



Agriculture and Urban
Pollution Prevention

Discovery Farms
Advisory Workgroup
Manitowoc County Discovery
Farms Project Area

Supporting Solutions through Community

DISCOVERY FARMS PROJECT AREA

The Manitowoc County Discovery Farms Project Area (DFPA) is a unique collaboration of agricultural, conservation and government groups. The aim is to identify and reduce the sources and methods of phosphorus and E. coli contamination in the surface waters of Manitowoc County through science-based research on two working farms.

The University of Wisconsin and U.S. Geological Survey will monitor fields and watershed and gather data on nutrients, sediments, pesticides and other elements, and determine where they are leaving the landscape. They will work with farmers to find economical and effective ways to comply with environmental regulations while monitoring profitability.

This INRP grant will support the production of outreach materials and hosting of a Media Day and four Field Days during 2004 and 2005. The goal is to educate and improve communication among farmers, researchers, citizens and policy-makers about effective environmental management practices that are compatible with profitable agriculture.

MID PROJECT REPORT

The Discovery Farms Media Day Kickoff event brought together 100 members of environmental, agricultural, recreational, governmental and media stakeholder groups. A comprehensive media kit was provided each participant. The kit included a map of DFPA, brochures of each farm and a summary of the project itself. Scientific articles from each presenter were also included. Valuable dialog occurred at both the formal presentations and the tours.

Information about the DFPA has appeared in weekly columns for the Lakeshore Chronical and other basin newspapers and Channel 2 News. Presentations about the DFPA have reached 500 people belonging to 20 different public and private agencies. The International Watershed Seminar in Manitowoc County will host 24 people from 12 countries. DFPA will present at this conference.

At a Glance...

Project:

To educate and improve communication among farmers, researchers, citizens and policy-makers about effective environmental management practices that are compatible with profitable agriculture.

Grant Recipient:

Discovery Farms Advisory Workgroup

Amount Awarded: \$4,750

Funding Cycle: 2004



The Discovery Farms Project will work with farmers to find economical and effective ways to comply with environmental regulations while monitoring profitability.

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