

2018 NCR-SARE Professional Development Proposals Recommended for Funding

Project #	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Primary Grantee	State	Requested	Cumulative	Systems	Commodity	Description
ENC18-164	Sustainable Farm Law 101 for Agriculture Professionals and Educators	Rachel	Armstrong	Farm Commons	MN	\$74,947	\$74,947	Economic/Marketing	Beef	Workshops and tip sheets reach agriculture professionals in 6 North Central states with quality sustainable farm law education. As a result, they are able to assist organic, direct to consumer and sustainable farms with their unique legal dynamics.
ENC18-165	Cover Crops and Forage Grazing Training Program in North Dakota	Marisol	Berti	North Dakota State University	ND	\$74,855	\$149,802	Education and Training	Hay and Forage Crops	Researchers in North Dakota have collected valuable information about cover crops grazing management and performance in the past 10 years. There is a need to transfer this knowledge to county agents and producers which is the aim of this project.
ENC18-166	An Introductory Virtual Training Curriculum for Crop Advisers and Extension Educators Working with Transitioning Organic Grain Crop Producers	Christopher	Boomsma	American Society of Agronomy	WI	\$68,437	\$218,239	Education and Training	Grain Crops	This project will develop webinar- and podcast-based educational materials and corresponding factsheets for agricultural professionals that work with grain crop farmers either transitioning or considering transitioning to organic production. These materials will provide the crop management guidance these professionals need to help their clients succeed during this three-year period. They will also highlight the unique and sustainable business opportunities both growers and their advisers have during this transition period.
ENC18-167	Adapting Soil Health Curriculum to Ag Retailer Training	Lisa	Holscher	CCSI (Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts)	IN	\$74,875	\$293,114	Crop Production	Grain Crops	Farmers' agricultural practices and strategies are strongly influenced by farm chemical dealers, seed dealers, and crop consultants, respectively, and these influencers will be critical to advancing soil health adoption. This project builds upon a successful soil health training curriculum by adapting it to the needs of ag retailers. Ag retailer groups' awareness, knowledge, and skill sets surrounding soil health practices and systems will be increased, leading to increased adoption of soil health practices.
ENC18-168	Growing Organic Expertise in Iowa	Rosalyn	Lehman	Iowa Organic Association	IA	\$75,000	\$368,114	Education and Training	Beef	The Iowa Organic Association will deliver "Growing Organic Expertise in Iowa" a series of 20 organic farming and transitioning education workshops to meet a critical need for greater, comprehensive organic expertise in Iowa. The workshop series will target IDALS, ISU Extension and Outreach, FSA, NRCS, RC&D, crop insurance agents, lenders, farmer-mentors and other agriculture service providers to expand and coordinate the organic knowledgebase among professionals serving and interacting with transitioning farmers and the organic community.

ENC18-169	Advancing Watershed Health Through Watershed Champions	Elizabeth	Lillard	National Wildlife Federation	MI	\$74,993	\$443,107	Community Development	Grain Crops	Water contamination from nitrates is often linked to the over application of fertilizers on agricultural lands, and treatment can be prohibitively expensive for water utilities. The National Wildlife Federation will help utilities implement affordable and effective source water protection (SWP) plans, by training utility operators/city representatives to be Watershed Champions. Champions will receive educational training, which they will apply to SWP implementation and new farmer partnerships, with the ultimate goal of improving source water quality.
ENC18-170	Trying Times: Tools to Understand and Alleviate Farm Stress	Meg	Moynihan	MN Department of Agriculture	MN	\$72,714	\$515,821	Quality of Life	Other	Farm and rural stress levels are increasing, fueled by low prices, debt, inconsistent weather, isolation, marital stress, farm transfer issues, production challenges and other factors. This project is developing curriculum to teach agriculture advisors to respond when they see farmers in trouble. Workshops and trainings will explore suicide, its stigma in the farm and rural community, and prevention/intervention; conflict resolution and de-escalation; and the mental health challenges that farm and rural adolescents experience.
ENC18-171	Blazing Trails through the Jungle of Food Regulations	Helene	Murray	Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture	MN	\$67,089	\$582,910	Economic/Marketing	Beef	The complexity of the food regulatory system in Minnesota presents a barrier for farmers and entrepreneurs who want to launch local food enterprises. This project will train county-level cohorts of local food system leaders in the use of reference materials to help with navigation of food regulations and licensing, resulting in an improved statewide climate for local food enterprises and systems.
ENC18-172	Solar Electric Investment Analysis for Small Farms	Eric	Romich	Ohio State University	OH	\$74,364	\$657,274	Education and Training	Beef	As a strategy to control or reduce electricity costs, many small farms are considering investments in solar electric projects to power their farms. The primary objective of this project is to train and educate Extension educators, Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA Rural Development, rural lenders, and accountants servicing small farms on best practices for conducting a solar electric investment analysis, helping farmers make investment decisions that offer the greatest overall benefit for their farm operation.

ENC18-173	Facilitating "Win-Win" Manure Utilization for Sustained Soil Health, Economic and Environmental Benefits	Amy	Schmidt	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	NE	\$74,905	\$732,179	Crop Production	Grain Crops	Crop farmers experience agronomic, economic, and environmental benefits by recycling animal manure as a soil amendment and animal feeding operations benefit from off-farm transfer of excess manure nutrients to neighbors. A multi-state working group addressing manure's value to soil quality will deliver educational experiences intended to: • Build awareness of manure's value; • Demonstrate benefits locally via on-farm research; and • Teach crop farmers to confidently identify "win-win" fields for manure use on cropland.
ENC18-174	Water conservation practices for sustainable food production systems: developing an on-line, participatory training vehicle for ag-professional to enhance interaction with farmers	Yi	Wang	University of Wisconsin-Madison	WI	\$74,959	\$807,138	Crop Production	Vegetable Crops	University of Wisconsin - Madison Extension Specialists are developing a train-the-trainer online curriculum to enhance on-farm water stewardship and water conservation programs. The curriculum will include online instruction, participatory training and on-farm demonstrations. The target audience will be a broad range of ag-professionals that educate or advise farmers on water conservation management.
ENC18-175	Enhancing professional development opportunities to improve technical capacity of Indiana conservation delivery professionals	Chad	Watts	Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC)	IN	\$74,959	\$882,097	Natural Resources/ Environment	Grain Crops	This project will provide professional development opportunities for conservation practitioners in Indiana that will improve the delivery of conservation information and drive the adoption of beneficial conservation systems on Indiana cropland. By partnering with the Hoosier Chapter SWCS to enhance their existing professional development programs, this project will result in improved information delivery to technical staff in Indiana and provide networking and development opportunities beyond the scheduled events.