

# Project Get Outdoors

FALL 2019

[www.mnprojectgo.org](http://www.mnprojectgo.org)

## A Message from Our Founder

This year we have been working steady to fulfill the activity requirements for our Get Outdoors After School project funded by the MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (MN ENRTF).

Through this project we were able to make many new friends across the state and create new partnerships with amazing organizations working hard every day to connect low-income youth and children of color to the outdoors.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with hosting, organizing, promoting and supporting these training events. And thank you to the 174 adults who participated in the trainings and are finding innovative ways in their communities to engage kids with nature!

We heard a lot of great comments about how the training has inspired, motivated and equipped participants so they feel more confident and committed to getting kids outdoors. A few of our favorite comments include:

- *"This would have been great for our entire staff!"* -Duluth participant
- *"It was a great training! Continue to train more people in rural areas!"* - Bemidji participant

Thanks again to all involved on this journey!

*Sara Holger*

**Thank you for your support!**



## 2019 Highlights

- At the end of August, Project GO wrapped up the final activities of our Get Outdoors After School project funded by the MN ENRTF. Outcomes of this project included:
  - ⇒ 8 trainings completed in locations across MN
  - ⇒ 174 adult leaders trained
  - ⇒ 93,000 youth reached through these adult leaders
  - ⇒ Completed a photo shoot for our eLearning project.



- Project GO secured an intern thanks to a collaboration with the University of Minnesota Rochester public health program. As part of her internship, Cortney Kokkeler will be leading monthly Project GO nature programs at the MN Children's Museum Rochester. She will also be working to develop a family-friendly map of nature play locations around the City of Rochester.



## Partner Highlight: Jeffers Foundation

Jeffers Foundation works with schools to develop and share programs to help students learn sound principles of environmental stewardship. Jeffers seeks to produce programs and products that give teachers confidence to teach EE stewardship principles. Jeffers seeks meaningful partnerships with others of common interests, the synergy of like minds and diverse means. Over the past several years, Jeffers has provided in-kind support to Project GO in the form of printed environmental education materials to include in Project GO backpacks.



## Outdoor Activity Kits Available in Each Region!

As part of our ENRTF project, several partner sites across the state were gifted outdoor equipment kits. The kits are available to youth-serving organizations for free check-out. Kits include: Intro to Fishing, Intro to Camping, Bird Watching, Insect Collecting and Make a Nature Journal. Kits are available to check-out at the following locations:

1. In the Metro: Wilderness Inquiry (Minneapolis)\*
2. In the NE: Duluth YMCA
3. In the NW: Boys and Girls Club of Bemidji
4. In the SW: Boys and Girls Club of Mankato
5. In the SE: Project Get Outdoors (Wabasha)\*

\*Kits funded through previous project funds.



## Trainer Spotlight: Linda Flanagan

In 2019, Linda joined the Project GO team as a Trainer for NE Minnesota. Linda lives outside of Grand Rapids in Coleraine where she volunteers with the Greenway Boys and Girls Club. Linda has always loved the outdoors and was inspired to become a Project GO Trainer after attending a Project GO Leader workshop in Duluth in 2018. Linda is also a MN Master Gardener and has used her gardening skills to engage elementary school youth with nature. Photo: Linda (upper left) with her kids at Greenway Grows youth garden.



## Don't Forget Project GO on Give to the Max Day!



Please remember us on November 14, Give to the Max Day! Thank you for your support!

## Contact Project GO

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## For More Information

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