

MN99 Wolf Ridge

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center (WRELC) provides residential environmental education to over 18,000 students each year. Wolf Ridge started up in 1977 and moved to its current site in 1988. Wolf Ridge ELC has always been a home to research. Avian, climate, ambient air, and limnology research projects provide relevant local information, research methodology, and props for Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center's hands-on curriculum.

The first acid rain research at Wolf Ridge occurred at the school's first campus in Isabella, MN, in the mid 1970's. In 1981, Minnesota Power sponsored the first acid rain monitoring and helped in the construction of a class on acid rain. After a few years the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) took over the management of the site. In 1988, Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center moved to its present site near Finland, MN. The MPCA site also moved and was situated on a bluff overlooking Lake Superior. In the early 1990's, this site moved to a valley 1/4 mile away (farther from human activity).



Photo and site information provided by Carrie Anderson

Lake Superior and the hills of the North Shore cause a dramatic shift in climate and ambient air deposition as one moves away from them. The MPCA installed additional stations to study this in the 1990's. Because of the MPCA and NADP, MN99 enables WRELC to provide information on the health of our air and teach thousands of students each year.

Other major ambient air monitoring at this site included organo-chloride and heavy metals by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and mercury by EPA. In 1996, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency incorporated its sites into the NADP network. This includes Wolf Ridge (MN99) which began sampling on December 31, 1996. Jeff Cooley is the current site supervisor, and Peter Harris (pictured above) has been operating the site since July 2005. Peter Harris also manages the Acid Rain curriculum and the student acid rain platform. This student site provides the opportunity for students to see and tinker with various ambient air monitors with no worry of contaminating the sample from MN99.

*Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center website:
<http://www.wolf-ridge.org/>*



Photo by Advanced Technology Systems, Inc.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 2007 <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	<h1>March 2007</h1>				April 2007 <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
Interested in having your site featured in the 2008 CALendar? Contact Pam Bedient at (217) 244-0868 or pbedient@sws.uiuc.edu if you have questions or need more information.				1 060/305	2 061/304	3 062/303
4 063/302	5 064/301 <i>MA08 1982</i>	6 Week 10 <i>Reminder:</i> Change dry side bucket and clean foam lid seal. <i>OR18 1984</i>	7 066/299	8 067/298 <i>MD13 1983</i>	9 068/297	10 069/296
11 070/295 <i>TN00 1980</i>	12 071/294 <i>ME04 2002</i>	13 Week 11 <i>FL14 1984</i>	14 073/292	15 074/291	16 075/290	17 076/289 St. Patrick's Day
18 077/288	19 078/287 <i>SC99 2002</i>	20 Week 12 <i>CO15 1979</i>	21 080/285 First Day of Spring	22 081/284	23 082/283	24 083/282
25 084/281 <i>UT08 1986</i>	26 085/280	27 Week 13 <i>KS07 1984</i> <i>KS32 1984</i>	28 087/278	29 088/277 <i>OK17 1983</i>	30 089/276	31 090/275