



2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

High School Pollinator Habitat Grant Program

“

It’s fun to do hands-on work. We learn everything about plants. We want to learn how to identify them and what their purpose is and why they’re here.

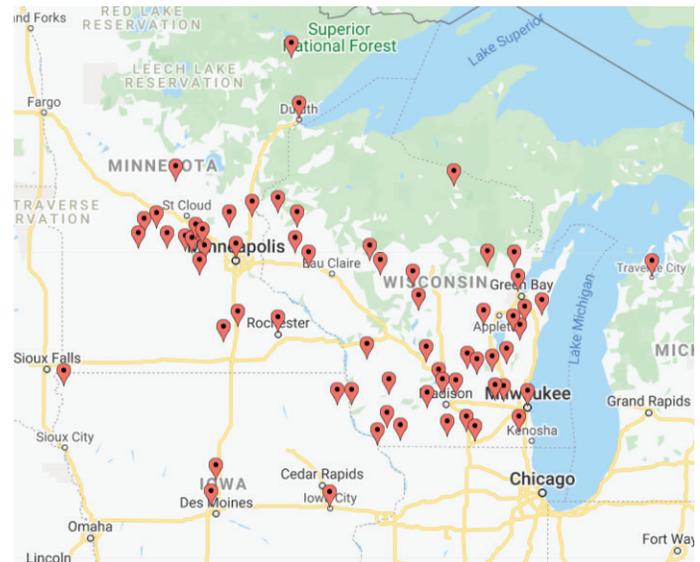
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TJ Mickelson
Student
Lodi High School, Wisconsin



Overview

Since 2017, Sand County Foundation has annually awarded competitive Pollinator Habitat Grants to over 60 high schools across Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. This program strives to increase the diversity of native wildflowers in agricultural settings by engaging students in experiential learning projects propagating, planting, and maintaining prairie plants.



2020-2021 School Year Highlights

The 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years were a test of patience and resilience for everyone as the COVID-19 pandemic swept the nation. Despite these challenges, ten schools that postponed projects from the 2019-20 school year, completed their projects in 2021. Sand County Foundation also awarded grants to five additional schools, for a total of 15 total schools providing hands-on learning projects in an increasingly virtual time!





Projects Completed in the 2020-2021 School Year:

Ames High School, Ames, Iowa
 Iowa City High School, Iowa City, Iowa
 Riverdale High School, Muscota, Iowa
 Mesabi East Schools, Aurora, Minnesota
 Owatonna High School, Owatonna, Minnesota
 Willmar High School, Willmar, Minnesota
 Bay Port High School, Green Bay, Wisconsin
 Kiel High School, Kiel, Wisconsin
 Lodi High School, Lodi, Wisconsin
 New London-Spicer High School, New London, Wisconsin
 Thorp High School, Thorp, Wisconsin
 Turtle Lake High School, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin
 Waunakee High School, Waunakee, Wisconsin
 Westby Area High School, Westby, Wisconsin
 Winneconne High School, Winneconne, Wisconsin

2021-2022 School Year Progress

For the 2021-22 school year, we are updating the grant program to give schools the option of propagating native plants from seed and broadcasting seeds outdoors, in addition to receiving, growing, and transplanting live seedlings. We are also adding a process to evaluate student learning outcomes, and initiating pilot projects in Michigan and Texas.

“ Being a project-based school, this grant has provided students with hands-on real-world opportunities to interact with the natural environment that surrounds us. We had some challenges to overcome with some of the plant viability, the pandemic, and weather. However, students have shown a high level of resiliency and continue to stick with this project year after year. ”

Jess Paulson
 Jane Goodall
 Environmental Sciences Academy
 Maple Lake, Minnesota

Thank you to our 2020-2021 school year project sponsors

To learn more please contact:

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For more information visit:

Sand County Foundation
www.sandcountyfoundation.org/schoolgrants

Earth Partnership
<https://earthpartnership.wisc.edu/curriculum/>



Become a sponsor to help us bring this successful program to new states! Sand County Foundation invites additional support to expand the program impact in future years.



Sand County Foundation inspires and enables a growing number of private landowners to ethically manage natural resources in their care, so future generations have clean and abundant water, healthy soil to support agriculture and forestry, plentiful habitat for wildlife and opportunities for outdoor recreation.
www.sandcountyfoundation.org