

Burnett County

Name & Title of person facilitating the program locally? Kevin Schoessow, Area Agriculture Development Agent.

When the MG program started in your county? 1999

Address of the UWEX office and county website 7410 County Road K, #107, Siren, WI 54872
www.burnett.wisc.edu

Number of community/school gardens in the county 4

Amount of produce donated 200 lbs

A list of 8 places where you can find activities by MGVs in your county

1. Forts Folle Avoine (plant sale, historical display gardens)
2. Grantsburg Library Project
3. Webster Elementary School Garden (assist teachers and garden maintenance) E. Fox
4. Webster Library (maintenance of landscape plants) J. Schroeder
5. Lake Lutheran Church (container plantings) J. Schroeder,
6. Burnett Co. Farmers Market (market management) S. Armstrong
7. Olsen Drive Project (planting & maintenance of landscape plants) P. Davies
8. Ruby's Food Shelf

4 Success Stories (75-85 words)

1. Fort Folle Avoine historic park, educational gardens are located near Webster. Master Gardner Volunteers maintain various raised gardens at the site that feature native plants, heirloom vegetables, herbs, perennials, and cut flowers. These gardens and other perennial landscape plantings around the historic buildings are an important part of this County-owned facility. This year native plants were featured at the annual plant sale along with plantings at the park with many opportunities to provide information to visitors on their value.
2. A community organization of local farmers that provides access to fresh, locally grown produce, Burnett County Farmers' Markets (BCFM) began at Siren in 2007. Since that time we've been invited to serve 4 additional market locations. BCFM is a licensed WIC organization and authorized vendors accept WIC vouchers. Samples are provided at the Siren market to pique customer interest and to provide new ideas for seasonal foods. For the last 5 years, an MGV has been the manager.
3. Middle Schoolers at the Webster Elementary School are trying a cold frame this fall to see what can continue growing into the fall season. Many fourth graders are giving up their recess time at noon to help in the garden. We are always on the lookout for recipes (easy ones) to use to introduce more students to "new" vegetables and it is especially rewarding to see garden buddies introducing fellow classmates to try harvesting and eating the school grown vegetables.
4. Ruby's Food Shelf, Siren hosted a "Little Sprouts" Mini Gardening Class for children ages 5-10 with the assistance of MGVs. Thirty "Little Sprouts", along with their parents, visited 5 Stations

to learn about gardening. The “Little Sprouts” used their detective skills to solve various mysteries by examining seeds and leaves in fruits and vegetables. It was a rewarding experience and great opportunity to work with children to spark an interest in gardening.

A discussion of all recent projects relating to the theme (within the last 3 years)(theme: The Value of Gardening

Burnett County Master Garden Volunteers are involved in a wide variety of activities including education, providing produce and demonstrating techniques to assist local residents in growing their own food and caring for the habitat. This year's focus has been on pollinators with seminars at the local library, garden clubs, and at the Spooner Research Station about the value of native plants and the effects on native bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Activities with children included a mini gardening class at the local food shelf, consultations at the Fort Folle Avione historic parks about native plants, and at local beautification sites.