

LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For Students Pursuing Education
In The Field Of Natural Resources



*"The Shack"
Sand County, Wisconsin*

Brought to you by the...

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

Land Use Council 16

ALDO LEOPOLD

Aldo Leopold worked for the U.S. Forest Service for many years and then went to work for the University of Wisconsin. He was appointed to chair the first Department of Game Management in the United States. There he taught students about the interactions of plants, animals, soil and land use.

In 1935 Leopold bought a worn out piece of land on the Wisconsin River. Together with his family they planted trees, wildflowers and shrubs to restore the land and studied the natural regeneration of plant and wildlife that followed. Throughout, he kept a daily journal. After his death, in 1948, his writings were published in *A Sand County Almanac*. Leopold left future generations not only a classic work of literature, but a legacy of sensible land use.

ABOUT THE LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT

In 1988 Land Use Council 16, an organization 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 our environment and spread Leopold's idea of a "land ethic". A workbook of hands-on activities based on Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* was developed for use in schools, teacher workshops were held, and class sets of the *Almanac* were distributed.

In 1994, in an effort to take the Leopold Education Project nationwide, the program was purchased by Pheasants forever. Moneys from the sale are set up in a trust to provide scholarships for students pursuing an education in the 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 comprised of the Boone, North Cook, Will/South Cook, DeKalb, Kane-DuPage, Lake, McHenry and Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

PROGRAM REVISIONS

The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and to make changes at any time including termination of the scholarship program.

Previously approved scholarships will not be affected by subsequent changes to the program.

THE PROGRAM



The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program seeks to provide scholarships for post-high school education awarded to students seeking a degree at an accredited community college or university which will lead to a career in the natural resources field.

Scholarship moneys may be used for tuition, fees, books, room and board. The amount awarded will not exceed the cost of tuition, books, fees and room and board.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic record, a demonstrated commitment to natural resource conservation activities and community service (i.e. membership in conservation groups, community service in school, church or service groups, conservation work in the community and school), potential to succeed, honors, work experience, statement of educational and career goals, and recommendations from a counselor, advisor, instructor or employer.

Selection of recipients is made by an independent panel of judges comprised of no fewer than three individuals. The decisions of the judges are final.

All applicants will receive notification as to whether or not they have been chosen to receive a scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Maintain permanent residence in one of the following Illinois counties:

Boone	DuPage	McHenry
Cook	Kane	Will
DeKalb	Lake	Winnebago
- Be high school seniors or graduates (diplomas or GED certificates).
- Be students who are enrolled or planning to enroll in a fulltime course of study at an accredited 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 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 (see Additional Information). In addition to the completed application, you must send the following:

- A certified, original transcript of your grades.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation from a counselor, instructor, employer, minister or other individual qualified to assess the applicants scholarship, community service and commitment to natural resources.
- Profile of yourself (typed, doubled spaced, maximum of 2 pages) stressing career goals and aspirations including: a) why you are interested in pursuing a career in the natural resources field, b) what you hope to accomplish when you complete your education, c) what Leopold's land ethic means to you.

Applications must be received by the scholarship administrator on or before the application deadline (See Additional Information). The scholarship administrator will acknowledge receipt of your application.

Applicant information that is considered confidential includes; transcripts, grade point average, street address, phone number, date of birth, current employment and letters of recommendation. However, the Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Land Use Council 16 may use such items as the scholarship awardees' name, city, past community involvement and natural resource aspirations in the promotion of the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program. All submitted documents become the property of the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program and cannot be returned.

AWARDS

The Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program will award scholarships in amounts up to \$1,000.00.

Recipients must enroll in school no later than the fall session following the announcement of awards.

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 Mid-August. Checks will be mailed to each recipient's home address and will be made payable jointly to the recipient and to the post-secondary school and must be endorsed by both.

OBLIGATIONS

Recipients have no obligation to the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program other than supplying the scholarship administrator with current transcripts and promptly notifying the administrator of any changes of address, school enrollment, or other relevant information.

Information about recipients' progress may be shared with donors to the fund and it is hoped that recipients might communicate, from time to time, with donors.

Except as described in this packet, no obligation is assumed by the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All documents (see Application Checklist) should be mailed to:

**Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator
Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 218
Belvidere, IL. 61008**

All original documents must be received by the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator by **April 1st. at 4:30 p.m.** of each year.

For more information call the Program Administrator at 815-544-2677 (ext.3)



*"The Shack"
Sand County, Wisconsin*

Artwork by James McEvoy, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

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, letters of recommendation and date of birth 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 Personal Profile

Thank you for your application!