



**WOLF
RIDGE**SM
ENVIRONMENTAL
LEARNING CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017





Today's leaders cut the ribbon for the opening of Lakeview House, Wolf Ridge's residence for our seasonal staff. Tomorrow's leaders breaking ground for the Margaret A. Cargill (MAC) Lodge Living Building Challenge (LBC) renovations.



Hello Friends,

What I want for my children and Wolf Ridge students or campers is likely the same that most everyone wants - to simply learn how to live in a better, more sustainable manner for the planet. In the world today, it can feel overwhelming as we repetitively take in all the bad news. Conditions relative to how our planet is changing and our ability, or inability, to adapt have become commonplace reports. Don't lose your hope or optimism. We can do this!

Nothing was more apparent at Wolf Ridge this past year than the construction on the main campus with our Making Waves projects. These projects began as the need to renovate a building but became an inspired tool of change for children, graduate students, contractors, and the building material manufacturing industry. Building trades workers stepped up to sustainability behaviors and methods never performed in the upper Midwest. Manufacturers changed their product ingredients to be free of toxic chemicals, or modified their process of design and construction to meet the highest of environmental sustainability standards.

Learning experiences at Wolf Ridge are where knowledge meets inspiration. Inspiration may not be enough to make change if one can't envision the path to the outcome or believe it can be done. This past year was one of tremendous achievement at Wolf Ridge in large part due to people with like-minded values seeing these acts occurring and a decision to join Wolf Ridge by provision of financial support that ensured these goals would be met.

Wolf Ridge serves as an international lesson of hope and optimism for our collective future. Wolf Ridge is an example of how our citizenry and our world can be changed for the better. This year is evidence that with knowledge, newly acquired skills, positive attitudes and commitment to work together, whether it is in small communities, on project teams, or even at the level of international industrial manufacturers, we can live more sustainable lifestyles. Whatever the challenge, if we work together we can solve it in better and more effective ways.

On behalf of thousands of children and adults who attended and worked at Wolf Ridge this year, thank you for your commitment to expanding our learning experiences.



STAFF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: Russell Bierbaum

Members:

John Anderson
Gene Champeau
Doug Connell
Pat Coppo
John Daniels
Andy Datko
Kirk Gadelmann
Earl Gransee
Kate Knuth
Nancy Quattlebaum Burke
Ron Sackett
Nancy Schultz
Lee Thao
John Thein

Jim Brandenburg
William M. Burns
Richard Gray*
Peter Heegaard
Robert Heller*
Ron Kirk
Donn Larson
Mike Latimer*
Sigurd Olson*
Jack Pichotta
Michael Plautz*
Rene Settergren
Werner Tismer*
* deceased

Founder:

Jack Pichotta

STAFF

Executive Director:

Peter Smerud

Education Director:

Shannon Walz

Financial Director:

Ken Smith

Development Director:

John Chandler

Office:

Coleen Clough
Krysty Pirsig
Jessica Vance

Farm:

David Abazs
Lise Abazs

Program:

Carrie Anderson
Jenny Bushmaker
David Butcher
Peter Harris
Danielle Hefferan
John Kohlstedt
Erin Manning
Betsey Mead
Joe Walewski
Lori Walewski
Elizabeth Williams

Mentor Naturalists:

Sarah Bransford
Rachel Enwright
Julia Luger
Luciana Ranelli
Danielle Tikalsky

Off-Site Instructors:

Eric Holmstrom
Olivia Kinsinger
Alison Wood

Food Service:

Zach Bates
Sandy Gunnink
Christopher O'Brien
Sonique Sutherland
Bernie Vadner

Buildings/Grounds:

Gary Olson
Roger Swensgaard
Mike Sutherland
Jason Velacich

Custodial:

Morganne Curtis
Ashley Evans
Rosemary Evans
Megan Johnson
Dawn Simula
Lynn Varney

EMERITUS TRUSTEES

Thomas Atchison*



MAKING WAVES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Fundraising for the \$9.4 million project is well underway. As of August 31, 2017, \$6,727,411 was raised. Wolf Ridge met the \$6.25 million goal to get the \$250,000 match from Margaret A. Cargill Foundation.



PHASE ONE COMPLETED

Phase One of the *Making Waves* project, which includes the maintenance shop and Lakeview Staff House for Wolf Ridge's graduate students and seasonal staff was completed in May. Lakeview House is a state of the art net zero facility that will allow residents to get real time feedback on their resource consumption and provide the framework for the intentional practice of sustainable living. The building was constructed to Living Building Challenge (LBC) standards. The maintenance shop brings together all the maintenance staff and tools into one space providing a critically needed resource for the care of all our facilities.



LEADING THE NATION IN SUSTAINABILITY

Phase Two of the project began in June with the arrival of thirty RV trailers for temporary housing during the renovation of our original dormitory. When completed it will become the Margaret A. Cargill (MAC) Lodge, one of only 45 such sustainability projects in the world. The MAC Lodge is the first in Minnesota to be designed and constructed to full certification of the Living Building Challenge (LBC). The LBC is the highest international standard to pursue in sustainable building design and performance. With standards such as 90% landfill diversion for waste, net zero energy and water, and vetting of all materials to assure they are free from toxic chemicals, it will be a teaching tool of sustainability for future generations of students who will live and learn at Wolf Ridge.



FUTURE GENERATIONS LEARNING HOW TO BUILD TO THE LBC

Throughout construction the Wolf Ridge team partnered with Gardner Builders to provide hands-on learning experiences for students by allowing them to actually participate in the construction. Students hammered nails, applied beads of caulk, and helped assemble wall sections. With help from all the building trade workers, students were able to envision a future of working in sustainability by working in the trades, as an engineer, or architect.



PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SCHOOL PROGRAM

From early September until mid-June and several weeks through the summer, schools and groups continue to be the primary audience of learners at Wolf Ridge. One hundred and seventy nine schools and groups attended this year, averaging a stay of four days per person. It's not a vacation, as Wolf Ridge is an accredited school. These students are still considered to be in school; here, the learning is an outdoors, facilitated, hands-on experience.

Having completed our 46th year of school programming it is now a weekly occurrence that some of the chaperones accompanying their child, attended Wolf Ridge decades earlier as a student. These parents and their teachers are affording their child experiences in environmental learning that lasts a lifetime. At this point in our culture, where screen time far exceeds time outdoors for a child, these schools are assuring children grow up with an understanding and connection to the natural world. This outcome is needed now more than ever.

NEW SPECIALTY CAMPS

New summer camp offerings included Green Energy Camp, Superior Service Learning, a three-week BWCAW canoe trip, and a kayak trip in Voyageurs National Park. Wolf Ridge summer programming continues to provide learning experiences that connects kids with nature and develop skills necessary for future generations to be leaders in conservation and sustainability.

SCIENCE IMMERSION CREDIT PROGRAMS

Academic Science Immersion Programming continues to provide Middle School and High School students with multi-week residencies at Wolf Ridge where students earn high school and college credit doing field science both at Wolf Ridge and in the BWCA wilderness. In addition, this year was our third year of the High School SEAK program and 12 students were placed in paid internships in environmental fields. All of the recent graduates then went on to college in the fall.





ORGANIC FARM

With grunts and heaves, the human plow activity joined the all-day food and farming curriculum. The curriculum reaches hundreds of students who help harvest part of the five tons of vegetables grown for our dining hall. We are on our way to providing 100% of the vegetables in our dining hall from our site with children learning integrated into the process. The farm leadership mentored the education of young farmers in the positions of field manager and three internships. A three-year Minnesota Department of Agriculture Soils pH Research Project was completed that provided Minnesota farmers with evidence of how best to adjust pH when farming acidic soils. A ten-foot tall deer fence was completed around the entire six-acre farm and we finished clearing the remaining three-acres to be turned into crop fields.

2016-2017 Program Attendance

SCHOOLS & GROUPS

Youth	8,554
Adults	2,384

NATURALIST TRAINING 22

COLLEGES/CONFERENCES/
OTHER 1094

ROAD SCHOLAR & FAMILIES 160

OFF SITE 675

SUMMER YOUTH 475

SHARING KNOWLEDGE

Wolf Ridge staff attended, hosted, and presented at a number of conferences. The Minnesota Association of Environmental Educators (MAEE) held their annual conference at Wolf Ridge. Wolf Ridge presenters included Shannon Walz and Luciana Ranelli on assessment and Joe Walewski on the Spiral Learning Model and ferns. At the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), Joe Walewski presented on the student teacher training program with Kevin Zak and Mary Beth Factor (former Wolf Ridgers) and Shannon Walz collaborated with Dave Chase, Libby McCann, and Laura Andrews of Antioch University of New England for a presentation on our graduate program partnership. At the Association of Nature Center Administrators National Conference, Peter Smerud presented on the Living Building Challenge and sustainability education. We also hosted the Minnesota Naturalist Association (MNA) conference with a record of 130 attending. David Abazs showcased our organic farm and farm curriculum. Several other Wolf Ridge staff presented and led various sessions. Staff also attended the National Science Teacher's Association (NSTA) and the Minnesota Educator Academy conferences.

DONOR MEMBERS



LIFE MEMBERS

Elmer & Eleanor Andersen
 Victor & Helen Anderson
 Tony Andersen
 Terry & Vicki Anderson
 Peter Harris & Carrie Anderson
 Tom & Nancy Atchison
 Noah Atchison
 David Atchison
 Abram Atchison
 Roger Baker
 The Baker Foundation
 Rick Bateson
 Rep. Dave Battaglia - H
 Tom & Margit Berg
 Russ & Becky Bierbaum
 Blandin Paper Company
 Tom & Christina Blum
 Bernhard Boecker
 Iver & Nancy Bogen
 Isaac & Sophie Bolger
 Boise Cascade
 Andrea Bolger
 Jim Brandenburg
 Heidi Brandenburg
 Anthony Brandenburg
 Judy Brandenburg
 Cole Spencer Brodersen - M
 William & Patricia Burns - C
 Blanche Burroughs
 John & Kathy Byrne
 Rene & Mark Carlson
 Eric Chang
 John Chell
 Jan Clymer
 Terry Collins
 Sheldon & Carol Damberg
 John & Gwen Daniels
 Gary Deason
 Delta Environmental Consultants
 Madeline Denis
 Mary Djubenski
 Daniel Dobbert & Joan Dobbert
 Josh Duke, Duke Tree Care
 Duluth Camera Exchange
 Mary Jean Ekman
 Rory Ellsworth - H
 Enbridge Energy Company
 Faribault Woolen Mill
 Donald Ferry
 Ray Fesenmaier
 John & Lajeane Firminhac
 Andrea Plautz & Scott Folland
 Jim & Sandra Gilbert
 Gravelle Wildlife Fund
 Jim & Cathy Gray
 Richard Gray
 Richard G Gray - C
 Eric & Virginia Green
 The Hadley Companies
 Lea Hall
 Megan Olivia Hall
 Corky & Katie Hall
 Hanft, Fride, O'Brien, Harries & Swelbar
 Ruth Harris
 Anne & Peter Heegaard
 Kurt & Beth Heikkila
 Geraldine Heller
 Robert & Geraldine Heller
 Freya Hemingway
 Rowan Hemingway
 Bob & Joanne Hershey
 Bob & Joanne Hershey - C
 Donna Hill
 Dr. David Hoffman
 Judith K Hoffman
 Skip Hofstrand
 Barbara & Thomas Hohl
 VP Hubert Humphrey - H
 1988 IRRRB Board - H
 Mary Lynn Jeffries
 Holly Jennings
 Oscar Johnson
 Ray & Susan Johnson

Senator Doug Johnson - H
 Johnson's Carpet, Tile, & Linoleum
 Charlotte Jones
 Harpreet Kaur
 Les & Jan Kent
 Carol & Kenneth Kidder
 Ron Kirk
 Kirk Program Management, Inc
 Tom & Pat Klein
 Jeff & Katherine Klimmek
 Terry Klomps
 Janet Kohlstedt
 John & BJ Kohlstedt
 Ron & Nancy Kolar
 Chris & Jim Kustritz
 1988 Lake City Commissioners - H
 Robert & Eunice Lange
 BJ Lange
 Jesalyn Lange
 Winifred Latimer
 Ann Linnea
 Bruce & Stephanie Lunning
 Lutsen Resort Company
 Nancy & Bayard Lyon
 Sally & Robert Mancieri
 MK Klarich & Julie Mattson
 Vern Gersh & Terry McLaughlin
 Betsey & Kurt Mead
 Kathryn Iverson & Michael Menzel
 Scott & Lucy Meyer
 Sara Meyer
 Mark Meyer
 Joe Meyer
 John Miller
 MN Deer Hunters Assn
 1985 Minnesota Legislative - H
 Jim & Julie Montana
 Samuel Morgan
 Richard & Karen Morgan
 Michael & Jananne Nelson
 Eloise & William Nelson
 Norshor Agency
 Northern Engine
 Northshore Mining/Cleveland Cliffs
 Congressman Jim Oberstar - H
 Dan & Sallie O'Brien
 Robert O'Hara
 Denny Olson
 Elizabeth Olson - H
 Sigurd Olson - H
 Owens Forest Products
 Governor Rudy Perpich - M
 Robert & Betsy Peterson
 Genea Pichotta
 Jack Pichotta
 Cyril & Eva Pichotta
 J Andrew & Heidi Pichotta
 Bruce & Lisa Pichotta
 Gloria & Michael Plautz
 Mary Pulford
 Dick & Janet Putman
 Rahr Malting Company
 Reprotect Limited
 John & Joy Richards
 Norm Riihiluoma
 Ray Riihiluoma
 Steven & Margot Roberts
 Colleen & Dave Ronnei
 Thomas & Catherine Rootness
 Thomas Rumreich
 Tom & Phyllis Ruper
 Margaret Seely
 David & Rene Settergren
 Weber Shandwick
 Robert & Linda Sherman
 Kim Skyelander
 Richard & Ella Slade
 Pete & Sue Smerud
 Aaron & Jennifer Smith
 Charles & Dorothy Smith
 Sonju Motors
 Larry Sorenson - C
 Spectrum Research Inc.
 Peter Spink
 Stewart-Taylor Printing Co.

Nancy Sun
 Randy Sutter
 Randy R Sutter - C
 Scott & Rachel Thun
 Stephanie Tismer
 Werner Tismer
 Ann Glumac & William Ulland
 United Power Association
 Upper Lakes Foods
 Stanley & Cecilia Verdev
 Dave & Connie Wanberg
 Jaia Wilbour

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Kristi Achor Pursell Family
 Mark & Tess Ahlborn
 Tom & Sandra Ahlstrom
 Ben Ahrens
 Al Schrader Family Foundation
 Bruce Albrecht
 American Legist Post 550
 Kelly Amoth
 Gretchen Anderson Hansen
 Evan & Nancy Anderson
 James Anderson
 John Anderson
 Ken & Shirley Anderson
 Michael Anderson
 Terry & Vicki Anderson
 Thomas Anderson
 Pete & Margie Ankeny Fund
 Karen Asphaug
 Athwin Foundation
 Dale & Ruth Bachman
 Braden Barber
 Barr Engineering
 Tom & Kay Becken
 Brittany Bennett
 Tom & Margit Berg
 Russ & Becky Bierbaum
 David & Meghan Blodgett
 Bloomington Lions Club
 Tom & Christina Blum
 Beth Bockes
 Ken Brown
 Wilma Buhl
 Elizabeth Burke
 Nancy Quattlebaum Burke
 Bill & Patricia Burns
 John Callahan
 Wendy Campbell
 Chris & Sheri Camper
 Cannon Family Foundation
 Annie Champeau
 Christine Champeau
 Gene & Tamara Champeau
 Gene Champeau
 Mike & Theresa Champeau
 Sarah Champeau
 John Chandler
 Harriet Chute
 Katharine Chute
 Caitlin Cleary
 Dennis Confer
 Doug & Gail Connell
 Jeanmarie Cook
 Leslie Cook
 Pat Coppo & Susan McCabe
 Elizabeth Corbin
 Juan & Renne' Cristiani
 Robert & Teri Crosby
 Sheldon & Carol Damberg
 Dan & Sallie O'Brien Fund
 John & Gwen Daniels
 Peter Daniels
 Andy Datko & Lisa Hesse
 Diadra Decker
 John & Bette DeMars
 Mike Dickson
 Mary C. Dolan
 Donald Heian Fund
 Donald Weesner Charitable Trust
 Driscoll Foundation
 Kathleen Eagle
 Robert Eddy

Scott & Jan Ellingson
 Ann Ellis & Clayton Francis
 Esterbrooks Scott Signorelli
 Marie Fargo
 Julie Flotten & Alison Wood
 Fred C and Katherine B Andersen
 Foundation
 Frels Family Foundation
 Phil Freshman
 Rachel Friberg
 Gardner Builders
 Beth Gastineau
 William Gausman
 Kirk & Kelly Geadelmann
 Jerrold Gershone
 Jan Gerstenberger
 Larissa Giebner
 Jim & Sandy Gilbert
 Scott Gislason
 Ken Goldfine
 Toby Grabs & Jen Kobylecky
 Earl Gransee
 Teri Hammarback
 Hanft Fride
 Bill & Cindy Hansen
 Greg & Cindy Hanson
 Jeff & Margit
 Gaylen & Julie Harms
 Peter Harris & Carrie Anderson
 Kyle & Eileen Heitkamp
 Donna Hill
 Paul & Laura Holmes
 Nancy Holmgren
 Elizabeth Hoover
 Jan Horak
 Lisa Huntley
 Sandra Jensen & Samuel Broaddus
 Jennifer Johansen
 Brad Johnson & Gail Buhl
 Gregory Johnson
 Jeff Johnson & Beth Peter
 C Eugene & Judith Jones
 Kenneth Jones, Donna Slipher Jones
 Nathan Jones
 Harpreet Kaur
 Kathryn Kelly-Miller
 Bill & Pat Kelly
 Dylan Kelly
 Ken & Carol Kidder
 Janis Kivela Hooey
 Dan & Joann Knuth
 Kate & Sam Knuth
 John & BJ Kohlstedt
 Greg & Coralyn Koschinska
 Mark & Sara Kronholm
 Scott & Sarah Kuhl
 John & Anne Kunkel
 Pete Langer
 Donn & Donna Larson
 Kris Larson
 Mark & Joan Laudeman
 Charles & Hope Lea
 Arnold Leonard & Holly Arnfelt
 Leuthold Family Foundation
 Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation
 David & Margaret Lucas
 Bruce & Stephanie Lunning
 Maas Foundation
 David Mackey
 Tony Mancuso
 Margaret A Cargill Foundation
 James & Jane Martin
 David & Brenda Maxwell
 Kenneth & Marnie McMillan
 Medtronic
 David & Karen Minge
 Robert & Marveen Minish
 Sarah Mismash
 Lucy & Bob Mitchell
 John & Sheila Mohr
 Michael & Rosanne Montan
 James & Franchelle Mullin Fund
 Kristen Nelson
 Tom & Margaret Nelson
 Tim Norman

Michael Nystuen
 Robert O'Hara
 Glen Olsen
 Eric & Heidi Olson
 Nicholas & Joan Olson
 Ronald & Lynn Olson
 John & Marla Ordway Charitable
 Lead Trust
 Marlene Overby
 Tom & Anne Pearce
 Anne Phares
 Philip H and Barbara Strom Family
 Charitable Fund
 Jack & Genea Pichotta
 Piper Jaffray
 David Platt & Megan Kern
 Gloria Plautz
 David & Susan Plimpton
 Michael & Jessica Pocrnich
 Russell & Lisa Ponessa
 Keri Powell & Daniel Marks
 Joe Priebe
 Richard & Janet Putnam
 Liciana Ranelli
 John & Betty Reichert
 Sarah Ribbens
 Lucy Rogers & Larry Grant
 Patricia Rogowski
 George & Sylvia Roman
 Will & Margaret Rousch
 Jim Rustad Fund
 Ron & Rosemary Sackett
 Doug Sandok
 Florence Sandok
 Gary & Sue Schiess
 Nancy Schultz & John Eckfeldt
 Margaret Seely
 Gordon Seitz
 Robert & Margaret Seitz
 Shanya Sellars
 G Richard & Ella Slade
 Lambert Smeets
 Pete & Sue Smerud
 Sonja Smerud
 Aaron & Jennifer Smith
 Tiffany Smith
 Linda Starr
 State of MN
 Shane Steele
 Terhuly Foundation
 Lee Thao
 The Dietz Family Fund
 The Helgeson Family Foundation
 John Thein
 Grace Theisen
 Thrivent Financial
 Russ & Sandy Timmerman
 Peter & Cynthia Tritz
 Bill Ulland & Ann Glumac
 Upper Lakes Foods
 US Bank Foundation
 Dean & Beth Van Hoever
 Bill & Kathy Vanderwall
 Bill & Judy Walter
 Craig Weber
 Michael Wehling
 Wells Fargo
 Sawn Wentz & Judy Gibbs
 Gregory & Donnette Wheelock
 Mac & Judith Willemessen
 Eleanor & Fred Winston
 David & Linda Wolf
 Benjamin & Barry Kay Wolfe
 Wolohan Family Foundation
 Kirby & Cathy Wood
 David & Diane Wright
 Jeff Yost
 Dan & Michelle Young

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IN-KIND

Andrens Paint Company
 Hearth & Home Technologies
 UHL
 Uponor

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN**\$5,000+**

Leuthold Family Foundation
The Helgeson Foundation
Donald Weesner Charitable Trust

\$2000-\$4999

Hugh Schilling

\$1000-\$1999

Susan Blumentals
Anna Gerenday
Peter & Anne Heegaard
Allen & Kathleen Lenzmeier
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation
Michael & Joan Rajala
Sarah Sinks-Kuhl & Scott Kuhl
Mike Steffes

\$500-\$999

Pete & Margie Ankeny Fund
Mary Graf
Earl Gransee
Haberman Modern Storytellers
Steven & Patricia Harris
Jeffrey & Lucy Heegaard
Ruth Himes & Judith Martell
Anne D. Hull
Les & Jan Kent
Ken & Carol Kidder
Christine & Terry Morse
North Shore Federal Credit Union
Michael Nystuen
Pamela Bakken Foundation
Prior Lake Lions Club
John & Nancy Strom
Thrivent Financial
Gregory & Donnette Wheelock

\$250-\$499

Stephanie Andrews-Schowalter & Jim Schowalter
Angela Borland
Dillon Cody
G&G Septic Service LLC
Jillian Godfrey
Wesley Haut

Rick & Helen Markwardt
Eric & Heidemarie Olson
Don & Ellen Richard
Kim Swanson
Daniel Hulse
Steve & Ann Robertson
Paul Miller

\$100-\$249

Ken & Marianne Aker
Nora & Brent Bateman
Dan Behrens
Terry Bongard
Kim & Terry Bovee
Sherry Boyce
Jim & Carol Bracke
Carla Brink & Paul Ranelli
Melissa Brown
Mark & Gita Budd
Buffalo Valley Inc.
John & Mary Ann Callahan
Sheri Camper
Tom & Gail Clifford
Tom & Linnea Clifford
Vicki Demmer
G Elizabeth Derr
Eduweb Inc
Micah Friedman
Paul & Joan Fuchs
James & Sandra Gilbert
Bill & Pat Gurnon
Peter & Carol Harris
Linda Holecek
Doug Holm
Eric Holmstrom & Becky Anderson
Holmstrom
David & Lynn Homzik
Marvin & Judith Hoops
Kathryn Iverson & Michael Menzel
Maggie King
Gordon & Janice Klein
Katherine Knuth
Michelle Koomen
Deb Kornhauser
Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek
Lemon Wolf Cafe
Daniel & Karen Lodin

Stewart & Kathy McIntosh
Anne McKinsey
Scott & Phyllis Mead
Carlyle & Christopher Miller
David & Karen Minge
Michael & Rosanne Montan
Rebecca Montgomery
Robert & Betsy Myers
Anne Nelson Fisher & Steven Fisher
Judi Nuottila
Jo Ann Olson
Tom & Lynn Osborn
Maren & Svend Petersen
Nancy & Steven Piragis
George Pope
Ann & John Rethlefsen
Karen Roach
Roses Garden
Jason & Anne Schluckebier
Paul & Julie Serakos
Mary Shedd & Steve Wilson
Thomas & Mary Shultz
Gregory & Martha Smetana
John Snyder
David Sorenson & Amy Crane
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc
Joe & Kirsten Stasney
Mike & Nina Sweeney
Tom & Susan Sweeney
The Lake Bank
Cynthia & Peter Tritz
Two Harbors Federal Credit Union
Beth & Dean Van Hoever
Bill & Kathy Vanderwall
Susan & Robert Warde
Stuart Webb & Martha Roberts
West Duluth American Legion Post No. 71
Jonathan & Sarah Wilmshurst
Barb Wonson-Liukkonen
Kathryn Wussow

Margaret Benson
Craig Berdan
Sarah Bransford
John Brevig
Barbara Bruesch
Kay Capra
John Chandler
Ann Coffin
Elizabeth Conner
Jeanmarie Cook
Arthur Coppo
Hannah Edstrom
Jennifer & Chris Ell
Sarah Engstrom
Rachel Enwright
Eveleth Elks Lodge 1161
Roxanne & Stanley Friesen
Beth Gastineau
Brian & Nancy Gezella
Linda Gruntner
Carin Gulstrand
Doug Hage
Teri Hammarback
Barbara Hauser
John & Julie Henriksson
Dan Hnilicka
Skip Hofstrand
David Hohle
Julia & Paavo Husen
Jennifer Jagielski
Robert & Lenore Janda
John & Jackie Jeffrey
Geraldine Jensen
Jay & Kirsten Johnson
Norb & Nancy Kelly
Anne Kersey
Anna Kieselbach
Fred & Lou Anne Koerschner
John & Anne Kunkel
Janet Kurtz & Robert Morgan
Adina Lebowitz
Don & Marlyce Lee
Scott LeGere
James & Sharon Lind
Andrea Lorek Strauss
William Lutz
Betty Magnuson

<\$100

Joy & Todd Amunrud
Carolyn Anderson
Johelen & Ronald Anderson
Norm & Cindy Bauer
Dr. Robert Benjamin

Margaret Benson
Craig Berdan
Sarah Bransford
John Brevig
Barbara Bruesch
Kay Capra
John Chandler
Ann Coffin
Elizabeth Conner
Jeanmarie Cook
Arthur Coppo
Hannah Edstrom
Jennifer & Chris Ell
Sarah Engstrom
Rachel Enwright
Eveleth Elks Lodge 1161
Roxanne & Stanley Friesen
Beth Gastineau
Brian & Nancy Gezella
Linda Gruntner
Carin Gulstrand
Doug Hage
Teri Hammarback
Barbara Hauser
John & Julie Henriksson
Dan Hnilicka
Skip Hofstrand
David Hohle
Julia & Paavo Husen
Jennifer Jagielski
Robert & Lenore Janda
John & Jackie Jeffrey
Geraldine Jensen
Jay & Kirsten Johnson
Norb & Nancy Kelly
Anne Kersey
Anna Kieselbach
Fred & Lou Anne Koerschner
John & Anne Kunkel
Janet Kurtz & Robert Morgan
Adina Lebowitz
Don & Marlyce Lee
Scott LeGere
James & Sharon Lind
Andrea Lorek Strauss
William Lutz
Betty Magnuson

Nancy Mancini
Ron & Eileen Manning
Marlene A Overby Trust
Lucy & Daniel McNerny
Andrea McMahan
Bill & Jane Meller
Mary J. Olson
Nick & Joan Olson
Tim & Carolyn Peara
Tom & Anne Pearce
Dan Persons
Michael Petersen
Ander Peterson
Dave Platt & Megan Kern
Maribeth Rasmussen
Robert & Margo Rebar
Bruce Redmon
Steve & Peg Robertsen
Margaret Schmitz
Martha & Dennis Shaak
Ted & Sandra Shannon
Shelley & Matt Shea
Lou Anne & Richard Siefert
Alice Silkey
Rick Smith & Lesley Atwood
Elaine Thrune
Danielle Tikalsky
Amy Tikalsky
Ronald & Margaret Troy
Mark & Rachel VanHornweder
Paula Viterbo & Andreas Brocscheid
Shannon Walz
Melissa Weiman
Sally Westby
Jo Anne Wilson
David & Linda Wolf
Amy Workman
David & Diane Wright
Jane Younger
Gary Zinter

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN IN-KIND

Ken & Shirley Anderson

**LEAVE A LEGACY**

Include Wolf Ridge as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement account plan, or life insurance policy. Your planned gift sustains Wolf Ridge's excellence by supporting our endowment. Such a gift provides for Wolf Ridge in perpetuity and ensures we can educate future generations with a connection to the natural world.

Become part of the Wolf Ridge Heritage Circle.

Thank you!

SCHOOLS & GROUPS

FISCAL YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 TO AUGUST 31, 2017

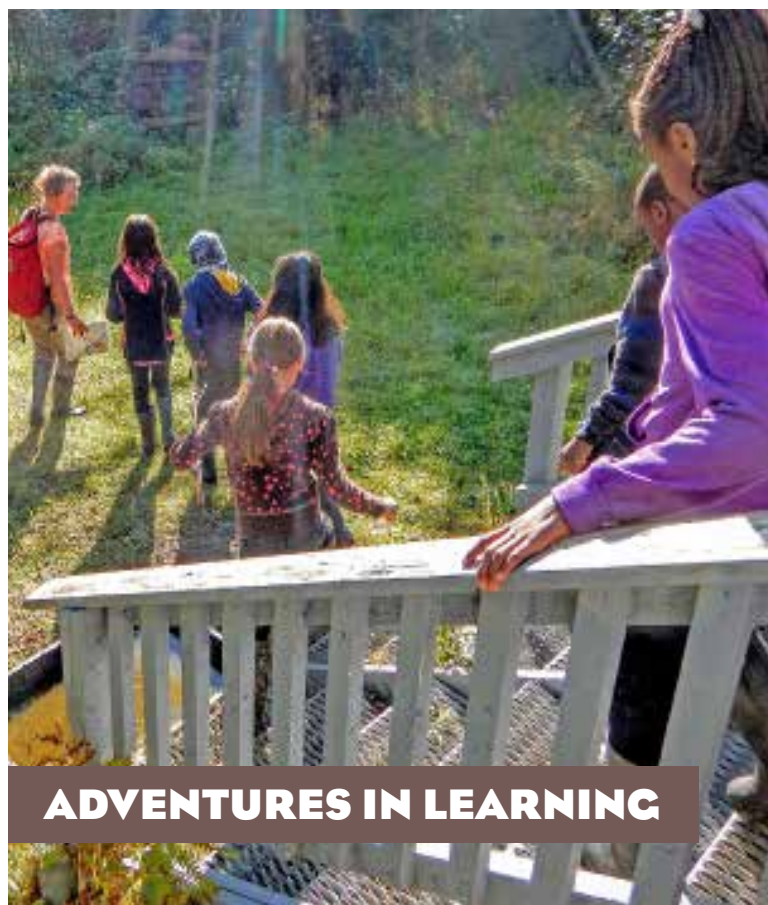
Wolf Ridge served 179 schools and groups in the 2016-17 school year. Students explored the forests, ridges, lakes and streams at Wolf Ridge learning about the natural world and developing their critical thinking skills and environmental literacy through hands-on experiences.

Afton-Lakeland Elementary
Andersen Elementary
Andersen United School
Annandale Middle School
Arete Academy
Assumption School
Badger School
Barnum Elementary
Beacon Academy
Oak Crest Elementary
Benilde-St Margaret's
Bethlehem Academy
Birch Grove Community School
Birch Lake Elementary
Blue Earth Area Middle School
Breck School
Bug O Nay Ge Shig
Camp Thunderbird
Carleton College
Carlton High School
Central Cass Middle School
Central Middle School
Chisago Lakes Middle School
Circle of Nations School
Cloquet Middle School
CoCo LLC
Community of Saints
Congdon Park Elementary
Coon Rapids Middle School
Cooper Elementary
Cowern Elementary
CSS Youth Theology Institute
Cumberland Middle School
Drayton Public School
North Star Academy
ECFE Lake Superior School District
Ely Memorial MS
Emanuel Lutheran
Epiphany
Face To Face Academy
First Lutheran School
Fisher Public School
Five Hawks Elementary
Fond du Lac Reservation
Fox West Academy
Franklin Elementary
Frassati Catholic Academy
Friends School of MN
Girl Scouts Troop 4054 & 4055
Glen Lake Elementary
Glendale Elementary
Grainwood Elementary
Grand Marais Public Library
Great Expectations School
Gustavus Education Students
Heilicher Mpls Jewish Day School
Hennepin Elementary School
Hibbing Community College
Hilltop Primary
Hinckley-Finlayson Elementary
Holy Name of Jesus School
Holy Trinity School
Homecroft Elementary

Hope Community Academy
Hubbard in Prevention
Imhotep Science Academy
Immaculate Conception School
Intl Spanish Language Academy
Jeffers Pond Elementary
JEM Yoga & Massage
John Crosby
John Ireland Catholic School
Jordan Middle School
King Of Grace Lutheran
Lake of the Woods Youth Initiative
Lake Superior Youth Chorus
Lakewood Elementary
Lester Park School
LifeCare Medical Center
Lowell Elementary School
Loyola Catholic School
MAEE
Manvel Public School
Maple Lake Elementary
Marcy Open School
Marquette Catholic School
Marshall County Central HS
Minneapolis Academy
Minnehaha Elementary
Minnesota Naturalists' Association
Minnesota New Country School
Minnetonka Middle School East
Minto School
MN DNR
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Murray Jr. High
Nerstrand Elementary School
New London/Spicer Middle School
Norman County West Elementary
North Shore Community School
Northern Lights Community School
NyQuist School
Oak Grove Middle School
Oak Park Elementary
Odyssey Academy
Onamia Junior High
Our Lady of Grace Catholic School
Our Lady Of The Lake
Park River Area School
Peace United Church of Christ
Piedmont Elementary
Pilgrim Congregational Church
Pine Island High School
Prairie Creek
Presentation Of Mary
Proctor Hermantown Community Ed
Providence Academy
Queen of Peace
Raleigh Edison School
RCTC Upward Bound
Redtail Ridge Elementary
Richard R. Green Central Park School
Rochester Montessori School
Rockwood Community Education
Rogers Middle School
Sacred Heart - East Grand Forks

Sacred Heart - Robbinsdale
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary
School of St Philip
Schoolcraft Learning Community
Shell Lake School District
Shirley Hills Elementary
Sierra Club
South Ridge Elementary
St Anthony Park
St Bridget Parish School
St Charles Borromeo
St Croix Catholic
St Croix Montessori
St Croix Preparatory Academy
St Francis De Sales
St John School of Little Canada
St John the Baptist
St Johns Lutheran School
St Marks School
St Marys School - Breckenridge
St Mary's School - Morris
St Pascal Baylon School
St Patrick School
St Peter's School
St Stephen's School
St Thomas More Catholic School
St Vincent De Paul

Stella Maris
Stowe Elementary
STRIDE Academy MS
Superior Cathedral
Superior Hiking Trail Association
Todd County Health & Human Services
Trinity Lutheran/Our Lady of the Prairie
Triton High School
Two Harbors High School
UMM Intl Student Success
Valley Middle School
VandenBerge Middle School
Vintage Sport Camp LLC
Warroad Middle School
Watershed High School
Watertown-Mayer MS
Wayzata Central MS
Wayzata East Middle School
West Central Area Schools
Westwood Elementary
Wilderness Medical Associates
William Kelley Elementary
Willow River Elementary
Winterquist Elementary
Yinghua Academy
YWCA Minneapolis



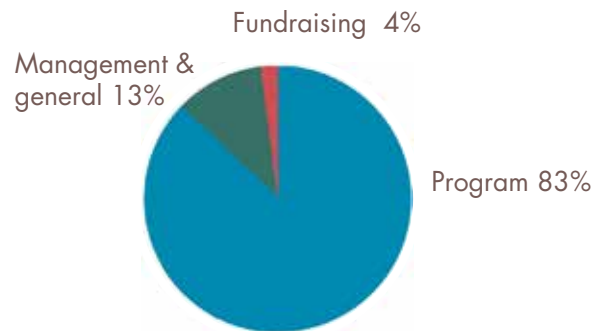
ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FISCAL YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 TO AUGUST 31, 2017

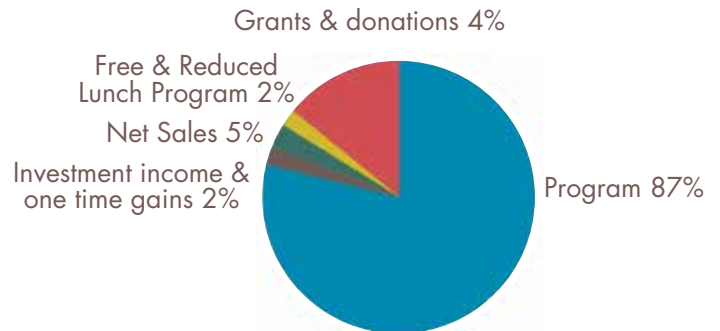
Expenses

Program services	\$2,375,979
Management & general	378,313
Fundraising	116,407
Total Expenses before Depreciation*	<u>\$2,870,699</u>



Revenue and Other Support

Program revenue	\$2,323,049
Investment income & one time gains	61,259
Sales (net of expenses)	130,706
Free & reduced lunch program	62,944
Grants & donations	112,724
Total Revenue	<u>\$2,690,682</u>



Making Waves Campaign

Revenue	\$3,406,832**
---------	---------------

Statement of Financial Position

Current assets	\$883,279	Current liabilities	\$1,053,087
Fixed assets	11,130,961	Temporarily restricted net assets	636,207
Investments & supporting funds		Permanently restricted net assets	353,232
Endowment	425,745	Unrestricted net assets	11,373,294
Board restricted reserve	754,298	Total liabilities & net assets	<u>\$13,415,820</u>
Cash Equivalents	221,537		
Total Assets	<u>\$13,415,820</u>		

*Depreciation expense = \$454,593

**The 2016-2017 revenue for the Making Waves Capital Improvement Projects was \$3.4 million. The funds were used for construction projects both underway and completed during the 2016-17 year. See page 4 for full campaign report.

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. This financial information is drawn from the audited financial statements by the accounting firm Esterbrooks, Scott, Signorelli, Peterson, Smithson, Ltd.



6282 Cranberry Road
Finland, MN 55603-9700
1-800-523-2733 (MN, WI, ND)
1-218-353-7417
wolf-ridge.org

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
FINLAND, MN



MAKE A DONATION

SUPPORT ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

Our mission is to develop a citizenry that has the knowledge, skills, motivation, and commitment to act together for a quality environment.