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 for ag professionals related to agricultural sustainability. Priority will be given to proposals that:

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

Funding is limited to $2500 per request for hosting an event, $1000 for attending an event.

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

All professional development 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, hourly wages, 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.

Hosting awards will be limited to one per event.

Priority will be given to applications received by Mar. 23, 2015. Later applications will be considered until funds are exhausted. Funds must be spent by December 6, 2015. Recipients of these funds will be required to write a detailed report within one month of completing the funded activity. Reports for hosted events require specific impact and outcome data.

Extension policy encourages faculty to take time for professional development.

Applications for PDP funds are available here for HOSTING and ATTENDING events. SAVE the appropriate application to your computer before you complete it; then fill it out and submit by email to Tara Zimmerman at goldsmitht@wsu.edu. For more information call Tara at 206-770-6073.