

2018 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Matching Grants Recipients

Build a Food Forest- Deep Mulch Gardening - \$500

“Building a Food Forest” is an educational and active learning program for Pre-K through 12th graders and adults in Independence, WI. This program will create meaningful experiences to help improve the well-being of individuals by teaching them how to grow their own vegetables and fruits. The deep mulch garden activity is a simple way to get students and adults to understand the basics of gardening. Students will be able to define deep mulch gardening and build their own small size models. Students will be able to compare, and contrast vegetables grown in gardens vs store bought.

Cadott Community School District- Classroom to Plate, A Cadott Greenhouse Project- \$500

The Cadott agriculture department is looking to build a greenhouse to increase student learning and agriculture awareness. This greenhouse will provide vegetables for the school lunch program as well as SAE opportunities for students involved in agricultural education. This project will provide a hands-on learning opportunity for all students who seek it.

Cows on the Concourse- 2018 Cows on the Concourse - \$500

Cows on the Concourse will be held on Saturday, June 2, 2018 in Madison. An annual event to kick-off June Dairy Month in Dane County, Cows on the Concourse is a “dairy good” time for the whole family. Located just off downtown Madison’s Capitol Square, this free event is fun for the whole family. Only Cows on the Concourse gives kids and adults the unique opportunity to get close to cows and baby calves, enjoy hot grilled cheese sandwiches, chug ice-cold milk, and learn from Wisconsin farmers.

Easter Seals Wisconsin- ESW FARM Agricultural Career Exploration Program - \$500

Easter Seals Wisconsin’s Agricultural Career Exploration Program will allow students to think outside the box! There is a career stereotype that goes along with agriculture: “farmer”. While farmers are an essential part of agriculture, so are hundreds of other careers that play a role in the farming industry. Our mission is to educate students with disabilities about the vast agricultural career opportunities in Wisconsin. These classes will encourage students to see how their own interests could potentially fit into the agriculture industry. An education in agriculture fuels Wisconsin’s biggest employer and largest industry.

Glenwood City Agriculture Department- Healthy Learning Center - \$450

The Glenwood City agriculture department has developed a moving learning center related to growing plants, providing food, and making healthy choices. The system will be shared between the high school and elementary school students. The center teaches high school students the skills related to education and mentoring while giving the elementary children a fun chance to learn how to grow the food they eat.

Grant County Ag in the Classroom Program- A Dairy Good Tote - \$500

Grant County Farm Bureau’s Promotion and Education Committee will use the grant to promote dairy awareness and resources to local classrooms and libraries. The committee has tubs available for teachers to check-out to take to their schools. Each tub includes lesson plans, some examples of

equipment used to milk dairy cows, a book about dairy, whipped cream makers, containers for making butter, and ingredients/gift certificates need to make and enjoy whipped cream and butter.

Immanuel Lutheran School- Garden in a Box - \$65

Ready, Set, Grow is a project at Immanuel Lutheran School in Manitowoc to help 2nd grade students learn all about agriculture. The Ag in the Classroom program is helping these students grow in their understanding of an important part of Wisconsin's economy. Throughout their project, students are developing an awareness of where their food comes from. They are also learning how to manage a garden as they grow their own vegetables and flowers from seeds.

Jefferson High School Agriculture Department- Honey Bee Production - \$500

The Jefferson High School Agriculture Department will purchase honey beekeeping equipment and supplies to bring more agricultural awareness into the local schools as part of the Ag in the Classroom program. The grant will be matched by a \$500 grant from the Jefferson FFA with the goal of producing raw honey and honey comb to share with local elementary school students.

Kiel FFA Alumni- Agricultural Career Awareness Day - \$500

Hosting Agriculture Career Awareness Day is such an honor for the Kiel FFA Alumni. Watching middle school age kids light up when they find something they enjoy doing and didn't ever realize it's connection to agriculture. Hosting this event allows students to become hands-on with a very small percentage of agriculture careers. When students enter the landscape presentation, they begin by gaining some basic knowledge of the career, take quizzes in identifying some different plants and landscape articles, and then end designing their own landscape area working together as a group. This is one of the twelve examples of the opportunities students are given for one school day. Hearing the kids walk away excited about what they learned is amazing and exciting as we watch the FFA program grow at Kiel Middle and High Schools.

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 2nd-4th grades from the Rosendale-Brandon, 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 for the event. FFA members set up eight different educational stations for the kids to learn at. 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 eight 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 at the end of the day. To run the day effectively, we have nearly forty high school students assist.

Northland Lutheran High School- Young Sprouts- \$250

Area elementary students from the Wausau area will spend the day teaming with Northland Lutheran High School students to start seedlings for the Giving Garden, a community garden for the Village of Kronenwetter. This summer will be the second year of harvest for the Giving Garden which offers free produce to residents of the Village and surrounding areas.

Partnership for Progressive Agriculture- On the Moove - \$500

The Marathon County Partnership for Progressive Agriculture is developing On the Moo-ve, a mobile dairy educational exhibit. On the Moo-ve is being developed in response to the rising demand by consumers to know how dairy farms care for their cattle and why dairy foods are a critical component of a healthy, balanced diet. On the Moo-ve will feature a life-size fiberglass cow that can be “milked” and two interactive educational displays: “Eat, Drink and be Dairy – Nutritious Foods made from Milk” and “A Day in the Life of a Cow- Caring for a dairy cow”.

Pineview Elementary School- How Sweet It Is! - \$500

“How Sweet It Is” will help students gain a better understanding and appreciation of how maple syrup arrives on their table. They will participate in the steps from tapping maple trees, calculating sugar content using refractometers while collecting sap, observing the evaporation process, and recording sugar levels of the final product of maple syrup. Spending two separate ½ to whole days at the Maple Sugar Shack will allow them hands-on activities and the opportunity to learn about and taste this important agricultural product.

Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA- Food Bank Project Expansion - \$300

With the assistance of a grant, the Randolph Cambria-Friesland is expanding its program to support area food banks. They have set a goal of 4,000 pounds of produce to grow and donate to four area food banks. The chapter partners with the FCCLA and Jung See Company to grow, process and distribute the food.

DCE 4K at St. John Lutheran Site- Forest Food -\$250

The DC Everest 4K students from the St. John Lutheran site in Wausau will use the grant to teach students about growing edible food in a butterfly garden. Funds have provided the opportunity for students to become farmers by starting plants from seeds in a classroom greenhouse for sunflowers, mint, chamomile and lavender. Students then transplanted their plants into a butterfly garden.

St. Mary School Garden- Garden Project 2018- \$500

St Mary School Garden will buy seeds, soil, a new garden tiller for the 2018 season. Students in grades 3K – 8th are provided with hands-on experience to help them understand how food is grown and the importance of human interaction with the environment. The garden helps students master STEM concepts, promotes healthy eating, and exposes students to agricultural job opportunities. It provides nutritious produce for the school lunch program and exposes students to a wider variety of local foods. The St. Mary School Garden provides students with real world applications to agriculture and conservation education.

Taylor County Cooperative Youth Fair- AG Venture Tent- \$500

Taylor County Youth Fair will provide an AG Venture tent at this year’s fair. Youth will be able to work with 4-Hers on showing techniques in a mini showing in the AG Venture tent. They will be able to lead a calf, work with a lamb and show a goat. From feedback we received last year, we will update some of our displays. We will have videos on different ways of raising animals, try a trivia quiz and play in corn and soybean boxes.

Taylor County Literacy Council- Barns & Books- \$500

Through collaboration between Taylor County organizations and school districts, fourth grade students from across the county will be engaged in an afternoon of hands-on, personalized, small group learning during a “Barns and Books” event. Students will rotate between mini-sessions and booths focusing on specific Wisconsin products and STEAM topics, as related to Wisconsin and local agriculture. Literacy materials will provide accurate information such as a backdrop to the broad range of science, technology and art topics presented. The entire community is invited to attend the free session.

Tri-County Elementary School- Reading through Waushara County Agriculture- \$500

Partnering with the Ag in the Classroom matching grant and local businesses, the Tri-County Area School District will enhance the education of nearly 300 elementary students in many curricula areas by increasing exposure to agricultural related topics through non-fictional books. Students and staff will have access to several copies of books, for educators to promote literacy, build background knowledge, and improve students’ vocabulary through agricultural related literature circles. This grant will allow the Tri-County Area School District an opportunity to address the rigor of the Common Core State Standards, while promoting a major industry of the Central Sands area: agriculture.

Turtle Lake FFA- Ag on the Lawn- \$400

Agricultural literacy is a focus on the Turtle Lake FFA Ag on the Lawn program. FFA members man displays of all facets of agriculture career pathways from animal science, plant science, agribusiness, natural resources, environmental science, and food science. Elementary students can see first-hand different perspectives to the agriculture industry, with their teachers provided with follow-up classroom activities from Farm Bureau’s Ag in the Classroom plus treated to some of Wisconsin’s finest agricultural snacks.

Union Grove FFA- Introduction to Agri-science- \$500

Students at Union Grove High School’s Agriculture Education Department complete a Food Science Project where they investigate the Food Nutrient Analysis, Modeling Molecules of Life, and Animal Health and Food Safety, and were given the opportunity to make different varieties of cheese and butter. Students developed a marketing campaign for their “new” cheese/butter products and presented them to the students and staff at Union Grove High School.

Verona FFA- Day on the Farm- \$334

The Verona FFA Chapter will be operating an educational field trip to 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 learn the workings of a real farm. This event is planned and led by high school students for May 2018.