

# Next Gen

## Dunn Environmental Education Steering Committee (DEESC)

*Hello and welcome to our first edition of the DEESC newsletter. It has been one year since the inception of the committee that set out to make a difference in the education of the youth of Dunn County. Thank you to all that have supported us so we can change lives.*

### DEESC Members:

Christopher Gaetzke- LWCD  
 Janell Newcomb- LWCD  
 Leah Nicol- LWCD  
 Kaying Vang- NRCS

### Our Mission Statement

The mission of the DEESC is to develop awareness in students that will inspire to create a sustainable interaction with the environment and its natural resources

### Upcoming Events!

Dunn County Poster and Speaking Contest  
 January 21st– 6:30 pm  
 at the  
 Dunn County Community Services Building  
 Lower Level  
**Look for signs!**

December 2015

Volume 1, Issue 1

Dunn County Land and Water Conservation Division (LWCD)  
 and  
 Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

### Save The Hills Alliance Donation

In May 2015, we received the ultimate donation! A 5'x 8' enclosed trailer. The trailer is used to store and transport equipment to our local environmental education events. "Thank You" to Save Our Hills Alliance for donating the trailer.



Decal Application



Jerry, Cheryl, Ka, Leah, & Chris

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## 2015 Land Judging Contest

The 2015 Land Judging Contest was held on Thursday, October 15th at Five Star Dairy (Lee & Jim Jensen, owners) in Dunn County. This year's event was hosted by Dunn County and staff from Dunn and Pepin County Land and Water Conservation offices and NRCS assisted with the contest. Tim Miland, Soil Scientist for the USDA-NRCS, was the official judge.

Approximately 130 students representing 6 schools (Boyceville, Colfax, Durand, Elmwood, Menomonie, and Mondovi) participated in the event. Students judged four pits for soil characteristics and made decisions as to best management for these sites. A soil health learning station was also part of the contest this year.



Lee Jensen, Owner of 5 Star Dairy, giving an introduction to the group

## 2015 Environmental Field Day

Learning about native and invasive species plant identification, soil health, stream monitoring and surveying took place at the first Environmental Field Day. A total of 105 fifth grade students of Boyceville and Colfax schools spent the day at the Bjornson Education-Recreation Center near Knapp on May 8th.

Hands-on activities gave the students a learning experience in an outdoor setting while creating some memories of their own with their friends. Thanks to volunteer speakers that made this event an annual learning opportunity for local schools.



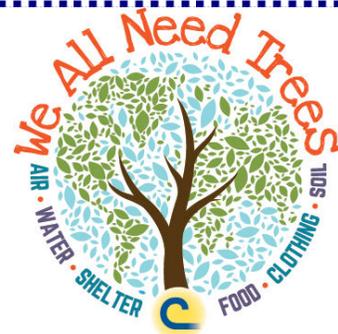
Students learning about stream ecology from Ted Ludwig (Red Cedar Basin Monitoring)

## 2016 Youth Education Events:

March– State Poster & Speaking Contest  
May– Environmental Field Day  
September– Farm City Day, Dunn County  
October– Land Judging Contest

If you have an upcoming event or activity that you would like us to be a part of, please contact us!

## 2016 Poster Contest Theme



"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."  
-Native American Proverb-