What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded over $332 million to more than 7,748 initiatives.

SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining an online library of practical publications, granteeproduced information products and other educational materials.

SARE in Washington, D.C.

Project Highlight: Bringing Fresh Foods to Low-Income Areas

A city food bank used SARE funding to boost activity at its farmers’ market—and the community’s access to fresh, healthy foods—in a low-income neighborhood where one supermarket chain store serves about 200,000 people.

Capital Area Food Bank leaders attracted about 1,800 customers to their Anacostia Farmers Market in the 2004 season, a record number for the market, by creating incentives for farmers and consumers to participate.

To help ensure regular farmer involvement, organizers offered them from $300 to $750 per week, depending on the availability of funds.

To attract consumers, organizers advertised and held special events connected with the market, including summer celebrations, a chili cook-off, family days, cooking demonstrations and youth learning experiences. One activity involved taking urban youth on a field trip to an organic farm about 10 miles away in Maryland.

Project leaders expanded the market’s offerings to include specialty items such as Amish cheeses, culinary herbs, homemade jams and mustards, mint tea, honey, pasta sauce and tomato soup.

Organizers also acquired a food stamp/Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) sales tool for the market, which was intended to allow them to serve the neighborhood’s poorest residents.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number LNE01-149.

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to www.sare.org/state-summaries
SARE Grants in Washington, D.C.

Total awards: 3 grants

- 2 Research and Education
- 1 Graduate Student

Total funding: $144,577

- $129,577 Research and Education
- $15,000 Graduate Student

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

SARE's Impact

- 53 percent of producers report using a new production technique after reading a SARE publication.
- 79 percent of producers said they improved soil quality through their SARE project.
- 64 percent of producers said their SARE project helped them achieve higher sales.

Learn about local impacts at: northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/washington-d-c

Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit northeast.sare.org/state-pages/washington, d.c. to learn more.

State coordinator positions are temporarily vacant for Washington, D.C.. Contact your SARE region for additional information.

For detailed information on SARE projects, go to www.SARE.org

SARE is funded by the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

This report includes summaries of competitive grant programs only. Some competitive grant programs that are no longer offered may be included or excluded from the totals in this report depending on the grant program and SARE region.
AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN
WASHINGTON, D.C.
by USDA’s
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

Washington, D.C. has been awarded $144,577 grants to support 3 projects, including but not limited to, 2 research and/or education projects. Washington, D.C. has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

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Total funding from the USDA SARE program to Washington, D.C. $144,577

For further information on projects, contact Deb Heleba, Northeast SARE communications specialist, at 802-651-8335, ext 552 or debra.heleba@uvm.edu. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).