



Eagle Bluff East Tree Tops Course
Zoom down the zip line

i loved eagle bluff
thanks for having
me - Haley Hinz
from richfield middle
school to eagle
bluff staff

www.eagle-bluff.org

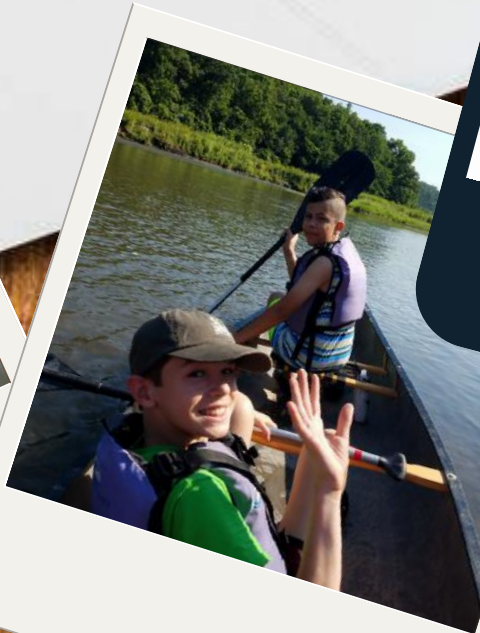
Join us for Summer High Ropes Challenge and be a part of the adventure.



Dear Eagle Bluff, thank you for letting me and my friends visit. I really enjoyed it! My favorite part was the high ropes course because at first I thought I wasn't scared but when I got on it I wanted to cry and give up, but my partner didn't let me, so when I finished I was proud of myself. Thank you for teaching me how to face my fears!
From Taylor

Dear EBELC,

Thankyou so much for our scholarship I had a lot of fun (especially at the ropes course). I learned many new things like, its healthy to do stuff out of your comfort zone. I learned about the environment I had fun seeing all of nature's beauty. Its a moment I won't forget. I used to be afraid of heights and now I see, its not so bad. I had a lot of fun in the dorms to. Once again, thankyou!



with thanks and gratitude

I grew up in Austin, Minnesota in the 1950s and 60s at a time when it was easy to hop on a bike and be in the country. As a teen I hunted pheasant where Riverland College now stands and winter camped in the woods that would one day become a shopping center. Back then nature was part of a kid's playground where we learned to explore and discover the world around us on our own.

Unfortunately, those opportunities are not as readily available to children today as they were a half a century ago. That is why Eagle Bluff is so important. It's a special place where kids can get outside in nature, away from the stimuli of digital devices, to discover a new world, one often very different from their busy urban one.

At Eagle Bluff it is okay to get dirty, muddy, and wet; where kids can canoe for the first time, experience the challenge and thrill of the high ropes course, and discover that the night sky is an experience in wonderment. Thank you for making this happen.

In 2018, Eagle Bluff served more than 14,000 youth through our Outdoor School and Summer Camps. And hundreds more adults came to Eagle Bluff to expand their knowledge through our Skills School. This year's annual report details the work we do and the many collaborations we have with schools in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa. Our commitment to educational standards and STEM focus acts as a curricular enhancement to a child's science education. Often a child's first connection to nature and the environment begins at Eagle Bluff.

Thank you for your commitment to environmental education and to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center.

We couldn't do what we do without you.

John Torgrimson,
Executive Director



2019 milestones

january



DAN MARTIN GIFT

In the early 1980s, Rochester resident Dr. Dan Martin attended a Forestry Management class from founder Joe Deden in the only building at the "Forest Resource Center," now Eagle Bluff.

As a successful dentist, Dan used his property not only as a weekend escape but as a way to stay connected to the natural world. His connection to the land is evident during a quick hike around the walnut grove and a visit to his cabin. At the end of last year, the cycle of learning continued when Dan gifted his property to Eagle Bluff so it may be used to teach students of all ages.

march



WINTER GEAR DRIVE

Over 100 pairs of unused mittens, gloves, and other winter gear were donated at our Dinner on the Bluff Speaker Series.

With 1/3 of our students receiving scholarship support and 1/3 coming from urban areas, high quality winter gear is often a barrier to their positive outdoor experiences.

These donations help our gear closet stay fully-stocked and make the outdoors more accessible to all Eagle Bluff students.

may



CHRISTOPHER MIEHLISCH ENDOWMENT

The environment and spending time at Eagle Bluff was always an important part of Christopher Miehlisch's life.

Though he struggled with depression, having Eagle Bluff nearby instilled a love of nature and the outdoors that served as a kind of therapy for him. This endowment fund has been established in Christopher's memory to help others struggling with depression to have life changing experiences at Eagle Bluff too.



⋮
june

⋮
august

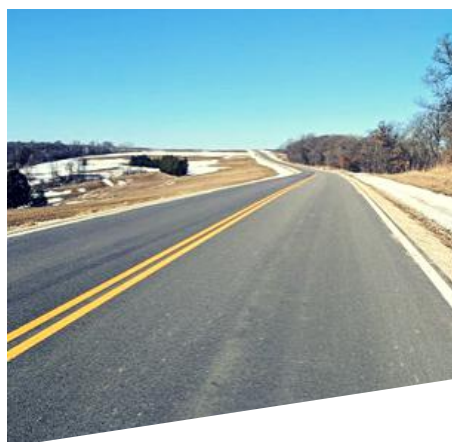
⋮
october



RETIREMENT OF FOUNDER, JOE DEDEN

Eagle Bluff founder and former Executive Director Joe Deden has always held steadfast to the belief that children need to get back to nature. This belief is what led him to found Eagle Bluff in 1978 and what fueled his drive and passion to create a place where learners of all ages can increase their environmental awareness and spark curiosity and appreciation for the natural world.

The indelible mark Joe has left on the world through this passion will guide Eagle Bluff into the future. Thank you Joe for all you've done to bring such a treasure to so many people!



GOODVIEW DRIVE PAVED

Anyone who has ever traveled Goodview Drive can attest to its seasonal potholes and washboard ridges. Those days came to an end due to the efforts and leadership of Eagle Bluff friend and neighbor, Steve McCallson. Steve proposed the road for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Local Road Improvement Program and in the spring Carrollton Township received funding support.

In addition to a smoother ride, blacktop provides safer year-round access for vehicles and mitigates dust, thus reducing long-term maintenance needs and costs.



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

Our annual Scholarship Banquet is an exceptional event that brings together wonderful Eagle Bluff supporters and stakeholders for an evening of great friendship, great food, and a great cause.

With one-third of our students receiving scholarships every year, donors at the Scholarship Banquet give the gift of life-changing outdoor education to thousands of students. In 2018 we were honored to report that over \$60,000 was raised for our scholarship fund, which is enough to fully sponsor the Eagle Bluff experiences of over 500 children!

eagle bluff by the numbers

	audited 2017	unaudited 2018	budgeted 2019
Grants	\$106,142	\$82,634	\$102,200
Contributions	417,853	172,644	181,340
Program Revenue	1,748,864	1,711,124	1,602,922
Investments	64,187	30,000	30,000
Other	41,432	97,160	120,000
Total Income	2,378,478	2,093,562	2,036,462
Salary & Benefits	1,093,931	1,123,333	1,128,135
Insurance & Taxes	94,273	90,213	82,024
Supplies Maintenance	465,127	478,804	568,551
Other Expenses	243,011	256,568	232,293
Total Expenses	1,896,342	1,948,918	2,021,003
Operating Margin	482,131	144,644	15,459
Depreciation	249,584	243,466	240,000
Net Income	232,547	98,822	224,541
Net Assets: Year Start	4,059,888	4,292,435	4,193,613
Net Assets: Year End	4,292,435	4,193,613	3,969,072

INKIND DONORS

A-1 All Brand Vacuums
Nate Barker
BB's Pizzeria
Susan Benysh
Blossom Hill Farm
Boyer Budget Furniture
Brothers Bar & Grill
Canadian Honker
Commonweal Theatre
Dunn Brothers Coffee
Heidi Dybing

E2 Boutique
Laremy Ellsworth
Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery
Granny's Liquor
High Court Pub
Hunt Drug
Jacobson's Pine Tree Apple Orchard
John Hardy's Barbeque
Karst Brewing
Kesler Welding
Kickapoo Coffee

Kicking Bear Camps
Kwik Trip, Inc
Mary Ludwigson
Daniel C. Martin
MPOWERD
Nolo's Kitchen
Organic Valley
Panera Bread Company
Rocco Altobelli
Seed Savers Exchange
Vic Spaulding
Sportsman's Rack
Spring Grove Soda

Steel Cow
Sweet Stop
The Humble Co.
Patricia Torggrimson
Unwound Artisan Yarn Shop
Urban Artifacts of Preston
Victoria's
Tina Whalen
Ye Olde Butcher Shoppe
Zep

16,473

Students, Campers & Guests

145

Partner Schools



1/3 of Students Received Scholarships

\$79,495

Scholarship Funds Awarded



235

EE Fellows trained since 1998.

"The Eagle has landed!" One of the favorite quotes hundreds of BEST Academy scholars look forward to hearing at every meal. Signaling it's time for seconds! and off they go. That's right hundreds of scholars! Eagle Bluff Environmental learning Center has been a yearly trips for hundreds of BEST Academy 5th grade scholars from North Minneapolis since 2008. I can't begin to explain how this experience has been and life altering experience for many of them. After every trip everyone leaves with improved STEM skills, new friendships, self-confidence and new awareness and appreciation of the environment. The excitement passes down from pictures posted and word of mouth from previous scholars to the incoming 5th graders.. We return every year because unlike other organizations, Eagle Bluff is organized, with amazing licensed naturalist. They are so knowledgeable not only about their subject, but also how to communicate and interact with the scholars. They go above and beyond to make the activities awesome! All the lessons are educational, fun and hands on. They love the lab work and then it's off to the forest to do what they've learned. Occasionally we've seen deer, coyotes and amazing birds in their natural habitats, which only adds to their excitement. They learn about the importance of food waste and what it takes to just about grow that food. These reasons and so many more are what Eagles Bluff so amazing! It gives Northside scholars a chance to be kids and use inquiry, explore and discover, also to know that there is a world outside the Northside.

Loretta Hall
Teacher, BEST Academy



outdoor school partners

ADAMS - Southland Middle School

APPLE VALLEY - Cedar Park STEM Elementary

Diamond Path Elementary

AUSTIN - Pacelli

BLAINE - DaVinCi Academy of Arts and Science

BLOOMINGTON - Bethany Academy

Olson Middle School

BROOKLYN PARK - Prairie Seeds Academy

CANNON FALLS - Cannon Falls Elementary

CHANHASSEN - St. Hubert

CHATFIELD - Chatfield Elementary

COLOGNE - Cologne Academy

DECORAH, IA - St. Benedict's

EAGAN - Faithful Shepard

Thomas Lake Elementary

EAGLE RIVER, WI - SOAR HS

EDINA - Concord Elementary

Highlands Elementary

ELGIN - Plainview-Elgin-Millville

ELLENDALE - NRHEG Elementary

EYOTA - Dover-Eyota Middle Schools

FARIBAULT - Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Shattuck St. Marys Middle School

Shattuck St. Marys High School

FRIDLEY- Al-Amal

GOODHUE - Goodhue Elementary

GRAND MEADOW - Grand Meadow Elementary

GRAYSLAKE, IL - Prairie Crossing Charter School

HASTINGS - Hastings Middle School

St. Elizabeth Anne Seton

HENDERSON - Hilltop Elementary

HOPKINS - Alice Smith Elementary

HOUSTON - Ridgeway Community School

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS - Atheneum

JANESVILLE - JWP Elementary

JORDAN - St. John

KASSON - Kasson-Mantorville Middle School

KENYON - Kenyon-Wanamingo Elementary

LACRESCENT - La Crescent Montessori

La Crescent Middle School

LACROSSE, WI - Coulee Montessorri

Seven Rivers Community High School

LAKE CITY - Bluff View Elementary

LAKEVILLE - All Saints School

LANESBORO - Lanesboro Elementary

LEROY - LeRoy-Ostrander Middle School

LESEUER - St. Anne's School

LEWISTON- Lewiston-Altura Elementary

LITTLE CANADA - Cyber Village Academy

Capitol View Center

LYLE - Lyle Middle School

MABEL - Mabel-Canton Elementary

MAPLETON - Maple River MS

MAPLEWOOD - Gethsemane Lutheran

St. Jerome

MAZEPPA - Zumbrota-Mazeppa Elementary

MCGREGOR, IA - MFL Mar Mac

MEDFORD - Medford Public School

MINNEAPOLIS - BEST Academy

City of Lakes Waldorf School

FOLwellll

Hiawatha College Prep.

Jenny Lind Elementary

Keewaydin

Kenny Community School

Kenwood Elementary

Lucy Laney

Minnehaha Academy

Our Lady of Peace

Sanford Middle School

South Senior High

St. Helena Catholic School

MINNETONKA - Notre Dame Academy

Minnetonka High School

MONTGOMERY - Most Holy Redeemer

Tri-City United

MORNING SUN, IA - Morning Sun Elementary

NORTH SAINT PAUL - St. Peter and St. Paul

NEW HARTFORD, IA - Dike New Hartford

NEW PRAGUE - New Prague Middle School

NORTHFIELD - St. Dominic School

OAKDALE - Transfiguration

ONALASKA, WI - Eagle Bluff Elementary

Irving Pertzsch

Northern Hills

St. Patricks

OSAGE - Osage Community Schools

OSSIAN, IA - South Winneshiek

OWATONNA - St. Marys

PRESTON - Fillmore Central

PRIOR LAKE - Aspen Academy

St. Michael School



PROTOVIN, IA - Trinity Catholic School
RED WING - Burnside Elementary
RICHFIELD - Richfield Middle School
ROCHESTER - Bamber Valley
Folwell
Glbbs Elementary
Holy Spirit
Hoover Elementary
Horace Mann Elementary
Longfellow Elementary
Math and Science Academy
Rochester Montessori
Schaeffer Academy
St. Francis
St. John's- Rochester
ROSEMOUNT - Christian Heritage Academy
RUSHFORD - Rushford-Peterson
SHOREVIEW - Oak Hill Montessori
SPRING GROVE - Spring Grove Schools
ST. LOUIS PARK - Park Spanish Immersion
Susan Lindgren
ST. PAUL - Capitol Hill
Chelsea Heights Elementary
Community of Peace Academy
Creative Arts HS
Farnsworth Aerospace Upper
Friends School of Minnesota
Hazel Park
HOPE Academy
Humboldt HS
L'Etoile Du Nord French Immersion
MN Waldorf
Mounds Park Academy
Park Spanish Immersion
Randolph Heights
TOMAH, WI - Tomah Middle School
VADNAIS HEIGHTS - Academy for Sciences & Agriculture
WAYZATA - St. Barts Catholic School
Wayzata West Middle School
WEBSTER - Holy Cross Catholic School
WEST ST. PAUL - Heritage E-Stem Magnet School
St. Crix Lutheran
WINONA - Bluffview Montessori
Cotter Junior High
Riverway Learning Community
WOODBURY - Math and Science Academy
St. Ambrose

In 2001, I was looking for a new overnight environmental trip to provide 6th graders at our newly formed middle school. I had visited Eagle Bluff the summer before when I was vacationing in the Lanesboro area. I was so impressed with the grounds and the landscape and the possibility of offering experiences to students relating to nature, conservation, and physical outdoor challenges. It was incredibly easy to set up the trip, and we began our 19-year (and counting!) tradition of 6th grade trips to Eagle Bluff. The time and energy to plan and organize a trip is substantial, and I don't receive any additional stipend from the school district for my efforts. Instead, I am rewarded with smiles, experiences, and witnessing countless students overcome their fears and boosting their self-confidence. Over the years, about 1,000 students and more than 100 teachers and parents have visited Eagle Bluff with me and every single person has come home with stories that prove the power of outdoor experiential education. They strengthen friendships and respect for our planet. They take what they learned about themselves on the high ropes course and apply it to conquering other fears and frustrations in their life. Every trip, I am impressed with the Eagle Bluff staff, buildings and grounds, and classes. The food continues to be exceptional. When I arrive each year, I feel like I'm home; and when I leave, I do so with tears in my eyes. I can confidently say that Eagle Bluff has changed my life.

Karolyn Shelstad
Teacher, Olson Middle School



2018 donor honor roll

\$25,000+

Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation
Eric and Andrea Miehlich

\$10,00-24,999

Dale and Elizabeth Bargsten
Ecolab Foundation

Michael & Joette Costomski Foundation
Terhuly Foundation Inc

\$5,000-9,999

Bill and Mary Bailey
Joel and Barb Mielke
Lynn and Charlie Brown
Mayo Clinic

MDHA-Bluff Country Chapter
Raymond Schmitz and Gael Entrikin
White Pine Fund

\$2,500-4,999

F & M Community Bank
MDHA - Southeastern Chapter
Minneapolis Foundation / Marlys and Benno Sand Foundation

Rochester Sand and Gravel
Silicon Valley Foundation

\$1,000-2,499

Ameriprise Gift Matching Program
Anton Gabe Deden
Brad Hartwig
David and Ruth Legvold
David Reichert and Jeanne Thoreson
Dawn and Timothy Nemecek
Dick Nethercut and Loni Kemp
The Dry Store
Eaton Corporation
Howard and Anah Munson
Jeffrey and Leeann Ettinger
Jim and Charlotte Burt
John Gaddo and Nancy North
MDHA-Des Moines Valley Chapter
Merrick Reburn
Mike J. Rapatz
Phil and Heidi Dybing
Richard McCoy
Slaggie Family Foundation
Sysco Corporation
Thomas Hayman and Martha Turner
Vic and Mary Spaulding

\$500-999

Ed and Kerry Todd
Ian Scheerer and Natasha Yates
Izaak Walton League-Austin
Janette C. Smart Family Charitable Remainder Trust
John and Patricia Torgrimson
Josephine Barbour
LaCrosse Kiwanis Foundation
MDHA-South Central Prairieland
MDHA-Sunriser Chapter
Medtronic Volunteer Grant Program
Merchants Bank of Lanesboro
Naomi and Thomas Walker
Pete and Barb Keith
Peter and Anne Heegaard
Robert and Marlene Kohner
Robin and Bethany Krom
Rollingstone Jaycees
Sara and Paul Harcey
Sara and Tom Sturgis
Stephen and Melanie Bacon
Tri State Business Machines Inc
Wayne and Carol Carrigan



\$200-499

A. Renee and Gene Bergstrom
Alan and Judy Hoffman
Anthony and Robyn Floyd
Belita Schindler
Brad D. Carlson
Caren and Kim Stelson
Chad and Melissa Marolf
Charlotte Brooker and Gene Mammenga
Chris and Val Jackson
Computer Danamics
Daniel and Janice Martin
Daniel and Kathleen Hayman
Daniel and Sue Hollermann
Dawn and Mark Kottman
Decorah Community School Foundation
Eagle Cliff Campground & Lodging
Eric Herendeen and Damita Crouse
Harry and Kate Buck
IBM Matching Grants Program
James and Judy Boland
Jen Bayer
Jerome Deden and Mary Bell
John and Verneice Beckel
Keith and Lori Boland
Kelly and Mandie Anderson
Mary Boyne
Paul and Cheryl Halvorson
Richard Glattly
Wes and Judy Harding

\$50-199

Adam Wiltgen
Beth A. Munson
Bill and Sandra Sullivan
Bradford and Adaline Shinkle
Bruce and Bridget Munson
Caley and Robert Smith
Charles Ruen
Daniel and Theresa Munson

Dave and Shelley Vogel
David and Jo Ann Runkel
Don and Maggie Schoepski
Donna and Richard Rasmussen
Doug Nelson and Cheri Olson
George and Kay Spangler
Gordon and Marsha Kuehne
Heidi and Mike Popelka
Heidi Nordine
Irvin Nehring
JC & Arlene Pfeiffer Fund of the Winona Community Foundation
Jeff and Barb Soma
Jimmilee Corson Miller
Judy and William Smithson
Julie and Tim Kiehne
Karen and Tim Scanlon
Kathy and David Sundstedt
Kay Taylor
Keith and Amy Okan
Kevin Sullivan
Lawrence J. Landherr
Lewis and Rosebud Roberts
Linda and Philip McNairy
Marty and Julia Malin
Merchants Bank, National Association
Mike and Connie Schad
Mike Maher and Patty Brodeen
Maher
Monica Kujawa
Pat and Joyce Moynihan
Patrick and Kathy McCarthy
Paul and Maggie Scanlon
Paul Wotzka and Pat Bailey
Pedal Pushers Cafe
Penny Kirgis
Phyllis Onstad and Dan Kalstabakken
Robert and Shirley Kopp
Robert Dale Roberts
Roger and Ann Leque
SABS Quilters
Sally Jeske
Samuel and Jean Skemp
Sandy Noreen-Ruben

Steve and Susan Richardt
Steven and Sharon Kunkel
Steven J. Sweeney
Sue and Kevin Schreurs
Sue Klaassen
Susan Knott
Valley Design Enterprises, Inc.
Vincent and Laura Mangan
Wanda Pufpaff
Winona Renewable Energy LLC

\$1-49

Anne and Jesse Neumann
Anonymous
Barbara Anne Trimble
Barbara Yetter
Beth Lankey
Bonita Underbakke
Caroline and Zack Ness-Deden
Casey Crane
Chad Stowers
Christine Buchanan
Chuck and Nancy Handlon
Cynthia McAfee
Dan Jacobson
Danny Garcia
Denis and Nancy Cornell
Denis J. Warta
Denise and Randy Urban
Diane Mathees
Elizabeth Senst Koppelman
Flo Sandok
Guy Vig
Jacob Meier
Jacqueline K. Hick
James Halverson
James Payne
Jan and Gerald Nelson
Jean Guyse
Jerry and Karen Cleveland
Jimena Dake
Joan L. Smith
Jodi Hilderbrand
Joel and Sandra Dunnette

\$1-49 continued.

Julie Carr
Julie McGaughey
Katarina Miehlisch
Kathleen Deming
Kevin and Cindy Fuerstneau
Kimberly Moore
Kristy Quinones
Landen and Meighan Frederick
Lisa Olson
Lora Larson
Maria E. Dupont
Mary Moody
Matthew and Therese Opat
MEI -Total Elevator Solutions
Patricia A. Paul
Priscilla Trinh
Rory and Larry Ellsworth
Rosa Louie
Sandy Seha and Eric Luoma
Sean Ransick
Steve Corson and Nancy Hengeveld
Summer Kohner
Susan Oddsen and Logan Colby
Terry Noonan
Tim Fenske
Vernon Riddle and Jennifer Wood
Wendy and Wayne Mehrkens
Yvonne Gorman

memorial & honorary gifts

In Honor of Joe Deden

David A. Legvold
Janet Hayman
Nancy North
Thomas J. Hayman
Daniel R. Hayman
William Swanson
Kathy L. Sundstedt
Dennis J. Schreiber
Roger Steinberg
Kathleen H. Corley
Don B. French
Alan Hoffman

In Honor of Dick Nethercut

Matthew Opat
Bonita Underbakke

In Honor of the Cloud Cult Family

Dennis Schreiber

In Memory of Duane Coffman

Rosa Louie
Dennis J. Schreiber
Penny Kirgis
Bernadette Coffman
Irvin Nehring
Diane Mathees
Barbara Anne Trimble
Wayne Carrigan
Yvonne Gorman
Jean Guyse
Darlene Coffman
Don Schoepski

In Memory of Ben Stanek

Roger and Ann Leque

In Memory of Della

Joe Deden

In Honor of Howard Munson's 95th Birthday

The Munson Family

board & staff members

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
John Torgrimson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bethany Krom
Ian Scheerer
Carol Lammers
Ed Todd

Charlie Brown
Lynn Brown
Jeff Burns
Bruce Frutiger

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Danae Gaio
Danny Garcia
Katie Halvorsen
Dave Kolbert
Richard Nethercut

Joel Mielke
Mike Rapatz
Kerry Todd
Natasha Yates

STAFF

Brent Anderson
Jeff Boland
Susie Bradley
Kelly Breitsprecher
Joe Deden
Jennie Dieterman
Gretchen Engstrom
Sheila Fishbaugher
Colleen Foehrenbacher
Nate Grabau
Becca Jacobson

STAFF

Sally Jeske
Marty Johnson
Virginia Kesler
Sara McCallson
Jenna Moon
Wade Rentschler
Don "Doc" Schoepski
Sara Sturgis
Bridget Tonne
Zacc Weed