

2017 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Matching Grants Recipients

Outagamie County Farm Bureau and Dairy Promotion- Adventures in Dairyland - \$500

Adventures in Dairyland is an education program funded by the Outagamie County Dairy Promotion Committee and Outagamie County Farm Bureau. In 2017 this volunteer led program will reach 1,725 fourth graders in 27 schools across the county. Topics covered include history of cows and dairy, dairy products and nutrition, occupations in agriculture, knowledge of an operating dairy farm, and the impact dairy has on Wisconsin and Outagamie County. Students end the program with a vast knowledge of the industry, as measured by a pre- and post- test, and can have some fun by a visit to a local farm and the chance to make dairy recipes.

Sun Prairie High School Agricultural Education – Morel Spawning- \$500

The Sun Prairie High School Agriculture Department is developing a new life system: Fungi! Students will participate in hands-on activities for growing Morel mushrooms. The activities will include: preparing a proper habitat, maintaining it, composing a spore slurry in which the mushrooms will live off sugars, salts and water, and spreading it amongst the habitat and keeping a close watch throughout the year to observe how the fungi are doing as well as collecting data and implement changes to better the growth and eventual yield.

D.C. Everest 4K and St. John Lutheran School- Young Farmers - \$500

The D.C. Everest 4K class at St. John Lutheran School will use the grant to enable the students to visit Majestic Farms, learn about plant growth and how to care for plants. They will be able to purchase plants to grow in their newly developed butterfly garden near the entrance of the school.

Roche a Cri School- Inquiry STEM Garden - \$500

Roche a Cri School's Inquiry STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) Garden is a place where students will go to conduct inquiry projects. Their greenhouse will allow students to conduct research, solve problems and help our rural school make sure students have nutritious snacks. Students should feel empowered to share their voice and curiosity to find purpose and direction in their learning. Inquiry-based learning gives students the opportunity to apply meaning, innovation, and creativity to triumph over obstacles and unleash excitement and inspiration. The Inquiry Garden provides the environment and tools to research, apply, evaluate, plan and carry out self-prompted designs and ideas.

School District of Manawa- MES Garden Project - \$500

This spring, with funds from Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom, Manawa FFA Alumni, and the UW-Extension, the School District of Manawa is adding two new active learning environments to its elementary school for the study and experience of plants and agriculture. With cooperation from parents, Little Wolf High School Ag students, community volunteers, students and staff will install a raised bed garden on the school grounds. Funds from these organizations will equip the garden, as well as the science lab, to create learning environments that will prepare and motivate students towards life-long participation in agriculture.

Merrimac Community Charter School- Barnyard and Indoor Gardens - \$400

In partnership with the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom, Merrimac Community Charter School plans to expand their barnyard and continue gardening. Additional fencing and indoor garden supplies will allow students to further expand the hands-on projects. Literacy, math and science connect to the hands-on projects and improve student learning.

Mequon Nature Preserve, Inc. – Nunu Taani (Three Sisters) Urban Ag Vegetable Garden - \$500

Thirty Milwaukee Public Schools First Nations middle school students will participate in an extended study program between March and October 2017. Students will meet once per month in spring and fall, and weekly during summer break. Students will plan and plant a one-acre garden that will feature traditional as well as Three Sisters (Nunu Taani) fruits and vegetables. In addition to planning, planting and tending the garden, students will learn about nutrition, composting, pollinators, soil types, erosion control, water harvesting systems, container planting and health. The harvest will be distributed among the students, their Milwaukee community, and their tribe's Elders.

River Ridge FFA- One STEM at a Time - \$500

River Ridge Agriculture Department will be able to develop three key parts to the One STEM at a Time garden project. A pizza shaped garden will excite students about gardening and agriculture by showing them what is in a pizza. The compost bins will provide the garden with valuable fertilizer and earthworm habitat. The garden library will be used by students in elementary to learn more about agriculture and how their food is produced.

Luck School- Ann Goldbach Garden (Harvest Garden) - \$500

We are proud to continue the newly renamed Ann Goldbach Garden in honor of the recently retired Luck Harvest Garden founder. Students here will continue hands-on learning about plants, nutrition and agriculture. They will plant and nurture every seed and enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of their labor. Community volunteers will continue to work the garden in the summer, and the harvest will continue to benefit our local food pantry and school. This continues to be a successful project for the students and community here and will continue to allow our students to give back to their own community.

Ashland FFA at Ashland High School- K-3 Fall Fest – A Celebration of the Harvest - \$500

The Ashland FFA will advocate for agriculture, food and natural resources by engaging all K-3 students in the District in activities that demonstrate conventional agricultural production and traditional American Indian hunting and gathering. Students will be able to identify the connection between how people treat the land and water and the impact we have on the natural resources that are important to sustain people.

Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA- Land Laboratory Food Bank Project - \$250

The Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA is expanding their Food Bank Project by enlisting the involvement of summer school classes from the Cambria-Friesland and Randolph School Districts. Students in those classes will assist in planting, growing, and harvesting produce to donate to food banks in four

communities and the FCCLA will help with canning the produce so that donations to the food banks continue into the fall.

Houlton Elementary School- Growing Healthy at Houlton - \$500

With this grant, we would use the garden materials to plant, grow and harvest produce that could be given to the Houlton cafeteria to share with the entire school. Through the process, students would have hands-on experiences with gardening, and for some, this could potentially be their first experience with plants and produce. Having the opportunity to try what they've grown will only increase engagement and commitment to gardening. Through this grant, we hope that this school-wide project will broaden the student's experience, excitement and understanding of gardening, and hopefully encourage families to start their own gardens at home.

Stevens Point FFA- Science Extravaganza - \$500

Agricultural life holds multiple surprises for local elementary students. The Stevens Point FFA Chapter holds its annual Science Extravaganza program to promote the diversity of the agriculture industry and increase agricultural literacy. Over 600 community members and students will take the opportunity to attend the event held at Benjamin Franklin Junior High and learn about both traditional and non-traditional aspects of the field through 65 stations presented by the Stevens Point FFA and UW-Stevens Point students.

Mishicot Agriscience Program- Agriculture Education Summer Program - \$500

Over the past six years, the Mishicot agriculture program has experienced rapid growth. Between the addition of new agriculture classes and increased FFA membership, we have become a leader in rigorous agriculture education. However, one group of students we desire to reach is our elementary students. This summer, they will begin the process to involve them by offering an agriculture summer school program in hopes to educate the students on local and national agriculture.

Medford FFA Alumni- Bringing the Barn to School -\$500

The Medford FFA alumni and Agriculture Department are fundraising to build a 36' x 42' educational agricultural facility on Medford Area High School property. The facility could house: 1 beef animal, 1 swine, rabbits, chickens (no roosters), and have an extra pen for short term animal visitors. It would also have a bathroom, classroom and a tractor restoration area. With the addition of the barn, three NorthCentral Technical College courses could be transcribed in the department. This educational barn would benefit the agriculture curriculum and build strong partnerships with community members and businesses.

Verona FFA- Day on the Farm -\$334

The Verona FFA Chapter will be operating an educational field trip for fourth graders within the Verona School District. The purpose of this field trip is to provide a hands-on learning experience tied to the fourth-grade curriculum. Students will be able to tour a local dairy farm and participate in small group activities, designed to introduce them to agriculture in Wisconsin. They will be introduced to common animals and will learn the workings of a real farm. The event will be planned and led by high school students. The field trip experience will be held on May 17, 2017.

Janesville Parker FFA- Food for America -\$230

The Janesville Parker FFA and the Janesville Craig FFA partner to teach local 4th grade students about production agriculture. Each year, the two FFA chapters invite the 4th grade students to their Food for American program held at the Daluge and Arndt Farms in Janesville. FFA members teach the youth how their food arrives at their table. The students visit each farm and learn about various areas of Wisconsin agriculture including livestock, crops, honeybees, and farm safety. For many, this is the first time they have visited a farm. This program is important in the education of today's youth.

Huey's Hideaway Children's Museum- Ag Exhibit- \$500

Huey's Hideaway is a children's museum in Medford, WI. Huey's Hideaway is currently working on an agriculture exhibit to promote awareness and education about current agricultural trends and culture. They have placed a heavy emphasis on dedicating a large footprint to this exhibit. The exhibit will include many interactive elements about dairy farming, crop farming, and more.

Brillion FFA Chapter- Brillion Agriculture Outdoor Learning Lab- \$500

Brillion Agricultural Department is tackling sustainable farm to school production by developing an outdoor learning lab with raised garden beds, composting bin, and gravity fed watering system. This student led and developed initiative will provide the school district with locally and student developed grown produce. Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture and Mathematics will come to life as students learn together with hands-on learning experiences in the Brillion Agriculture Department Outdoor Learning Lab.

Laconia FFA- Laconia FFA Day on the Farm- \$250

Every April the Laconia FFA chapter holds a Day on the Farm event. Nearly 400 elementary students in second, third, and fourth grades from the Rosendale-Brandon school district and the Fond du Lac and Oshkosh school districts are invited to visit a local farm. Beginning in February, FFA members send invite letters, collect donations, and make signs in preparation of the event. FFA members set up eight different educational stations for the kids to learn about. This year's stations include: dairy cattle, sheep and goats, farm equipment, wildlife, maple syrup, feeds, horses, dairy products, and a hayride. The stations last 8 minutes and students rotate with the help of FFA member group leaders. Elementary children are given a take home item at each station and have a goodie bag to take home at the end of the day. To run the day effectively, we have nearly 40 high school students assist.

Sheboygan County Women's Committee- Classroom on the Farm- \$500

On May 4th and 5th, 2017, 998 third and fourth grade students and 58 teachers from seventeen Sheboygan County schools will leave their traditional classrooms to experience a "Classroom on the Farm". Students will enjoy a field trip to the Jim and Jack Hanke Farm, located near Plymouth, WI. "Classroom on the Farm" supports teacher's efforts to enhance their student's knowledge of the Badger

State's agricultural industry. The Sheboygan County Farm Bureau Women's Committee hosts the annual Classroom on the Farm.

Walworth County Fair Barnyard Adventure- Barnyard Adventure Learning Coop- \$500

The 168th Walworth County Fair, Elkhorn, WI slated for August 30-September 4, 2017 is proud to present its award-winning agriculture education program, Barnyard Adventure, featuring the Learning Coop tent. Located in Kiddieland, fair guests of all ages are welcome to take part in a wide variety of six-day scheduled topics including beekeeping, garden-to-table cooking, hydroponics, herb box planting and poultry. The Learning Coop is made possible through the support of volunteers, ag industry experts, and the generosity of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

New Richmond Agriscience Department- School District of New Richmond Veggie Garden- \$500

This project will allow fresh student grown produce to enter school lunch through a community collaboration. Beginning with a local business donating two and a half acres, the New Richmond High School Agriscience Program will educate and facilitate the garden programming. Students of all ages will be involved in planning, planting and harvesting the veggies in the garden. Community members will actively assist and celebrate the fresh local products that students in the schools will be eating, while can purchase surplus at one of three Farmer's Markets in the area.

Watertown Unified School District- Riverside Middle School Garden (RMSG)- Outdoor Classroom & Pergola- \$500

Since 2014 the Riverside Middle School Garden (RMSG) has been a true gem of their school and community winning gardening awards, hosting many visitors, and providing fresh produce for the lunch program. Whether needing to sit a spell to cool off from the hard work of planting and tending the garden or to encourage visitors and students a chance to leisurely sit in the shade while enjoying the diverse bounty of the garden, a 10' x 20' pergola is the perfect aesthetic and functional point of their school garden.

Taylor County Farm Bureau- AG venture tent- \$500

Taylor County Youth Fair, Taylor County Farm Bureau, Medford FFA and Gilman FFA will provide an Ag venture tent this year at the fair. Youth will have a chance to work with 4-Hers on showing techniques in a mini showing in the Ag venture tent. They will have the chance to lead a calf, work with a lamb and show a goat. From the feedback we received last year, we will update some of our displays. We will have videos on the different ways of raising animals, see how much milk you can get in 30 seconds from our cut-out cow, try a trivia quiz, and play in corn and soybean boxes.

Northland Lutheran High School- Bees'n for a Reason- \$500

Northland Lutheran High School in Kronenwetter is excited to begin planting on its school grounds the first community garden for the Village of Kronenwetter. Primary funding for this project was granted by the North Central Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. This grant will be used to purchase honey bees for pollination of the garden and offered an opportunity to study the function of bees in agriculture.