



YES! Update 11.2.2020

Program Announcements & Regional Highlights

- Sign up for [free training](#) in a uniquely interactive approach to immersing your students in **climate and energy policy challenges** at a global scale. You will get the experience of being in a simulation yourself, and see the highlights of free, easy-to-use online guides. You will be prepared to facilitate a simulation with your students in your high school class or YES! Club.

Two different simulation trainings are offered:

- [World Climate Simulation](#) uses C-ROADS and participants negotiate a global climate goal. Training offered Wed Nov 11 & 18 OR Fri Nov 13 & 20.
- [Climate Action Simulation](#) uses En-ROADS and participants choose energy solutions to reduce emissions. Training offered Wed Dec 2 & 9 OR Fri Dec 4 & 11.

Learn more at: <https://z.umn.edu/ClimateSimulations>

This training is funded by an Institute on the Environment (IonE) mini-grant and the simulations were developed through funding by NSF and other partners. ~**Shelli-Kae Foster, Program Director**

- If your team is interested in getting outside and enjoying our MN seasons, Prairie Woods ELC is offering free fat tire bike rentals to YES! teams, please contact me to set up a time to hit the trails and learn about our vast landscapes along the way! ~**Taylor Templer, West Central Coordinator**
- Members of the Sleepy Eye YES! Team had a blast collecting native seeds and making seed bombs on windy Wed. October 14th! We collected the seeds from the thriving pollinator garden they planted two years ago at Ross Park Apartments. Once the seed bombs are dry, students will launch them into bare spots at a different prairie planting established by the team. ~**Deb Groebner, Southern/Northeast Coordinator**

YES! Events

Online Workshops: *How to Make Sense of Minnesota's Changing Climate* by Dr. Kenneth Blumenfeld, a climatologist who works for the MN Department of Natural Resources was a great success, thanks for those who attended! If you weren't able to join us, watch the recording (67 min) [here!](#) *Keep an eye out for the next event in our Virtual Series on Climate Change!*

Fall/Winter Workshops: Customized workshops either at Prairie Woods ELC, Ney Nature Center, or at your school. We will keep these events small and follow COVID-19 safety guidelines. These workshop include but are not limited to: Edible Landscapes, Prairie Restoration and Soil Health, Aquatic Invasive Species Surveying and Water Testing, etc.. Contact your coordinator and let them know what your team is interested in!

Other Opportunities

Is your YES! team looking for funding?

Consider applying for a Walmart Community Grant!

[Guidelines and Eligibility for Walmart Local Community Grants](#) (\$250-\$5,000)

To complete what is possibly the shortest grant application you'll ever see:

- Click on [this link](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page
- In the drop-down menu, select "Community Grant Program"
- Click "Submit" to advance to the eligibility questions
- For Organization Name, use your school's name

Based on previous experience with applying for this grant, you might improve your chances by following up directly with the **Facility Manager** or **Grant Administrator** at your local Walmart. Inform them that your school submitted a Community Grant application and encourage them to review and approve your grant request. This is likely your **ONLY** chance to tell them about YES! because the application doesn't ask for details. For this grant, be sure to emphasize the positive impacts YES! students and projects have on their community!

[Student & Coaches Corner](#)

Password: *sayyes!*

Major support for YES! comes from LYFT Career Pathways, Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF), and Waste Management. Thank you!