



YES! Update 1.4.2018

*= indicates an item that was not in the previous update

Program Announcements

- Please use Amazon Smile and select Prairie Woods ELC when making purchases. The donation will go towards the YES! program! Thank you and Happy New Year!—Shelli-Kae Foster, Program Manager
- Team Reminders
 - Please submit your project proposal questionnaire [here](#) so your coordinator can get your team its customized metric tool. This document will be **required to submit** to qualify for spring judging.
 - *Please send any team/project photos to ali@youthenergysummit.org or your coordinator throughout the year!

*Regional Highlights

Northeast - Happy New Year! With a new year we often think of resolutions and changes we need to make, well the YES! teams in the NE are making positive changes to their communities with the projects they are working on. From Storm Water education to Food Waste Reduction in the Cafeterias to Engineering feats like building a high mile vehicle. Keep up the good work and 2018 is going to be a wonderful year. -*Jim*

Northwest - I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and break! In the new year we are looking forward to winter workshops. Details are coming together for the workshops. Happy New Year and stay warm! -*Monica*

West Central – Although it is really cold, it is *ICE CREAM TIME!* YME YES! team sold homemade ice cream to students throughout their school to raise funds and spread some holiday cheer!-*Ali*

Southern - New Prague YES! team recently finished their pallet up-cycling project and built 2 raised garden beds and window sill extenders with the money they received from the McKnight grant. Way to go New Prague! - *Michelle*

State & National Grants & Other Opportunities

***Science of Agriculture Challenge** - Your YES! project can be a double winner! Find out more [here](#)!

- Through the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development and Minnesota 4-H, youth in grades 6 through high school in teams of 3-5 (any age combination) can participate in the project-based Science of Agriculture Challenge. Winning team members can win up to \$1000 each in scholarships, and all teams will attend the Challenge event to be held at the University of Minnesota in June.

Green Ribbon Schools Award - This award honors Pre-K-12 schools, districts and higher education institutions that have accomplishments in all three of the following pillars:

- reducing environmental impact,
- improving health and wellness and
- providing effective environmental education.

Applying for the award helps the school community analyze and set goals for energy and water usage, waste reduction, nutrition programs, environmental instruction and other sustainable practices. Find the application [here](#).

June 26-28, 2018 – **Summer Institute for Climate Change Education** - Join a network of teachers from across the country dedicated to bringing science, critical thinking, and problem solving about climate change into the classroom! Find out more and register [here](#)!

- St. John's University, Collegeville, MN
- Registration: \$200
- Lodging: \$37/night in double room on campus
- 22 Clock Hours

