

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS APPLICATION**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_ **SEX** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE ENTERING IN FALL** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF SCHOOL ATTENDING** \_\_\_\_\_

**HAVE YOU EVER ATTENDED THE YOUTH CONGRESS BEFORE?** \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES YOU ARE IN AT SCHOOL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GOALS YOU HOPE TO PURSUE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**REASON (S) YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

**CATHY MOUSSETTE, MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR  
CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
P.O. BOX 575  
CORNELL, WI 54732**

**NOTE: ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 1, 2009**

## **SAMPLE RELEASE**

### **Youth Leadership Congress Highlights the Cooperative Difference**

Understanding the cooperative difference and identifying traits of leaders are just two of the topics to highlight the 46<sup>th</sup> WECA Youth Leadership Congress (YLC).

The WECA Division of Cooperative Network offers the opportunity to participate in the YLC to high school students throughout the state. The conference, co-sponsored by Wisconsin's electric cooperatives and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, is scheduled for July 15-17, 2009, on the UW-River Falls campus.

Through a mix of workshop sessions, hands-on activities, and team-building experiences, participants will be exposed to a variety of real-life issues and will be given the opportunity to identify and explore their leadership potential. Top-notch professional speakers, teen peers, and exceptional cooperative employees will provide participants with information and tools to deal with the weighty issues high school students face every day.

Dr. David Trechter, UW-River Falls will open the conference with an interactive session on "The Cooperative Difference." Also featured at this year's YLC will be nationally acclaimed speaker Craig Hillier. As a part of his dynamic presentation, Hillier will enlighten students about being leaders, stretching their creativity and discovering the value of cooperation.

Other sessions will focus on how and why co-ops operate and the benefits they provide members. Sessions on alternative energy, careers in electric cooperatives, and credit unions will also be held.

The YLC is a fun, educational and unique event that is planned by and for teens. Six students will be selected to serve on the WECA Youth Board. The Youth Board then plans and conducts next year's program. Youth Board members are eligible to attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour held in Washington, D.C. in June.

Students are sponsored by the electric cooperative serving their area. *(Insert information about your co-op's involvement here.)* More information and registration materials are available through your local cooperative.

For 46 years, Wisconsin electric cooperatives and UW-River Falls have co-sponsored this event to demonstrate to high school students the basics of cooperatives and how they can apply the ideals and philosophies of cooperation directly to their lives.

2009 Youth Leadership Congress  
July 15 - 17, 2009  
UW-River Falls

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

### **Wednesday, July 15**

- 12:15 p.m. Arrival and registration**  
Check into residence halls
- 1:30 p.m. Orientation Session, University Center (UC) Ballroom (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**  
Welcome by the Youth Board  
Welcome to Campus, Nan Jordahl, Office of the Provost  
Overview of Program  
Mixer—Cooperative Bingo  
Essay Contest  
Talent Show  
Campus Policies, TBD  
What is the Youth Board? Are you interested in serving?
- 2:45 p.m. District meetings, UC Ballroom**
- 4:00 p.m. The Cooperative Difference, UC Ballroom**  
Dr. David Trechter, UW-River Falls
- 5:15 p.m. Dinner, Riverside Commons Cafeteria (UC, lower level)**
- 6:45 p.m. Team Building, Wall Amphitheatre (rain site, Karges gym)**  
Led by Jim Tangen-Foster
- 8:30 p.m. Fun Session, Falcon's Nest (UC, first floor, mall level)**  
AJ the Animated Illusionist
- 9:30 p.m. Recreational Activities—Indoor volleyball and basketball**
- 11:15 p.m. Back in Residence Halls**
- 11:45 p.m. Lights out**
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### **Thursday, July 16**

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast, Riverside Commons Cafeteria**
- 8:15 a.m. District Meetings, Campus Classrooms**
- 9:05 a.m. Hotline Demonstration, Parking lot H, behind AGS**  
The Dunn Energy Cooperative Demo Team

## **Thursday, July 16 (continued)**

- 10:15 a.m. Learning Sessions -- Select one session for each time period**  
Session I 10:15–10:50 a.m.  
Session II 11:00–11:35 a.m.
- **University Center Tour, Cara Rubis & staff, University Center**
  - **Alternative Energy Sources, Campus Classroom**
  - **Careers in Electric Cooperatives, Campus Classroom**
  - **TBD, Campus Classroom**
- [concurrent with Learning Sessions, Youth Board candidate interviews, 6 campus classrooms]
- 11:45 a.m. Visit Campus Bookstore, Falcon Shop (UC, first floor, mall level)**
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch, Riverside Commons Cafeteria**
- 1:30 p.m. Breakthrough Leadership, UC Ballroom**  
Craig Hillier, CSP, Winning Edge Seminars, Lakeville, MN
- 4:45 p.m. District Meetings, AGS**
- 5:40 p.m. Free Time**
- 6:45 p.m. Banquet, UC Ballroom**  
Etiquette Dinner (Carmen Croonquist)/Talent Show
- 9:15 p.m. Dance, UC Falcon's Nest**  
DJ TBD
- 11:30 p.m. Unwind Time**
- 12:00 a.m. Lights out**
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## **Friday, July 17**

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast, Riverside Commons Cafeteria**
- 8:00 a.m. Youth Board Election and District Meeting Reports, UC Ballroom**
- 9:00 a.m. SOS—Issues of the Day, Falcon's Nest**
- 10:15 a.m. Fish Philosophy**  
Sally Field, The Sky's the Limit
- 11:15 a.m. Social Time for Saying Good-Byes**
- 11:40 a.m. Closing Session, UC Ballroom**  
Closing Speaker: TBD  
Youth Board Farewells  
Introduction of New Youth Board Members  
Closing Comments
- 12:25 p.m. Lunch and Departure, UC South Bridge**  
Check out of Residence Halls

# 2009 WECA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
*PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ESSAY - PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS FORM ONLY*

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORING COOPERATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

HIGH SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR IN SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As of September 1, 2009)

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form, along with essay to:

**WECA Essay Contest**  
**WECA**  
**131 W. Wilson St., Suite 400**  
**Madison, WI 53703**

**ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED**  
**NO LATER THAN August 25, 2009**

## **2009 WECA Youth Leadership Congress ESSAY CONTEST RULES**

All students participating in the 2009 Youth Leadership Congress are eligible and strongly encouraged to enter the WECA ESSAY CONTEST. Scholarships are awarded as follows to the authors of the top three essays:

**1<sup>st</sup> place- \$1,000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place- \$500**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place- \$250**

*Scholarships are paid to winning students upon presentation of proof of registration at any accredited college, university, or technical school in any state.*

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### **CONTEST RULES**

1. The subject of the essay is "The Cooperative Difference."
  2. Essays will be based on information presented at the WECA Youth Leadership Congress. Students are encouraged to use personal experiences to demonstrate their understanding of the value of cooperation in their lives.
  3. Knowledge of the subject, originality, grammar, spelling, and neatness will be factors used in judging essays.
  4. A panel of three judges will judge essays. Only essays received by the due date will be judged.
  5. Essays must be a minimum of 600 words and not more than 1,200 words (approximately 2 to 4 typewritten pages).
  6. Essays must be typed or computer generated, double spaced, and on white letter-sized paper. (Essays will need to be copied for distribution to the judges - please be sure the essay will copy clearly.)
  7. Students may win a WECA essay scholarship only once. If a student is awarded a scholarship the first year they enter, he or she may not enter the contest again.
  8. **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ESSAY.** Be sure to use an Essay Contest form.
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Essays must be mailed to:  
**WECA Essay Contest**  
**WECA**  
**131 West Wilson St., Suite 400**  
**Madison, WI 53703**

**ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED  
NO LATER THAN August 25, 2009**

# Youth Leadership Congress Registration and Release

Fill out one form per student. Photocopy if necessary.

PLEASE NOTE: Each registration must include the completed and signed Agreement for Assumption of Risk, Hold Harmless, Indemnity, Medical and Consent for Emergency Information (please sign in all 5 places).

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Gender F M Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Electric Cooperative: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone/Pager (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
2<sup>nd</sup> Parent (or other adult emergency contact)  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone/Pager (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

## AGREEMENT FOR ASSUMPTION OF RISK, HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNITY, AND CONSENT FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT

*"If your son, daughter or ward will be under 18 while participating in recreational activities related to the Youth Leadership Congress, it is our policy to request your agreement to the above terms, on behalf of your minor son, daughter or ward.*

I agree to register myself (if 18 or over)/my child (if under 18) (print name) \_\_\_\_\_, age \_\_\_\_\_ to participate voluntarily in Youth Leadership Congress, a summer educational program conducted by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (the University) and the Wisconsin Electrical Cooperative Association Division of the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives (WECA). My/my child's participation in the Youth Leadership Congress is wholly voluntary.

I understand that I am being asked to read each of the following paragraphs CAREFULLY and to sign each section (total of 5).

### Assumption of Risk:

I understand that physical activity related to the Youth Leadership Congress, by its very nature, carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. Some of these involve strenuous exertions of strength using various muscle groups, some involve quick movement involving speed and change of direction, and others involve sustained physical activity, which places stress on the cardiovascular system. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but in each activity the risks range from: 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains to 2) major injuries such as fractures, internal injuries, joint or back injuries, heart attacks, and concussions to 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death. I understand that the University has advised me to seek the advice of my physician before participating/allowing my child to participate in this program. I understand that I have been advised to have health and accident insurance in effect for myself/my child, and that no such coverage is provided for me/my child by the University, the State of Wisconsin or WECA. I know, understand, and appreciate the risks that are inherent in the above-listed programs and activities. I hereby assert that my/my child's participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

I agree that I am to instruct my child that he or she is expected to obey and remain in the presence, custody of program personnel, to abide by their instructions and the safety rules and regulations, as set and directed by Youth Leadership Congress program or WECA staff (e.g. for proper and safe use of tools such as scissors, hammers, nails and the like as instructed). Misbehavior that, in the opinion of the program staff or director, results in risk to me/my child or other participants or that causes or threatens disruption to the program will disqualify me/my child from further participation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian\*

### Hold Harmless, Indemnity and Release:

In consideration of permission for me/my child/ to voluntarily participate in the Youth Leadership Congress program, today and on all future dates, I, for myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, agree to defend, hold harmless, indemnify and release the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, WECA and their officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action of any sort on account of damage to personal property, or personal injury, or death which may result from my/my child's participation in the above-listed program. This release includes claims based on the negligence of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, WECA and their officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, but expressly does not include claims based on their intentional misconduct or gross negligence. I understand and agree that this waiver covers each and every Youth Leadership Congress program activity and event in which I/my child participate(s). I understand that by agreeing to this clause I am releasing claims and giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian\*

### Consent for Emergency Treatment:

I authorize the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, WECA and their designated representatives to consent, on my/my child's behalf, to any emergency medical/hospital care or treatment to be rendered upon the advice of any licensed physician. I agree to be responsible for all necessary charges incurred by any hospitalization or treatment rendered pursuant to this authorization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian\*

### Medical and Emergency Information:

In case of an emergency and in the event a parent or guardian cannot be reached, contact the following individuals:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_  
or

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Medical Conditions/Special Needs

For the safety of each registrant, it is important that the staff is aware of any special medical conditions or allergies. Youth Leadership Congress staff cannot administer or carry any medication. Insect repellent and sun block will not be available and cannot be shared because of the possibility of allergic reactions.

Please answer the following questions in full. (Add page if necessary)

My/my child's state of health:

If you/your child has special needs in the classroom (e.g. allergies, diabetes, heart or respiratory conditions, attention deficit disorders, learning disabilities, etc.), please explain how we can best accommodate this within the existing Youth Leadership Congress structure and program:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian\*

### Photograph Release:

I understand that UW-River Falls and WECA may take photographs of Youth Leadership Congress participants and activities. I agree that UW-River Falls and WECA shall be the owner of and may use such photographs relating to the promotion of future programs. I relinquish all rights that I may claim in relation to the use of said photographs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant/Parent or Guardian\*