

A Thank You Letter from one of our AWLS,  
American Wilderness Leadership School,  
participants, Annie Schuler

October 13, 2008

Dear Mid-Michigan SCI Members,

I am writing to thank you for the meaningful training you provided me with this summer at AWLS. I am so thankful to have experienced the staff, and the many lessons the school provided.

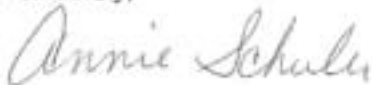
The AWLS experience has impacted my life in many positive ways. Never again will I merely appreciate nature in the shallow manner I did before coming to your school. I now have a deeper respect and truer understanding of nature, a mission to help preserve and conserve what we have on this great earth, and a purpose to pass these beliefs onto my students.

As I returned home from Wyoming, I had a newfound outlook on my purpose of being a teacher. Yes, I know I need to continue pushing my 2<sup>nd</sup> graders in mathematics, reading and writing, and prep them for the high stakes state mandated test, but now I also understand that I need to teach them the basics of nature as well.

AWLS's instructors were truly some of the best instructors I've encountered throughout my school career. They were easy to connect with and it was obvious they cared about helping myself and others learn the material. The staff and instructors helped to make my experience in Jackson truly unforgettable.

I cannot thank you and your chapter enough for providing me with this meaningful and unforgettable experience.

Sincerely,



Annie Schuler