



Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District

Ag in the Classroom Education Grant **2021-2022**

Sponsored by The Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District

The Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is now offering grants for the 2021-2022 school year to increase awareness, knowledge and appreciation of agriculture in the youth of Geauga County. The \$1,000 grant will be awarded to kindergarten through 12th grade core education teachers whose innovative classroom projects use agricultural concepts to teach reading, writing, math, nutrition, science and/or social studies as well as to encourage a partnership between the Geauga SWCD and local schools in providing agricultural education.

Grant Information

Grant application information will be sent to all Geauga County Schools. The Geauga SWCD has \$1,000 allocated for the **Ag in the Classroom Education** project. The Geauga SWCD will review proposals as they are received. The final deadline is **March 31, 2021**. Approved projects will be notified shortly thereafter. Once awarded, projects must begin within the 2021-2022 school year, and all critical activities must be completed within one year of their commencement. Projects must have proof of school board and principal approval.

Please email application to knainiger@geaugaswcd.com or mail or submit application in person to Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District, P. O. Box 410, 14269 Claridon-Troy Rd., Burton, OH 44021. Visit geaugaswcd.com or call 440-834-1122 if you have any questions about the scholarship. For grant application visit Geauga SWCD website at www.geaugaswcd.com.

Grant Criteria

Grant Requirements:

- **Involve a plan to incorporate agricultural education**
- **Include a match of time, money, property, and/or donations from other sources**
- **Include letters of collaborative efforts between teachers, principals, and/or other groups**
- **Include a long-range plan for the Agriculture in the Classroom Education program**
- **A commitment to send detailed yearly updates including photos of the project and usage for five consecutive years following the commencement.**
- **Submit copies of all receipts of items purchased.**

Grant Recommendations:

- **Involve a diverse representation and support of individuals through an advisory committee**
- **Involve the Geauga SWCD as part of the advisory committee in project formation and implementation of Agriculture in the Classroom Education program**
- **Include a direct establishment of an agricultural education program**

- **Involve more than one grade level and have an interdisciplinary approach**
- **Include a curriculum guide of projects, activities, and/or programs that the Ag in the Classroom grant monies will enhance.**
- **Grant money for Agriculture in the Classroom Education can be used to purchase the following items:**
 - Seeds (fruits and vegetables)
 - Soil
 - Plants (fruits and vegetables)
 - Fertilizer
 - Raised bed materials
 - Greenhouse materials
 - Hydroponics/Aquaponics materials
 - Irrigation/watering system materials
- **Grant money can be used for animal science projects involving embryology, aquaculture or related projects, field trips or farm tours.**
- **Grant money cannot be used for salary or compensation.**
- **Grant money cannot be used for clothing, promotional items or giveaway items.**
- **Grant check will be made payable to the school, not to an individual.**
- **Grant checks not cashed within 60 days after receipt will become null and void.**
- **A site visit to review the project will take place April 2022.**
- **A completion report will be filed with the Geauga SWCD within 90 days after completion of project.**

Grant Priority

Since Geauga SWCD's mission is *"To conserve, protect, and enhance the soil and water resources of Geauga County by providing leadership, education, and assistance to all."* those proposals that focus on the mission statement will be given priority.

Project Evaluation

The Geauga SWCD would like to see projects that:

- Set an example for other schools to follow
- Result in an increased appreciation, awareness, and understanding of agricultural education and history in Geauga County.
- Have the ability to be incorporated into an interdisciplinary curriculum
- Enhance existing curriculum in a variety of ways
- Display long-term potential through proper planning, maintenance, and cooperative participation by advisory committee
- Show coordination and cooperation with affected community and other agencies
- Please feel free to attach additional sheets in order to allow for more space.
- All projects must show proof of school board and principal approval
- A presentation of completion of project to the Geauga SWCD Board

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