

# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Wisconsin Environmental Education Board Awards Grants to Five Central Wisconsin Institutions**

The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB), located at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, will award 30 grants worth more than \$400,000. Projects comprise both statewide and grass roots initiatives. These initiatives enable the target audiences to obtain a better understanding of and appreciation for both the built and natural environments. Projects will begin on July 1, 2000 and may run through December 31, 2001.

Recent grant cycles reveal a strong interest in the program. The 79 proposals received this year requested a total of \$1,046,094. To date the Board has received over 1,200 proposals totaling over 12 million dollars. Public and nonpublic educational institutions, all units of government, and corporations (nonprofit, non-stock) are eligible for WEEB grants. Requests cannot exceed \$20,000. Projects must be designed for Wisconsin residents and assist learners in achieving the goals of environmental education.

Initiated in 1990, the WEEB's mission is 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, work places, and communities."

Board members include State Representatives Neal Kedzie (Elkhorn) and Mark Miller (Monona) as well as State Senators Brian Burke (Milwaukee) and Brian Rude (Coon Valley). "Leadership on both sides of the aisle and in both houses of the legislature has been a critical component of our success," said WEEB chairperson Rick Koziel. Koziel is the Director of the Beaver Creek Reserve in Fall Creek.

For a complete list of this years applicants and description of recipients' projects please see our website <http://weeb.uwsp.edu/database/2000applicants.htm> and <http://weeb.uwsp.edu/database/2000recipients.htm>

For more information on the WEEB's environmental education grant program contact Administrative Liaison Ginny Carlton at (715) 346-3805. The email address is [weeb@uwsp.edu](mailto:weeb@uwsp.edu)

### **Central Wisconsin Environmental Station-Amherst Junction**

The Central Wisconsin Environmental Station was awarded \$20,000.00 for a project entitled "The Changing of the Land: A Wisconsin Forestry Unit". The goal for the project is to develop a comprehensive, multidisciplinary forestry curriculum for 4<sup>th</sup> grade school students that has both classroom and field components which are specific to Wisconsin. For more information contact the project director, Patricia Dreier, at (715) 824-2428.

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### **Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council-Stevens Point**

Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council was awarded \$15,973.00 for a project entitled "Forming Wisconsin Family Forest Alliance". A "grass roots" neighbor to neighbor approach will be used to educate and encourage good forest management. The objective is to educate woodland owners of the importance and value of having a comprehensive forest management plan for their land. For more information contact the project director, William Ebert, at (715) 343-6215.

### **Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, Inc-Stevens Point**

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) was awarded \$9,375.00 for a project entitled "Growing Wisconsin: Educating Women in Forest Stewardship". The project will use a survey to address how many women own or co-own non-industrial private forest land in Wisconsin; what their environmental education and forest management needs are; and then provide workshops to address these needs. For more information contact the project directors, John E. Houghton & Christine L. Thomas, at (715) 346-4185.

### **University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point: College of Natural Resources-Stevens Point**

The University of Wisconsin Stevens Point: College of Natural Resources was awarded \$16,897.00 for a project entitled "A Communication Plan to Promote Environmental Education in Wisconsin". The goals for the project are to develop EE leadership at the local level throughout the State by using the "Making a Difference" packet and "EE Works for Wisconsin" support materials. Creation of an "EE Works for Wisconsin" interactive website is also planned. For more information contact the project director, Jennifer Folsom, at (715) 824-6213.

### **Woodland Girl Scout Council-Wisconsin Rapids**

The Woodland Girl Scout Council was awarded \$20,000.00 for a project entitled "Building Capacity for Environmental Education in Girl Scouting throughout Central Wisconsin". The goals for the project are to integrate existing environmental education curricula into the time-honored Girl Scout program. The project will incorporate ongoing evaluation and modification, progression as participants' skills develop, and a system that will promote long-term continuation of environmental education at all levels within the Girls Scouts of Woodland Council program. The project plan will be shared with Girl Scout Councils throughout the State. For more information contact the project director, Amy Conrad, at (715) 423-6360.

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