

CSS Summer Program 2023

Food, Farm, and Society



Academic: 3 hrs/day for 20 days over 4 weeks

Work: 2 hrs/ day for 20 days over 4 weeks

Wage = \$13.00/hr

40 hrs x \$13.00 = \$520 (before taxes)

Academic Credit: ½ credit based on 60 hours (using Carnegie Unit System) and/or credit towards targeted proficiencies. A dual transcript indicating performance on content indicators as well as transferable skills will be provided so that participating schools can determine how to best “credit” students for their learning.

Schedule

Daily: 8:30 to 11:30 Academics
11:30 to 12:00 Lunch
12:00 to 2:00 Work

Week 1: 6/19 to 6/23
2: 6/26, 6/27 and 7/5, 7/6, 7/7
3: 7/17 to 7/21
4: 8/7 to 8/11

Note: The weeks are spread out to coincide with the work needed and the educational opportunities available as the gardens grow.

Topics Addressed

A benefit of experiential learning is that students are engaged by the relevance of addressing authentic problems created by real scenarios. For this reason there is considerable flexibility built into a syllabus for a course of this nature. This allows us to address, and take advantage of, learning opportunities as they arise.

Topics will include, but are not limited to:

Land-use: exploring various farming techniques and their impact on water quality and climate change

Soil Management: low impact techniques for increasing soil fertility and plant health

Plant Physiology: How are these plants growing?

Integrated Pest Management: using low impact, “natural” methods to protect against pests

Nutrition: exploring how chemical properties of the plants we grow affect human health

Economics: analyze costs associated with small-scale local food production compared to industrial agriculture

Food Security: study conditions necessary for affordable access to sufficient nutritional food for all members of our community

Participants will maintain the gardens, greenhouses, chicken coop, beehives, and aquaponics system at Montpelier High School. In addition, there will be field trips to local farms and food processing facilities.