



YES! Update 10.23.2017

Program Announcements

- YES! Takes on Water Quality Challenge has been selected out of 217 proposals to the LCCMR to be recommended to the Governor to approve this spring! This means we will be able to do more water quality and Aquatic Invasive Species projects next summer and next year. —Shelli-Kae Foster, Program Manager
- Thanks to all who participated at 2017 YES! Fall Summit at Saint John's University and Laurentian Environmental Center. We had over 250 attendees! It was great to feel the energy in the room generated by the students and coaches.
- YES! 2017-18 McKnight Foundation Project Funding Request are now available on coaches corner. Funding priority will be given to projects that engage and empower youth to make an impact in their school and/or community on climate change through hands-on projects.

Regional Highlights

Northeast: This season started off really strong with the recent Fall Summit. Thanks to all who attended and made this day one of the best yet. If your team is interested in hosting a climate convening or participating in Watts and Drops programs please let Jim know by Nov. 1st. - *Jim*

West Central/Central: The ACGC YES! team has their project planned out for the year, hand dryers in their 6 bathrooms throughout the high school to reduce paper towel waste! - *Ali*

Southern: It is the best month of the year! Happy October and happy project planning time! After attending the fall summit, teams are fired up to work on planning and carrying out projects. The Sleepy Eye teams have finished their second month of River Watch data collection and are having a blast! I can't wait to see how this project progresses!- *Michelle*

State & National Grants & Other Opportunities

- Due November 15th - Made by Milk 2017 Carton Construction Contest - Does your school have milk cartons? Repurpose your school's empty milk and juice cartons into a Sports-themed creation for a chance to win \$5,000! For more information on how it works, how to enter, and prizes, click [here](#).
- CERTs is running a Solar Video Contest with MnSEIA, and they want YOUR TEAM to submit a video. Submissions are held till October 24th, and voting is held October 24-November 6. Prizes are awarded as follows: 1st place \$500, 2nd place \$300, 3rd place \$200. For more information about the contest and to submit videos, click [here](#).
- Minnesota's Farm to School Leadership Team is excited to launch a quarterly newsletter to strengthen our statewide network. Sign up to receive their quarterly newsletter [here](#).

- Project Polar Bear - an international competition among student groups who are taking action to fight climate change. With the guidance of an advisor, groups compete by creating a plan for a project that will help reduce reliance on fossil fuels and engage their communities. The top three high-scoring teams will receive a grant of \$1,000, \$750, and \$300 respectively to continue their projects. Learn more [here](#).
- Climate Change and the Mississippi: Meet Us at the Confluence Workshop - Discover the science, impacts, and solutions of climate change happening right here in the Midwest. Find out more and register for this workshop [here](#).
- Right Light App - released during Energy Awareness Month and Energy Efficiency Day, a free tool available at <http://rightlightapp.org> that helps people find just the bulb they need.

