



December 2, 2020

Leadership in Resource Management Since 1946.

1201 S. GOUGAR ROAD • NEW LENOX, ILLINOIS 60451
(815) 462-3106 • FAX (815) 462-3176
www.will-scookswcd.org

Dear Guidance Counselor:

Enclosed please find an application for the Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program and the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Education Scholarship. These applications may be reproduced for students interested in applying for these scholarships.

Please return the **Leopold Scholarship application to:**

**Leopold Education Project Scholarship Program Administrator
Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District
4833 Owen Center Rd
Rockford, IL 61101-6007**

The deadline for this application is **February 15, 2020.**

Any questions regarding the Leopold Education Project Scholarship can be directed to (815) 965-2392 x3.

Please return the **Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Education Scholarship application to:**

**The Will- South Cook Soil & Water Conservation District
1201 S. Gougar Road
New Lenox, IL 60451**

The deadline for this application is **February 1, 2020.**

Any questions regarding the Will-South Cook Soil & Water Conservation District Conservation Education Scholarship can be directed to (815) 462-3106, Ext. 3.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Russotti
Administrative Coordinator, Will South Cook SWCD

enclosure

Soil and Water Stewardship Scholarship

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE



THE PROGRAM

The Soil and Water Stewardship Scholarship seeks to provide financial support to students enrolled fulltime at an accredited two or four-year community college, college, or university, which will lead to a career in a natural resource field.

PROGRAM HISTORY

Funding for this scholarship was made available from the Leopold Education Project, an educational program based on the works of noted conservationist and author Aldo Leopold. Leopold's philosophy and land ethic created a foundation for modern conservation.

For Students
Pursuing
Education in the
Field of Natural
Resources



AWARDS

Scholarship will be awarded in amounts up to \$1,000. Scholarship money may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies and/or equipment required for courses. Scholarship money may not be used for room and board.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a resident in one of the following Illinois Counties,
Boone DeKalb Kane McHenry Winnebago
Cook DuPage Lake Will
- Be a high school senior or high school graduate (diplomas or GED)
- Be enrolled or will be enrolled no later than the fall session following application in a fulltime course of study such as fish and wildlife biology, conservation education, biology, ecology, forestry, hydrology, soils, pollution control, etc.
- Have at least a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale)

HOW TO APPLY

For more information call the scholarship administrator at 815-965-2392 Ext 3. All materials must be received by the scholarship administrator by **February 15th** of each year. Mail to Winnebago County SWCD, 4833 Owen Center Rd. Rockford IL 61101-6007 or email NEILStewardship@gmail.com.



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Interested students **must complete the attached application** and submit it to the Soil and Water Stewardship Scholarship program administrator. In addition to the completed application, you must send the following:

- Transcripts on official letterhead from the high school or college,
- Three letters of recommendation from a counselor, instructor, employer, or other individual qualified to assess the applicant's scholarship, community service and commitment to natural resources,
- An essay, maximum of 2 pages typed and double spaced, outlining 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,
 3. A description of the conservation issue that you feel is the most critical concern facing our local soil and or water resources. Why do you feel that this is a serious problem? What do you think can be done to resolve the problem?



SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients are selected based on a demonstrated commitment to natural resources conservation through activities, community service and related work experience. Points will be awarded as follows:

- Academics: 10 points
- Essay: 25 points
- Extracurricular activities and Community Service: 10 points
- References: 5 points

Selection of recipients is made by a panel of judges comprised of at least three individuals associated with Land Use Council 16. The decision of the judges is final. All applicants will receive notification as to whether they have been awarded the scholarship or not.



PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP

The Soil and Water Stewardship Scholarship program awards will be paid in one payment in late June. Checks will be made payable to the post-secondary institution that the applicant indicated on their application form and mailed directly to that institution.

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.



ABOUT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) of Land Use Council (LUC) 16 sponsor the Soil and Water Stewardship Scholarship. Every county in Illinois is served by a local SWCD. These local units of government provide leadership and direction in an effort to conserve and protect natural resources. LUC 16 is comprised of seven SWCD's in the Northeastern part of the state.

SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application Instructions: Land Use Council 16 will consider all information contained in or connected with this application personal and confidential and will only be used in conjunction with the soil and water stewardship scholarship. All candidates must complete an application in order to be considered. **Fill out and attach this form to an email or mail along with essay and three letters of recommendation and transcripts.**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Last Name First M.I. Date
Street Address Apartment/Unit
City County State
Zip Phone
E-mail Address

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

High School Phone
Street Address City
State County Zip Code

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION

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

ACTIVITIES, AWARDS AND HONORS

List significant natural resource 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	Awards/Honors/Achievement	Offices/Positions Held
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CERTIFICATION

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided was prepared by myself and 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 Soil and Water Stewardship 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.

Signature Date
Parent/Guardian Signature (if Under 18) Date

WILL-SOUTH COOK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS



Leadership in Resource Management Since 1946

In the spring of 2021, the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District will be awarding three \$1000.00 scholarships to Will/South Cook County students who expect to major in an Agriculture or Natural Resource field at any accredited college or accredited school of higher learning.

The purpose of these scholarships is to further the cause of soil, water and natural resource conservation by helping a deserving student pursue the subject at an advanced educational level.

Applications are available on our website, www.will-scookswcd.org or by calling the SWCD District office at (815) 462-3106 ext. 3. They have also been distributed to local high school guidance offices in Will/South Cook Counties.

DEADLINE: To be considered, the completed application and required letters of recommendation, which are to be sent directly to the District by their writers, must be received by February 1, 2021.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Applicant must live within the boundaries of the District (i.e. in Will County or in South Cook County, south of 22nd Street)
- Applicant must be a high school senior or graduate (diploma or GED certificate).
- Applicant must attend an accredited college or accredited school of higher learning in the 2021/2022 school year.
- Applicant will be interested in environmental science, horticulture, wildlife, soil, water, or other natural resources.
- There is no requirement to substantiate financial need.
- Successful candidates will be announced in February 2021. The decision of the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Directors will be final.
- Scholarship money will be paid directly to the institution for the second term of the 2021/2022 school year.
- It is the recipient's responsibility to provide the District with instructions for making the scholarship payment.
- Incomplete applications may be disqualified.



Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Education Scholarship Application 2021

Please print or type answers

1. Name _____ M _____ or F _____
(Last) (First) (Initial)

2. Date of Application _____ Date of Birth _____

3. Home Address _____
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. Telephone Number _____ Social Security Number _____

5. High School _____
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

6. Current School Enrolled In (if not the same as above) _____
(Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

7. Scholastic Average _____ Class Year _____

8. Father's Name (In Full) _____

9. Father's Occupation _____

10. Mother's Name (In Full) _____

11. Mother's Occupation _____

12. What institution of higher learning are you planning to attend in the fall of 2021?

(Name of Institution)
(Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

13. Have you been accepted to this institution? _____

14. What are your career goals?

15. What are your hobbies or special interests?

(Continue on reverse side)

16. Explain any school-sponsored and/or community activities you have participated in:

17. Describe any full-time or part-time employment, including any volunteer work for which you did not earn wages:

18. Letters of Recommendation - Two (2) letters of recommendation are to be sent directly to:

Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District
Attn: Susan Russotti
1201 S. Gougar Road
New Lenox, Illinois 60451
(815) 462-3106 Ext. 3

One letter must be received from a school representative and one letter must be received from a personal acquaintance. **These letters must be in the district file by the February 1, 2021 deadline.** Please list below, the people from whom you have requested recommendations:

1.

2.

19. Please enclose a copy of your high school transcripts and any college transcripts.

20. On a **separate sheet of paper**, describe in approximately 250 words why you are seeking this scholarship and how your field of study will benefit conservation.

21. Mail completed application, transcripts, and 250 word essay to:

Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District
Attn: Susan Russotti
1201 S. Gougar Road
New Lenox, Illinois 60451
(815) 462-3106 Ext. 3

If declared a recipient of this scholarship, I will permit the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District to use my name, pertinent information and a photograph that can be copied for publicity purposes.

(Signature of Applicant & Legal Guardian if under 18 years of age)

(Date)

Talent Release Form

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

I hereby consent for value received and without further consideration or compensation to the use (full or in part) of all videotapes taken of me and/or recordings made of my voice and/or written extraction, in whole or in part, of such recordings or musical performance for the purposes of illustration, broadcast, or distribution in any manner.

Talent's signature _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip code _____

Date: ____/____/____

If the subject is a minor under the laws of the state where modeling, acting, or performing is done:

Legal guardian _____

(sign/print name)

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Date: ____/____/____