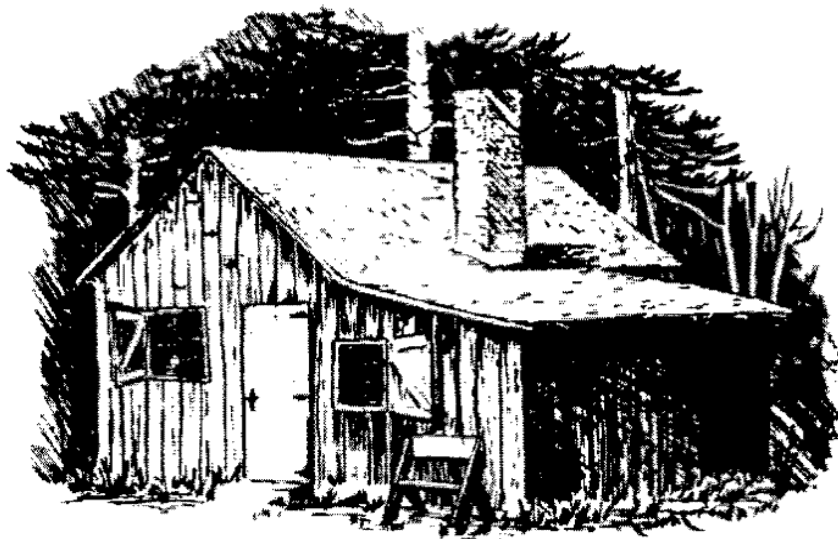


LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For Students Pursuing Education
In The Field Of Natural Resources



"The Shack"
Sand County, Wisconsin

Artwork by James McEvoy, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Brought to you by the...

**Soil & Water Conservation Districts
of Northeastern Illinois**

ABOUT THE LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT

In 1988 Land Use Council 16, which was originally comprised of eight Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Northeastern Illinois, undertook the Leopold Education Project with the goal of raising the public's awareness about the pressures on the environment and spreading Leopold's idea of a "land ethic". A hands-on workbook, based on Leopold's A Sand County Almanac, was developed for use in schools and teacher workshops.

In 1994, in an effort to take the Leopold Education Project nationwide, the program was purchased by Pheasants Forever. Funds from the sale are set up in a trust to provide scholarships for students pursuing an education in a natural resources field.

Every county in Illinois is served by a local Soil and Water Conservation District. These local units of government provide leadership and direction in an effort to conserve and protect natural resources. Land Use Council 16 is now comprised of seven Soil and Water Conservation Districts: Boone, North Cook, Will-South Cook, DeKalb, Kane-DuPage, McHenry-Lake, and Winnebago.

ALDO LEOPOLD

Aldo Leopold was an inspirational leader in ecology and forestry, as well as an author and environmentalist. He was influential in the transformation of environmental ethics and wildlife management. Leopold's philosophy emphasized holistic and environmentally centered ethics based on biodiversity and ecology. Known for his contribution to the United States Forest Service and the University of Wisconsin, Leopold's philosophy and ethics have created a foundation for modern conservation and have had a profound impact on the environmental movement.

First published in 1949, A Sand County Almanac contains a final chapter entitled "The Land Ethic". Within this chapter, Leopold expresses the relationship between people and nature and states a community should be expanded to include nonhuman elements of the environment, such as soil, water, flora, and fauna, "or collectively: the land". Throughout the chapter Leopold states people have an essential role in protecting the land to preserve the health of a community and to act as stewards to guide humanity to become a member of the community instead of a conqueror. Leopold has provided future generations with a classic work of literature, as well as a legacy for sensible land use.

THE PROGRAM



The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program seeks to provide scholarships for post-high school education. Scholarships are awarded to students enrolled fulltime at an accredited two or four year community college, college, or university, which will lead to a career in various fields of natural resources.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients are selected based on: academic record, a demonstrated commitment to natural resource conservation activities, honors, work experience, statement of educational and career goals, natural resource oriented community service, and recommendations from a counselor, advisor, instructor or employer.

Selection of recipients is made by a panel of judges comprised of at least three individuals associated with Land Use Council 16. The decisions of the judges are final.

All applicants will receive notification, even if they are not the recipient of the scholarship award.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants to the Leopold Education Program Scholarship Program must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a resident in one of the following Illinois counties:

Boone	DuPage	McHenry
Cook	Kane	Will
DeKalb	Lake	Winnebago
- Be high school seniors, high school graduates (diplomas or GED certificates)
- Be students who are currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a fulltime course of study at an accredited two or four year community college, college, or university in a natural resource field such as, fish or wildlife biology, conservation or management, air quality, botany, conservation education, ecology, forestry, hydrology, soils, pollution control or water quality.
- Have at least a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale).

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Interested students *must complete the attached application* and submit it to the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator. In addition to the completed application, you must send the following:

- Official transcripts.
- Three letters of recommendation from a counselor, instructor, employer, or other individual qualified to assess the applicants scholarship, community service and commitment to natural resources.
- Provide a typed, double spaced, maximum of two pages profile of yourself stressing career goals and aspirations including: 1) why you are interested in pursuing a career in the natural resources field, 2) what you hope to accomplish when you complete your education, and 3) what Leopold's land ethic means to you.

All information received is considered confidential. All application documents become the property of the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program and cannot be returned. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Land Use Council 16 may use such items as the scholarship winner's name, city, past community involvement and natural resource aspirations in the promotion of the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program.

AWARDS

The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program will award scholarships in amounts up to \$1,000.

Recipients must enroll in school no later than the fall session following the announcement of awards. Scholarship money may be used for tuition, books, supplies and/or equipment required for courses of instruction, and other fees. Scholarship money may not be used for room and board.

Scholarships are not automatically renewable, but past recipients may re-apply. Any applicant selected in one year may re-apply in any later year for which he or she is eligible.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program awards will be paid in one payment in late June. Checks will be made payable to the post secondary institution the applicant indicated on their application form and mailed directly to that institution.

PROGRAM REVISIONS

The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program reserves the right to review and change the conditions and procedures of this program at any time, including termination of the scholarship program. Previously approved scholarships will not be affected by subsequent changes to the program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Documents must be received by the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator ***by February 15th*** of each year (assumes changes by year if 15th on a weekend). The administrator will acknowledge receipt of application. Scholarship applications should be mailed to:

**Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator
Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District
211 N. Appleton Rd.
Belvidere, IL 61008**

For more information call the Program Administrator at 815-544-2677



*"The Shack"
Sand County, Wisconsin*

Artwork by James McEvoy, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION: PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____
(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Home Address: _____
(Street Address)

(City) (County) (State) (Zip Code)

How did you hear about this scholarship? : _____

Phone Number: _____ e-mail address: _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION: PLEASE PRINT

School Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip) (County)

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION: PLEASE PRINT

Full name of college or university you plan to attend. If undetermined, please list in order of preference, the schools to which you have applied.

(Name) (City) (State)

(Name) (City) (State)

WORK EXPERIENCE: PLEASE PRINT

Describe your work experience. Indicate dates of employment in each job and approximate number of hours worked each week. Use additional sheets as necessary.

COMPANY	POSITION	START (MO & YR)	END (MO & YR)	HOURS PER WEEK

LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ACTIVITIES, AWARDS AND HONORS: PLEASE PRINT

List significant activities in which you have participated (school, community, volunteer, etc.). Include awards, honors and offices held. Use additional sheets as necessary.

ACTIVITY / ORGANIZATION	HOW LONG	SPECIAL AWARDS, ACHIEVMENTS & HONORS	OFFICES / POSITIONS HELD

CERTIFICATION:

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to give proof of information I have given on this form. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. This application, and its attachments, becomes the property of the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program. I understand that certain information about me may be used in the reporting and promotion of this program. Such information may include my name, city, high school, information submitted under the heading "activities, awards and honors" and a summary of interests as indicated in my profile. Furthermore, I am assured that my phone number, street address, transcripts, grade point average, current employment, and letters of recommendation will *not* be used in the promotion of this program. I understand that I will not be paid for promotional use and that no further claim of any nature can be made.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURE FOR APPLICANTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18.

Parent or Legal Guardian's SIGNATURE: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's PRINTED NAME: _____

Relationship to Minor: _____ Date: _____

REMEMBER TO SEND: Transcripts Letters of Recommendation (3) Personal Profile

Thank you for your application!

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts of the Counties of Land Use Council 16 prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.

