Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	August 1
Trip Leave: 8:00am – Return: 6:00pm	August 2 August 4
Wrap-up/Potluck for parents & participants: 6:00-7:30 pm	August 11



CANOEING II

Minimum Age: 8th Grade
Prerequisite: Canoeing I
Fee: \$100.00

Canoe down the Vermillion and Cannon Rivers in preparation for a three day trip paddling on the St Croix River. Skills will include fishing, practice back country camping and cookery and learning about the natural history of the area.

Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	June 13
Trip Leave: 8:00am – Return: 4:00pm	June 14 June 16
Wrap-up/Potluck for parents & participants: 5:00-8:00 pm Isaac Walton League	June 23



CORE PROGRAMS- LEVEL II- Continued

SEA KAYAKING II

Prerequisite: Sea Kayaking I

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 Wabasha and heading downriver through locks and dams.



Activity / Times	Group 1	Group 2
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	June 14	July 8
Trip Leave at 9:00am – Return 4:00pm	June 15 June 17	July 11 July 13
Wrap-up/Potluck for parents And participants 6:00-7:30pm	June 24	July 14

CORE PROGRAMS LEVEL III



SEA KAYAKING III

Prerequisite: Sea Kayaking II

Fee: \$250

Join us for a 7day 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. We will paddle out to Grand Island, camping on the island and along the shore.

Activity	Dates
Orientation/Pack out: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	July 28
Trip: Leave 6:00 am .- Return 7 00 pm	July 30 August 5
Wrap up / Potluck Supper Open to the Community 6:-7:30 pm	August 15

Financial Assistance is Available!

BIKE TOURING III

Prerequisite: Bike Touring II

Fee: \$250.00

We will be headed to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Our journey will starts on the Mickelson Trail and heads south on the Centennial Trail. Mountain bikes recommended. We will conclude our trip visiting Mount Rushmore and the Needles Highway.



Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation/Climb: 9:00 am-3:00 pm	May 21
Trip: Leave 9 :00 am Return: 6:00 pm	June 6 June 12
Wrap-up / Potluck Supper. Open to the Community: 6:00–7:30pm	June 22

Electives

ADVANCED FISHERIES PROGRAM

Min. Age: Going into 8th

Fee: \$75.00

This is a unique opportunity to work with the Xcel Energy and their Environmental Department. During this program students will learning techniques for fisheries management, participate in an inventory of fish populations and the development of an aquarium to be on display at the ELC. Participants will have the opportunity to use and observe various types of equipment for catching, counting, measuring and identifying fish.

Activity	Dates	Time
Orientation	June 6	9:00 am-3:00 pm
Program Days	June 20-June 24th	9:00 am-3:00 pm



CANNON RIVER EXPEDITION

Prerequisite: Canoeing II

Fee: \$125.00

The Cannon River flows 112 miles from Lake Tetonka to Red Wing where it joins the Mississippi River. During this course, it drains a watershed which is approximately 1460 square miles in size. This expedition will travel the entire 112 miles from Lake Tetonka to Red Wing and will be a prelude to the Smithsonian Waterways project coming to Red Wing this fall. We will partner with the Cannon River Watershed Partnership and during our travels down river we hope to raise awareness and create a sense of connectedness by bringing gifts and visiting with local leaders and such.



Activity / Times	Dates
Orientation/Skills: 9:00am - 3:00pm	August 2
Trip Leave: 9:00am – Return: 3:00pm	August 8 August 12
Wrap-up/Potluck for	August 18



YOUNG EXPLORER PROGRAMS

Entering 3rd-5th Grade

Sign up online at www.redwingelc.com under the students tab.
Required annual online forms should be filled out with summer sign ups.
The online forms are available under the students tab.

Sign up deadline is April 17th

After April 17th, you will be put on a wait list.

TUBING

Fee: \$5

Beat the heat with a day of tubing on the Rush River . Relax, play, and swim as you wind down the river through the beautiful countryside of Wisconsin.

Pick a group

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
June 17	July 26	August 17	August 23	August 26
10:00 am-2:00 pm	10:00 am-2:00 pm	10:00 am-2:00 pm	10:00 am-2:00 pm	10:00 am-2:00 pm



PLAY BOATING

Fee: \$5

Spend an afternoon on the water paddling a whitewater kayak, swimming and having a picnic lunch.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
July 6	July 7	August 22	August 23	August 24
10:00 am - 2:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm

CREEKING

Fee: \$5

Come along and go “creeking” in Hay Creek. You will be introduced to a stretch of Hay Creek. We will hike in the creek and observe and identify local flora and signs of wildlife along the way! Pick a group:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 4	Group 3
June 13	June 14	June 14	June 15
12:00 pm-3:00 pm	10:00 am-1:00 pm	1:30 pm-4:30 pm	12:00 pm-3:00 pm

BUILD A TERRARIUM

Fee: \$5

Bring your jars or small aquariums. We will create our own miniature ecosystem.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 2	Group 4
August 10	August 10	August 11	August 11
9:00 am-12:00 pm	12:00 pm-3:00 pm	9:00 am-12:00 pm	12:00 pm-3:00 pm





Environmental Learning Center Staff

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Stephanie Riegelma
Kevin Riester
Tom Schneider

**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!



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