Mini-grant Funding
WSU Center for Sustaining Agriculture & Natural Resources (CSANR)
USDA-SARE Professional Development Program (PDP)

Hosting and Attending Educational Events Related to Agricultural Sustainability

The WSU Center for Sustaining Agriculture & Natural Resources is offering financial assistance on a competitive basis to WSU Extension faculty and staff who would like to host or attend a conference, workshop, or training program related to agricultural sustainability. Priority will be given to proposals that:

1. Provide sustainable agriculture training and education opportunities for new and current WSU Extension faculty and staff and other agricultural agency personnel (NRCS, FSA).
2. Involve SARE producer grant recipients and other farmers and ranchers in sustainable agriculture training and education.
3. Collaborate with NRCS, WSDA, Conservation Districts and/or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or farmer organizations in offering educational events for agricultural agency personnel.
4. Promote regional SARE educational materials and services, as well as those from ATTRA (http://www.attra.org), and NGOs.
5. Promote on-farm research and demonstration projects and programs.
6. Have regional or statewide significance.
7. Demonstrate how staff other than the one receiving funds will benefit from the training.

Funding is limited to $800 per request for hosting an event, $500 for attending an event.

To request funding, please fill out the linked application form.

All proposals that deal with agricultural sustainability (sustainable solutions to agricultural problems) will be reviewed.

Eligible expenses include reasonable speaker and project travel expenses, notebooks, publications used at meeting or event, plot or project inputs (like seed or fertilizer), postage, promotional expenses, photocopies, laboratory analysis expense and equipment rental.

Ineligible expenses include salaries, equipment and food, including food service items such as plates and cups. The exceptions to this "food rule" are if participants have to travel more than 50 miles to an event or if the continuity of the event will be broken up by meals being served off-site.

Priority will be given to applications received by April 30, 2012. Applications will be accepted after that date pending available funds. Funds must be spent by December 14, 2012. Recipients of these funds will be required to write a brief report within one month of completing the funded activity.

Extension policy encourages faculty to take time for professional development.

Applications for PDP funds are available here for HOSTING and ATTENDING events. Complete the appropriate application, save it on your computer, and submit by email to Tara Zimmerman at goldsmitht@wsu.edu. For more information call Tara at 206-770-6073.