

WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION BOARD



2005-2007 BIENNIAL REPORT



A STATE BOARD TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN ALL SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY

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September 2007

The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) has worked conscientiously the past two years to maintain earlier successes and initiate new paths for environmental education in our state.

The creation of an updated strategic plan, *EE 2010: A Plan for Advancing Environmental Education in Wisconsin*, was completed in July, 2006. Seven identified goals reflect opinions from stakeholders throughout Wisconsin. These goals are intended to guide not only the WEEB but all institutions working to enhance the environmental literacy of our citizens. Future actions of the WEEB will reflect the work of committees dedicated to achieving goals and objectives detailed in the plan.

The establishment of the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation has been realized. This nonprofit group has begun to 'plant seeds' in an effort to partner with the private sector to realize additional support of WEEB initiatives. During the next biennial period these seeds will continue to be nurtured as more are planted.

The WEEB continues to administer a successful Grant Program aimed at funding projects that provide opportunities for Wisconsin residents to learn about the importance of creating and maintaining sustainable economic and ecological environments in the state. State forestry funds (appropriated annually from the segregated fees of the forestry account of the conservation fund) continue as the major source of dollars for the WEEB Grant Program. These funds support forestry education and school forest projects. General environmental education projects are currently supported only by funds secured through a 5% surcharge on environmental fines.

This report provides an overview of the projects made possible by WEEB financial support. The variety of projects is exciting. It speaks to the importance of and need for environmental education literacy for all citizens of our state.

Every day we find ourselves making decisions that impact the environment. Environmental education ensures that our heritage of concern and stewardship for our environment will continue for generations to come.

The WEEB will continue to provide leadership and opportunities to make this happen.

Pat Marinac

Pat Marinac, Chairperson



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

July, 2007

Dear Readers:

Wisconsin has a long and proud history of dedication and service to the environment. Wisconsin is a national leader in mercury reduction. We have the largest group certification of nationally-owned forest lands in North America. We are a national leader in recycling. And Earth Day, now a national celebration, was founded right here in Wisconsin by former Governor Gaylord Nelson.

In Wisconsin, enjoying and protecting our natural resources is not just something we do – it's a part of who we are. From every corner of our state, Wisconsin is blessed with natural beauty. As Governor, protecting the environment and preserving our state's beauty for future generations to enjoy is one of my highest priorities. This year, I declared June 27, 2007 "Stewardship Day" across Wisconsin, and announced the purchase of 10,700 acres of land across the state. From the bluffs of La Crosse to the forests of the north to the more urban setting of Big Muskego Lake, these purchases preserved even more of Wisconsin's beauty and ensured the people of Wisconsin can enjoy it for generations to come.

Ensuring that all citizens can enjoy a clean and healthy environment is essential to our way of life here in Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) has been a great partner in those efforts. Your work to promote environmental literacy across all age groups is of particular importance because environmental stewardship is not just one person or group's responsibility – everyone must play a part. We all have a duty to protect the environment we live in.

WEEB, its members and supporters are achieving great things their advocacy for the environment. I wish WEEB continued success, and urge you to keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Doyle
Governor



*P*roviding educational opportunities to Wisconsin's government officials, business leaders, students, and citizens has always been a top priority for the UW System and the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board. It is extremely important for Wisconsin's future to educate our state's residents about the value of conserving our natural resources.

WEEB is one of the most credible organizations through which the public can learn about the importance of preserving Wisconsin's natural areas, and deserves all the support, both economic and moral, that can be provided to it. The high-quality service WEEB performs for the citizens of Wisconsin is not something that can be done without, and the UW System fully supports restoring the general WEEB grant program budget to historical levels.

Kevin Reilly, President University of Wisconsin System



*O*ur New Wisconsin Promise advances a well-educated citizenry as the foundation of our strong democracy and healthy economy. Our students must be prepared to participate in the social, economic and civic life of their community, and cultural and environmental literacy are central to being good citizens in our 21st century

interconnected world. Programs promoted by the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) contribute to our efforts by promoting global and environmental literacy, and environmental stewardship. While learning about the environment through WEEB programs, students often perform even better because they feel empowered, are actively engaged in their own learning, and are challenged to make decisions about the environment.

Traveling to schools and communities across our state, I see students learning the importance of being good stewards of our environment. Environmental literacy is fundamental to the future well-being of our state and is grounded in our state's history of environmental stewardship, a lasting legacy of Gaylord Nelson's lifework. The partnership and collaboration between the Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board helps to promote a quality environmental education for every child in Wisconsin.

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent of Public Instruction



*T*he Wisconsin Technical College System is proud to partner with the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board and the new Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation in its effort to empower the citizens of Wisconsin to make wise environmental decisions and take responsible actions in their workplaces and communities. This commitment, through environmental leadership development, competitive grants programs, and balanced advocacy for our natural environment results in the conservation of the natural resources so important to the health and well being of the state and the nation.

Education is the tool we collectively bring to the table and used effectively enhances our ability to preserve Wisconsin's rich natural resources far into the future. Through education, WEEB significantly impacts local, regional and state efforts to inform Wisconsin citizens about the importance of our environment. The WTCS applauds the goals of Wisconsin Environmental Board and its new Foundation as it continues to advance its important work in creating environmental awareness among the great citizens of the state.

Daniel Clancy, President Wisconsin Technical College System



*I*t's important that children and adults have ample opportunities to spend time outdoors to maintain our connection with nature. The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board, through its leadership and grants program, has helped people of all ages in hundreds of schools and organizations learn more about the environment, experience the outdoors, and get involved in protecting and enjoying our abundant natural resources.

Our mission at the Department of Natural Resources is to protect and enhance Wisconsin's natural resources. To do that, Wisconsin needs an educated citizenry that is both knowledgeable and willing to take action on behalf of the environment. The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board helps meet this need.

I am proud of the accomplishments of the board and strongly support WEEB's programs.

Scott Hassett, Secretary Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

AgricultureAlicia Adams
Platteville

2005-2006

Will Allen
Milwaukee

2006-2007

Business & IndustryMike Krysiak
Green Bay

2004-

Conservation and Environmental OrganizationsDavid Wisnefske
Monroe

2004-

Department of Natural ResourcesScott Hassett, Secretary
Vance Rayburn, Designee
Madison

2003-

2004-

Department of Public InstructionElizabeth Burmaster, Superintendent
Shelley Lee, Designee
Madison

2001-

1999-

Energy IndustryJanet Brandt
Madison

2002-2007

Okho Bohm Hagedorn
Green Bay

2007-

Environmental EducatorsPat Marinac
Iola

1998-

ForestryCathy Nordine
Land O'Lakes

2002-2005

Gerry Mich
Appleton

2005-

Higher EducationKrista Connors James
Menomonie

2002-2005

Steve Sandstrom
Ashland

2005-

LaborWilliam Neuhaus
Kenosha

1990-

Legislative Representative, State AssemblyDuWayne Johnsrud
Eastman

2003-2005

Donald Friske
Merrill

2005-

Mark Miller
Monona

2000-2005

Louis Molepske
Stevens Point

2005-

Legislative Representative, State SenateNeal Kedzie
Elkhorn

2003-

Fred Risser
Madison

2003-

Nature Centers/Museums/ZoosGail Gilson-Pierce
Eagle River

2004-2007

Debra McRae
Franklin

2007-

University of Wisconsin-SystemKevin Reilly, President
Robin Harris, Designee
Madison

2004-

1996-

Wisconsin Technical College SystemDaniel Clancy, President
Jim Gibson, Designee
Madison

2004-

2000-

THE WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION BOARD (WEEB)



The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) is made up of the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources; the Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction; the President of the University of Wisconsin System; the President of the Wisconsin Technical College System; one majority and one minority party senator and one majority and one minority party representative; and nine members representing environmental educators, conservation and environmental organizations, business and industry, agriculture, labor, faculty of public and private institutions of higher education, energy industry, forestry, and nature centers, museums and zoos.

The WEEB employs one part-time staff person (0.5 FTE on GPR funds with additional time as contracts allow). The employee is supervised via the administrative structure of the College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point.

OUR MISSION

To provide leadership in the development of learning opportunities that empower Wisconsin citizens with the knowledge and skills needed to make wise environmental decisions and take responsible actions in their personal lives, workplaces, and communities.

Our primary duties established by 1989 Wisconsin Act 299 are to:

- Identify needs and establish priorities for environmental education in Wisconsin.
- Create and maintain a competitive grants program that is in accordance with the needs and priorities identified by the Board through continual appraisal and evaluation.
- Be a catalyst in seeking private funds in support of the grants program.

OUR FOUR CENTRAL PURPOSES ARE TO:

- Provide positive leadership, advocacy and policy making in the area of environmental literacy and education.
- Support the development of local leaders and their fellow citizens to become environmentally aware and concerned enough to act positively on environmental issues.
- Advocate the development and implementation of interdisciplinary environmentally-based curricula at all levels of the educational system.
- Support the continuing professional development of staff working at all levels of formal or informal education to enable them to accomplish needed environmental education goals.

THE STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN WISCONSIN

The WEEB's primary avenue for promoting environmental education is through grants to local, regional, and statewide projects. All the grants awarded within the timeframe of this biennial report (2005-2007) are highlighted within the 'Grant Program' section of this document. A few projects are highlighted within this portion of the report as documentation of the WEEB's efforts to achieve its four central purposes.

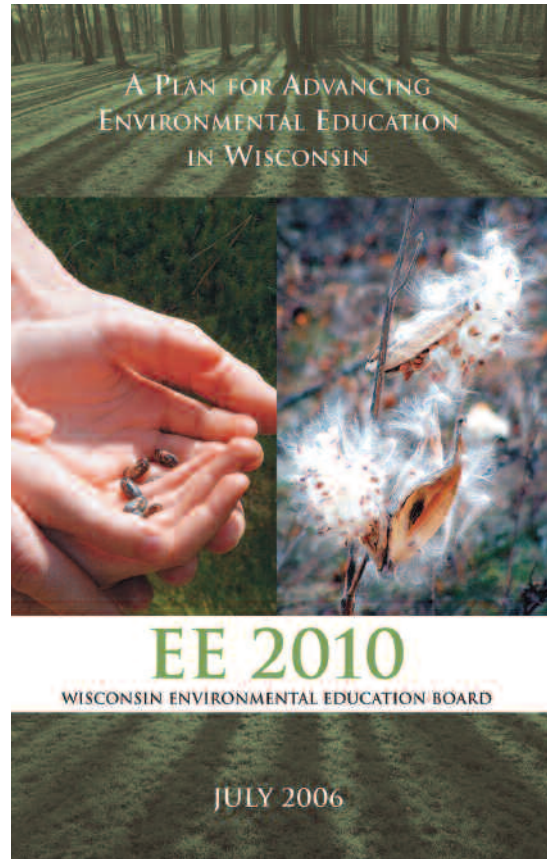
CENTRAL PURPOSE ONE LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND POLICY MAKING

Since its inception, the Board has been a very active, hands-on working group. In addition to operating an environmental grants program, the Board has become recognized as a consensus-building group on environmental education issues. The unique make-up and mission of the Board position it to provide needed leadership to environmental education while recognizing the importance of building common purpose and direction among diverse stakeholders.

The Board's strategy for leadership, advocacy and policy making has included strategic planning, a series of forums to move initiatives forward, and enhanced networking and communication.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The WEEB strives to review and revise its state EE Plan on a five-year basis. It believes this timeframe allows the plan to maintain the state's strong EE heritage and respond to contemporary circumstances while at the



same time establishing a proactive agenda. On a ten-year cycle (i.e., in 2010, 2020, etc.), the WEEB hopes to hold statewide summits as part of its planning process. The interim 5-year planning periods (i.e., in 2015, 2025, etc.) will utilize a process similar to that used for the *EE 2010* document.

The WEEB approached its 2010 state planning effort by commissioning 13 individuals from a larger pool of nominations. These 13 individuals were selected so as to represent broad geographic distribution and also to address major EE stakeholder groups. This task force group reviewed several documents and reports as background to a two-day facilitated session where the draft framework for the *2010 Plan* was created.

The draft framework created by the task force group was available for public comment from October 27, 2005 to December 15, 2005. Thirty-six individuals provided written feedback. The WEEB Planning Committee met in February 2006 to incorporate these public comments into the draft framework. To maintain brevity, action oriented items, which would help to accomplish the

identified goals, were edited from this document. However, a record of these edited action-oriented items were provided to each associated strategic committee in an effort to facilitate creation and implementation of annual operational plans.

EE 2010 identifies seven major priorities. They are:

- 🌿 Focus content of environmental education on holistic outcomes.
- 🌿 Support and enhance cooperation and communication within the environmental education community.
- 🌿 Support and enhance environmental education in PreK-12 schools.
- 🌿 Support and enhance implementation of environmental literacy in institutions of higher education.
- 🌿 Support and enhance the expansion of non-formal and non-traditional environmental education.
- 🌿 Develop a research and evaluation agenda for environmental education.
- 🌿 Secure long-term funding for environmental education in Wisconsin.

Copies of the plan are available from the WEEB office or it may be viewed on the WEEB website.

In May 2007 three strategic committees: education, leadership and research were established and charged. Each strategic committee is responsible for creating and overseeing an action plan designed to implement one or more objectives identified within the *EE2010* document.

The education strategic committee identified two objectives to begin working toward:

- 🌿 Develop a partnership steering committee for promoting the Green and Healthy Schools program.
- 🌿 Create a network for non-formal educators through the Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education (WAEE).

The leadership strategic committee also identified two objectives to begin working toward:

- 🌿 Develop an EE white paper and stakeholder list that outlines a justification for EE in Wisconsin, identifies past successes and current initiatives, presents relevant research, and describes a common vision for EE in the state.

- 🌿 Develop a community-based social marketing campaign for EE in WI.

The research strategic committee identified one objective to begin working toward:

- 🌿 Establish a research working group and identify completed EE research in Wisconsin (1997-2007) to help ensure future EE endeavors will be 'based on research findings.'

Additional information about the committees' responsibilities, membership, plans and progress is available on the WEEB website.

FORUMS AND SUMMITS

The WEEB has attempted to gather some data on curriculum development, dissemination, and implementation of programs by gathering people together at "forum" or "summit" meetings. A few of these events are highlighted here.

K-12 Water Education Forum

In April 2003, 25 water educators from across the state gathered to determine the needs and future directions of water education. The meeting was cosponsored by the WEEB, Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters, and the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education. Seventeen agencies were represented. Agenda items included:

- 🌿 A review of what is currently happening in Wisconsin K-12 water education.
- 🌿 Examples of comprehensive approaches to Wisconsin environmental education (e.g., forestry and energy).
- 🌿 Analysis of strategies related to a comprehensive K-12 Water Resources Education Program for Wisconsin.

Participants at the meeting concluded

"There is no concerted effort to provide K-12 water resource education in the state. Ultimately, this lack of a solid statewide education effort distracts from the need to establish the sustainability of our precious water resources. The consensus of the participants is that a comprehensive K-12 water education program should be developed in Wisconsin. A consistent long-term funding source should be identified to support the effort."

Further details of the day may be found in a report entitled *Review and Recommendations for K-12 Water Education Programs in Wisconsin*.

During the 2005-2007 biennial period, efforts to provide a comprehensive K-12 water education program continued. Discussions with the DNR Water Division to provide support for a K-12 program have occurred. A number of funding opportunities are currently being pursued by the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation.

Environmental Education Forum

On December 6, 2004, an Environmental Education Forum was held at the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point. WEEB was one of the sponsoring organizations. The goals of the EE Forum were to develop connections among EE practitioners, improve statewide communication structures and tools, and engage both new and continuing EE leaders in Wisconsin.

Approximately 85 environmental educators from over 50 organizations in 36 different counties participated in the event. The outcome was the development of five action groups to follow through on ideas generated and developed during the Forum. Action groups included:

- CONSORTIUM
- POLITICAL ADVOCACY
- REGIONAL NETWORKS
- STRATEGIC PLANNING
- WEBSITE

Unfortunately, follow-up action and communication was limited. Therefore during this biennial period, the WEEB incorporated ideas generated through the EE Forum process into the *EE2010: A Plan for Advancing Environmental Education in Wisconsin* document. A new administrative structure (strategic committees) should provide a framework upon which the goals identified within the strategic planning document (and by EE Forum participants) can be realized.

CONSORTIUM

Objective II.1 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Increase interagency and institutional cooperation by creating a Wisconsin Environmental Education consortium of statewide EE providers. The consortium should meet annually."*

POLITICAL ADVOCACY

Objective II.3 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Strengthen the WEEB's communication with state agencies, the legislature, and the Governor's Office."*

Objective I.2 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Integrate environmental justice into EE curriculum and programs."*

Objective IV.2 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Promote sustainability and EE on campuses throughout the state."*

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Objective III.2 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Inventory EE in [school] districts to identify innovative programs and curriculum and provide a mechanism through which sharing and planning are facilitated."*

Objective IV.3 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Provide a mechanism through which sharing and planning of EE programs are facilitated [among institutions of higher education]."*

WEBSITE

Work by the EE Forum website group included follow-up meetings of representatives from the WEEB, the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, and the Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education to discuss the possibility of creating an environmental education website which would serve as a mechanism for linking Wisconsin environmental education providers and information seekers. Contact with individuals from other states (e.g., Georgia, Minnesota) that have such sites was made.

Objective II.2 within the *EE2010* document is to *"Create a website/communication network that provides EE news, resource information, professional development opportunities, and more."*

In July 2006, the WEEB funded a proposal to the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education (WCEE) for the creation of a clearinghouse environmental education website. It will provide an event calendar, organizational and resource databases, and employment information. The grant to the WCEE calls for Wisconsin's clearinghouse website to be launched in December 2007.

The Board anticipates this new electronic tool will enable individuals who are unfamiliar with the many

institutions within the state that are collaboratively working to promote environmental education to quickly find the resources they need. In addition, the site will provide a means for members of the environmental education community to communicate with one another about the programs and services they offer.



School Forest Summit

On December 1 & 2, 2005 a School Forest Summit was hosted by the LEAF program with financial support provided by the WEEB. The purpose of the forum was to increase school forest coordinators', educators' and administrators' knowledge, skills and awareness of resources, and personal contacts to effectively educate students about sustainable resource management at their school forests.

There were 67 participants including 39 classroom teachers, 8 school forest coordinators, 6 resource professionals, and 9 school forest award recipients. The agenda included twelve concurrent sessions, one plenary panel discussion, a keynote address by Michael Caduto, outdoor activities, and a "school forest visions" session. The "visions" session provided feedback regarding needs at school forests and priorities to address those needs.

The question was "What are the top five needs of your school forest program?" The answers to this question were compiled and fell within one of fourteen categories (for information see: [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/Adobe/SF/Summit/ SumtNeed.pdf](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/Adobe/SF/Summit/SumtNeed.pdf)). The top five categories

were Instruction/Curriculum, Facilities, Support, Land Management, and Staff Development.

WEEB grant funding is available to support initiatives to enhance instruction/curriculum, staff development, and partial support for facilities and land management. During the 2007-2008 grant cycle the WEEB intends to limit support for initiatives of this sort to those districts that have completed a school forest education plan. In this way, the WEEB hopes to encourage school districts to formally plan for the future environmental literacy of their students rather than just invest in what may be the latest trend.

ENHANCED NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION

During the summer of 2006, the WEEB improved its own website via reorganization of material and creation of a new navigation structure. The goals were to:

- Provide a structure for the strategic committees to disseminate information about their work
- Provide easier access to grant application materials
- Disseminate information about the work of the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation

Additional website work is currently in progress. The goals are to have the website meet accessibility guidelines (specifically section 508 guidelines) and to create a site which is more visually appealing and user friendly. As financial resources have been squeezed (the WEEB budget has not been cut, but services and supplies cost more than they did in 1990 and the budget has not been increased) the website has become the primary tool for informing Wisconsin residents about the WEEB's work.





CENTRAL PURPOSE TWO DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL LEADERS

Since environmental literacy includes citizen action experiences it is not surprising that the WEEB has made on-going efforts to encourage and financially support programming whose goal is to develop local leaders. Objective V.3 within the *EE2010* document states, *“Encourage community based EE, including programming designed for adult participants and/or the involvement of non-traditional audiences.”*

Many of these programs are based on a “train-the-trainer” model in which one individual receives training with the understanding that he/she will then train additional individuals.

A review of the 2005 and 2006 grant award lists (pages 18 to 43) will reveal several projects with “leadership,” “leaders,” or “service learning” in the title. Two projects designed to develop local leaders are highlighted here.

UW-Extension: Sauk County **\$19,681** **Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County:** **Forestry Service Learning Program**

Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS) is a coalition of county agencies and local environmental groups. YEPS was created in 2004 to provide environmental service learning projects to youth of Sauk County. The YEPS Forestry Service Learning Program was designed to facilitate community youth and local school classes in planning and implementing forestry service learning projects throughout Sauk County. One aspect of the project assisted Sauk County teachers with infusing forestry education and service learning projects into their existing curriculum. The second portion facilitated the inclusion of forestry service learning projects into the existing YEPS program.

As part of the school-based forestry service-learning projects the following programs were completed:

Reedsburg School District: A second grade class from Loganville Elementary School was taught the importance of trees, tree identification, orienteering, and celebrated Arbor Day. A third grade class from Rock Springs Elementary was taught the importance of trees and forests, getting out to “sense” the local forest, how to help our forests, and celebrated Earth Day. The 3rd grade class sold twig pencils to raise money for trees.

Sauk Prairie School District: Worked with 11th and 12th grade biology classes to teach about the ecology of oak savannas and help coordinate a service project to restore a boy scout camp to oak savanna.



Baraboo School District: Worked with Baraboo Middle School Science Club (6th-8th grades) to sponsor an invasive species removal within the forest of Riverland Conservancy.

Wisconsin Dells School District: Worked with the Lake Delton Elementary School 2nd grade class to teach the students about the importance of trees and facilitated a tree planting project on school grounds.

River Valley School District: Worked with the River Valley Middle School 7th grade classes to teach students about forest management and sustainability and coordinated a tree planting project with the students to help restore a clear-cut area near Spring Green.

As part of the community-based forestry service-learning projects, the following programs have been completed:

- 🍃 Kestrel and blue bird house building at the Sauk County Landfill in cooperation with the landfill restoration plan
- 🍃 Forest restoration and tree planting at Devil's Lake State Park in cooperation with the Sauk County DNR Foresters
- 🍃 Tree planting in the Baraboo Hills in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy
- 🍃 Garlic mustard removal in the forests of Devil's Lake State Park in cooperation with the park naturalist
- 🍃 Honeysuckle removal in the forests of Riverland Conservancy in the Baraboo Hills in cooperation with the Riverland Conservancy

To help with planning future forestry service learning projects, YEPS staff created a guide to implementing forestry service learning projects. The guide was distributed to schools and community youth groups (4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs) throughout Sauk County.



Cooperative Development Services \$20,000
Fund Educating Farmers about the Control of Invasive Plants to Protect their Woodland

An eye-catching 8' x 4' poster was designed for the project with input from UW-Extension Basin Educators, the Community Forest Resource Center, and the Publication Unit of the UW Environmental Resource Center. The graphic design and text provide easy-to-read and pertinent information to farmers (for example, buckthorn serves as the over-wintering host for soybean aphids). The poster, along with pressed and live plant samples, a variety of informational signs, DNR Wild Cards and a host of handouts were used for displays at workshops and conferences.

Twenty-one classroom and/or field learning experiences were held. The events ran from 1.5 hours to the more common half-day or full-day event. During 15 outreach appearances by the project director, 300 people gave permission to contact them and 5,000 (estimated) viewed the display. Ten invasive education programs were sponsored by partner organizations (Kickapoo Woods Co-op, Aldo Leopold Nature Center, The Woodland School, UW-Extension Basin Educators and Dr. Jerry Doll, Agronomy Department). The project director provided 12 education events with 525 people attending.

Gigi LaBudde (project director) received the Invader Crusader Award in recognition for education work with private forest landowners, landowner groups, DNR foresters, timber industry resource managers, loggers, and farmers.



CENTRAL PURPOSE THREE

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, DISSEMINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The WEEB's efforts to promote quality environmental education opportunities for all segments of society (pre-scholars to adult learners) in multiple settings (schools, nature centers, parks, workplaces, etc.) has continued to be the foundation for developing lifelong learners that are informed and involved citizens who will help ensure an ecologically and economically sustainable environment.

Goal IV.2 of the WEEB's *EE 2010: A Plan for Advancing Environmental Education in Wisconsin* document states, "Promote sustainability and EE on campuses throughout the state." A grant to the Midwest Renewable Energy Association provided one mechanism for working toward this goal.

Midwest Renewable Energy Association \$4,704 **Renewable Energy 101 for Universities**

Grant funds supported a series of full day workshops at eight UW-System campuses. The goal was to partner with student environmental groups on each campus to provide a substantive understanding of renewable energy technologies, including wind electric, photovoltaic and solar hot water systems, and biodiesel; and to work with the student groups to effectively advocate for implementation of renewable energy programs and systems on campus. Workshops were aimed at university students, faculty, staff and community members with the goal of establishing a statewide network of knowledgeable and efficacious renewable energy advocates.

The focus of the morning portion of the workshop was on gaining a working understanding of energy and the most common and viable renewable energy technologies. The goal was to provide participants with the knowledge and vocabulary to speak intelligently about renewable energy to their neighbors, classmates, administrators and elected officials.

The afternoon portion of the workshop was dedicated to various strategies and means of implementing renewable energy and energy efficiency at different levels (schools, communities and states). Through presentations by Renew Wisconsin, Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group (WISPIRG), and Global Exchange, participants got a look at 3 very effective, but different groups and how they work to make change. Participants were encouraged to take these ideas and use them to develop their own activities or to join in efforts that are already underway. Representatives from the local utility were on-hand to answer questions about green power purchase programs and incentives that they offer their customers.

The spring semester of RE 101 for Universities started with a packed session at UW-Wood County in conjunction with their first ever Energy Fair. Other sessions were held at:

- UW-Fox Valley
- UW-Green Bay
- UW-La Crosse
- UW-Milwaukee
- UW-Oshkosh
- UW-River Falls
- UW-Stevens Point
- UW-Stout

Over 400 individuals participated in the Renewable Energy 101 for Universities sessions.



**School Forest Education Plans over \$230,000
48 school districts**

Since the program's inception in 2005, the Board has invested over \$230,000 to assist 48 school districts with their efforts to create a school forest education plan. These written plans provide detail related to the:

- 🍃 Rationale for having the school forest
- 🍃 School forest site
- 🍃 Educational connections that can be made at the school forest or to the school forest
- 🍃 Methods the district intends to use to sustain the school forest program in the short and long term

Plans also provide the foundation upon which future site management, curricular, and staff development decisions are made. Beginning with the 2008 grant cycle, the Board intends to limit eligibility for the school forest education grant funds to districts that have a registered school forest and an approved school forest education plan on file or to those that are working to develop a plan.



**CENTRAL PURPOSE FOUR
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Environmental Education is a lifelong learning process. Programs should address the needs of all citizen ages, from all walks of life. The more environmentally literate Wisconsin citizens are, the better equipped they are to participate in public decisions affecting our working, living and recreational environments.

While many grants were provided for the professional development of teachers within our K-12 schools, several grant projects provided educational opportunities for other professionals.

Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association (WPLA) \$18,200

Sustainable Forestry Verification Training for Woodland Owners

For Master Loggers workshops for forest landowners to educate them about the various performance standards that encompass the 'Seven Areas of Responsibility' that apply to all Master Loggers:

- 🍃 Protect water quality and soils
- 🍃 Comply with government regulations
- 🍃 Observe silviculture/utilization standards
- 🍃 Maintain training and qualifications
- 🍃 Practice aesthetic management
- 🍃 Follow landowner management plans or harvest plans
- 🍃 Follow sound business practices

Between July 1, 2005 and December 31, 2006, 11 new Master Loggers were certified, bringing the total to 49 Wisconsin Master Loggers.

Over 300 landowners received information regarding the Master Logger Certification Program. The MLC Standards booklet was updated and two PowerPoint presentations were created for outreach. Specific workshops, conferences, and other events included:

- 🍃 Farm Technology Days for Landowners-January 2006
- 🍃 Auditor Training at Treehaven Field Station (Tomahawk)
- 🍃 Trees for Tomorrow presentation to high school students-July 2006
- 🍃 Spring 2006 Loggers Conferences in Wausau, Cable, and Sparta
- 🍃 Certification Workshop-March 2006
- 🍃 DNR Statewide Forestry Meeting-January 2006
- 🍃 Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association Annual Meeting-2006
- 🍃 Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association NE Chapter Meeting-Summer 2006

WPLA also produced a DVD for "Into the Outdoors." Funding for the project was separate from the WEEB grant. The DVD included information about the Master Logger Certification program and other sustainable forest management materials developed under the WEEB grant.



EVALUATION AND LITERACY

Assessment is important to determine the environmental literacy of Wisconsin citizens. Wisconsin state statute states that the environmental literacy of Wisconsin students must be assessed (see 1989 Wisconsin Act 209). The 2001-2003 biennial report to the legislature indicated the WSAS/Knowledge and Skills tests at the fourth, eighth, and tenth grades provide a very incomplete picture of the environmental literacy of Wisconsin students and that it would be incorrect to suggest these tools are designed to assess environmental literacy.

The WEEB, through its request for proposal materials, has strongly encouraged evaluation and assessment work be undertaken. Unfortunately very few proposals of this type have been submitted. With the maximum award amount for general environmental education grants being just \$5,000 perhaps this is not surprising.

In May 2007, the Board created a Research Committee and charged it with determining a research agenda for environmental education. It is hoped this will spur interest within the higher education community to undertake such investigations.

Some smaller scale projects have been awarded and the WEEB will continue its efforts to evaluate environmental literacy and the WEEB's ability to "promote environmental education in all segments of society."

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Board will continue to support the work of its committees and citizens across Wisconsin as they work to implement *EE2010: A Plan for Advancing Environmental Education in Wisconsin*. The WEEB also intends to utilize existing resources as it continues to assess the status of environmental education in Wisconsin. This assessment work will enable the WEEB to fine-tune its efforts to support environmental education in all segments of society.

The Board will also continue to actively partner with the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation in order to serve as a catalyst for seeking private funds in support of the Board's work.





GRANT PROGRAM

Since its creation in 1990, the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board's grant program has provided communities, schools, and organizations with funds to enhance environmental education programs.

Funds to support the grant program are provided by donations and state appropriations. For the 2005-2007 budget period, annual appropriations to the WEEB included \$400,000 from the forestry account of the conservation fund (of which up to 5% can be used toward administrative expenses) and a 5% assessment on state environmental fines levied and collected.

In 2005 there were 109 grant proposals submitted; 63 were funded.

In 2006 there were also 109 grant proposals submitted; 72 were funded. Grant requests ranged from \$632 to \$20,000 (the maximum allowed).

Since 1997, when the WEEB was transferred from the Department of Public Instruction to the UW-System, the WEEB has distributed \$3.4 million to 480 projects. The funded projects have generated well beyond the 25 percent match required. In fact the matching funding from the projects conservatively totals over \$3.8 million. During this time period 1,084 applications were received requesting over \$10.8 million. Obviously, only a portion of the applicants received funding.

The WEEB has received requests for proposals from every corner of the state and from virtually every type of organization, agency, or group that is eligible to receive funding. Each grant proposal submitted receives a rigorous review by volunteer committees. These volunteers represent the many entities which are interested and/or involved in educating the citizens of Wisconsin about the environment. Each project is evaluated at three levels: 1) completeness and accuracy of program requirements, 2) technical review, and 3) merit review.

The technical review team evaluates each project on these following:

- 🍃 Adherence to the WEEB priorities
- 🍃 Budget accuracy and funding contributions
- 🍃 Thoroughness of application page and statement of need
- 🍃 Project goals, objectives, activities, and evaluations

The merit review team then continues evaluation of those projects that passed the technical review to determine:

- 🍃 Overall quality and value of the project
- 🍃 Ability to achieve goals
- 🍃 Development of partnerships
- 🍃 Use of existing resources
- 🍃 Promotion of community environmental education

General Guidelines

Projects need to assist learners in achieving the goals of environmental education. The projects need to help people become environmentally aware, knowledgeable, skilled, and dedicated to commit to work individually and collectively, to defend, improve, and sustain the quality of the environment on behalf of present and future citizens.

Eligibility

WEEB grants are available to the following Wisconsin entities:

- 🍃 Corporations (nonstock, nonprofit corporations organized under chapter 181 of state statutes)
- 🍃 Public agencies (counties, cities, villages, towns, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, school districts and cooperative educational service agencies)
- 🍃 State agencies, tribal governments, public colleges and universities
- 🍃 Non-public education institutions (with some restrictions)

The following are NOT eligible:

- 🍃 Individuals
- 🍃 Private foundations
- 🍃 Pervasively sectarian education institutions

Project Duration

Grants awarded as part of the 2005 grant cycle were made for the period of July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006. Grants awarded as part of the 2006 grant cycle were made for the period of July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007.

Funding Priorities for 2005 and 2006

The funded grants reflect the priorities that were in effect in 2005 and 2006. They included for 2005:

- A. Promote broad community environmental education through the development and implementation of community environmental education projects.
- B. Make use of existing resources and successful projects. This does not include support of the ongoing operations of a program.
- C. Create new environmental education resources or programs.
- D. Promote implementation of Wisconsin's model environmental education academic standards.
- E. Promote/assess the environmental literacy of Wisconsin's students or citizens.

They included for 2006:









- A. To support professional development of staff working at any level of formal or nonformal education to enable them to accomplish EE goals.
- B. To support development of local leaders and their fellow citizens to become environmentally aware and motivated to act on environmental issues. Projects should increase:
 1. the number and/or diversity of individuals and/or organizations involved in environmental education
 2. community knowledge of specific environmental issues or problems
 3. community participation in the resolution of environmental problems
- C. To advocate the development and/or implementation of interdisciplinary standards based environmental education (EE) curricula at any level of education.

D. To improve current or future EE programming or policy via research, evaluation, or assessment.

E. To facilitate the communication, coordination, and/or support between individuals or organizations working to promote environmental education.

Funding priorities are reviewed and set annually during the Board's July planning meeting.

Preferred Characteristics

-  Develop partnerships and cooperative ventures with organizations or agencies.
-  Reach large numbers of individuals.
-  Attain realistic and localized goals.
-  Show change in the actions or behaviors of the learners.
-  Provide opportunities for learners to become actively involved in examining and resolving environmental issues.
-  Provide learning experiences using sites outside of classroom/workplace.
-  Include activities that draw upon multiple intelligence's of learners.
-  Include activities that emphasize the process of inquiry.

Changes from Previous Years

When the 2003-2005 state biennial budget was completed, the annual appropriation to the Wisconsin Focus on Energy program was altered dramatically from the prior biennial budget. The \$200,000 annual support Focus on Energy previously provided to the WEEB for an energy education grant program was suspended. The Board anticipates the program will resume with the 2008-2009 grant cycle.

In 2005, the WEEB required districts awarded funds for educational plan proposals to use WEEB's approved school forest education plan template. The template was developed via a WEEB grant to the LEAF program.

Assistance for Applicants

Information on past projects can be searched through the Internet. Copies of funded proposals are available via the Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan System. Final reports from grant recipients may be viewed at the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education Resource Library, UW-Stevens Point.

For a copy of the Request for Proposal (application form) contact:

Wisconsin Environmental Education Board

110B College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
800 Reserve Street
Stevens Point WI 54481
(715) 346-3805
www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb
weeb@uwsp.edu





2005 GRANTS



Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Inc. **\$17,642**
MONONA



Forests for LIFE: Learning and Involvement in Forestry Education

To develop a sustainable partnership between the ALNC and the Wisconsin Heights School District that will foster student and community involvement in opportunities within the unique unglaciated area of Dane County in order to develop knowledge and skills related to regional environmental issues, such as land stewardship and invasive species.

Berlin Area Public Schools **\$5,000**

BERLIN

An Educational Plan for the Berlin School Forests

To create an educational plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards in order to provide the Berlin staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Berlin Area Public Schools **\$20,000**

BERLIN

Berlin Branches Out



To develop, refine, and integrate a series of standards-based forestry lessons into the content areas of Wisconsin history, English, physical education, and visual art for implementation at the school forest.



Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System: UW-Extension MADISON **\$19,681**

Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County: Forestry Service Learning Program



To facilitate community youth and local school classes in planning and implementing forestry service learning projects throughout Sauk County.



Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee MILWAUKEE **\$19,250**

Camp Whitcomb/Mason Forest History Program

For support of a Forest History Program at a year-round camp facility, Camp Whitcomb/Mason. Students who participate in the one-day Forest History Program will learn about how forests contributed to Wisconsin's history and why forests continue to be vitally important.

Brillion Public Schools BRILLION **\$4,998**

An Educational Plan for Brillion

To support formation of a School Forest Education Plan Task Force and its work of drafting and validating a school forest education plan.

Camp Five Museum Foundation LAONA **\$1,000**

Bird Workshop

To train the public in Wisconsin Nature Mapping, a computer database of self-entered wildlife sighting information. Review of this publicly collected data may assist professionals with gap analysis, policy decisions, and wildlife management.

Chetek School District CHETEK **\$4,595**

Water Quality in the Red Cedar River Watershed



To enable students from multiple grade levels to work cooperatively on local water issues by: monitoring the water quality in areas of the Red Cedar Watershed, particularly areas surrounding the Chetek Chain of Lakes; educating community members about water quality issues and how to implement best management practices to reduce impacts to water quality; and developing a website to provide community access to information about the watershed, water issues, and results of testing in the area.





**Cooperative Development Services Fund \$20,000
MADISON**

 **Educating Farmers about the Control of Invasive Plants to Protect their Woodland**

To offer classroom and field learning experiences to at least 250 farmers via more than a dozen educational events across the region to educate about the control of non-native invasive species in the forest.

**D.C. Everest Area School District \$19,874
SCHOFIELD**

Connecting School Forests to School Sites: An Integrated Environmental Education Curriculum Project

To develop a school forest education and stewardship management plan; create a teacher training and support program for curriculum-based environmental activities that tie to the forest curriculum; and utilize six elementary school sites to extend and enhance the forest experiences.

**Drummond Area School District \$5,000
DRUMMOND**

Drummond School Forest Education Plan

To develop a school forest education plan with the ultimate goal of enhancing students' and local community members' knowledge of environmental protection issues and natural resources stewardship in local, state, national and global arenas.

Edgar Public Schools \$1,000

EDGAR

Outdoor Learning Site Initiative

To provide grade level appropriate education bins, complete with materials, literature, and staff training. These actions will build confidence in our teachers to use the outdoor learning site on a regular basis.

Ellsworth Community Schools \$5,000

ELLSWORTH

An Educational Plan for Ellsworth School District School Forest

To create an educational plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards in order to provide the staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Flambeau School District \$2,968

TONY

Revitalizing Flambeau Teachers to Use the School Forests

To develop an education plan which will allow the teachers to better understand environmental issues and be better equipped to incorporate environmental issues into their curriculum.

Florence County School District \$15,716

FLORENCE

Florence County School Forest: Creating Environmental Learning



To develop an educational master plan; to train all teachers in environmental education and forestry education through the LEAF program; and to improve the site via interpretive trails, a wetland boardwalk and deck, information signs, orienteering course, and a seating area for group use.



Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance **\$5,000**
APPLETON

Community Stormwater Awareness Assessment for Northeast Wisconsin

To conduct a survey of citizens in the NEWSC area to assess their knowledge of and attitudes toward stormwater issues. Survey results will help identify target audiences and messages for those audiences and also provide a baseline for future evaluation efforts, thus helping communities to document program effectiveness. In addition, to support presentations to local elected officials on the impacts of stormwater and Phase 2 regulatory requirements.



Friends of the Black River **\$4,950**
BLACK RIVER FALLS

 **Building Community Participation in Water Stewardship through an Educational Event**

For a water stewardship event that will combine a river clean-up with a river-based environmental educational festival designed to raise awareness about the Black River as well as educate the community about water stewardship.



Friends of Welty Environmental Center, Inc. **\$1,905**
BELOIT

Habitats of Beckman Mill: Interpreting the Natural Wonders of Rock County 

To develop a ten station interpretive trail on a path through oak savanna woodland. The trail will provide opportunities for visitors to observe and interact with local habitat. Also for development and printing of self-guided brochures, in-depth guidebooks, and guide packs to be used by trained volunteers.

Gillett School District **\$19,959**
GILLETT

Environmental Education Implementation and Stewardship Utilizing the School Forest

To provide educational training, facilities, and resources such as lesson plans that will allow staff to incorporate Wisconsin environmental education standards into their curriculum.



Girl Scouts of America: Birch Trails Council **\$4,915**
WAUSAU

 **Girls Experiencing Nature**

To write curriculum and compile materials for nature center kits to be used in day camp programs for girls ages 6-11 or to be checked out by leaders for use in their local communities.

Girl Scouts of America: Woodland Council **\$1,000**
WISCONSIN RAPIDS

 **Girl Scout Weekend in the Woods Program**

To develop and deliver a weekend campout kick off event for a treehouse designed by an 8th grade Girl Scout for Camp Sacajawea. The event will incorporate environmental awareness and knowledge activities into traditional camping activities. Also support for creation of a treehouse activity guide.

Glacierland Resource Conservation and **\$4,400**
Development

GREEN BAY
Maribel County Park Forestry Education Project

To provide on-site forest management education via an interpretive trail through a recently harvested northern hardwood stand. Signs will be placed that discuss management and other specifics of the northern hardwood timber type. In addition, a tour booklet and teacher packet will be developed. Three informational tours for local teachers will announce the new resources.

Glacierland Resource Conservation and **\$4,992**
Development

GREEN BAY
Community Environmental Education
Addressing the Sheboygan River & Harbor
Sediment Remediation Project



To host at least four education forums, develop a brochure, and create news releases to enhance community knowledge of the Sheboygan River Remediation Project and its impacts. Billboards designed by Howard Grove Middle School students are also part of the educational effort.

Golden Sands Resource Conservation and **\$915**
Development Council

STEVENS POINT
There's Something Wonderful Up There

To introduce solar energy lessons to pre-schoolers at Bethlehem Community Preschool. Lessons include creating silhouette profiles, shadow plays, using prism blocks and thermometers.





Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council **\$758**
STEVENS POINT
This Little Light of Mine

To provide materials for the 1st/2nd grade classroom at St. Peter Lutheran School for a solar energy unit. An introductory lesson to explore the sun in relation to the earth. A second lesson to reveal the power of the sun through the use of solar power manipulatives and temperature experiments. A final lesson involves correspondence with an elementary classroom in Arizona to exchange information as to how the sun affects each states' environment (desert vs. woodland).

Institutes for Journalism and Natural Resources **\$11,500**
MADISON
Great Waters Institute

To increase public awareness and understanding of environment and natural-resource issues through deeper and clearer coverage of these complicated topics by journalists. Project will enable 14 journalists to participate in an "expedition-style" learning fellowships lasting eight to ten days and covering 800 to 1,000 miles. The journalists will travel and interact with a wide spectrum of expert speakers and be exposed to in-depth, balanced panel discussions at informative field sites. The fellowship takes journalists off deadline, out of their newsrooms and into forests and watersheds where environmental issues get shaped.

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust **\$5,000**
RIVER FALLS
Stormwater Education Using Rain Gardens



For student installation of a rain garden at each participating school in the City of River Falls utilizing plants propagated and grown by the students under the direction of University of Wisconsin River Falls horticulture club members. These rain gardens will demonstrate the benefits of on-site control of stormwater for water quality and the benefits of native plants. Also for presentations by stormwater and native plant experts for teachers and the general public and the creation of a publication summarizing and highlighting the various rain gardens.



Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, Inc. \$4,880
ALGOMA

**Lakeshore Environmental Resource Network (LERN):
 Expanding Awareness and Action**

For a written document in which environmental professionals and practitioners may share their expertise, programs and resources with classroom teachers and with one another. Document will consist of technical information, field experiences, guest speakers, resource centers and lesson plans, catalogued by basin issue and discipline. The document will be given to schools, communities and local government agencies basin wide.

LEAF \$13,492
STEVENS POINT

School Forest Summit: Growing School Forest Programs

To plan, coordinate and implement a school forest summit. The purposes of this summit are to increase school forest coordinators', educators' and administrators' knowledge, skills and awareness of resources and personal contacts to effectively educate students about sustainable resource management at their school forests; to identify resources needed at school forests; and to facilitate the establishment of regional and statewide networks of school forest educators, coordinators, and administrators.

Luck Public Library \$633
LUCK

Wild Nights @ Luck Library

For a series of four programs that enable families to form a connection with animals and instill in them a reason to learn more about what they can do to protect the environment. Library-based events encourage participants to search for more information through the library's collection or through inter-library loan.

Madison Metropolitan School District \$19,326
MADISON

**Stewardship, Science and Service at the Madison
 School Forest: A Case of Garlic Mustard**

To create a service learning project for upper elementary and middle school students that provides opportunities for significant involvement in a developmentally appro-

priate environmental stewardship project. Students will learn about the physiology and reproduction of invasives and will investigate various control methods.

Madison Metropolitan School District \$5,000
MADISON

**Wild Rice Cultural Awareness and Ecological
 Restoration**

To engage students in research and management activities that provide knowledge of the historical and cultural importance of wild rice to Native American communities in the context of modern plant biology and restoration ecology. Approximately 10 core students will comprise a student leadership group that will guide peers in the use of materials and develop a resource guide for wider community use. Activities include: compilation of historical, cultural, and biological information on wild rice; documentation of the status of wild rice beds in southern Wisconsin through field research and interviews of native and non-native experts; identification of genetic stocks through photos and journals; and development and creation of a website, including a guide for gathering and cultivating seeds for experimentation and demonstrations of Ojibwe traditional harvesting and reseeded.



Maple School District \$1,000
MAPLE

Maple Middle School Mini Forest

To develop a small school forest in a vacant area on school grounds.



Mellen School District **\$5,000**
MELLEN

An Educational Plan for Mellen

To enhance classroom instruction through experiential outdoor education that meets state education standards, integrates environmental education into the curriculum, and demonstrates sustainable natural resource management via the creation of a school forest education plan which will provide guidance in these areas.



Middleton-Cross Plains School District **\$1,000**
MIDDLETON

To Compare and Contrast the Ecology of an Oligotrophic and Eutrophic Lake



For advanced biology classes to monitor and assess the conditions of Lake Wingro in the Madison area and Trout Lake in northern Wisconsin. The purpose of these lake assessments is to enhance student understanding of freshwater lake ecology and specifically the unique environmental issues that each lake faces.

Mellen School District **\$19,992**
MELLEN



Enhancing Forestry Education in the Mellen Community by Developing an Interpretive Trail Through the School Forest

To construct an interpretive trail (marked with signs highlighting forest management techniques that promote social, economic and ecological uses of the forest) through the school forest. To train high school students as naturalists to lead hikes for younger students and visitors at community events. To train teachers to use the LEAF curriculum.



Menasha Joint School District **\$11,753**
MENASHA

School on the Lake Integrated Forest Education Plan

For 45 middle school students to learn and implement urban forestry management skills. The effort will focus on invasive species management and baseline forestry assessment. Also to develop a teaching kit and host a public forestry fair.

Osseo-Fairchild School District **\$1,000**
OSSEO

Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs



For a five day summer school class designed to teach environmental education topics and provide knowledge and experience in developing a healthy recreational activity. In addition items purchased will be utilized by instructors who teach life science and aqua science to middle school and high school students.

Pri-Ru-Ta Resource Conservation & Development **\$6,281**
MEDFORD
Shell Lake School Forest Education Plan

To improve environmental literacy through more effective uses of the school forest. A team of teachers and project staff will identify and develop detailed lesson plans for integrated school forest use into existing curriculum. These teachers will train additional teachers to deliver instruction.




Research Education and Policy REAP **\$5,000**
Food Group
MADISON
 **OakSong Teacher Training Garden for Environmental Education**

To provide a thorough course in organic gardening and school garden establishment so that 25 teachers will have the knowledge and skills to provide valuable outdoor experiences to their students. Utilizing project staff support, participating teachers will be responsible for the creation of ten new school gardens. Project staff will also solicit and compile lesson plans from participating teachers.

Research Education and Policy REAP **\$5,000**
Food Group
MADISON
Community Festivals for an Environmental Ethic

To host a series of three festivals focusing on environmental issues important to the community and to support a citizen group formed as a result of the festivals.



Rhinelander Central Schools: Northwoods **\$8,643**
Community Elementary Charter School
HARSHAW
The Northwoods "Forest Field Learning Site for Kids" Project 

To enable students to utilize a ten-acre parcel of school district land to learn about and appreciate the forest ecosystem. The project will provide important partnerships with members of the community. Students will explore career options in the field of forestry with local foresters.

Rock River Coalition **\$4,993**
WATERTOWN
A Rain Garden in Every Community in the Rock River Basin 

For students at four schools to design and establish rain gardens. Education will involve curriculum units in the school, workshops on storm water runoff, groundwater recharge and rain gardens' impacts for adults, and media coverage in papers, radio and local cable channels.

Sparta Area School District **\$5,000**
SPARTA

An Educational Plan For Sparta School Forest

To evaluate problem areas identified as the result of the school forest needs assessment and then to develop an education plan that provides connections to the classroom curriculum, state education standards, and identified needs in order to increase usage of the school forest and enhance students' environmental knowledge, awareness, ethic, civic action skills, and citizen action experiences.

Stevens Point Area School District **\$1,000**
STEVENS POINT

Boston School Forest Herbarium Project

To fund the research and assembly stages of a herbarium project. Plant mounts will be used to teach about plant uses, morphology, and plant identification, thus increasing the students' observation skills, knowledge, and appreciation of their environment. The portable herbarium will also be loaned to district teachers and made available to our weekend youth groups.

Tigerton School District **\$5,000**
TIGERTON

**Tigerton School Forest Education Plan:
 Creating the Foundation**

For a committee to redesign the environmental education curriculum with a specific connection to the school forest and its outdoor classroom possibilities. Also for professional development opportunities to address issues of awareness, knowledge and practical application on issues identified by the recent needs assessment as weak areas.



Tigerton School District **\$19,952**
TIGERTON

Creating a "School Away from School"



To create "a school away from school" where students will participate in environmental education activities utilizing forestry equipment in order to increase student understanding of their environment. Students will make presentations at community leadership/service organization meetings and environmental education events and develop brochures and maps highlighting the school forest site.

Trees For Tomorrow **\$930**
EAGLE RIVER

**Integrating KEEP Activities into Existing
 Energy Curriculum**

To purchase an Energy Trunk from the K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP), and send a TFT naturalist to a KEEP inservice class in order to better integrate KEEP activities into existing energy curriculum.



Trees For Tomorrow **\$16,745**
EAGLE RIVER
Teaching Contemporary and Sustainable Forestry Practices: A Workshop for Wisconsin K-12 Teachers

To host a five-day field forestry education workshop for teachers to provide the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to help them teach their students modern and sustainable forestry concepts and practices, and how these are relevant to students' lifestyles.

Unified School District of Antigo **\$4,996**
ANTIGO
An Educational Plan for Noboken

To create an educational plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Union Grove Joint School District #1 **\$3,402**
UNION GROVE
Establishment of Outdoor Educational Site for Union Grove Joint School District

For the development of a systematic environmental education curriculum for students in grades K-8 and the creation of an outdoor classroom built by community members.

UW-Madison Arboretum **\$4,959**
MADISON
Earth Partnership for Schools' Rain Garden Curricular Sampler, Grades 4-12

To develop a curriculum sampler with activities cross referenced to state standards. Sampler will include assessment ideas, be pilot-tested, and made available as print copies, via the web, and through partnering organizations to reach at least 100 educators.

Walnut Way Conservation Corporation **\$1,000**
MILWAUKEE
Walnut Way Community Environmental Awareness Series

To create and distribute a newsletter highlighting a chosen environmental issue. The newsletter will consist of articles written by professionals, educators, and experts in each respective field. Also to support presentations (guest speakers, educational videos, and demonstrations of techniques).

Washburn School District **\$5,000**
WASHBURN
An Educational Plan for Washburn Schools: School Forest and Pond

To form a School Forest Education Plan Task Force (a sub-committee of the School Forest Committee) and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.

**Waunakee Community School District \$3,080
WAUNAKEE**

Community Prairie Restoration and Invasive Species Awareness at Castle Creek

To educate the residents as to the nature of the threat posed by reed canary grass and by invasive species in general, and to provide a framework within which community members can contribute to the remediation of the property and restoration of the native prairie.

**Westfield School District \$19,800
WESTFIELD**

Coloma Elementary Community-Linked School Forest Enrichment Project

For site improvements at the Coloma School Forest. Also for district-wide teacher/volunteer training to implement the LEAF curriculum at grade levels K-12, to create an EE link for the alternative education program and to establish a set of continuing community EE programs within the district.

**Wisconsin Center For Environmental Education \$2,182
STEVENS POINT**

Renewable Energy Technology Training for High School Students

To host a one day workshop in which thirty students and teachers will participate in a real world exercise to determine the best location for a new home that will be powered by solar and wind systems. Through a series of small group exercises participants will be introduced to the skills that renewable energy professionals use to site homes and systems.

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources \$4,546
MADISON**

Wisconsin Mammals Trunk

To produce three additional trunks (complete with pelts, skulls, tracks, books, videos, activities and curriculum) in order to make these educational materials available to educators state-wide.



**Whitehall School District \$5,000
WHITEHALL**

Trout Stream Analysis and Restoration

To research, analyze and conduct streambank restoration projects. Students will analyze water quality, run-off occurrence as well as trout population statistics and compare the results taken before as well as after the improvement project is complete.



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources \$5,000
MADISON**

Open Burning Education: Training Non-Formal Educators and K-12 Teachers

To create a self-directed training program for non-formal educators who are visiting schools as guest teachers or who are making presentations at local public forums about open burning and alternative waste disposal options and respiratory health. The training, including video, role modeling, performance rubrics, and evaluation tools, to be delivered in a self-directed DVD format and consist of two parts. Part One teaches how to best use the multi-media resource, "Air Defenders," an interdisciplinary, multi-media environmental education program for students ten years of age and up. Part Two teaches how best to use adult Open Burning Education and Outreach resources developed by DNR.



**Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District \$7,832
WITTENBERG**

Construct an Environmental Education Plan for Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District



To develop an environmental education plan for the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School Forest.

**YWCA: River Bend Nature Center \$4,722
RACINE**

River Bend Nature Center

To cover the start-up costs associated with expanding the Naturalist in Residence Program from seven schools to 15 schools. This program places a nature center educator in residence at a school in order to conduct activities for each class in each season.

**Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association \$18,200
TOMAHAWK**



Sustainable Forestry Verification Training for Woodland Owners

For Master Loggers workshops for forest landowners. Specifically to educate individuals about the various performance standards that encompass the "Seven Areas of Responsibility" that apply to all Master Loggers: Water Quality, Regulations, Safety, Silviculture, Business Practices, Aesthetics, and Landowner Goals to promote sustainable, environmentally friendly harvesting activities.



2006 GRANTS

Adams-Friendship Area School District **\$5,000**
FRIENDSHIP

An Educational Plan for Adams-Friendship Area Schools

To write an education plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards will provide the Adams-Friendship staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Almond -Bancroft Schools **\$4,753**
ALMOND
Carrie Frost School Forest Education Plan

To provide staff with a school forest education plan with implementation at every level. A committee to study the needs of the district staff regarding the school forest has

been formed and has convened to review the school forest needs assessments.

Amery School District **\$4,934**
AMERY

An Educational Plan for the Amery School Forest



For members of the Amery Outdoor Education Committee to draft and validate a school forest education plan that correlates to the site management plan.

Bad River Watershed Association **\$4,737**
ASHLAND
BRWA Invasive Species Leaders

To train Bad River Watershed Association water quality monitors to identify invasive species and to report any findings along with their monthly water quality data.

Bayfield Regional Conservancy **\$11,495**
BAYFIELD
Developing Community Forestry Leaders in Northwest Wisconsin

To train current members of the Living Forest Cooperative to provide leadership in sustainable forestry practices and in the value of cooperative activities among landowners to maximize profit and to jointly protect the larger landscape of the northwoods. Also to create and distribute a booklet on sustainable forestry.

Berlin Area Public Schools **\$5,000**
BERLIN
Native Roots Educational Gardens

To use the school site as a teaching tool in prairie restoration so that students develop essential experiences in increasing and maintaining biodiversity within the urban setting; develop positive environmental attitudes and ethics through the prairie experience; gain knowledge and awareness of environmental/aesthetic issues; acquire skills in plant horticulture and landscape alternatives; build a working relationship between school and community; and learn that sustainable life begins in the soil.

Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System: UW-Extension **\$1,000**
MADISON
Bat Habitat Service Learning Project

For middle and high school students and youth enrolled in 4-H to enhance their awareness and knowledge of bat ecology as they work on an environmental service project focused on creating bat houses.

City of West Bend **\$1,424**
WEST BEND
Story Time in the Schools

For kindergarten through 2nd grade students in area schools to experience interdisciplinary, standards based, hands-on learning opportunities that utilize literature to bring nature and environmental education to the classroom.

Cornell Public Schools **\$4,994**
CORNELL
Student Advocates for the Environment Educational Plan

To develop a cohesive and continuous environmental education plan that utilizes the Cornell School Forest as an outdoor learning laboratory.

Crandon School District **\$5,000**
CRANDON
An Educational Plan for Crandon's Hovind Family School Forest

For the Hovind Family School Forest Committee to draft and validate a school forest education plan.

De Forest Area School District **\$5,000**
DE FOREST
Big Hill School/Community Education Grant

To develop a comprehensive education plan for each grade level that details opportunities and provides support for outdoor instruction and that helps teachers to meet environmental curricular goals.



Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin **\$5,000**
MILWAUKEE
Lake Watch Expedition



To increase awareness of fresh water issues and the ecology of Lake Michigan by enabling Milwaukee Public School District's 7th & 8th grade students to sail on a 137 ft. traditionally rigged Great Lakes schooner and while aboard conduct monitoring activities.

Edgar Public Schools **\$4,002**
EDGAR

Studying Temperature Variations in the Rib River Watershed

For high school biology students to work in conjunction with the DNR and the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited to place and collect data from continuous temperature loggers in select streams within the Rib River Watershed. Students will study the impact of water temperature on the type of fish and macro-invertebrates found. They will also collect oxygen and pH data.

Elcho School District **\$3,750**
ELCHO

An Educational Plan for Elcho School Forest

To form a School Forest Education Plan Task Force (a subcommittee of the School Forest Committee) and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.

Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance **\$4,757**
RHINELANDER

Managing Your Woodlands for Multiple Resources and Values

To plan and host three sustainable forestry management workshops that use the "Wisconsin Voluntary Site-Level Forest Management Guidelines" handbook as a resource. Both indoor and outdoor presentations with a primary emphasis on water quality, wildlife habitat, and timber management will be conducted.

Friends of Horicon Marsh International **\$3,992**
Education Center

HORICON

Horicon Marsh Field Trip Guide

To update the Horicon Marsh Field Trip Guide (a curriculum that was originally developed in 1996), link all activities within the guide to the model academic standards, and provide teacher orientation workshops.

Friends of Pheasant Branch, Inc. **\$3,735**
MIDDLETON

BRANCH OUT! + LEAF

To train thirteen naturalists and area teachers in the

LEAF curriculum, field activities, and BRANCH OUT! (an educator's guide that provides lessons related to the conservancy).

Friends of the St. Croix Headwaters **\$960**
GORDAN

Water Quality Awareness Project for the Upper St. Croix Basin

To experiment with the use of a reporting tool called Water Quality Index (WQI) in an effort to improve interest and understanding of water quality issues. This will provide a means of summarizing water quality data into a more easily understood format, thereby better engaging our audience of local leaders. Presentations will be evaluated to determine if the use of WQI is a more effective way of communicating water quality issues than the reporting of traditional water-chemistry results.



Friends of Troy Gardens, Inc. **\$4,940**

MADISON

Farm and Field



To empower high school students with knowledge about sustainable food systems and ecological restoration of prairie and woodlands. Students will develop skills to be active environmental leaders in the community by developing and conducting action plans that allow each youth to undertake a project in the community. Action plans will involve sharing knowledge and skills with other community members.

Friess Lake School District **\$3,430**
HUBERTUS

A School Forest Education Plan

To develop, validate and adopt an education plan to enhance students' environmental literacy via experiential outdoor education with the school forest site. This plan will provide the teaching staff with knowledge of the key learning concepts and objectives that can be taught, demonstrated and/or experienced in the school forest. A scope and sequence by grade level/subject area of these concepts and objectives along with their alignment to state standards will be included.

Friess Lake School District **\$12,305**
Hubertus

Connecting with Our School Forest

For professional development to increase staff's content knowledge and outdoor teaching strategy skills; to create a school forest website based nature guide that contains pictures, identification features and information about the plants and trees in the school forest; and to support student conducted tours of the school forest for parents and community members.

Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau School District **\$5,000**
GALESVILLE

An Educational Plan for the G-E-T School Forest

To develop a school forest education plan that details opportunities, provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards, and provides staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau School District **\$19,566**
GALESVILLE

Improving Student Processing Skill Through Thematic Units Centered on Long Term Resource Monitoring Project

To design and implement two thematic units (centered on two separate long-term resource monitoring projects taking place at the school forest) to be taught in each of the required high school science courses.

Glacierland Resource Conservation and **\$4,882**
Development

GREEN BAY

Identifying Abandoned Wells, Education and Demonstration



To work with youth organization (4-H groups) and local land conservation office in Brown, Calumet and Manitowoc Counties to identify abandoned wells, to educate the public about the significance of properly sealing and filling an abandoned well, and to hold two field demonstration workshops on proper well abandonment procedures.



Glacierland Resource Conservation and **\$4,964**
Development

GREEN BAY

Sustainable Management of Forest Resources for Private Woodland Owners

To host two one-day workshops with the goal of showing woodland owners the importance of sustainably managing their woodlands while taking into account multiple uses/values. Topics will include forest stewardship management plans, non point source pollution, water quality protections, group timber harvests, wildlife management, and timber management.



Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council **\$13,242**
STEVENS POINT



Fern Island Exotic, Invasive Plant ID and Control--Pilot Project

To educate high school students from the Wausau school district about exotic, invasive plants by providing them an opportunity to spend a day at Fern Island Park, learning invasive plant ID, plant reproduction, and mechanical/chemical/biological control methods in order to control the exotic, invasive plants that currently thrive there. The next day students will be invited to bring their parents to help a group of community volunteers with more plant control.

Hoy Audubon Society **\$4,660**
RACINE

Developing and Implementing a K-5 Environmental Education Program at the Pringle Nature Center

To develop and implement a seasonal (fall, winter, spring) environmental education curriculum for Kenosha area students which utilizes the Pringle Nature Center and Bristol Woods County Park and is delivered by a cadre of trained volunteers.

Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin **\$20,000**
MADISON
Invasive Species Awareness Month (2007)

For a website with an interactive event calendar, resources for citizens and educators, media packets, and speaker's bureau information; four field days on wood-

lots across Wisconsin to discuss and observe the impacts of invasive species; an "Invader Crusaders" award program to recognize individuals and organizations for dedicated service to the battle against invasive species; and an art contest (utilizing the Invaders of the Forests curriculum) with art pieces to be displayed at the State Capitol and on the ISAM website.

La Crosse School District **\$4,996**
LA CROSSE
Project Based River Program

For students to monitor Halfway Creek, a tributary of Lake Onalaska, Pool 7 of the Mississippi River.



Laona School District **\$1,000**
LAONA
A Professional Development Opportunity for the Laona School Forest



To offer teachers the opportunity to take a LEAF workshop and become more familiar with the school forest, thereby enabling them to integrate environmental education into their curriculum.

Laona School District **\$4,780**
LAONA
An Educational Plan for the Laona School Forest

Members of the Laona School Forest Committee will draft a school forest education plan and then have it reviewed by the Laona teaching staff and the Laona School Board.

Manitowoc School District **\$4,887**
MANITOWOC

An Educational Plan for the Rahr Memorial School Forest

In Manitowoc, the majority of elementary classes use the school forest. Most of the lessons at the school forest tie into classroom learning but are dependent on each individual teacher. A plan that states how experiences at the school forest meet state standards, link to district curricula, and how the school forest demonstrates natural resources management will be developed.

Medford Area Public Schools **\$4,410**
MEDFORD

An Educational Plan for Medford-Kiwanis School Forest

Current school forest activities being used are valid but the activities selected by teachers are based on preference and comfort level rather than adhering to a well-designed plan. The Medford School District's School Forest Committee will research, draft, and validate a school forest educational plan that provides the framework for Medford's curriculum.

Mercer School District **\$4,720**
MERCER

Mercer School Forest Educational Plan

To enhance students' environmental literacy by way of experiential outdoor education occurring at the school forest site. The primary objectives are to develop a Mercer School Forest Educational Plan and to prepare the teaching staff to implement the plan.

Mid-state Technical College System **\$19,424**
WISCONSIN RAPIDS

Mobile Urban Forestry Inventory and Tour

To develop, test and integrate into curriculum (9 courses at MSTC and 6 courses at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point), a Mobile Urban Forestry Inventory and Tour of the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Education Center (located on the Wisconsin Rapids Campus). The new technology will allow students in the urban forestry programs to better utilize the Center's collection of plantings and learn new technology that is becoming standard in the forestry industry.



Midwest Renewable Energy Association **\$4,704**
CUSTER

Renewable Energy 101 for Universities



For a series of full day workshops at 8 UW-System campuses around the state. Goal is to partner with student environmental groups on each campus to provide a substantive understanding of renewable energy technologies (wind electric, photovoltaic and solar hot water systems, and biodiesel) and to work with the student groups to effectively advocate for implementation of renewable energy programs and systems on campus.

Milwaukee Public Schools **\$4,997**
MILWAUKEE

Analysis of Urban Rainwater Run-off with Environmental Remediation Efforts

To enable AP environmental and AP biology students to: analyze the modeled urban aquatic ecosystem for flora and fauna changes before and after rain episodes, analyze the impact of urban runoff from rooftops and parking lots as related to area waterways, develop a remediation statement and plan assisting the local community with the urban run-off environmental issue, and initiate a rain barrel collection system.

Milwaukee Public Schools **\$5,000**
MILWAUKEE

Trowbridge Rain Garden Service Learning Project

To support professional development of teachers, to develop k-8 stormwater runoff curricula, and to create and maintain a rain garden to improve local water quality.

Montello School District **\$4,975**
MONTELLO

Enhanced Utilization of the Montello School District Forest

To create an education plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides the Montello staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Inc. **\$4,900**
MILWAUKEE

"Nature Time" Picture Book Series

To design, print, and publish a series of children's book that will complement the already existing "Nature Time" curriculum. The book series will aid in connecting students ages birth to 6 years to the topic of gardening.

Nicolet Distance Education Network **\$19,910**
RHINELANDER

LEAF Forestry Education: A Distance Education Network Model

To provide school staff and community partners with training in the LEAF curriculum, curriculum integration and the use of interactive television; and provide teacher and students the opportunity to participate in LEAF cross-curricular, standards-based forestry education programming via instructional television, leading to field enhancement activities connected to their school forest and outdoor learning centers.

North Lakeland School District **\$5,000**
MANITOWISH WATERS

An Educational Plan for North Lakeland

To form a School Forest Committee and assign it to drafting and validating a school forest education plan.



Princeton School District **\$5,000**
PRINCETON

Princeton Public School Forest Education Plan 

To write an educational plan whose overall goal is to create opportunities for each grade level to successfully incorporate forest knowledge into the classroom. The district will also host an in-service training for teachers to become more familiar with the school forest site, outdoor education methods, grade level appropriate school forest activities, and environmental education curriculum such as LEAF.

Pulaski Community School District **\$2,600**
PULASKI

An Educational Plan for Fairview School Forest

To write an education plan that detail opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides the Fairview staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

Rhineland Central Schools **\$3,701**
RHINELANDER

Determining the Impact of Deer Browse on Forest Regeneration via Exclosures

For construction and maintenance of an exclosure area within each regeneration study area to determine if regeneration rates are impacted by deer browsing on young trees. Students from the high school environmental science class will document regeneration rates via observations and pictures taken at six-month intervals. A final report using data collected by classes of the previous months will be written and presented to the Instructional Committee of the Rhineland Board of Education and the local DNR Forester.

Riveredge Nature Center **\$5,000**
NEWBURG

Wisconsin Environmental Discussion Guide

To create a discussion guide that will increase knowledge and awareness of Wisconsin's natural features, ecology, the impact of human activity, and options for reducing personal impacts through behavioral changes.

Royall School District **\$5,000**
ELROY

An Educational Plan for the Elroy School Forest

For the district to form a School Forest Education Plan

Task Force (a subcommittee of the School Forest Committee) and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.

School District of Black River Falls **\$3,825**
BLACK RIVER FALLS

A School Forest Education Plan for the School District of Black River Falls

To create an education plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides the Black River Falls staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

School District of Black River Falls **\$14,017**
BLACK RIVER FALLS

Increasing the Environmental Literacy of Students in the Black River Falls Schools

To develop environmental education curriculum and instructional activities, educate the Black River Falls staff about environmental education concepts, and pilot an environmental education program which utilizes the school forest.

School District of Butternut **\$5,000**
BUTTERNUT

Environmental Education Plan for Butternut Schools

To build upon the resources and accomplishments already made by creating a written comprehensive forestry education plan that incorporates environmental education goals in a way that is responsive to WEEB priorities and other recognizably sound educational elements.

School District of Phillips **\$4,998**
PHILLIPS

A School Forest Education Plan for Phillips

To form a School Forest Education Plan Task Force (a subcommittee of the School Forest Committee) and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.



Sheboygan County: \$4,950
Planning and Resources Department
SHEBOYGAN
A Pilot Project to Increase Community Knowledge of Environmental Issues

To develop and support local leaders and their fellow citizens in watershed protection by featuring them in public programs and news articles and through a new awards program.

Sparta Area School District \$12,535
SPARTA
Setting the Path for Future Education at the Sparta School Forest

For staff to participate in professional development activities designed to enhance their familiarity with the Sparta School Forest and their knowledge of forestry education concepts, introduce them to new school forest/environmental education curriculum and resources, and allow for hands-on practice at the school forest with their peers and with students in their classrooms. Also for the development of pre-K through 5 curriculum that is consistent with the district's school forest management and education plans and existing curriculum, and acquisition of classroom and field resources needed to implement the new curricula.

Thorp School District \$4,300
THORP
An Educational Plan for Thorp School District

To form a School Forest Education Plan Committee and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.

Trees For Tomorrow \$18,949
EAGLE RIVER
Expanding the WI Forestry Knowledge and Skill Base of WI's Non-Formal Educators

For a five-day field-based forestry workshop for non-formal educators on soils/geology, watersheds in relation to forest, identification of common Northern plants, habitat typing, and forestry management practices in Wisconsin. The workshop will also assist non-formal educators in disseminating correct and unbiased information to the public regarding Wisconsin's forests and forestry management practices.

UW-Baraboo/Sauk County: \$725
Office of Continuing Education
BARABOO
College for Kids 2006: Wisconsin Woods and Water: Exploring our Natural Surroundings

To enable fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students to participate in hands-on learning experiments and assessments of the environment's quality and health. Expected outcomes include enhanced knowledge of natural processes, importance of a healthy environment, types of testing and assessing, identification of species, and collection of samples without harm to the environment or its creatures.





UW-Extension: Buffalo County

\$4,698

ALMA



**Bluff Prairie Education and Restoration:
An Active Learning Project**

For two county high school conservation classes to restore two or three bluff prairies and record the restoration on film and on paper. Film and presentation material will be used in fifth and sixth grade conservation classes and presentations to conservation clubs and other adult audiences.

UW-Madison:

\$4,894

Office of Research Sponsored Programs

MADISON

**Using the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program to
Build Environmental Stewardship**

To conduct three training workshops to educate and train adult leaders about WHEP (a 4-H natural resource program dedicated to teaching habitat management to youth (ages 8-19)) . Also to organize and conduct a state WHEP contest.

UW-Madison:

\$7,601

Office of Research Sponsored Programs

MADISON

Wisconsin Coverts Project

To host two three-day workshops for 60 private woodland owners to learn to enhance their woodlands for wildlife. While wildlife management is emphasized, a holistic perspective showing how wildlife management is compatible with other goals such as recreation, aesthetics and forest management is provided. Training in invasive species identification and control, timber harvest methods and wildlife inventory and monitoring techniques is included.

UW-Platteville

\$5,000

PLATTEVILLE

Outdoor Experience: Exploring Natural Habitats



For a series of professional development courses for teachers of grades K-8 that include curriculum development and unique field experiences with riverine, forest, lake, stream and the Mississippi River habitats in order to provide awareness and knowledge of the intricate complexity of these natural habitats.

Wabeno Area School District **\$4,955**
WABENO

Wabeno Area School Forest Education Plan

To create an educational plan that will lay the ground-work for successful implementation of experiential outdoor environmental education curriculum in the district.

Wausau School District **\$5,000**
WAUSAU

An Educational Plan for Wausau School Forest 

To create an educational plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides staff with the framework upon which future curriculum and lessons can be built.

West Salem School District **\$4,800**
WEST SALEM

Education Plan for the West Salem Outdoor Education Center

To build on the district's long history of taking students to the 130 acre Outdoor Education Center for experiential outdoor education by creating an educational plan that details opportunities and provides connections to the classroom curriculum and state education standards and provides a framework upon which future professional staff development, curriculum and lessons can be built.



Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education **\$800**

STEVENS POINT

2006 WAEE Fall Conference Keynote Presentations

To support keynote presentations by Bill Volkert from Horicon Marsh and David Backes from University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee at the 2006 "Where Woods Meets Waters" WAEE Conference in Manitowoc.

Wisconsin Center For Environmental Education **\$5,000**
STEVENS POINT

Wisconsin Environmental Education Online Clearinghouse

To create a statewide online clearinghouse for exchange of environmental education (EE) information and opportunities. To provide a searchable directory of Wisconsin's EE providers and the resources they offer, a statewide calendar of EE event, EE news, and easy-to-access facts about Wisconsin's environment. This will be accomplished by replication and customizing the EE in Georgia web site, created by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources \$5,000
MADISON**

A Closer Look at Cranes: Wisconsin Whooping Crane Education

To develop activities and support material for fourth through twelfth grade students and adult audiences which utilize the educational materials assembled within the recently created "Whooping Crane Educational Trunk." Also for the creation of additional trunks, educator workshops that help orient participants to the material and educational themes, and model whooping crane education presentations.



**Wisconsin Family Forest \$19,190
OSHKOSH**

A Toolbox to Support Community Forestry Leadership

To support a two-phased project to develop and empower community leaders interested in promoting sustainable forestry among neighboring forest owners. In Phase I, a team of professional and community forestry leaders will evaluate resources and perceived gaps in resources needed to develop and support community leaders and provide information required to promote sustainable and cooperative forestry practices in our communities. In Phase II, the highest priority tools will be developed and tested, and all resources will be cataloged and made available through organizations that promote sustainable forestry.

**Wisconsin Forest Resources \$18,500
Education Alliance**

**STEVENS POINT
An Intensive 4-5 Day Site-Based Training Course for Educators**

To host a cooperatively developed workshop that provides information and models activities, materials, and development tools that allow schools to develop interdisciplinary, standards-based forestry field programs that utilize the LEAF Lesson Guides. The workshop curriculum will integrate existing LEAF field lessons and exemplify place-based and project-based education practices.

**Wisconsin Woodland Owners' Association \$13,998
STEVENS POINT**

Leadership Workshop for Midwest Woodland Owner Organizations 

To develop local leaders by sharing information among regional organizations on sustainable forestry initiatives, increasing community knowledge on forest management, and encouraging community participation in forestry issues. This train-the-trainer type workshop will assist in educating WWOA board of directors and staff so that they can educate woodland owners about sustainable forest management options on private forest lands.

**Wonewoc-Union Center Public Schools \$5,000
WONEWOC**

An Educational Plan for the Wonewoc School Forest

To form a School Forest Education Plan Task Force (a subcommittee of the School Forest Committee) and charge it with drafting and validating a school forest education plan.



Woodland Dunes Nature Center **\$20,000**
TWO RIVERS

**Increasing Forest Landowner Education by
Developing a Network**

To support the establishment of a collaborative network between Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources foresters and three local nature centers in Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Calumet counties to provide a woodland owner education series of at least 45 woodland owner programs to reach woodland owners not already engaged in woodland management.





GRANT REVIEWERS

THANK YOU VOLUNTEER GRANT PROPOSAL REVIEWERS FOR MAKING EE WORK FOR WISCONSIN!

Ashaffenburg, Katherine Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation	2005	Fannucchi, Genny DNR: Forestry Bureau	2005, 2006, 2007
Atkinson, Nelli UW-Stevens Point	2005	Gaskill, Cindy Retired	2006, 2007
Bauer-Armstrong, Cheryl UW-Madison: Arboretum	2005, 2006	Gavin, Leslie Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation	2005
Benson, Miles Retired, Consolidated Papers	2007	Gilbert, Sarah Learning Experiences and Activities in Forestry	2005, 2007
Bircher, Chip Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	2006	Gilson-Pierece, Gail Trees for Tomorrow	2005, 2006
Bohanan, Robert UW-Madison: Center for Biology Education	2005, 2006	Gray, Amber Trees for Tomorrow	2007
Callewaert, Dave Retired, S.C. Johnson	2006, 2007	Harvey, Lucy Retired	2005
Carlton, Ginny Wisconsin Environmental Education Board	2005, 2006, 2007	Jones, Ron DNR: Appleton	2006
Conde, Heidi DNR: Woodruff	2005	Johnson, Michael La Crosse School District	2006, 2007
Cramey, Mike DNR: Gordon	2007	Jordan, Jay DNR: Dunn County Forester	2005
Dahl, Lindsay Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program	2005	Kinzel, Steve UW-Extension: 4H	2006
DeLaune, Jeff Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	2007	Klippel, Judy DNR: Havenwoods Environmental Education Center	2005
Dostal, Karen Stevens Point Area School District	2005, 2006, 2007	Koziel, Rick Beaver Creek Reserve	2005, 2006, 2007
Eberhardy, Teri Mosinee School District	2007	Krahn-Tulman, Kathy CESA 10	2005
Ebert, Heidi West Salem School District	2006	Kubish (Zbleski), Bobbi UW-Stevens Point	2007

Lane, Jennie Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program	2005	Singer, Matt DNR: Darlington	2006
Langenfeld, Chris Westfield School District	2006	Solin, Jeremy Learning Experiences and Activities in Forestry	2005, 2006, 2007
Maher (Brodeen), Patty Manitowoc Public School District	2005, 2006	Sterling, Clay Midwest Renewable Energy Association	2005
Marinac, Pat Appleton Area School District	2005, 2006, 2007	Tang, Chin Chun Center for Land Use Education	2005
Mattano, Rebecca UW-Stevens Point	2005	Thompson, Barbara West Salem School District	2005, 2006, 2007
Minniear, Andrea Energy Center of Wisconsin	2006	Tiles, Kris UW-Extension	2006
Mich, Gerry Wisconsin Family Forest	2006, 2007	Todea (Holmes), Cheryl Trees for Tomorrow	2006, 2007
Morgan, Carrie DNR: Communication and Education	2005	Wade, Suzanne UW-Extension: Jefferson City	2005, 2007
Moubry, Cindy Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation	2006	Wearne-Neurohr, Deb Portage Community School District	2005, 2006
Nye, Casey Stevens Point Area School District	2005	Whalley, Thomas Retired, Tri-County Schools	2006, 2007
Nykolayko, Heidi Trees for Tomorrow	2007	Wiener, Rob Trees for Tomorrow	2005
Oradei, Manny DNR: Rhinelander	2006, 2007	Windjue, Sara Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program	2006
Peri, Phyllis UWSP: Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education	2006	Workman, Amy UW Extension: Milwaukee County	2005
Schultz, Amy Girl Scouts of America: Woodland Council	2006, 2007	Wurl, Pete Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	2005
Sierk, John DNR: Hancock	2007	Zagrzebski, Kelly Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	2007
		Zirbel, Adam Vernon County Land Conservation Department	2007

GRANT APPLICATION STATISTICS

2005

Total Dollars Requested \$871,741
Average Request \$7998

Proposals Received 109

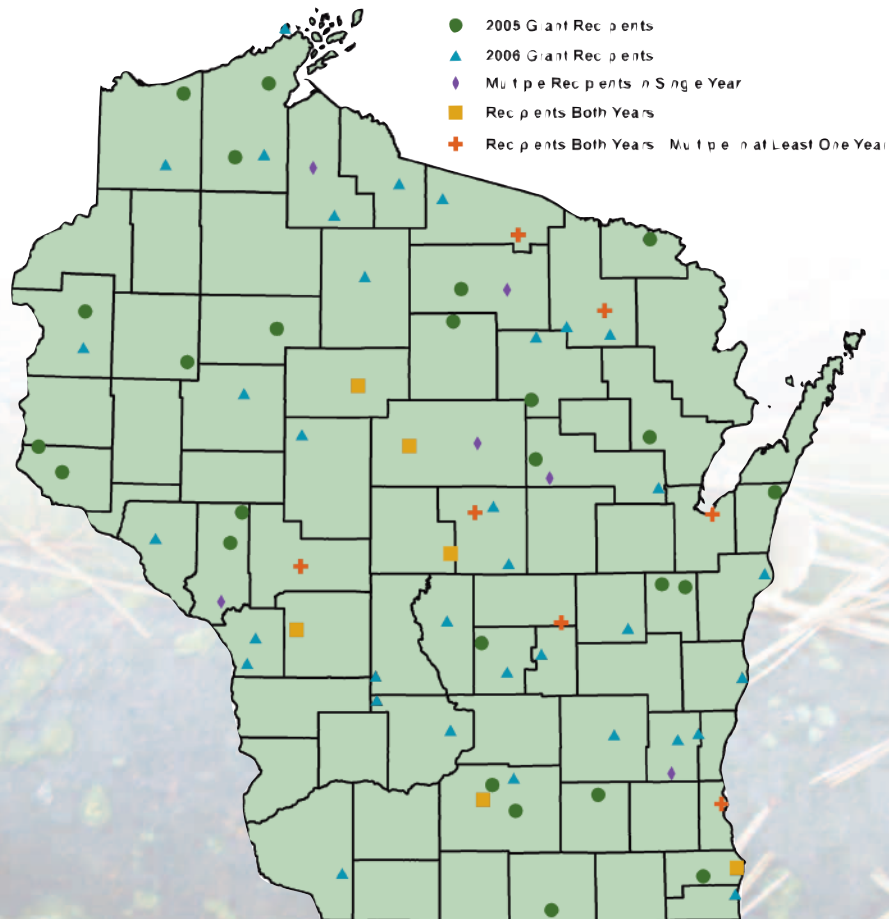
	Projects Funded	Dollar Value Funded
General	30	\$98,367
Forestry	12	\$156,834
School Forest	21	\$223,166
Total	63	\$478,357

2006

Total Dollars Requested \$763,127
Average Request \$7001

Proposals Received 109

	Projects Funded	Dollar Value Funded
General	26	\$104,661
Forestry	14	\$195,765
School Forest	32	\$184,235
Total	72	\$484,661



DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



One of the duties of the WEEB, as directed by 1989 Wisconsin Act 299, is to be a catalyst for seeking private funds to supplement state support of the grant program.

The elimination of the \$200,000 annual general public revenue appropriation in 2001 has severely limited the WEEB's ability to carry out its mission. While forestry education programs have blossomed, other initiatives have languished. The WEEB has undertaken a number of initiatives to address this loss.

During the last biennial period, the Board established a task force to identify possible revenue appropriation sources to help return the general environmental education grant program to its historical level. In addition to reauthorization of the GPR support and legislation to increase the level of funding from environmental fines, the task force identified several additional state revenue sources including: littering fines, a bottle deposit, a specialty license plate fee, a tax check-off donation program and a surcharge on plastic bags. These revenue sources are still under consideration but none has been pursued successfully to date.

After extensive efforts to solicit private funds produced returns well short of realistic goals, it became evident that solicitation with a directly associated nonprofit corporation as the depository for the funds was essential. In October 2004 the Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation (WEEF), a nonstock nonprofit corporation



was registered with the state of Wisconsin. In April 2005 the Foundation received approval of its application to the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c)3 organization. WEEF is presently developing strategies to solicit funds by mechanisms including:

- On-line contributions
- Payroll deduction for state employees
- A corporate giving campaign

If you are interested in contributing or finding out more about the WEEF and its work to support the WEEB, refer to the WEEF website at: www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weef

As citizens of this state we all have a stake in preserving and enhancing our environmental heritage. We invite your input as we promote learning opportunities for our citizens so that everyone, youngest to oldest, will gain more knowledge and skill to ensure an even more positive legacy for our environment. Each individual's efforts do make a difference!





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WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION BOARD
110B COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481



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