

What Will Be Gained from Participating?



Participants will obtain background information through lessons, workshop presentations, fieldtrips, and small group interactions etc.

Sessions will focus on input, relevant science content and hands on inquiry experiences in preparation for use with their students in developing their projects. Ultimately students will have an opportunity to present their projects to interested community members.

You will receive:

- Ready to use classroom resources and materials
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- Honorarium of \$100 per training session
- Mileage
- Great Food

Project Timeframe

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- 2010: Workshops (2), Fieldtrips, Classroom Implementation and Classroom Follow-Up
- 2011: Workshops (3), Fieldtrips, Classroom Implementation, and Classroom Follow-Up
- 2012: Workshops (3) and Community Presentations
- Farm Tour will be held summers 2011 & 2012

How is this made possible?

This project is made possible by a grant from USDA Sustainable Agriculture and Research Education (SARE).

University of Minnesota Faculty and partners will contribute skills and resources as SIREN continues to develop.

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Sustainable
Inquiry Research and
Education Network
(SIREN) for Science
and Vocational
Agriculture Teachers

Sustain Our Planet and Grow Our Future: SIREN Sounds for You



Focusing on:

- Sustainability in the landscape
- Inquiry process in the classroom

Sustainability:

Not doing anything that limits options for future generations

The U.S. Congress defines the basic principles of sustainability this way:

Satisfy human and food and fiber needs

Improve the quality of life for society as a whole

Remain economically viable, because without profitability, rural areas are not sustainable

Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends

Nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources used efficiently and integrated, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls

= Sustaining the economic viability of rural areas



SIREN Project Highlights

Teachers and students will work on authentic project-based science learning experiences.

Teachers will team with producers and university scientists to engage in interactive problem solving for future sustainability.

Teachers will be provided the pedagogy to successfully address academic standards using hands-on, interactive strategies.

Teachers will learn useful strategies for developing scientific experiments.

Teachers and students will share these sustainable agricultural research projects through community education forums.

Both schools and communities will benefit from new science connections.

Over a two year time span, participating teachers will be supported by: SIREN's agricultural science resource website and a communication website for SIREN participants.