

WHEELS TO WOODS

SCHOOL TO FOREST TRANSPORTATION GRANT

9,341 Students

experienced an educational field trip
because of Wheels to Woods



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Wheels to Woods is a partnership of the Michigan Tree Farm Committee, Michigan Forest Products Council, Michigan Project Learning Tree and the Forest Stewardship Program. Any PreK-12 school in Michigan is eligible to apply for funds.

90

School
groups

1,235

Parents

\$3.62




average
awarded per
student



440 Teachers

brought their classroom
to a forest or forest
products company

 **60%** of trips included Project Learning Tree curriculum
Project Learning Tree®
Empowering Educators, Inspiring Youth

\$30,700

reimbursed in FY 2019

Apply today:
www.wheelstowoods.org

More Information

PURPOSE

Wheels to Woods **provides funding** to PreK-12 schools in Michigan to pay for transportation costs for an **educational** field trip to a nearby forest or forest products company. Funds will be awarded if available and if the field trip provides education about forest ecosystems or forest management for PreK-12 students.

ELIGIBILITY

Any public or private PreK-12 school is eligible to apply for funds to go on a field trip to a forest owned by the school, to a private forest (Tree Farm, family, organization) or to a public forest (federal, state, local). Other youth groups such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H, FFA and church groups are also eligible to apply. Any forest larger than 5 acres, regardless of ownership or location, is eligible to host the field trip. Wheels to Woods also provides transportation funding to visit a local sawmill, paper mill or other forest products company.

AWARD

The Wheels to Woods Fund will reimburse actual transportation costs up to \$10 per student or \$350 per bus or \$1,000 per school per academic year. Typical transportation costs are about \$5 per student. Notification of the award will occur within 15 days of receiving the application. The payment will be made after the trip occurs and the school provides a final report and invoice to document costs. Multi-day trips are considered one trip.

FOREST CONNECTIONS

If a school does not own forest land, the Michigan Tree Farm Committee can connect a school with a nearby private landowner who enjoys hosting field trips to their family forest and is certified by the American Tree Farm System. If a friendly “Tree Farmer” is not located near the school, the Michigan Tree Farm Committee can connect the school with nearby public land that is suitable for a field trip. Michigan Tree Farm and Project Learning Tree can also connect the school with a natural resource professional (forester, biologist, etc.) to support the field trip.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Teachers are strongly encouraged, but not required, to use lesson plans from outdoor education curricula such as Project Learning Tree, Project WILD, Project WET or the Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support on their trip. Teachers are strongly encouraged to be trained in one or more of these outdoor education curricula **prior to hosting** the field trip to the forest.

- Project Learning Tree - www.MichiganPLT.org
- Project WILD - www.Michigan.gov/MichiganProjectWild
- Project WET - www.gvsu.edu/wri/education/michigan-project-wet-19.htm
- Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support – www.Michigan.gov/deq-meecs

Wheels to Woods is funded by the US Forest Service and other donors. All partners are equal opportunity providers and employers.

www.wheelstowoods.org