Cultivating Environmentally-Aware Citizens through Welty Environmental Center

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Location
- Beckman Mill (Rock County) Park
- 6 miles west of Beloit, WI

History
Originating in 2001, the center was named after former Beloit College professor J. Carl Welty and his wife, Susan, in honor of their passion for education and environmentalism

Mission
“To introduce children and adults to the wonders of nature through contact and experiences in nature.”

Importance
- Provides opportunities to:
  - Experience nature
  - Learn about local habitats & wildlife
- Combats growing problem of Nature Deficit Disorder (NDD) in children across the US
- Builds appreciation of natural world in area youth, leading to future caring and environmentally-aware citizens

School Programs
- Field trips to Beckman Mill Park
- Presentations at schools
- Reaches ~2000 students each year

Summer Youth Programs
- “Welty Wednesday” Morning Programs
- “Friday Fun” Day Programs
- Week-long Camps
- Summer library programs across southeast WI
- Reaches total of ~1600 children each summer

Other Opportunities & Events
- Adult and Teen Environmental courses
- Scouting Opportunities
- Children’s classes & programs
- Annual Programs & Festivals
- Reaches total of ~1600 people each year

Habitats & Wildlife
- Oak Savanna
- Prairie
- Wetlands, Meadows & Woodland
- Pond Life, Stream Life, Birds, & Insects

References

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Beloit College Students Can Get Involved!
- Sign up for a Welty course
- Apply for a Sustainability Fellowship
- Apply for a Duffy Partnerships Program
- Volunteer
- Become a member