

*The Teaching Drum Outdoor school in Three Lakes is attempting to re-awaken and heal because many people are wounded by industrial civilization.*

The Teaching Drum Outdoor School in Three Lakes attempts to re-awaken and heal the wounded from industrial society. The school emphasizes ancient native life ways, foraging plants and medicines, fire making, carving bowls and spoons, as well as, preserving hides, and building lodges. The school offers a year-long Wilderness Guide immersion process, where the student learns the old ways and accepts the gifts of the Earth. Nick Vander Puy from the Superior Broadcast Network reports.

Carving sounds

Tamarack Song and his companion Letti **share** some berries from a hand carved cedar bowl. While we eat Letti uses a crooked knife, **carving** another bowl.

*“Often times when we’re together for a meeting or a talking circle she’s working on her bowl. Or we’re just talking between ourselves she’s carving her bowl. It’s great.”*

Tamarack remembers one of his teachers.

*“One of my teachers, a native man, I was with out west thirty years ago, I was complaining about the crafts that he was showing me how to do, that there wasn’t enough time to do them. And he said what are you doing right now? I said I’m talking to you. And he said, why aren’t you working on your craft while you’re talking, this is what we do, this is how we get things done.”*

After dropping out of college three times, more than thirty years ago, Tamarack has apprenticed all over North America learning the **old ways**.

The school he guides Teaching Drum, near Three Lakes, Wisconsin is located on a small lake and preserve near the **expansive** federal Headwaters Wilderness.

*“Our mission is reawakening and healing, acting as a bridge to our indigenous ways. By indigenous ways I don’t mean native American ways  
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*or Australian, because we’re all native people, we’re all children of the same earth mother. Our ancestors all lived tribally, our ancestors all lived in lodges, dressed in skins, came together around the drum, we all lived in balance one time, and our goal here is to be a bridge between our indigenous ways which we all have, that we all carry in our ancestral memory, and this modern way we find ourselves in.”*

There are students *or seekers* at Teaching Drum, **attempting** to heal from the addictions and horrors of western industrial civilization. According to Tamarack the Teaching Drum tries to bring the wisdom and awarenesses that have worked for thousands of years to our **era**, which seems not to be working very well.

*“We have to heal. Because we’re carrying much woundedness. Not just the woundedness we have because of our relationship with this culture and our non-relationship with the earth. But the woundedness we’re carrying for generation upon generation and this is all heaped upon our backs.”*

We share some more blueberries and raspberries. We talk about attunement.

*“Yeah, the berries are a good example, a beautiful metaphor for the attunement you brought up earlier.”*

*“When we’re typically hungry. Let’s use hunger as a metaphor. If I’m hungry and I eat in the way I was conditioned to eat in this culture the way to find food is first of all to get a job, earn some money, get a refrigerator, buy the food, and then put it in the refrigerator to eat my food.”*

Or if I’m a farmer I will first get some land, fence off the land, pay the taxes, plant and fertilize and irrigate the crops, and then I can eat.

*“Now what does a native do? And I don’t mean just a native person, but a native bird or a raccoon, when a native is hungry a native goes over to the*

*berry bush and picks berries, so simple. So direct. And this is the native premise, the native commandment you might say, that all native people*

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*ascribe to and believe, they don't even believe, it just is, and that is that the mother provides, the mother provides. We don't have to work. Just like our natural mother we don't have to do anything special. But we are loved by regardless of what we do or don't do. This is unconditional love and this is the unconditional love we need to return to on this planet."*

I'm Nick Vander Puy for the Superior Broadcast Network