



The ALMANAC

A newsletter of Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center

February 2019 Volume 52 Number 1

WOLF RIDGE HOSTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE!

The Wolf Ridge campus hums with joyful energy when students are here. That joyful hum intensified from January 18th-21st. More than seventy leaders representing 35 residential environmental learning centers (RELCs) from 22 states descended upon Wolf Ridge for the 12th biennial RELC conference supported by the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA). Just a few less than half the participants had attended this conference in the past – held most recently in northern Washington.

Folks introduced themselves and their organizations on the first evening. Two had attended Wolf Ridge as middle schoolers. (See Wolf Ridge...Touching Lives to meet one of these individuals on page 8). A few others were alumni of the Wolf Ridge Naturalist Training Program – they are now directors and leaders at RELCs across the country. A web of relationships emerged. Past co-workers, mentors, bosses, friends, and organizations drew this group of like-minded people together for a week-end of learning and sharing.

Mother Nature provided the perfect backdrop for showcasing Wolf Ridge. With over 24 inches of snow on the ground, subzero temperatures, and a super blood moon lunar eclipse, we all enjoyed a winter wonderland. The first day centered on outdoor activities from snowshoeing to frozen lake study to dogsledding to facilities tours.

Our second evening focused on creating the conference schedule. “Whoa, wait!” you’re thinking, “The schedule wasn’t created in advance?” ANCA RELC gatherings are designed with open space technology (OST). Harrison Owen first described this method of organizing meetings in the

1980’s. It has grown in popularity over the last 30 years. Over 50 people proposed a topic related to their work that they would like to discuss. Each person posted their topic into one of the six official time slots. Next, everyone signed up for six or more discussions they were interested in attending.

Then the chaos really began! Everyone accepted the right and responsibility to inform and change the schedule. Some topics were combined; a few more moved to informal time periods like lunch; and others were reassigned time slots. Voila! Magically a conference formed. Topics varied: capital campaigns for sustainable campus, summer camp, curriculum overhaul, risk management, staff training, software, resilient communities, and more. Over 41 unique sessions materialized from nothing and were organized with session leaders, note-takers, and room assignments in a mere 2 hours. Energized by the creation, everyone anticipated the next two days with a level of excitement rarely seen in traditional conferences.

Those attending the event came with quite varied backgrounds. Directors and program managers made up the bulk of the attendees. Chefs, office managers, community program directors, farm managers, and an architect blended in quite well among the typical rabble-rousers. Will Ives of Henneberg Eddy Architects represented Yellowstone National Park Youth Campus. They are at the beginning stages of constructing a Living Building Challenge (LBC) campus. As an LBC architect, Ives appreciated, “sleeping in a



building constructed to LBC standards, seeing different ways to achieve Petal standards and the differences between renovating versus new LBC construction.” Ives was pleased by how well the open space came together and that Wolf Ridge nimbly hosted both a conference and three school groups at the same time without any conflicts of interest. In fact, the mix wonderfully added to the overall experience.

The conference concluded Monday evening with a sharing circle. Everyone took the opportunity to share a story from the previous days. We learned that people gained new ideas, found common struggles, and renewed flagging spirits. People left with new friends, points to ponder, and fun memorable. We shared stories, laughter, and even a few tears.

The location for the next ANCA RELC Conference in 2021 was announced. The Ecology School in Saco, ME will host at their new location on a new LBC campus influenced by Wolf Ridge! It was an inspirational gathering all around and we all look forward to learning together again in 2021. ♦

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ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

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VIEW FROM THE RIDGE

by Pete Smerud, Executive Director



“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

~ Malcolm X

In this issue of the *Wolf Ridge Almanac* you will learn how Wolf Ridge is preparing for our future – via forestry practices, continued work on Living Building Challenge, an Asset Resiliency Management Plan, and our Wolf Ridge staff.

In January, our Wolf Ridge friend and local logger, Cory Holden, worked on at 36-acre plot along our driveway in support of a climate adaptive forestry project. With guidance from the Natural Resource Conservation Service he harvested aspen and a few maple trees. He created two large openings and several smaller patches. We will be plant 4,500 oak, basswood, maple and pine, all of which are better suited to a warming climate. (See May 2018 *Almanac* for an in-depth report.)

Living Building Challenge developments continue. We are excited to begin using energy monitoring systems in each room of MAC Lodge. They are designed to track room usage of electricity, heat, and water. These systems help students learn and develop better choices for social and environmental change.

We have also begun the creation of an Asset Resiliency Management Plan. This tool will help answer the question, “how do we assure we are taking appropriate care of this marvelous facility so it lasts for hundreds of years to come?” (See page 7.)

As Wolf Ridge progresses towards our future, so must our staffing. A couple years ago we restructured the program department from one large group into several smaller teams to help focus and build effi-

ciency. After an extensive search process, we learned that right here at Wolf Ridge a new leader in the environmental education field had developed. Next month, our long-time school program coordinator and scheduler, Betsey Mead, will shift into a newly created role as our Facility Operations Director. This new position will slowly remove facility management from my role and will give me the opportunity to focus on looking forward in strategic planning and working to assure we’re establishing good partnerships. The many successes of our farm, *Making Waves* campaign, Living Building Challenge, and Lake Superior project have resulted in many new relationships that have and will continue to benefit Wolf Ridge. I am committed to establish and work effectively with more and more partners to assure learning at Wolf Ridge remains at the forefront of environmental education in the nation.

Progress and growth requires adaptation. Wolf Ridge is meeting this challenge head-on by educating for the future with our curriculum, farm, Living Building Challenge facilities, and increased spotlight on the 10% of the world’s surface freshwater of our Lake Superior Field Station. The future demands a more masterful balance of meeting our needs without jeopardizing the quality of life for future generations.

Living on this planet is the one thing that we all have in common. The best way to predict our future is to create it. Thank you for the support of Wolf Ridge, enabling us to do just that. ♦

THE LEADERS OF THE PACK

Please consider gifting part of your estate to Wolf Ridge and become a member of *The Leaders Of The Pack*. More detailed information will soon be available on our website. If you have already named Wolf Ridge as a beneficiary of your estate or are considering such, please contact: Pete Smerud at 800-523-2733.◆



WOLF RIDGE IN THE FAMILY

Wolf Ridge infiltrated the Gransee family in 1983. Earl Gransee didn't realize when he signed on as a principal for the Belle Plaine School district that he would soon be involved with an organization that would see four generations of Gransees participating in its programming. For twenty years, Earl joined Belle Plaine 6th graders as they journeyed to Isabella and now Wolf Ridge. In 2003, Earl retired but on the invitation of the schoolteachers continued to chaperone with the trip for another 15 years. Currently Earl serves Wolf Ridge as a board member.

Michelle Gransee, a daughter of Earl, first attended Isabella as a 6th grader. In 2000, she returned as a student naturalist and a summer naturalist at Wolf Ridge. While Michelle was a student naturalist her parents, grandmother, a number of cous-

ins, and a sister came up for programming. The summer of 2018 saw a whole raft of Gransees at family camp - in-laws, nephews, fiancé, children, etc. Michelle's kids have attended Wolf Ridge with their schools and many have been campers at our summer programs.

When questioned about why Wolf Ridge is such an important part of the Belle Plaine student experience and the Gransee family, Earl and Michelle had the following to say, "Wolf Ridge has helped me be more aware of our environment and Wolf Ridge instills a love of nature in our children. After a week at Wolf Ridge, the student goes home and shares with their family what they have learned, passing on this awareness to hopefully make positive changes." Michelle shared, "My Wolf Ridge experience increased my passion for and connection with nature that drives me to positively affect society and work on issues such as climate change on a daily basis in my job with the State Energy Office for Clean Energy and Programs within the MN Department of Commerce, Energy Division. Because of their Wolf Ridge experiences, I see my kids thinking through the impacts of their choices, whether buying clothes, in what they eat, how they interact with the world, or do in their spare time."

Wolf Ridge has programming for everyone. The Gransees agree that all ages should have the opportunity to connect with nature and regardless of age. "We all have something to learn and share about living sustainably."

Over the years, Earl has chaperoned 1,000s of students at Wolf Ridge and seen the impact on them as well as his extended family. Would the Gransees suggest others make Wolf Ridge part of their family? Yes, is the resounding answer! "I would definitely encourage others to support Wolf Ridge and its mission at whatever level they can, whether it is being a donor member, sending a child to camp, or becoming a major contributor."

Wolf Ridge invites you to put Wolf Ridge in your family.◆



These Wave Makers have raised \$7,859,443 as of January 10th



\$1,000,000+

Margaret A. Cargill Foundation

\$500,000-\$999,999

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\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Student Naturalist's SY 03-04
In Memory of Darian Willette
- Joan & Nicholas Olson
- Will & Margaret Rousch
- Brittany Bennett
- Beth Bockes
- Shannon Walz
American Legion Post 550
Bloomington Lions Club
Tom & Christina Blum
Bill & Patricia Burns
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- Charitable Fund
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UP TO \$999

Student Naturalist's SY 93-94

- David Mackey
- Doug Sandok
- Michael Wehling
Student Naturalist's SY 14-15
- Grace Theisen
- Caitlin Cleary
- Marie Fargo
- Larissa Giebner
- Dylan Kelly
- Luciana Ranelli
- Shane Steele
Kristi Achor Pursell Family
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Bruce Albrecht
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Gretchen Anderson Hanson
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James Anderson
Michael Anderson
Terry & Vicki Anderson
Thomas Anderson
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Christine Champeau
Mike & Theresa Champeau
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John & Pamela Chandler
Katharine Chute
Jeanmarie Cook
Juan & Renee' Cristiani
Peter Daniels
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Julia Flotten & Alison Wood
Christine Freeman
Ann Ellis & Clayton Francis
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Jan Gerstenberger
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Teri Hammarback
Hanft Fride
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Greg & Cindy Hanson
Robert & Renee Hanson
Gaylen & Julie Harms
Peter Harris & Carrie Anderson
Kyle & Eileen Heitkamp
Nancy Holmgren
Laura & Paul Holmes

In Recognition of Aki Yada
- Elizabeth Hoover
Jan & Kathy Horak
Lisa Huntley
Jennifer Edlund Johansen
Brad Johnson & Gail Buhl
Gregory Johnson
Janet Johnson
Jeff Johnson & Beth Peter
Kevin Johnson
Kirby & Beth Johnson
In memory of Erika Jones Massie
- C Eugene & Judith Jones
Kenneth & Donna Jones
Nathan Jones
Kathryn Keller-Miller
Janis Kivela Hooley
Elizabeth Hoover
Janis & Gordon Living Trust
Dan & Joann Knuth
Greg & Coralyn Koschinska
Mark & Sara Kronholm
John & Anne Kunkel
Peter Langer
Mark & Joan Laudeman
Arnold Leonard & Holly
- Arnfelt
Bruce & Stephanie Lunning
Tony & Mariann Mancuso
Morris Manning
Todd & Judy Marshall
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David & Brenda Maxwell
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Robert & Marveen Minish
Sarah Mismash
John & Sheila Mohr
Michael & Roseanne Monten
Reba Moore
Allan & Margaret Moore
- Family Fountain
Elizabeth & Davis Moravec
Tom & Margaret Nelson
North Shore Federal Credit
- Union
Michael Nystuen
Glenn Olsen
In Memory of Michael Plautz
- Eric & Heidi Olson
Nicholas & Joan Olson
Tom & Lynn Osborn
Marlene Overby Trust
Lisa Pazzdernick
Tom & Anne Pearce

Anne Phares
David Platt & Megan Kern
Michael & Jessica Pocrnich
Russell & Lisa Ponessa
Joe Priebe
John Priem
Bjorn Ranheim
Red Hat, Inc.
John & Betty Reichert
Lucy Rogers & Lawrence Grant
Charles & Jo Lynn Rohady
Florence Sandok
Jon Schumacher
Margaret & Contee Seely
Gordon Seitz
Robert & Margaret Seitz
Shayna Sellers
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Jeff Yost
Dan & Michelle Young

FINANCIAL MATCH MET!



At the May 2018 grand opening of the Margaret A. Cargill (MAC) Lodge, several of our most loyal supporters and board members came together to encourage giving, creating a \$225,000 match towards the *Making Waves* capital campaign. We are pleased to announce that Wolf Ridge donors met and exceeded the match! By the year end, an additional \$450,000 has been applied to the *Making Waves* campaign, bringing us to 84% of our total goal. Thank you to all those who made contributions. ♦

Thank you for the outstanding commitment!

*In-kind donors

PROFILE: ANNE HADDAD



What is your connection to Wolf Ridge? I have known about Wolf Ridge for several years. I live in Northfield and my kids go to Prairie Creek Community School and their fifth graders attend Wolf Ridge. It is an exciting time for the whole school and is widely appreciated in our community. I began working as a consultant with Wolf Ridge in 2018 and am assisting in fundraising through the summer of 2019.

What is your current occupation? I am a development consultant that works to build organizational capacity and provide access to capital for non-profit organizations and community foundations. At Wolf Ridge I am helping complete the capital campaign while building internal systems and staff capacity to carry on fundraising into the future.

Tell us about yourself. I grew up in New York City but my mom's family was from the Midwest. Once after learning about fossils I gave my mom a broken piece of concrete and told her it was a fossil. She shortly thereafter sent me to my aunt's home in Minnesota for the summer to live and learn about nature. I kept visiting Minnesota each year until I ultimately chose to attend college and then moved here permanently. My hobbies include cooking, traveling, hiking, biking, running, basically doing anything outdoors. I am married to Kelly Connole. We have two kids- 8-year old twins (daughter and a son). We also have two cats and one dog.

Tell our readers about something that you have learned as the result of your association with Wolf Ridge ELC. I've always loved Lake Superior but I was unaware that it has 10% of the world's fresh water supply. I didn't realize how much of the world's freshwater supply Minnesotans steward.

Please share a Wolf Ridge ELC memory. I brought our kids up to Wolf Ridge the last time I attended a board meeting. Wolf Ridge naturalists took turns babysitting and gave them tons of outside time. They could not have been happier feeding the animals and rock climbing. It was a joy to see them so engaged and enthused during my work trip. Recently I asked them "If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be?" Jasper responded, "Wolf Ridge."

What book and/or movie would you recommend others read. *Your Money or Your Life* by Vicki Robin and Joe Dominguez. It is a book that came out several decades ago and when I read it, it changed my relationship with money. The book contextualizes money as a tool to achieve goals and it helped me to see frugality as a way to promote environmentalism.

Please share a travel tip? I've learned how to pack food on a car trip with little kids. Pack your meals in a cooler and when you are ready to eat stop at a park and let them play while you eat your own meal. Then, get back in the car and feed them while you drive. Cheaper, quicker and no chasing after them in random restaurants while you wait for the food to arrive.

If you could visit with any conservationist/naturalist/environmentalist, living or dead, who would it be and what would you say. I grew up going to the American Museum of Natural History in New York with some frequency. I loved the dioramas and how they placed the viewer in a story, a moment in time captured for the viewer.

Frank Chapman brought dioramas to the museum and I understand his portrayal of birds in flight ultimately inspired Teddy Roosevelt to protect water birds when he became president. I would love to ask Mr. Chapman how he intended to influence the viewers.

If you were a tree or animal what kind of tree or animal would you be? Platypus! I guess a male platypus in order to take advantage of getting to have a spur on my ankle.

Anything else you would like to share with our readers? We gave our kids a choice this year of where to go on a family vacation. They screamed Wolf Ridge! Hope to see you at family camp. ♦



WOLF RIDGE NEWS BRIEFS

• **W**olf Ridge was recognized for 25 years of service as an official **weather station** with the National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Program (COOP). The COOP was created in 1890 under the Organic Act to provide observational meteorological data, usually consisting of daily max and min temps, snowfall, and 24-hr precipitation totals, required to define the climate of the U.S. and to help measure long-term climate changes and to provide observational meteorological data in near real-time to support forecast, warning and other public service programs of the NWS.

• David Stieler and others have been battling with the **beavers** and their dam just above the stream study sites on Sawmill Creek. They performed several 'operation dam breach.' Just before Christmas Charles Pavlisich witnessed a wolf giving us a helping hand by making a meal of beaver at the dam site. Yay for wolves!

• **Two side-by-side four-wheelers** were donated to Wolf Ridge. These handy vehicles are a great help to our maintenance department. Summer programs are looking forward to using them to deliver supplies to campsites.

• The end of December our **new used snowplow** got first real work out at Wolf Ridge cleaning up after a 36- hour



dump of 24 inches of snow. Thank you to the 64 plus donors that give \$5,808, to help make this necessary purchase possible.

• A new **telescope**, a Orion Starblast 6i, is now helping us introduce students to the night sky. This Newtonian telescope has a seek and find feature for spotting most known objects in the night sky.

• The raptor mews have been painted with beautiful **murals** giving them a much more cheerful look and feel thanks to Sonja and Katrina Nord.

• **Chickadee Landing**, a favorite place to visit during winter bird classes, got a facelift. The 'human decoys' that acustom birds to people are now bright-eyed as the students that have chickadees land on their heads and hands.

• Another chef has joined our food service team. Jeffrey Michell is our new evening cook.

• Program staff took a trip down memory lane as they worked together **cleaning** the office basement. We reminisced over the struggle of keeping "Rise and Fall of the Great Lakes" running through the 16mm film projector and we are still puzzling over the box of bags filled with sand labeled "scope on the globe" on one side and "dirt bag" on the other. ♦

WOLF RIDGE
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER



CHRISTIAN DALBEC

PHOTO © CHRISTIAN DALBEC
2020

The 2020 Wolf Ridge calendar features the work of Christian Dalbec. He was born in Two Harbors, MN and began taking photos in 2012. Known for being 'in and around the lake,' Dalbec specializes in wave and water photography as well as drone work. In 2015, Dalbec started swimming in the frigid waters of Lake Superior year round to capture his favorite locations from the water's view. Waves became a favorite subject to photograph. "Each one is a unique work of art." Dalbec's extraordinary photographs have been published in multiple magazines including *Lighthouse Digest* and *Lake Superior Magazine*. Calendars are available for \$18.95 including shipping. They are also available at special prices, in lots of 25, for school fundraising and retail resale. Proceeds of all calendar sales directly support children attending Wolf Ridge school programs. Email mail@wolf-ridge.org or call Wolf Ridge at (218) 353-7414 for more information and to order. ♦

TO INFINITY & BEYOND: MANAGING WOLF RIDGE CAMPUS FOR THE FUTURE

by Shannon Walz, Wolf Ridge Education Director



How can we foster sustainability in our lives? Our first action is to follow the mantra: reduce, reuse, recycle. A more sustainable life is one where we reduce our consumption by adopting new habits—we drive less; we buy locally sourced goods; we reuse grocery bags; and when no other options remain, we recycle. We also take on sustainability with exciting new technologies—we drive hybrids and electric vehicles; we erect massive wind farms and install solar panels; and we invent batteries to store it all to satisfy our power-hungry lifestyles. And yet, we sometimes forget about a fourth “R”. What if we did a better job repairing and maintaining existing high cost items like vehicles and buildings? If we amend the mantra by adding repair and we employ that mantra, we can improve energy consumption and avoid the long-term financial obligations that result from deteriorating assets.

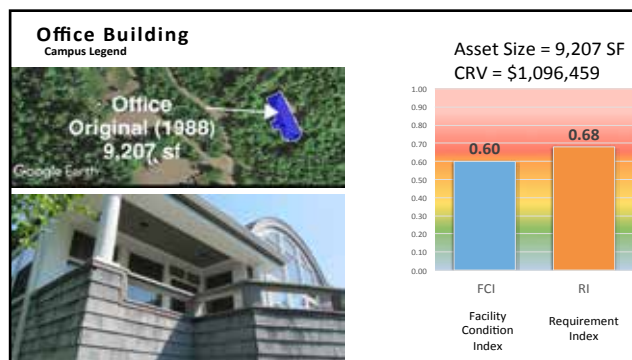
Wolf Ridge has taken another step forward in their pursuit of sustainability. They have added repair to the mantra. Wolf Ridge is working with board member Nancy Schultz and her company CR-Building Performance Specialists, Inc. (CR-BPS) to create an Asset Resiliency Management Program to monitor and plan for many areas of sustainability including energy, water, indoor air quality, material usage, waste management and land stewardship in all phases of the Wolf Ridge operation.

While an Asset Resiliency Management Program is not as obvious and attention-grabbing as Wolf Ridge’s other efforts to achieve sustainability, it is arguably more important.

So, how will an Asset Resiliency Management Program help Wolf Ridge continue to meet its goal of attaining sustainability? Wolf Ridge has over 100,000 square feet of space spread over 17 buildings, including dormitories, classroom buildings, adminis-

trative and maintenance buildings, and a new yurt at their Lake Superior Field Station. That’s a lot of assets! Through strategic planning and management, Wolf Ridge will ensure their assets are maintained in peak condition while avoiding unplanned, costly repairs. Plus, their buildings will last as long as possible. (Ahh...the financial and environmental sustainability connection!)

back schedules and even a reduction in CO2 emissions with a target of reaching zero emissions one day. Because technology has allowed us to store the data in an integrated and dynamic way it can be used on an on-going basis, future budgeting and fundraising recommendations for capital improvements are a mere click away on the keyboard.



The CR-BPS Asset Resiliency Management Program resulted in a comprehensive assessment of every Wolf Ridge building and site feature. The following data were entered into our software management tool:

- condition and age of the carpets, paint, decks, windows, and roofs;
- functionality of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems;
- known repair and maintenance records for the buildings and systems;
- sustainable technology implementation (installed LEDs, micro grids, smart monitoring renewable energy infrastructure);
- financial value of all known assets.

As a result of CR-BPS’ analysis, Wolf Ridge can identify those maintenance, repair, and replacement priorities for different buildings and site features on their campus. The financial impact of going ahead with a project or delaying it is weighed as well as the cost of upgrading to high performance and environmentally friendly features within buildings or the site. Collected data can be compared with pay-

A whole-systems-thinking approach to the care and maintenance of our buildings and site features increases their longevity and has the potential to decrease their environmental footprint. The Asset Resiliency Management Program that CR-BPS created for Wolf Ridge analyzes their entire system from a financial, ecological, and community perspective. Being able to understand and make thoughtful choices about the health of the your buildings’ and site assets—whether your personal home or a facility the size of Wolf Ridge—is critical to the long-term health of our planet.

If you are interested in following in Wolf Ridge’s footsteps and implementing an asset and energy management program, what are your options? Companies like CR-BPS can help you. But if that is not possible, record what you already know about your facilities. Start with your facility components (e.g., floors, paint, windows, electrical, mechanical, heating/cooling, roof, etc.). Identify the age of the system and the repair, replacement, and maintenance schedules. Next research energy efficient alternatives or more ecologically sustainable upgrades as you plan future improvements. Finally, track and record home improvements to make it easier to prioritize short- and long-term budgeting.

Just as Buzz Lightyear is dedicated to saving the earth from evil, alien invaders, we can do our part to save the planet by ensuring that our buildings are in top condition and last as long as possible.◆

GET CLOSER TO NATURE THROUGH NATURE JOURNALING

by Rachel Sarette, Wolf Ridge Naturalist

“**W**hat am I supposed to write in here? I can’t draw! I don’t have time for this.” These thoughts, and a sense of anxiety filled my mind as I was handed a nature journal as a part of my graduate class at Wolf Ridge. Over a year later, I’m no longer required to nature journal, but I journal more than ever. Nature journaling has taught me to look closer, wonder more, and slow down while I’m outside. Doing this, I find that even while I’m walking a path that I’ve walked hundreds of times before, I can always spot something new to marvel. One book that helped me get to this point is “*The Curious Nature Guide*” by Clare Walker Leslie, which is filled with beautiful pictures and many journaling prompts that got me focused on the process of journaling instead of all the worries. As it says in the book, “It’s time to reconnect.” So, are you ready to start your own journal? Check out the infographic for ideas on what to and how to journal. ♦

Wolf Ridge...

There are moments in our lives that others may view as insignificant but fundamentally change who we are.

Picture a young girl exhausted from a day full of hiking in the freezing cold. Cheeks wind-burnt and rosy she desperately wanted to sit, watch a movie, curl up and fall asleep. Instead her teachers, instructors and chaperones asked her to take apart this tiny pellet of owl vomit. Terrified yet entrusted, she was handed sharp little tools and a ball of hair and told to explore. As she pulled, poked and deconstructed she found small bones. As she continue she became more and more consumed in this delicate work and as she pulled the last bit of hair apart she discovered a small skull. That did it. She was hooked. Holding a tiny skull in her hands she was able to discover what this owl, somewhere out in the wilderness, had eaten. An incredible connection to a majestic life elsewhere.



That young girl was me. And although this may sound like a weird story to tell it did fundamentally change me. It was the first time someone entrusted me fully with my education, valued my ability to discover which lead to being in awe and wonder of the world connected to me.

Image a five year old boy. A few months ago he had a family member visit him and he decided he wanted to take her for a hike. He lead. He explained what a green briar was, “it hurts you, so don’t touch.” He showed her rock structures and told her how special the layers in those rocks were. He told her that American Indians used to live on this land. That they used the leaves from the Big Leaf Magnolia to “wipe their butts” so if she needed to “go” she could use them. He told her to look around and tell him what she saw and what was her favorite. He was her facilitator for awe and wonder. That boy is my son.

I went to Wolf Ridge in 1995 with my 5th grade class. Since then, I have had some amazing moments that have set me on a path to being a program director at McDowell Environmental Center in Alabama, a program that effects the lives of thousands of participants every year, as Wolf Ridge did for me. Thank you, Wolf Ridge. From myself and my son, who gets to grow up in a world of awe and wonder and is already encouraging others to do so. Wolf Ridge you played a part in my story, which means you played a part in his. We are forever grateful. ♦

~ Beth Dille

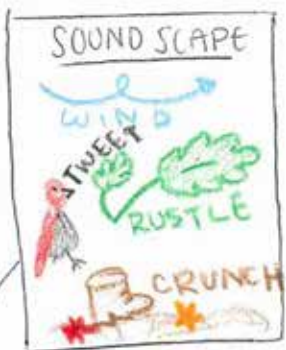
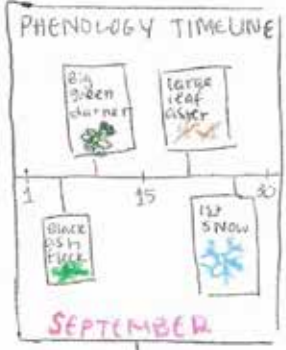
...Touching Lives

GET CLOSER TO NATURE

through nature journaling

STEP 1 Decide WHAT to focus on. **STEP 2** Decide HOW to record.

LEARN ABOUT DIVERSITY



WEATHER TRACKER

	H	L	Cloud %
M	20	8	90%
T	18	5	-
W	27	15	75%
T	32	17	60%

CITIZEN SCIENCE

RECORD OBSERVATIONS



Haiku of the Day!

Sun shining on me
 a spotted turtle swims by
 while birds sing and sing



NOW, GO OUTSIDE AND EXPLORE!

PROGRAMS 2019

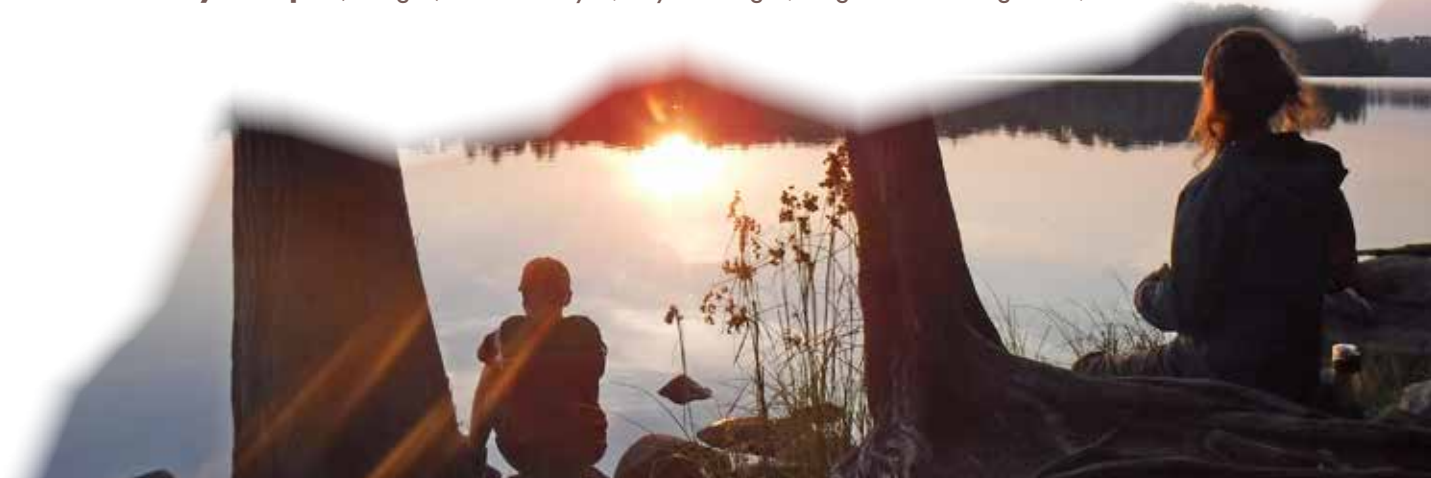
ALL AGES

Open House: June 15, 2019 10:00-4:00 **Free**

Bird Banding Drop-in days: June 5, 12, 26, July 3, 10, 24, & 31 7:00-11:00am **Free**

Grandparent/Grandchild Summer Grand Adventure: (ages 6-11 and adults) July 21-25: starting at \$675

Summer Family Camps: (all ages) June 30-July 6, July 28-Aug 3, Aug 4-10: starting at \$1,015



YOUTH

Summer Sampler: (2nd-5th gr) Aug 14-17: \$390

Discoverers: (4th-5thgr) June 23-29, July 7-13, July 14-20, July 21-27, July 28-Aug 3, Aug 4-10, Aug 11-17: \$626

Voyageurs: (6th-7thgr) June 23-29, July 7-13, July 14-20, July 21-27, July 28-Aug 3, Aug 4-10, Aug 11-17: \$626

Adventurers: (8th-9thgr) July 14-20, July 21-27, July 28-Aug 4, Aug 4-10: \$626

Day Camp: (K-5thgr) June 24-28: \$200

Sprouts Day Camp: (2nd-3rdgr) June 24-28: \$200

Eco Artists: (4th-5thgr) July 21-27: \$626

Green Energy Camp: (4st-5thgr) Aug 4-10, Aug 11-17: \$626

Voyageurs 2-wk Ultimate Survival: (6th-7thgr) July 14-17: \$1,300

Wildlife Camp: (6th-7thgr) Aug 4-10: \$626

Angling to Archery: (6th-7thgr) July 7-13, Aug 11-17: \$680

Girls Rock the Ridge Leadership: (6th-7th) June 23-29, Aug 11-17: \$639

Boys Rock the Ridge Leadership: (6th-7th) July 28-Aug 3: \$639

Camp Rock Climbing: (8th-9thgr) Aug 4-10: \$699

Ornithology Field Camp: (10th-12thgr) July 7-13: \$852: \$825

Counselor-in-Training: (10th-12thgr) Aug 4-17: \$990

Credit Camp - Freshwater Ecology: (10th-12thgr) July 7-27: \$2,050

Credit Camp - Wilderness Ethics: (10th-12thgr) July 28-Aug 10: \$1,699

Superior Service Learning Camp: (10th-12thgr) Aug 4-10: \$639

Superior Hiking Trail 5-day Backpack: (7th-8th) July 7-13: \$649

BWCAW Canoe 5-day: (7th-8thgr) Aug 11-17: \$650

Adventurers 2-wk BWCAW Canoe: (8th-9thgr) July 7-20: \$1,420

Adventurers 2-wk Isle Royale Backpack: (8th-9thgr) July 14-27: \$1,450

Adventurers Northwoods Kayak: (8th-9thgr) June 23-29: \$750

Jr Naturalists 2-wk Quetico Canoe: (10th-12thgr) July 21-Aug 3: \$1,525

Jr Naturalists 2-wk Apostle Islands Kayak: (10th-12thgr) July 28-Aug 10: \$1,502



LNT Master Educator: May 18-22: \$450 register at NOLS at nols.edu

Advanced Bird Banding Class: July 2-6: \$1,200

Beginning Bird Banding Class: June 23-30: \$2,195

Wilderness First Responder: April 12-19: \$725-\$925

Fabulous Fall Nature Geek-Out: Sept 27-29: \$325



Be in touch with Wolf Ridge...

Register for programs on-line or by calling Wolf Ridge.

Order calendars for your school fundraiser or friends by calling Wolf Ridge.

Calendars are available for \$18.95 including shipping. They are also available at special prices, in lots of 25, for school fundraising and retail resale. Proceeds of all calendar sales directly support children attending Wolf Ridge school programs.

Your gift supports Wolf Ridge

- Make monthly donations with automatic payments
- contribute an annual donation
- become a planned giver
- make an in-kind donation.

Call to set-up your gift.



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Wolf Ridge is an accredited residential environmental school for persons of all ages. We offer immersion programs which involve direct observation and participation in outdoor experiences. Wolf Ridge programs focus on environmental sciences, human culture and history, personal growth, team building, and outdoor recreation.

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

We meet our mission by:

- Fostering awareness, curiosity, and sensitivity to the natural world.
- Providing lifelong learning experiences in nature.
- Developing social understanding, respect, and cooperation.
- Modeling values, behaviors, and technologies which lead to a sustainable lifestyle.
- Promoting the concepts of conservation and stewardship.