



# Next Gen

## Dunn Environmental Education Steering Committee (DEESC)

*Welcome to our fourth edition of the DEESC newsletter. It has been three years 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:

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### 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

### Upcoming Events!

**Dunn County Conservation Poster Contest**  
Monday, December 18th  
(Deadline)

**Dunn County Conservation & Environmental Awareness Speaking Contest**  
Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
(Snow Date) Thursday, January 25, 2018

### November, 2017

Dunn County Land and Water Conservation Division (LWCD)

Dunn County Solid Waste & Recycling Division (SWR)

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

### Elk Mound Team Comes Out on Top at the Area Land Judging Contest



Buffalo County hosted 146 students representing eight schools and 5 counties at the 2017 annual Land Judging Contest on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at Kent Hurlburt's Liberty Farms. Approximately 36 teams of students from Arcadia, Boyceville, Colfax, Durand, Elk Mound, Menomonie, Mondovi, and Spring Valley High Schools participated in the event by examining four soil pits to determine the texture, structure, depth, slope and drainage of the soil. They were also tasked with determining soil fertility and nutrient management requirements. Using that information, they then

identified soil erosion and land use limitations and capabilities of soil and recommended the farm management and conservation practices.

The Elk Mound team of Alex Johnson, Susan Marquardt, Chai Vang, and William Gilbertson, with individual scores ranging from 280-297, came away with first place and a team score of 1,150 points. Tom Millar, Agriscience Instructor, led the team which had four of the top seven high-scoring individuals of the event.

With a team score of 1,102 points, Kyle Holden, Nathan Corr, Bryce Boda, and Noah Novotney took second place honors under the direction of Glenn Knudtson, Agriscience Instructor at Boyceville High School. Kyle had the top score of 290 points with other members of the team contributing 275, 269, and 267 points respectively.

Top scorers for the Menomonie team were Jarin Boettcher (310), Dylan Shackleton (266), Nolan Lee (259) and Grant Peterson (255). Led by Agriscience Instructor Jean D'Angelo, their team score was 1,090 giving them third place in the competition. Jarin held the top individual score at the competition.

Receiving fourth place with a team score of 1,024 was the Colfax team under the direction of Agriscience Instructor John Nelson. Ben Thompson had the top individual score of 295, with Nick Jenson, Jacob Jensen, and Phil Taylor contributing with scores ranging from 236 to 250.



The Spring Valley team, under the direction of Agriscience Instructor, Carter Turner, placed fifth with a team score of 1,015. Leading scorers were Kaylee Bazille (275), Cross Hurlburt (264), Katie Keehr (262), and Craigen Anderson (244).

Earning honorable mention were the Mondovi team with 896 team points, Arcadia with 881 points, and the Durand team with 812 points.

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**UPCOMING** *Mark your calendars*  
**EVENTS**



**Dunn County Conservation Poster Contest**  
Monday, December 18, 2017 (Deadline)

**Dunn County Conservation & Environmental  
Awareness Speaking Contest**  
Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
(Snow Date) Thursday, January 25, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

**Dunn County Community Services Building**

**West Central Area Speaking Contest**  
Monday, February 12, 2018  
29 Pines Conference Center, Eau Claire

## Menomonie High School Senior Internship Program

For the past four years, Dunn County conservation agencies and organizations have hosted an internship to give college students a view of what a career in natural resources looks like. The program has been very successful in providing valuable education and experience for returning college students.

This year, Dunn County decided to continue mentoring a student throughout the school year. Menomonie High School has a Senior Internship Program that allows students to take 2 hours a day during school hours to go off-campus to learn about how agencies, organizations, and communities work together to maintain and improve soil and water resources.

In our case, Jarin Boettcher, a Menomonie High School Senior, was selected by an Agri-Science Instructor to be mentored. This internship involves getting Jarin out in the work environment for both in-office and out-in-the-field work. To date, he has worked with many agencies and organizations performing invasive species management, agricultural site visits, non-metallic mining reviews, water quality monitoring, and governmental agency meetings. With many more opportunities ahead, Jarin is excited to continue his internship until May, 2018, when he graduates. He will be attending UW-Stevens Point and pursuing a degree in natural resources.



## Chippewa Valley Farm-City Day

On Friday, September 8, 2017, approximately 750 students from the Chippewa Valley attended the Farm-City Day at Bears Grass Dairy near Augusta.

They learned about how a dairy farm operates and visited many other educational stations. This year's stations included emergency services of the police, fire and EMT departments; a farm tour; milking parlor visit; water quality with Carry Creek stream models; Wisconsin Spudmobile tour; electrical utility safety; animal health & nutrition; and, tractor safety. They also got to meet the 70th Alice in Dairyland, Crystal Siemers-Peterman, to learn about Wisconsin's specialty crops.

We are looking forward to next year's event in Chippewa County!

**"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future"**  
- Franklin D. Roosevelt