



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2016 Work Plan

Date of Report: December 4, 2015
Date of Next Status Update Report: January 31, 2017
Date of Work Plan Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2018
Does this submission include an amendment request? No

PROJECT TITLE: Youth-led Energy Action Projects in 50 Minnesota Communities - Phase 3

Project Manager: Shelli-Kae Foster

Organization: Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center

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Location: State-wide

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF	\$400,000
	Appropriation:	
	Amount Spent:	\$0
	Balance:	\$400,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2016, Chp. xx, Sec. xx, Subd. xx

Appropriation Language:

I. PROJECT TITLE: Youth-led Sustainability Projects in 50 Minnesota Communities – Phase 3

II. PROJECT STATEMENT:

Previous support for the Youth Energy Summit (YES!) program from the M.L. 2011 & 2014 sessions resulted in over 500 energy action projects in 108 communities, having an impact on over 53,000 youth and 56,000 community members. With this 3rd and final phase of funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF), YES! will expand this award-winning model state-wide to complete over 200 new youth-led climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, impacting an additional 40,000 students and community members in over 50 MN communities. Working with our partners, YES! plans to fully transition from ENRTF funds to private and public sector partnerships. YES! has proven to be successful in engaging youth and mobilizing over 10,000 hours of volunteer time yearly while building strong and resilient communities. In addition, YES! will launch its first ever state-wide competition.

YES! engages tomorrow's leaders in seeking sustainable solutions to today's environmental and economic challenges through youth-led energy conservation, waste reduction, water quality improvement projects, renewable energy installations and other environmental stewardship projects. Examples of YES! outcomes include:

- Within 1 year of the YES! Deep Winter Greenhouse Workshop, Lac qui Parle Valley and New London-Spicer YES! teams had their own greenhouses, providing local and organic produce for their schools.
- The Atwater-Cosmos Grove City (ACGC) YES! team reduced their school's annual electricity costs by \$5,000.
- Royalton's YES! team presented at the MN School Board Association and received the Lieutenant Governor's Red Wagon Award for Outstanding Leadership.

YES! projects have generated volunteer, in-kind and cash investments in sustainability projects far exceeding the total ENRTF funds invested in the projects for both M.L.2011 and M.L.2014 funding.

Specific goals for YES! Project 2016-18:

- Serve over 50 communities in Minnesota by supporting up to 45 YES! teams
- Complete 200 new youth-led sustainability projects over 2 years
- Expand the YES! model state-wide
- Host the first ever state-wide competition made up of finalists from regional competitions
- Develop a Funding Development Plan to transition YES! from ENRTF funds to private and public sector partnerships

ENRTF funding will support coordinator involvement with teams, provide assistance to cover team expenses for attendance at events, and provide matching funds for energy projects.

HOW:

YES! staff will reach out to schools to recruit new teams and work with existing schools to retain teams to attain the goal of up to 45 teams, serving over 50 communities. These efforts will expand the outreach of YES! to include up to 650 students and more than 45 coaches/ adult advisors each year. YES! team members will work with over 400 community members and 200 local businesses to achieve their energy-related goals each year. Students, community members, and businesses will be engaged in sustainable living best practices through YES! energy action projects such as school gardens, improved recycling systems, water quality and conservation projects, composting, and designing and building high mileage cars.

YES! staff meet directly with teams 3 to 5 times per year to: assess community assets and needs, identify and involve community partners; create action-plans; link teams with funding resources; and assist in the implementation of energy efficiency and waste reduction projects involving solar, wind, biomass, recycling, local foods, water quality, composting and more. YES! staff provide on-going support to teams through: developing and sending out weekly updates, evaluating and offering relevant workshops and tours, organizing annual regional Summits bringing teams together for learning and networking, and in the spring teams present their completed projects to a panel of judges and awards are presented at community events.

During this project, Prairie Woods ELC will work closely with our partners including the Ney Nature Center, Saint John’s Outdoor University and Laurentian Environmental Center to continue to bring this unique program to each part of the state. In addition, YES! staff are looking to establish new collaborations in the Northwest region to recruit and support youth-led projects with programs and organizations such as the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, the NW Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and other youth focused regional programs with a similar mission. In addition, bordering metro communities will be contacted to offer this program in an effort to create a state-wide program.

Working with our partners, YES! will seek regional support as well as state-wide support through private and public partnerships, fundraisers, sponsorships and memberships. YES! is currently working with the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) to engage a funding development specialist to assist YES! to develop a sustainable funding plan.

III. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of January 31, 2017:

Project Status as of July 31, 2017:

Project Status as of January 31, 2018:

Overall Project Outcomes and Results:

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Recruit and retain up to 45 YES! teams in over 50 Minnesota communities
Description: YES! Coordinators recruit coaches and confirm participation of existing teams. Coaches are typically teachers or similarly trained professionals serving in an active advisory role with teams of youth. Each .5 FTE coordinator supports up to 14 teams regionally by in-person meetings, weekly updates, on-going project support along with relevant and current resources featured on the YES! website.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget:\$37,750
Amount Spent:\$ 0
Balance:\$37,750

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Recruit and retain up to 45 teams serving 50 Minnesota communities	Nov. 2017

2. Educate youth on sustainable living best practices while providing regional relevance to the importance of their action projects on their community	May 2017 & 2018
3. Continue to increase the number of middle school teams from 5 to 8 teams	Oct. 2017 & 2018

Activity Status as of January 31, 2017:

Activity Status as of July 31,2017:

Activity Status as of January 31, 2018:

Final Report Summary:

ACTIVITY 2: Educate students on sustainable best practices while increasing climate literacy through all team youth gatherings (annual Summit), workshops and tours with local, regional and state-wide experts to design projects promoting a sustainable lifestyle in the school, home and community.

Description: YES! Coordinators organize annual gatherings and more than 10 tours and workshops per year which are specific to team project goals. Topics have included: energy conservation, water quality, climate adaptation strategies, composting recycling, renewable energy, visits to solar and wind farms and local food initiatives.

(1) Annual Summit Event: Teams gather for orientation, networking, education, goal-setting, and project planning. The event has been held at Saint John’s University, Southwest Minnesota State University, Gustavus Adolphus College, Prairie Woods ELC & Redwood Falls.

(2) Annual Workshops and Industry Tours: YES! Coordinators organize 8–10 tours and workshops, per year, specific to team project goals. Topics have included: composting, recycling, renewable energy, lunch room waste reduction, energy efficiency strategies for schools and communities, visits to solar and wind farms, supermileage vehicle design and local food initiatives. Each team participates in 1 or 2 workshops or tours per year. Workshops are typically held at Prairie Woods ELC, College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University, schools, community centers or regional businesses and organizations. Many organizations have participated in the past including: power cooperatives, county waste facility managers, waste haulers, Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs), University of MN/ Extension educators, renewable energy businesses such as Blattner Energy Inc., Silicon Energy of Mount Iron, Solar Skies, LLC. and other relevant organizations.

(3) Annual Spring Celebration and Judging: public recognition of team project outcomes and prize awards (prizes from local foundations such as SWIF & Initiative Foundation). A new state-wide competition will publicly recognize an outstanding YES! team.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 2:

ENRTF Budget:\$101,100

Amount Spent:\$ 0

Balance:\$101,100

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Over 800 (total for 2 years) YES! students attend YES! annual Summits, customized workshops and tours and participate in an annual regional competition	May 2017 & 2018

2. Each team demonstrates connections with over 5 experts and allies who can assist them with completing energy related community projects	May 2017 & 2018
3. Pilot and implement first state-wide YES! competition	May 2017 & 2018
4. Pre-assessment and post survey on sustainable best practices will allow for evaluation of effectiveness	Sept. 2016 & 2017 May 2017 & 2018

Activity Status as of January 31, 2017:

Activity Status as of July 31, 2017:

Activity Status as of January 31, 2018:

Final Report Summary:

ACTIVITY 3: Complete 200+ new sustainability projects in over 50 Minnesota communities

Description:

YES! teams assess needs in their communities and schools, evaluate and help find local resources to meet the needs, and create an action plan and implement their projects with the support of their adult coach, YES! staff and community experts. Projects may include: energy efficiency upgrades, energy audits, waste reduction, water quality assessments, composting, recycling, repurposing, hydration stations, renewable energy installations, school gardens, educational events for k-12 and community to promote sustainable living practices and more.

YES! staff provide on-going guidance, resources, information, networking and other assistance as teams carry out action plans. YES! provides support and information to coaches/adult advisors and team leaders (youth) and assists with identifying organizations and businesses that share an interest in energy efficiency, waste and water conservation and renewable energy. The YES! Data and Communications Specialist maintains the YES! website, blog, social media and e-newsletter. Coordinators use in-person meetings and frequent e-mail contact to help teams stay informed and in contact with each other to share information on best practices and lessons learned.

ENRTF funds provide support for YES! staff time, program-related school district/organization expenses, and project seed funds. The school district/organization expense reimbursement allowance is intended to offset expenses incurred by school districts and/or community organizations that sponsor a YES! team. This support allows teams to participate in YES! in a cost-effective manner. Eligible reimbursable expenses may include: 1. Reimbursement to offset the cost of hiring substitute teachers in order to allow YES! coaches/adult advisors to attend YES! events during the school day, and 2. Transportation expenses for buses or vans for students and coaches/adult advisors to travel to YES! events. The total allowance will be offered equally among participating teams.

Project seed funds are made available to teams to get a project started. These funds are usually matched by community support, fundraisers and volunteer time. Projects will vary depending upon school/community needs and student interest. YES! Coordinators will have a good understanding of team projects by mid December or early January of each year. Funds will be used only for items deemed eligible as outlined in M.L. 2016 RFP "Guidance on Allowable Expenses."

Eligible expenses may include:

1. Energy and water saving devices for installation in public buildings such as schools, city buildings, or county buildings.
2. Materials and supplies to construct energy-saving or energy-generating installations, for use in public spaces or as demonstration projects made available to the public.
3. Materials for energy education activities.
4. Energy conservation kits for community distribution.
5. Equipment for tracking/measuring energy consumption and savings, to be made available for or directly related to public use.
6. Professional or technical services with qualified individuals for consultation or labor relating to teams' energy action projects.
7. Materials and supplies for reducing and mitigating solid waste generated in schools and communities.
8. Materials and supplies for increasing the production of and/or consumption of locally-produced foods in school cafeterias and communities.
9. Materials and supplies for developing native plantings, pollinator gardens and promotion of other restorative practices

Funding Development Plan

YES! will work in collaboration with partners and stakeholders to develop a Funding Development Plan to provide economic stability for the program. YES! is currently working with Great River Energy and regional electric cooperatives to develop a way for YES! students to assist cooperatives in reaching their Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) goals through LED sales and possibly having students conduct energy audits in homes. YES! is working with Southwest Initiative Foundation to engage a funding development professional to work with YES! staff to create a funding development case statement and implementation plan. Teams are engaging their communities in fundraisers where local “celebrities” pledge to climb an outdoor wall. Teams are also organizing shoe and metal collections that enable them to better fund their projects.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 3:

ENRTF Budget:\$261,150
Amount Spent:\$ 0
Balance:\$261,150

Outcome	Completion Date
1. YES! teams identify local sustainability challenges and needs, formulate goals and create action plans each of 2 years	Nov. 2016 & 2017
2. YES! teams complete over 200 new energy, water quality and climate change action projects in 2 years	May 2017 & 2018
3. YES! teams project they will provide over 10,000 volunteer hours per year to complete projects and educational events engaging and educating over 40,000 students, 50,000 community members and over 500 businesses in 2 years (based on past history)	May 2017 & 2018
4. Develop a Fund Develop Plan to transition YES! from ENRTF funds to private and public sector partnerships	June 30, 2018

Activity Status as of January 31, 2017:

Activity Status as of July 31, 2017:

Activity Status as of January 31, 2018:

Final Report Summary:

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description: Information, updates and reports will be made available via the YES! website (www.youthenergysummit.org), YES! e-newsletter, Prairie Woods ELC, Saint John’s Outdoor University, Laurentian Environment Center, and Ney Nature Center newsletters and websites, Foundation communication vehicles (such as Southwest Initiative Foundation) & local media as available and on an on-going basis. YES! will present at relevant opportunities such as Sustainability/Earth Day events, CERTs (Clean Energy Resource Teams) conferences and relevant science events. Project accomplishments are recognized and publicized via website, newsletters, conference presentations and local, regional and state-wide news media.

Status as of January 31, 2017:

Status as of July 31, 2017:

Status as of January 31, 2017:

Final Report Summary:

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget Overview:

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Overview Explanation
Personnel:	\$198,000	1 program manager at 100% FTE each year for 2 years (\$ 102,000); 1 regional coordinator at 50% FTE for 2 years (\$48,000) to coordinate up to 14 teams; 2 regional coordinators at 25% FTE for 2 years (\$48,000) to coordinate up to 7 teams
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts:	\$122,000	1 contract with Laurentian Environmental Center to coordinator and support up to 14 teams in the Northeast region each year for 2 years (\$ 48,000); 1 contract with Saint John’s University to coordinate and support up to 14 teams in the central region each year for 2 years (\$ 48,000). 1 data & communications Specialist @ 25% FTE each year for 2 years (\$ 26,000)
Travel Expenses in MN:	\$17,000	Coordinators at 50% FTE (2) receive \$500/year for meals for a total of \$1,000 for 2 years. Staff at 25% FTE (3) receive \$250/year for meals for a total of \$1,500 for 2 years. Program Manager at 100% FTE receives \$350/year for meals for a total of \$700 for 2 years. Mileage will be distributed among staff at .56 mile for 22,500 miles for a total cost of \$12,600 for 2 years. (Required for serving widely dispersed rural communities).

Other: Project Seed Funds	\$36,000	Allows teams to purchase materials and services needed to start and often complete energy action projects. Dollars will be dispersed amongst participating teams each year. Dollar amount may vary depending on number of teams – but will not exceed \$ 36,000. (For example: \$400 per team x 45 teams x 2 years= \$36,000). See “Project Seed Funds Eligible Expenses List.”
Other: District Allowance	\$27,000	Provides reimbursement necessary for teams and coaches to attend YES! workshops, tours and events. Expenses may include: 1. Substitute teacher expenses and/or 2. Transportation expenses for YES! events. Dollars will be offered equally to participating teams each year. Dollar amount may vary depending on number of teams – but will not exceed \$27,000. (For example: \$300 per team x 45 teams x 2 years = \$27,000). Expenses will meet M.L. 2016 Allowable Expenses guidelines.
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$400,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: N/A

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000: N/A

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: Directly funded FTEs = 1 (100% FTE per year x 2 years = 2 FTE) plus 1 (50% FTE per year x 2 years = 2 FTE) plus 2 (25% FTE per year x 2 years = 50% FTE) for a **total of 4.0 FTE**

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation: Contracts funded with ENRTF Appropriations = 1 (50% FTE per year x 2 years = 1 FTE) plus 1 (50% FTE per year x 2 years = 1 FTE) plus 1 (25% per year x 2 years = .5 FTE) for a **total of 2.5 FTE**

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
Laurentian Environmental Center	\$10,000	\$	Funds to cover travel (meals and mileage) for Northeast coordinator for 2 years
Southwest Initiative Foundation	\$10,000		Funds to support funding development plan, core staff and project seed funds for 1 year (2016-17)

McKnight Foundation	\$12,500		Funds for climate literacy through educational events and some core staff support, 25% of 1 year grant (\$ 50,000) starting on Nov. 1, 2015)
Kandiyohi Power Company (pending)	\$5,000		Funds to support travel (meals and mileage), core staff, project seed funds in the central region for 1 year
Team Participation fees	\$45,000		\$ 500 per team yearly for participation (45 teams) to cover cost of events (Fall Summit, Winter Workshops, Spring Judging) for 2 years
Prairie Woods Environmental Center (In-kind)	\$55,000		Office space, computers, Executive Director oversight, office manager and accounting support, host site for events for 2 years
Ney Nature Center (in-kind)	\$12,000		Office space, computers, Executive Director oversight for 2 years
Resource professionals and industry experts (in-kind)	\$20,000		Over 25 experts and professional technicians on renewable energy, food systems, energy efficiency and more provide support to teams at events and on a per project basis (25 x 8 x \$ 50/hr x 2 years)
Laurentian Environmental Center (in-kind)	\$10,000		Office space, computers, Executive Director oversight, host site for events for 2 years
Eastside Oil Company	\$2,000		\$1,000 per year x 2 years
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$181,500	\$	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners:

YES! 2016–2018 will be implemented by the core partners of YES! including Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, Laurentian Environmental Center, Ney Nature Center and Saint John’s Outdoor University. Each partner will support a part time coordinator at their location by providing office space, computers, space for events, and program oversight. Prairie Woods ELC will receive \$198,000 to support 1 program manager, 1 (50% FTE) southern MN coordinator and 2 (25% FTE) coordinators serving west central and north-central and northwest Minnesota. Laurentian Environmental Center will receive \$48,000 for the 2 year grant period to support 1 (.5) regional coordinator who will serve up to 14 teams in the Northeast region. Saint John’s Outdoor University will receive \$48,000 over the 2 year grant period to support 1 (50% FTE) coordinator who will serve up to 14 teams in the Central region. Aleta Kolan will contract for 1 (25%) data/communications specialist services for \$26,000 for 2 years.

Key collaborators include: the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability, the Southwest Initiative Foundation, Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs), University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Partnerships, Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy and up to 45 YES! teams in communities throughout Minnesota. Prairie Woods ELC, Saint John’s Outdoor University and

Laurentian Environmental Center will receive funding to support staffing and each participating team (sponsored by a school district or community organization) will be able to submit for reimbursement for eligible project-related expenses and program participation expenses such as transportation and substitute teacher costs. (Expenses will meet the eligible and ineligible guidelines).

Please note that Prairie Woods ELC and Laurentian Environmental Center have secured additional funding to increase the amount of funds for supporting team projects and other YES! activities. In addition, each participating community becomes a partner towards building environmentally and economically strong communities. Teams typically receive significant voluntary and in-kind support from local businesses and community organizations. For example last year YES! students had the opportunity to learn from the following resource experts; Master Gardeners of the Grand Rapids area, North Central Research and Outreach Center (U of M research facility), MN Farmers Market Association, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, NE Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs), Fat Chicken Farm, Ollcott Park Green House, North St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility, MN DNR School Forest Program, Silicon Energy of Mt. Iron, Hibbing Community College – Solar Program and many, many more across the state.

Project Partners Not Receiving Funds:

- Southwest Initiative Foundation, 15 3rd Avenue NW, Hutchinson, MN 55350
Contact: Cheryl Glaeser website: www.swifoundation.org
ph: 320-587-4848
- Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability.
Contact: Brian Bluhm website: www.ironrangeearthfest.org
ph: 320-295-1637
- Ney Nature Center, 28238 Nature Center Lane, Henderson, MN 56044
Contact: Rebecca Pollack website: neynaturecenter.org
ph: 507-248-3474

Project Partners Receiving Funds:

- Prairie Woods ELC, 12718 Tenth Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288
Contact: Dave Pederson website: www.prairiewoodselc.org
ph: 320-354-5894
- Laurentian Environmental Learning Center, 8950 Peppard Road, Brit, MN 55710
Contact: Jim Devries website: www2.moundsviewschools.org/laurentian/
ph: 218-749-1288
- Saint John's Outdoor University, 2850 Abbey Plaza, Collegeville, MN 56321
Contact: Sarah Gainey website: www.csbsju.edu/outdooru
ph: 320-363-3133

Project partners will actively collaborate with the U of M Extension, Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs), rural electric power cooperatives, private business, conservation groups and others to ensure project success of youth-led action projects. Prairie Woods ELC will serve as the fiscal host for this grant with Laurentian Environmental Center and Saint John's Outdoor University providing contract services.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:

This project will expand a successful model and initiate youth-led energy and waste conservation projects in over 50 communities throughout Minnesota. The project will mobilize public and private partnerships to raise awareness of issues and opportunities related to sustainable living practices for Minnesotans; and produce lasting economic benefits for schools, businesses, and communities through energy conservation and efficiency. Students participating in YES! will gain valuable hands-on learning experiences encouraging them to contribute to the environmental and economic health of our state and expose them to valuable employment and training opportunities. Through YES!, students are learning by doing – building solar panels, doing energy audits, designing and building composting bins and small wind turbines, growing local food for their cafeterias and more! One student from Royalton commented “after learning CAD drawings in tech class I loved it and decided to go into engineering. Then I joined YES! and now I want to go into engineering so I can create things that are better for the environment.”

Over the last two years YES! staff and participating organizations have made great strides in identifying regional allies in the private, public, and non-profit sectors which have a shared interest in supporting the continuation and expansion of YES! Teams. For example, the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) provided matching dollars to offset participation fees for teams in Region 5 and Northeast and Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships supported teams by providing additional project seed funds and staffing needs. Initiatives such as waste oil collection sites generating donations have been established in 4 YES! communities. Several YES! teams have successful shoe and metal collections. These types of income-generating operations will continue to be explored. Entities that derive financial benefit resulting from YES! projects will be asked to contribute a percentage of their energy savings to support future YES! projects.

YES! staff are working with Southwest Initiative Foundation to engage a funding development professional in order to guide the program towards a stable funding plan. The plan will include a case statement, donor development, community engagement and staff training. YES! is also exploring social enterprise opportunities such as conducting energy audits and working with regional electric cooperatives towards an LED lightbulb fundraiser and awareness campaign.

C. Funding History

Funding Source and Use of Funds	Funding Timeframe	\$ Amount
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund – M.L. 2014, Ch. 226, Sec 2, Subd. 09b: Appropriation of cash funds to Prairie Woods ELC and Laurentian Environmental Center to complete over 100 youth-led sustainability action projects in over 40 communities in southwest, southeast, central and northeastern Minnesota.	July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016	\$350,000
McKnight Foundation – funding to increase climate literacy through YES! events and community gatherings, includes t-shirts and some core staffing	November 1, 2015 to November 15, 2016	\$50,000
Henderson Fire Department – support for regional spring awards	November, 2015 to May 2016	\$1,000

Southwest Initiative Foundation – funding for data/communications specialist	July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015	\$14,000
Central Regional Sustainable Partnership – support for staff and team action projects	Dec. 2014 to January 2016	\$6,000
Northeast Regional Sustainable Partnership – support for staff and team action projects	August 15, 2015 to August 15, 2017	\$10,000
Initiative Foundation – core staff and regional project seed funds	March 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016	\$5,000
Great River Energy – support for regional spring awards	Spring, 2015	\$500
Xcel Energy – support for regional spring prize awards	Spring, 2015	\$500
Kandiyohi Power Company – funds for spring prize awards	Spring, 2015	\$500
Gannett Foundation – support to incentivize new team participation in the St. Cloud area	June 2015 to May 2016	\$1,000
Eastside Oil Company – support for spring prize awards and core staff	December. 2014 to January 2016	\$1,000
Matching funds and support from local communities to complete team energy projects, 2014–15 season	July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015	\$239,162
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund – M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 08a: Appropriation of cash funds to Prairie Woods ELC resulting in over 300 completed energy conservation and renewable energy projects in over 30 communities in southwest, southeast and central Minnesota.	July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014	\$246,000
Southwest Initiative Foundation – staff support (Data/Communications) and coordinator support, project seed funds and website maintenance	July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014	\$44,000
University of MN Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership – regional staff support and project seed funds	January 31 to February 15, 2013, 2014	\$4,000
Matching funds and support from local communities to complete team energy projects for 2013–14 season	July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014	\$226,395
Participation fees \$ 350 collected for 2013–14 season) – funds used for event expenses	July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014	\$8,050
Participation fees (\$ 400 collected for 2014–15 season) – funds used for event expenses	July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015	\$12,800
Southwest Initiative Foundation – core staffing, project seed funds, marketing, website maintenance, data and communications	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$196,300
AgStar – core staffing, project seed funds and spring awards	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$10,000
McKnight Foundation – funding to support core staff and work towards sustainability	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$40,000
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation – project seed funds	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$30,000
Initiative Foundation – funding for project seed funds and core staff	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$5,000

Center for Energy & Environment	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$1,500
University of MN Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership	July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013	\$20,000
Participation fees (\$ 300 collected for 2011-12 and 2012-13 seasons) – funds used for event expenses	July 1, 2011 to June 30,2013	\$17,100
Matching funds and support from local communities towards team projects for energy action projects	July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013	\$112,430.92
Southwest Initiative Foundation – core staffing, project seed funds, marketing, data and communications	July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012	\$72,174
AgStar – core staffing, project seed funds and spring awards	July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012	\$7,500
McKnight Foundation – core staffing, project seed funds & project management	July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012	\$75,000

VIII. FEE TITLE ACQUISITION/CONSERVATION EASEMENT/RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS:

A. Parcel List: N/A

B. Acquisition/Restoration Information: N/A

IX. VISUAL COMPONENT or MAP(S): Attached

X. RESEARCH ADDENDUM: N/A

XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted no later than **January 31, 2017, July 31, 2017, and January 31, 2018**. A final report and associated products will be submitted between **June 30 and August 15, 2018**.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2016 Project Budget



Project Title: Youth-led Sustainability Projects in 50 Minnesota Communities-Phase 3

Legal Citation:

Project Manager: Shelli-Kae S. Foster

Organization: Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center

M.L. 2016 ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 400,000

Project Length and Completion Date: June 30, 2018

Date of Report: December 4, 2015

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 2 Balance	Activity 3 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 3 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	Recruitment and Retention			Education through Events &			Complete 200 + new Sustainability				
Personnel (Wages and Benefits)	\$19,500	\$0	\$19,500	\$59,400	\$0	\$59,400	\$119,100	\$0	\$119,100	\$198,000	
Shelli-Kae Foster, Project Manager: \$ 102,000 (75% salary, 25% benefits for 2											
Southern Coordinator: \$ 48,000 (100 % Salary); 50% FTE for 2 years											
West-Central Coordinator: \$ 24,000 (75% salary, 25% benefits); 25% for 2 years											
North-Central Coordinator: \$ 24,000 (100 % salary); 25% for 2 years											
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts											
Laurentian Environmental Learning Center(LEC) to coordinate and support up to 12 teams in the Northeast region each year for 2 years (\$ 48,000). Meals and mileage	\$7,200	\$0	\$7,200	\$14,400	\$0	\$14,400	\$26,400	\$0	\$26,400	\$48,000	
Saint John's Outdoor University to coordinate and support up to 14 teams in the Central region each year for 2 years	\$7,200	\$0	\$7,200	\$14,400	\$0	\$14,400	\$26,400	\$0	\$26,400	\$48,000	
Aleta Kolan, Data/Communications Specialist: \$ 26,000 for 2 years	\$1,300	\$0	\$1,300	\$7,800	\$0	\$7,800	\$16,900	\$0	\$16,900	\$26,000	
Travel expenses in Minnesota	\$2,550	\$0	\$2,550	\$5,100	\$0	\$5,100	\$9,350	\$0	\$9,350	\$17,000	
Coordinators at 50% FTE (2 staff) receive \$ 500/ year for meals for a total of \$ 2,000 for 2 years. Staff at 25% FTE (3 staff) received \$ 250/year for meals for a total of \$ 1,500 for 2 years. Program Manager at 100% FTE receives \$ 350/year for meals for a total of \$ 700 for 2 years. Mileage will be distributed among staff at .56 mile for 22,857 miles for a total cost of \$ 12,800 for 2 years. (Required for serving											

Other: Project Seed Funds: Allows teams to purchase materials and services needed to start and often complete energy action projects. Dollars will be dispersed amongst participating teams each year. Dollar amount may vary depending on number of teams - but will not exceed \$ 36,000. (For example: \$400 per team x 45 teams x 2							\$36,000	\$0	\$36,000	\$36,000	
Other: Coach/District Allowance: Provides reimbursement necessary for teams and coaches to attend YES! workshops, tours and events. Expenses may include: 1. Substitute teacher expenses and/or 2. Transportation expenses for YES! events. Dollars will be offered equally to participating teams each year. Dollar amount may vary depending on number of teams - but will not exceed \$ 27,000. (For example: \$ 300 per team x 45 teams x 2							\$27,000	\$0	\$27,000	\$27,000	
COLUMN TOTAL	\$37,750		\$37,750	\$101,100		\$101,100	\$261,150		\$261,150	\$400,000	
Notes:											
1) Project Seed Funds will be supplemented with funds from a variety of other sources											
2) Travel budget is supplemented by Laurentian Environmental Center through local foundations and grants. Other foundations and grants will support any additional travel needs.											
3) Total budget per year for the YES! program is \$ 250,000 for 45 teams for a total of approx. \$ 560,000 for 2 years. We are seeking support from a variety of sources to complete the operating budget.											



Project Title: Youth-led Energy Action Projects in 50 Minnesota Communities

Over 400 projects were completed from 2011 to 2015 including: inspiring school districts to support solar gardens and green design elements, planting pollinator and produce gardens, building outdoor nature classrooms, hosting energy education events for all ages, collecting shoes, e-waste, jeans, and more, cutting school lunch waste by 75% and saving schools and communities money through energy retrofits.

www.youthenergysummit.org

Since 2007, YES! has engaged more than 2,000 students, 2,300 businesses and organizations, and 107,000 community members



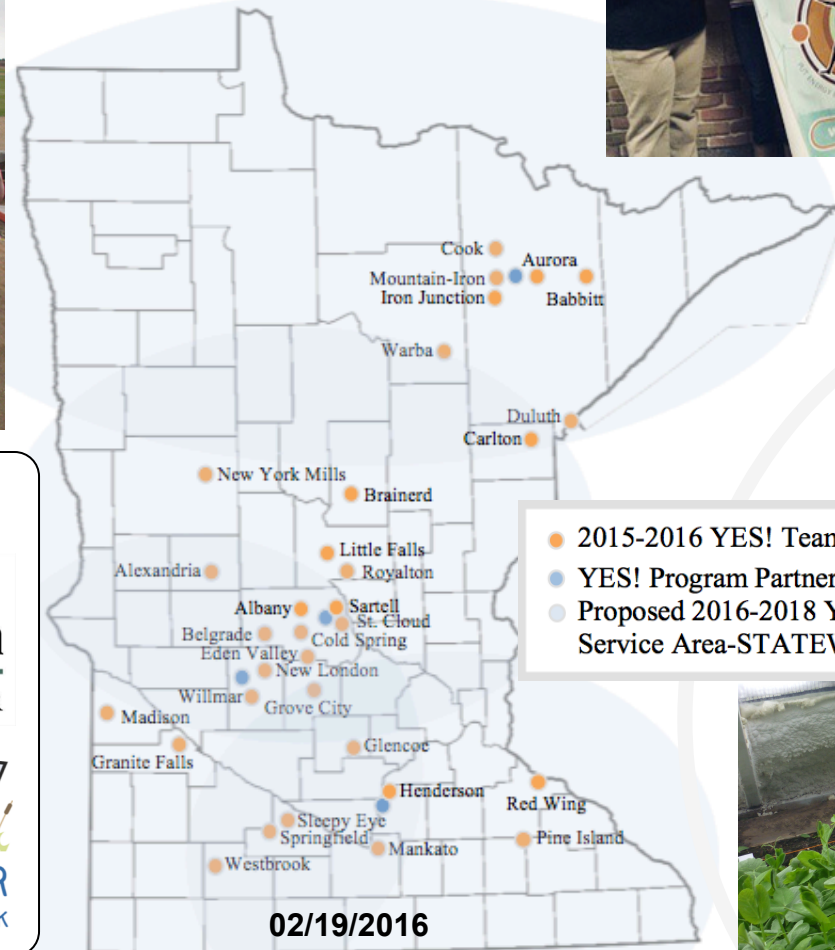
"You can think about saving energy or you can talk about it, but you really need to just get out and do something to protect the environment...YES! is a great way to do that"

YES! student



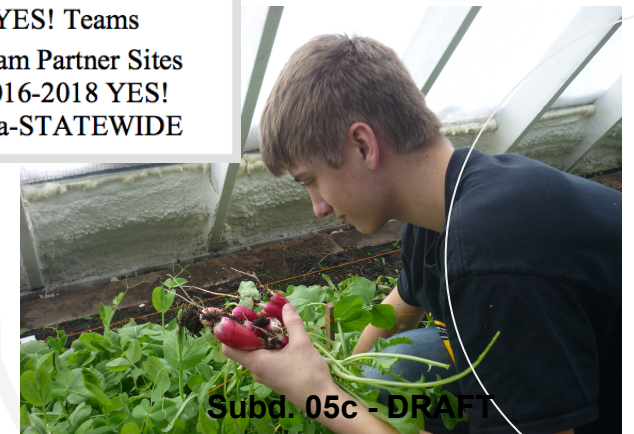
"The YES! model is a perfect fit for our [school] because it offers hands-on active learning projects that get our students out in the community"

Alexandria YES! coach



02/19/2016

Current YES! Program Partners



Subd. 05c - DRAFT