

Wisconsin's Top Rural Development Initiatives 2011

Wisconsin Rural Partners, Inc., announces its 2011 recognition program to help spread the word about the great things happening in rural Wisconsin. Wisconsin Rural Partners, Inc. is a statewide non-profit organization whose mission is to develop leadership, networks and voice for rural Wisconsin.

Eligibility

The purpose of this recognition program is to uncover and share the great things happening in rural Wisconsin. Any project, activity, or even a whole community in rural Wisconsin is eligible. We look for nominations that cite positive community impacts, regional success stories, or demonstrated innovative ideas. Initiatives can be in economic or community development, business, education, health, energy, environment, philanthropy, tourism, or any other field, as long as they have had positive impacts. Initiatives do not have to be community-based: we may recognize any state, federal, tribal, non-profit or for-profit business program, regional or statewide, as long as it demonstrates partnership and innovation in its success. Those initiatives receiving previous Top RDI designation are not eligible. This is not a competition for resources or favoritism of any sort; it is simply a capacity building tool from which all rural Wisconsin communities stand to benefit.

Nominations

Anyone living in or serving rural Wisconsin can nominate an initiative. A nomination form is found below. Nominations are due at the Wisconsin Rural Partners office, P.O. Box 27, Hollandale, WI 53544, by close of business on November 4, 2011. Nominations are accepted via postal mail or e-mail to ricky@wirural.org

Judges & Criteria

The judges will look at a few simple things: whether the project demonstrates the spirit of partnership or collaboration in making its success happen; how widespread and long term the positive impact is for the community; and how the initiative stacks up as a model for other communities in Wisconsin to follow. The panel of judges will be from various professions and backgrounds.

Recognition

Awards will be made at the 2011 Rural Summit, December 2, 2011, Wausau

Submit

Complete and attach the nomination form below to your nomination narrative. To submit.....

- By postal mail: 3 copies of your nomination to Wisconsin Rural Partners, Inc., P.O. Box 27, Hollandale, WI 53544
- By e-mail to ricky@wirural.org

Additional materials such as flyers, pictures or brochures are accepted, but you must mail 6 copies of all additional materials.

Sorry, nominations will not be accepted via fax.

Please forward this nomination form to anyone who may be interested.



**Wisconsin Rural Partners Top Rural Development Award 2011
NOMINATION FORM**

Name of Nominated Project/Activity/Community/Organization:

How would you describe this initiative? Check all that apply:

- Agriculture Business Community Development
 Economic Development Energy Philanthropy
 Education Health Information Technology
 Natural Resources Telecommunications Tourism
 Transportation Other (specify) _____

Contact information for the Initiative:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ZIP _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

In 700 words or fewer.....

- **Give a brief history of the initiative**
- **Describe what has been accomplished and who was/is involved**
- **Explain how this initiative demonstrates the spirit of partnership or collaboration**
- **Describe the long term impact this initiative will have on the community**
- **Describe how other communities can use this initiative as a model**

Nominator's Name: _____

Nominator's Address: _____

Nominator's phone and email address: _____

