Elkhart Environmental Center Eagle Scout Project Opportunities

2020

Below is a list of projects that have been determined that an Eagle Scout would be able to complete. However, the EEC always accepts ideas for new projects and needs that the scout is excited about. The EEC has had Eagle Scout projects for here for over 30 years. All Eagle Scout projects and Scouts get their name on a plaque inside the EEC. We love giving recognition to our Eagle Scout project partners. We hope you’ll consider doing your project with us and would love to discuss in more detail with you.

Please contact supervisor, Jamison Czarnecki, at Jamison.czarnecki@coe.org or 574-293-5070

Projects

Stone Base & Planter Garden Underneath Gateway Arch

As the first site you see coming into the center, it’s imperative it looks amazing! We need to find someone to lay stone around the pillars of our gateway sign. We do not have the funds to hire a mason, but believe this could be done with the help of an Eagle Scout and some good contacts. The stone is already being donated by Kuert Concrete through Mark Walker (former BSA Troop Leader and friend of scouting). We need a scout to help design the base, identify the native plants to be planted, and do the work (or have the work done) to complete it.

Gateway Arch that was installed 2019

Elevated Boardwalk

We have a boardwalk that was in disrepair and had to be removed. It is essential to put in a new boardwalk as many of our educational programs (both family and K-12) and visitors that hike the trails and view wildlife, utilize this area more than any other. The site is in the back of the property off the Christner Trail. It is hoped for approximately 400ft of boardwalk, but could be less. There is some funding for 2020, but may not cover all material costs.

Previous boardwalk (2004)
Terrace Garden

The Terrace Garden is directly in front of the Visitor's Cabin, and the face of the building. Unfortunately, the retaining walls have begun to rot, which makes the Terrace Garden unstable and unsafe for staff and volunteers to maintain. We need help with the following steps: Removing the rocks which were stacked against the wall for aesthetic purposes, replacing the rotted wooden boards in the retaining walls, stabilizing the walls to ensure that they are safe and durable, replacing the stones, and weeding/replanting new native plants!

Mountain Bike Hill & Trail

What was originally started as a sledding hill made with the construction debris from city projects, it was stopped midway around 2014 and now is unused space that is ripe for development into something new! The Center staff are looking into what it would take to create a mountain biking trail system around the area.

Fishing and River Exploration Pier

At the end of the wood duck trail, there is an area that connects to the Elkhart River. It is envisioned to have a pier that can be used for fishing and for environmental education efforts. There is no set design or concept, but at least a 10ft x 10ft platform is needed. It would have to be fundraised for, though the EEC could help identify volunteers.