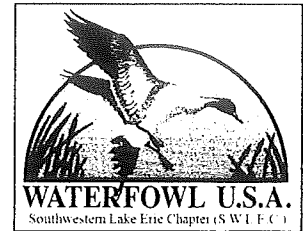


Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter  
P.O. Box 151  
Erie, MI 48133



January 12, 2024

Dear High School Senior,

Hello, my name is Adam Shook. I am the scholarship chairman for a local waterfowl and wetland conservation group called Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter. This letter is to inform you of a scholarship opportunity for the upcoming Fall 2024 semester.

Waterfowl USA was founded in 1983 by a group of biologists whose concern was to raise awareness and preserve and protect habitat for waterfowl, other wetland species, and the health of wetlands around the country. Now, local chapters all throughout the United States continue this mission by fundraising and completing projects to aid in the sustainability of these critical ecosystems.

The Southwest Lake Erie Chapter of Waterfowl USA is proud to offer the Jerry Bartnick and Earl Cousino Memorial Scholarship for one local student from northwest Ohio or southeast Michigan whose career goal is much like our goals as an organization. These men embodied wildlife and wetland conservation ethics and contributed immensely to preserving them in this region. As a former recipient of the award and now employee of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources—Wildlife Division, it is my honor to provide this opportunity to continue the legacy left by Mr. Bartnick and Mr. Cousino.

We are searching for a young man or woman whose intent is to study a natural resources related field when they embark on their college journey next fall. This field can include Natural Resources Biology, Ecology, Fisheries and Wildlife, Environmental Science, etc. The student will receive a **\$1500 scholarship** to aid in tuition or textbooks, a commemorative plaque, and three admission tickets (one for the recipient and 2 guests) to our annual banquet/dinner on February 24, 2024 where they will be recognized and given the award.

To apply, please submit a 2-page or less essay answering the following prompts:

- Brief background of yourself (high school, chosen college, major, interests/hobbies)
- Why you are choosing to study in a natural resources related field and your career goal
- A life experience that made you interested in wildlife and habitat conservation (hunting, fishing, viewing, family, etc.)

**Please submit your essay by mail to the address listed above or by email to [shook1ad@outlook.com](mailto:shook1ad@outlook.com) no later than February 11, 2024. Please remember to include contact information (phone number and email) so we can contact you if you are the chosen recipient.**

Sincerely,

Adam Shook  
Scholarship Chairman  
Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter

*That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics.—Aldo Leopold*

Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter  
P.O. Box 151  
Erie, MI 48133



January 12, 2024

Dear Academic Counselor/High School Teacher,

Hello, my name is Adam Shook. I am the scholarship chairman for a local waterfowl and wetland conservation group called Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter. This letter is to inform you of a scholarship opportunity for your students for the upcoming Fall 2024 semester.

Attached is a letter inviting students interested in studying a natural resources related field (natural resources biology, ecology, fisheries and wildlife, environmental science, etc.) to apply for our Jerry Bartnick and Earl Cousino Memorial Scholarship.

Please distribute the letter to any student you know that is interested in this field and encourage them to apply for this opportunity no later than **February 11, 2024**. We are counting on you to help us find the next great natural resources conservationist!

Regards,

Adam Shook  
Waterfowl USA—Southwest Lake Erie Chapter  
Scholarship Chairman

*That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics.—Aldo Leopold*