



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Glencoe-Silver Lake Supermileage YES! Team Wins Award!

Henderson, MN—Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center and the Ney Nature Center are excited to announce that the Glencoe-Silver Lake Supermileage YES! Team was awarded the Project Impact Award for their 2015-16 project accomplishments. For their efforts, the team received \$250 in award funding to be used in future YES! team work. This year's award was sponsored by the Henderson Fire Department and United Fund of Le Sueur.

For the past three years, Glencoe-Silver Lake's team has entered vehicles in the MTEEA Supermileage Challenge, and this year is no different. In continuing with their progress in vehicle sustainability, the team focused on building an electric vehicle powered by solar energy this year. Their goal is to achieve 25 kWh per 6 miles, which is the equivalent to 2,000 miles per gallon. "We try to inspire the youth to bring in new ideas, and we work together to figure out solutions to problems. We do a lot of engineering and math for our projects to figure out the best way to get better gas mileage, or kWh mileage in the case of our electric car," said one student.

To help fund their project, the team presented their vehicles to several community organizations including the Glencoe Lions Club, Glencoe Chamber of Commerce, Silver Lake Lions Club, and the Central MN Manufacturing Association and received sponsorships. Additionally, the team dismantled the old tennis courts at their school, cut up the metal, and hauled the scrap for recycling. Students will receive their award at the MTEEA Supermileage Competition in Brainerd on May 10.

YES! is a unique experiential learning program where youth in grades 7 through 12 engage in hands-on learning and undertake meaningful projects that expose students to how science, technology, engineering, and math are applied in real life. These projects not only lead to dramatic demonstrations of renewable energy technology and conservation practices, but also build skills that will directly impact their future in education and the workforce like creativity, innovation, problem-solving, communication, teamwork, and project management. During the 2015-16 school year, 31 YES! teams participated around southern, central, and northeastern Minnesota. This is Glencoe-Silver Lake's 4th year participating in the YES! Program.

ABOUT YOUTH ENERGY SUMMIT

YES! empowers youth to partner with their community to create economic and environmental vitality through hands-on learning and team-based projects related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste reduction, recycling, composting, local foods, and more. The YES! Program is a collaboration between Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, Laurentian Environmental Center, Saint John's Outdoor University, and Ney Nature Center. Major funding for the 2015-2016 season is provided by the McKnight Foundation and the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, a constitutionally-established permanent fund for protecting and enhancing Minnesota's environment and natural resources, as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). For more information, visit

www.youthenergysummit.org

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