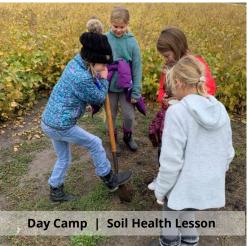




Connecting Minnesotans to the Evolving Story of Agriculture for 45 years







Request to accept Senate Language in UEH1830-1, as written in Article 1, Sec. 24, Subd. 3(d), Lines 19.3 - 19.5.

An appropriation increase to \$215,000 for 2024 and again in 2025 to allow for site improvements and continued expansion of agricultural literacy programs across Minnesota. The base appropriation is \$115k in FY 2026 and each year thereafter, an amount that has been a tradition since legislators created Farmamerica in 1978. (Original: HF 2522 and SF 2906.)

The Challenge

Very few Minnesotans feel connected to agriculture or understand its relevance in their lives. Farmamerica's current budget cannot accommodate its deferred maintenance while also expanding its experiences and hands-on exhibits to reconnect Minnesotans to today's agriculture.

Farmamerica's Results & Solution

In 2022: NINCREASE AG AWARENESS: Farmamerica added new hands-on exhibits to help illustrate everyone's personal connections to food, fiber, renewable fuel, and natural resources. We updated a feed mill classroom and remodeled our Welcome Lobby.

In 2023:

- ▶ **INCREASE TALENT POOL:** Farmamerica developed a 4-day, jobshadowing program for high schoolers to experience agriculture careers across the GreenSeam.
- ▶ INCREASE AG KNOWLEDGE: Farmamerica became a MN Dept of Ag <u>Discovery Farms</u> site. In-field trainings, demonstrations, and real-time monitoring of water quality and quantity on Farmamerica's cropland will help Minnesota farmers and consumers understand the impact of controlled water drainage on farmland in Southern MN.

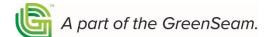
2025:

- In 2023 SAFER EXPERIENCES: Farmamerica will repair historic buildings used to illustrate Minnesota's rich agricultural heritage.
 - ▶ INCREASE TALENT POOL & AWARENESS: Farmamerica will bring new agriculture awareness to the 18-35-year-old talent pool through interactive, social gaming experiences that illustrate modern ag careers and sustainable farming practices.

Background

- ▶ The Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center Farmamerica is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created by the Minnesota Legislature in 1978 to promote and celebrate the evolving story of agriculture.
- Mission: Connect Minnesotans to the evolving story of agriculture through hands-on educational experiences, partnerships, and community engagement. (Including: historic farm tours, interactive activities, 3rd-5th grade field trips, 6th-8th grade Ag Career Exploration field trips, farm camps, and family events.

Learn more: www.Farmamerica.org





















2023



