



SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Elk River Watershed Improvement Association (ERWIA) is pleased to announce availability of two \$1000.00 scholarships to qualifying seniors graduating at the end of the 2009-10 school year. The scholarships are intended for use in paying a portion of college tuition or other, college-related expenses.

ERWIA is a consensus-driven, community-based watershed organization dedicated to improving, protecting and conserving the waters of the Elk River Watershed. The ERWIA's Vision Statement is "Clean abundant water for you and your family now and in the future" and the ERWIA's Mission Statement is "To improve, protect and conserve the waters of the Elk River watershed for the people who live, work, attend school, own property in or visit the watershed through educational and implementation activities that are based on sound scientific analysis and information."

ERWIA's Guiding Principles include:

- Dealing honestly and fairly in all our interactions and relationships.
- Developing and working through a voluntary and inclusive organization where all can participate in a broad-based effort.
- Making decisions and implementing actions through a consensus-driven and balanced process.

To receive one of these scholarships, applying students should identify a water quality or environmental problem/issue addressing what the student has seen or experienced in the Elk River Watershed and write an essay concerning a community-based solution that would address the problem/issue.

REQUIREMENTS

- **Students applying for these scholarships must have their permanent mailing address of record in the defined Missouri watershed area of the Elk River *OR* attend a high school located within the Elk River Watershed.** A map defining the geographical boundaries of the Elk River Watershed is available at ERWIA website (www.erwia.org) and on the last page of this informational packet. See the tab on the left of the ERWIA home page that says "Interactive GIS map."
- **A 1500 word minimum essay concerning a community-based solution that would address a water quality or environmental problem/issue that the student has seen or experienced in the Elk River watershed.**

Selections for the scholarship program are made without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, or handicap.

- **A cover page containing the title of paper, the date submitted and the author of the essay AND six (6) copies without a cover page, but having the title and text of the paper for judging. The six copies should NOT have the students name on them.**

- Essays will be in a format of single spaced lines, 12-point character size and Times New Roman font.

- Standard essay procedures must be followed, crediting all outside sources appropriately.

- Student information from the following ELIGIBILITY requirements below must be on the application form:

ELIGIBILITY

1. Students must be seniors with a 2.5 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Applicant will have their school counselor submit their current cumulative GPA on the application. No school transcripts are required.

2. Students must be pursuing a degree at a college or university of their choice.

3. Students must be involved in school activities (i.e. FFA, Ecology Club, Recycling Club, Science Club, sports, cheerleading, etc.).

4. Students must demonstrate community involvement (i.e. Scouting, 4-H, civic group, or work on volunteer projects).

5. Three letters of recommendation must be attached to the application (i.e. teacher, counselor, or group leader; not a parent or relative).

6. Successful recipients of the scholarship must submit a wallet-sized photo suitable for publication and attend an award ceremony.

7. Students should include in this application any and all awards and honors received during the last five (5) years.

Students interested in participating in the scholarship program's essay contest must submit the completed Application Form AND Essays to their school counselor no later than Friday, February 26, 2010.

An evaluation committee of a minimum of six individuals will anonymously judge the essays and rank the scholarship program's essayists to identify the two highest scoring individuals. Weight will be given to student community involvement and outside activities.

OTHER FACTORS IN SELECTION

We expect to receive more scholarship applications and essays than there is money to support. This means the evaluation committee must make tough decisions pertaining to successful

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winners. Students may be so close in academic achievement and extra-curricular activities that the committee will use bonus points to aid the process. Below are some areas in which the committee may add “bonus points.”

- Student plans to enter an environmental field of study
- Neatness of all Scholarship documents submitted
- Presently active in your community and school

DISCLAIMER

The ERWIA scholarship committee has absolute discretion in selecting recipients for the scholarships and in determining the amount of said award. The committee may make such amendments and modification of the rules and regulations pertaining to the selection of award recipients, the amount of awards as they, in their sole discretion, may so determine.

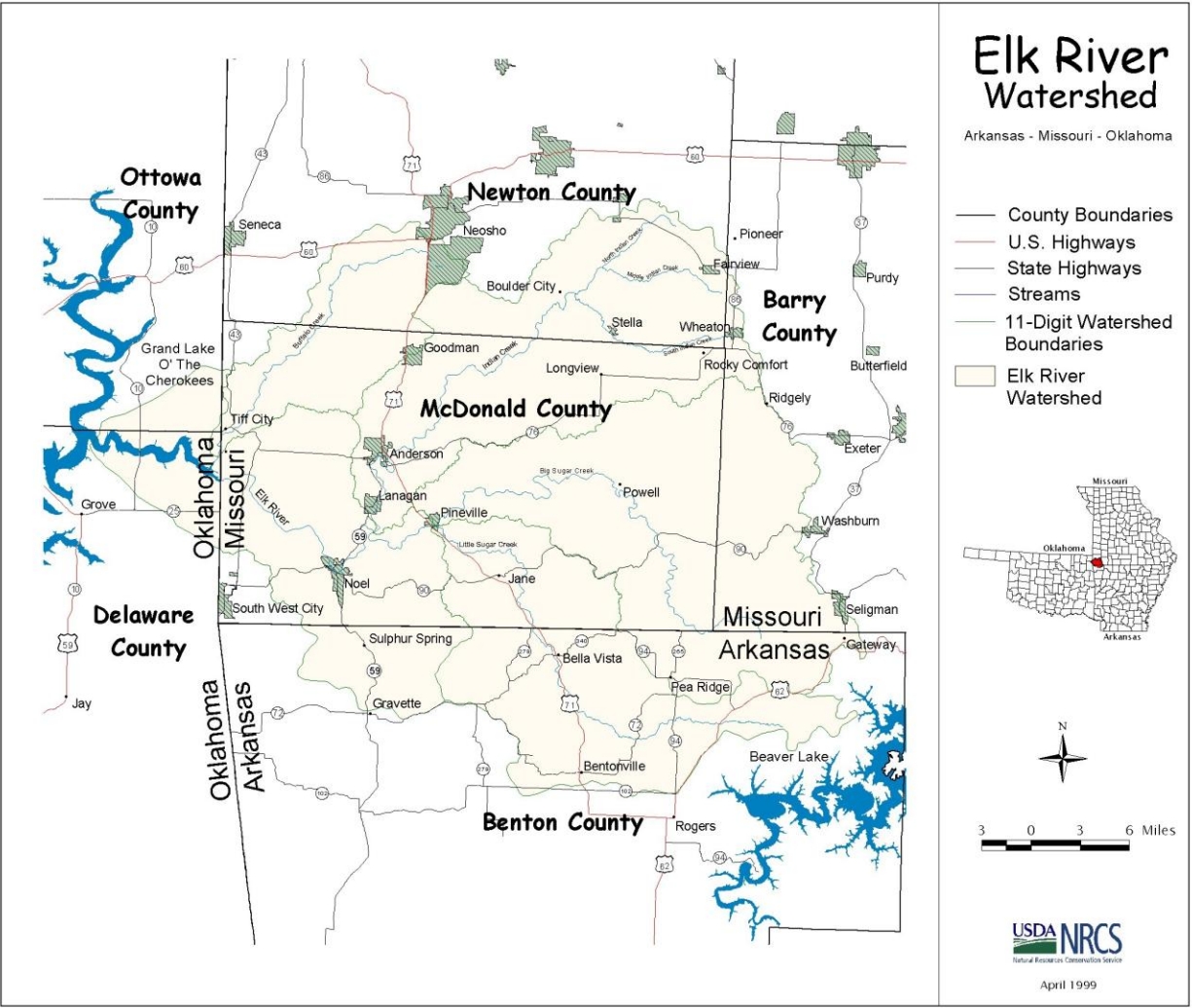
When an applicant has been named as the winner of a scholarship for \$1,000.00, he or she shall, prior to August 1, 2010, present to the ERWIA scholarship committee satisfactory evidence of acceptance to a college or university of their choice.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This Scholarship Information document, rubric and the Application Form will be available on the web at the ERWIA website (www.erwia.org) beginning Monday December 14, 2009. Students or school counselors are welcome to contact the ERWIA with any additional questions via telephone at (417) 223-3414 or email at erwia@olemac.net.

LOCATION ASSISTANCE

To assist students with the decision of whether or not they live within the boundaries of the Elk River watershed, we offer the generalized map on the next page of the watershed’s boundaries. To see the specific site of your home of record please go to the www.erwia.org website and click on Interactive GIS Map. From that point you can surf the map to find your home. At that time you will be assured that your essay will be considered. All essays entered will be checked to insure that only those living in the Elk River Watershed will be scholarship eligible.



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ELK RIVER WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
Scholarship Application Form

(Submit Application Form and Essays to Your Counselor by Friday, February 26, 2010)

I. PERSONAL DATA (Please Type or Print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____ E-mail _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

II. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (Use additional sheets if necessary)

High School/Community Activities _____

Honors/Awards _____

Interests/Hobbies _____

Work Experience _____

III. COUNSELOR ENDORSEMENT (To be completed by Your Counselor)

GPA (4.0 scale) _____ Control Number of Essay _____

Counselor Name and School (Please Print) _____

Signature of Counselor _____ Date _____

ELK RIVER WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

ESSAY EVALUATION SHEET

Evaluators Name _____ Student Control No. _____

	Advanced 10 pts	Proficient 8 pts	Basic 5 pts	Below Basic 0 pts
Introduction	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>The first paragraph grabs the reader's attention in a creative way and makes them want to read more. It contains a clear thesis statement and a preview of what is to come. It does not say, "In my paper, I will..."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>The first paragraph contains a clear thesis statement and preview of what is to come. It causes the reader to want to go on.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>The first paragraph contains a thesis statement but does nothing to make the reader want to go on.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>There is no introduction.</p>

Transitions	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>The paper flows together as one whole, from part to part, paragraph to paragraph, and sentence to sentence.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>The paper, except for one or two awkward transitions, flows as a whole.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>The paper seems to be choppy throughout, with poor or awkward transitions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>There are no transitions. The paper seems to be only pieces of writing put together.</p>
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Persuasiveness	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>The paper is very persuasive. All of the points made are supported with appropriate evidence and reasoning. The other side of every controversy has been addressed and adequately dealt with. I am convinced to carry out this proposal.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>The paper is somewhat persuasive. All of the points made are supported with appropriate evidence and reasoning. Some points that the opposition would have are not addressed in full, but I am still convinced to carry out your proposal.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>The paper is slightly persuasive. Some points were supported, while others were not. I am not sure whether or not your proposal is a good one.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>The paper is not persuasive at all. There is no attempt to convince the reader to carry out the proposal</p>
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Score from Side One _____ and Side Two _____ = _____

Advanced 10 pts	Proficient 8 pts	Basic 5 pts	Below Basic 0 pts
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Conclusion	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>The thesis is restated and the information is summarized in a way that brings home the point of the paper. It does not include any new information, only a powerful restatement of what has already been discussed. It does not contain the words "In conclusion."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>The thesis is restated and the information is summarized. It does not include any new information.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>The thesis is restated and the information restated. It includes new information.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>There is no conclusion.</p>
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Grammar and Spelling	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>All words are spelled correctly and grammar is accurate.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>There are 2-5 mistakes in grammar and spelling that do not affect the meaning of the paper.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>There are more than five mistakes in grammar and spelling that do not affect the meaning of the paper.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>The poor grammar and spelling make the meaning of the paper difficult to understand.</p>
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Citations	<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced</p> <p>Information throughout the paper is correctly cited, and there is a complete and accurate Works Cited page bibliography.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proficient</p> <p>Information is cited correctly the majority of the time, and there are few errors on the Works Cited page.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <p>There are no citations within the work, only a Works Cited page.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Below Basic</p> <p>There is no Works Cited page.</p>
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Side Two Score _____

Signed by Evaluator _____ Date _____