



### About the Top RDI program

The purpose of the Top Rural Development Initiative Program is to uncover and share the great things happening in rural Wisconsin. This is not a competition for resources or favoritism, but simply a capacity-building tool from which all Wisconsin communities stand to benefit.

Initiatives chosen as Top RDIs will receive recognition and appear in WRP's online database of initiatives that rural communities can use as models.

**DEVELOPING NETWORKS,  
LEADERSHIP AND VOICE FOR  
RURAL WISCONSIN**



## WISCONSIN RURAL PARTNERS

Wisconsin Rural Partners is a statewide, non-profit community development organization. Since 1992, WRP's work has directly benefitted Wisconsin's rural communities by:

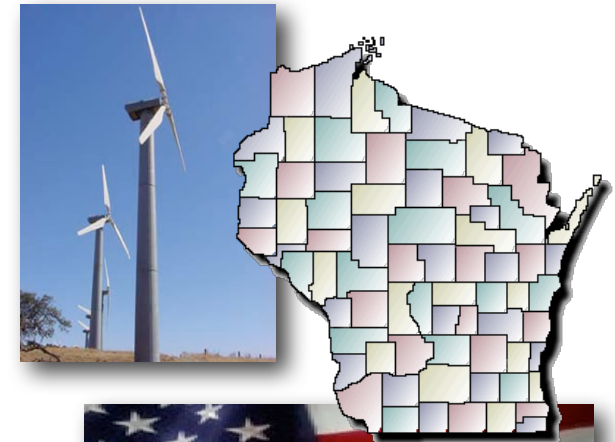
- Providing educational programming in the areas of community development and leadership programming;
- Developing networks and collaborations between the public and private sectors to provide programs and services to rural Wisconsin residents and their communities;
- Recognizing and disseminating information on rural development and leadership best practices for replication elsewhere in the state;
- Developing innovative strategies for rural communities to make wise use of resources

WRP is the federally-recognized State Rural Development Council (SRDC) for Wisconsin and a member of Partners for Rural America.

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## WISCONSIN TOP RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE AWARDS 2011

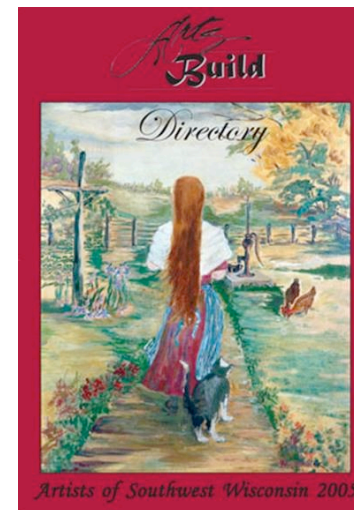
**CELEBRATING RURAL  
WISCONSIN'S FINEST SINCE  
1998**





# NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

FOR A NOMINATION FORM SEND AN  
EMAIL TO [RICKY@WIRURAL.ORG](mailto:RICKY@WIRURAL.ORG), OR  
GO TO [WWW.WIRURAL.ORG](http://WWW.WIRURAL.ORG)



# TELL US YOUR STORY!

## Anyone can nominate!

We all know of highly effective programs and projects, efforts that really stand out.

Any project, activity or even a whole community in rural Wisconsin that has made positive impacts or demonstrated innovative ideas is eligible.

Initiatives do not have to be community-based: We may recognize any state, federal, tribal, non-profit or for-profit program, regional or statewide, as long as it demonstrates partnership and innovation in its success.

Nominate by completing the 2011 Nomination Form. Make sure you address the criteria

It's OK to attach additional materials such as flyers, pictures or brochures but make sure you send 6 copies of each.

You can submit a nomination via mail or email.

## Past award winners include....

Alliance for Sustainability	Ashland
Dunn County Partnership for Youth	Dunn County
Wisconsin Rural Women's Initiative	Statewide
Buy Local Initiative	Mineral Point Chamber of Commerce
Municipal Communications Utility	Reedsburg
ArtsBuild	Platteville
Westfield School Biodiesel Project	Westfield
Puentes/Bridges	Alma
Dental clinic and senior housing project	Darlington

## What we're looking for

The judges will look for a few simple things: whether the project demonstrates the spirit of partnership or collaboration in making its success happen; how wide-spread and long-term the positive impact is; and how the initiatives stacks up as a model for other communities in Wisconsin to follow.

In your description make sure you....

- ☀ Give a brief history of the initiative
- ☀ Describe what has been accomplished and who was involved
- ☀ Explain how this initiative demonstrates the spirit of partnership or collaboration
- ☀ Describe how other communities can use this initiative as a model
- ☀ Tell us about the impact this initiative has had, on whom, where.