



Wisconsin National Guard  
**DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM**

(608) 242-3543  
[www.drugcontrolprogram.org](http://www.drugcontrolprogram.org)

## **LEADERSHIP EDUCATION ADVENTURE PROGRAM**

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The Wisconsin National Guard has worked with youth through our low ropes courses since 1995. Over those years our low ropes experience has challenged youths physically and mentally. Through teamwork, communication, leadership and support, our program encourages youth to make positive decisions that result in positive consequences. Our program has undergone several changes in the past years. Those changes have allowed our program to target a more defined segment of Wisconsin youth. Through research we determined that youth encounter several crucial transition points in life where they are more vulnerable to drugs and alcohol. Therefore, our program puts an emphasis on working with youth in grades 5th, 7th and 9th. Our program, Leadership Education Adventure Program (LEAP), is focused on working with school districts throughout the state. Through facilitation with a district's 5th, 7th and 9th grades we believe our program can reach youth at those crucial transition points. Each grade, or phase, is structured different and provides different themes and learning points. Also, each phase builds upon the previous experience.

**PHASE 1 (5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)** is our "Ropes in a Bag" concept. Those activities involve large group events that focus on safety, fairness, choices, peer pressure and team building skills. This phase is offered beginning the third week in October through the first week in April and is done at your school.

**PHASE 2 (7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)** is our Outdoor low ropes course that features 15 events in a wooded setting at Volk Field in central Wisconsin. The events require moderate climbing, swinging and lifting and provide a fun and educational atmosphere that cannot be duplicated in a classroom. The main focus for this phase is role models, leadership, honesty, integrity, choices and consequences. Phase 2 is offered at Volk Field beginning the third week in April through the second week of October.

**PHASE 3 (9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)** is our newly constructed Leadership Development Course (LDC) located at Volk Field. The LDC is a state-of-the-art facility and one of the leading challenge courses in Wisconsin. It is modeled after an Army Leadership Reaction Course that a soldier would encounter during training. The LDC is extremely challenging both physically and mentally. It offers a realistic consequence when making a negative decision – getting wet! Of the 12 events on the course, five are situated above a three-foot deep pool. Like Phase 2, Phase 3 is offered at Volk Field beginning the third week in April through the second week of October.

LEAP does require that we work with a school district's 5th, 7th and 9th grades within the same school year. In addition to working with an entire school district, we also facilitate to community-based organizations or other groups with an anti-drug and alcohol message. Our LDC also is also open for military groups or first responder groups. Lastly, as it has always been, LEAP is provided at NO COST to the requesting school or community based organization.

