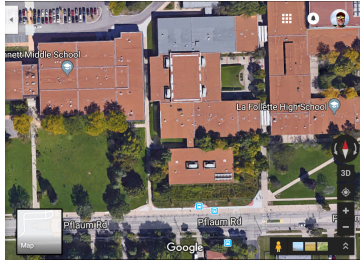


Citizen Science School Garden and Community Arboretum

“Putting Data in the Hands of Our Students” - Becky Walters



In 1970's two biology teachers and numerous students built an arboretum on the campus of LaFollette High School in Madison, Wisconsin. The purpose of this space was multifold:

- Provide a natural environment to teach classes (no field trip costs)
- Improve water quality, anchor soil, provide wildlife & pollinator habitats, and sequester carbon

Unfortunately, this amazing resource is not well utilized. With the FUNding Friday min-grant we will make the arboretum an interactive space for students & our community! Students will visit a Wisconsin hardwood forest, prairie and pond ecosystem; collect & share data; and conduct research using real time, scientifically sound Earth science data. We will place PurpleAir sensors, rain gauges and QR codes throughout the arboretum. This will allow students to:

- Collect air quality data for environmental awareness via PurpleAir (<https://www2.purpleair.com/>)
- Connect the community to geomagnetism via NOAA's CrowdMag app (walking through the arboretum)
- Engage in rain gage collection and reporting via CoCoRahs (<https://www.cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=store>)
- Complete individual research projects
- Use this and other data to participate in the JPSS Virtual Science Fair this fall. (*studying satellite data and imagery (Wildfires and Air Quality) by comparing Aerosol Optical Depth to ground truth observation*)

Finally, students will work with the community to build raised bed vegetable gardens

- Provide healthy vegetables while promoting a lighter carbon footprint lifestyle
- Explore EnROADS model to educate themselves on this one easy way everyone can slow climate change

The \$3000 FUNding Friday award

- \$80 for a rain gauges
- \$270 for the Purple Air sensor
- \$500 for signage/sign posts
- \$500 for website creation
- \$800 for arboretum beautification & plants
- \$800- making the space handicap accessible (ramp & limestone path)