

## Reaping the Rewards of Our SARE Investment

December 8, 2008

University of Illinois Extension –  
Sangamon County Office - Springfield Center

Illinois State Fairgrounds, Bldg #30

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

- 8:30 Registration, food
- 9:00 Welcome & Purpose –  
Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, Extension Specialist  
Small Farms and Sustainable Agriculture, University of Illinois Extension;  
State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator, NCR SARE
- 9:10 Introduction of Fishbowl Process –  
Julia Kleinschmit Rembert, Clinical Assistant Professor  
University of Iowa School of Social Work - Sioux City Part-Time Program;  
Briar Cliff University
- 9:20 Introductions – all
- 9:40 First Fishbowl –  
Agricultural Researchers and Educators in the middle: Partnering with  
Sustainable Farmers: How, why, and why now?  
Areas to explore:
- How is it helpful to be involved with sustainable farmers?
  - What are ways that researchers and extension folks can partner with farmers?
  - What are reasons farmers would want to partner with Research and Education people?
  - What kind of benefits/incentives can Research and Extension people provide to farmers for partnering?
  - What are some examples of positive partnerships between farmers and agricultural researchers and educators?
- 10:30 Break
- 10:40 Responses to the fishbowl from the full group
- 11:30 Lunch

- 12:30 Second Fishbowl –  
Farmers in the middle: What questions are most interesting to you?  
Areas to explore:
- Thinking about your farm, what are two research questions that you have?
  - How would you go about getting those questions answered?
  - Thinking about your farm and experience, what two things do you think you could teach others to do?
  - How could you partner with Agriculture Researchers and Educators to address these goals?
  - What are some examples of positive partnerships that you know of between farmers and agricultural researchers and educators?
- 1:40 Responses to fishbowl from full group
- 2:30 Small groups –  
Based on what we've learned, what are ways farmers, educators, and researchers work together?  
Areas to explore:
- What are concrete ways we can work together?
  - What are upcoming opportunities to do this kind of collaboration?
  - What organizations/funders might partner to support this kind of work?
  - In the 1980s and 90s, Illinois had a statewide agriculture network. What did we learn from that experience?
  - Who specifically, here at this meeting or not, would be interested in taking this idea further?
- 3:20 Report back to full group, next steps
- 4 pm Wrap up and Adjourn