



SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

There grows the neighborhood

Sweet Water Foundation
2151 S Robinson Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53207
www.sweetwaterfoundation.com
email: info@sweetwaterfoundation.com
phone: 414-215-WORM (9676)



SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

Turning Waste Into Community Resource

At Sweet Water Foundation (SWF, a 501c3 organization), our mission is to educate for resilient 21st century communities through sustainable urban agriculture practices. We do this by developing and delivering intergenerational and interdisciplinary educational programming for sustainability. Sweet Water Foundation incorporates historical, technological, scientific, artistic, and cultural components into a project-based learning approach. Centered upon the fundamental concept of turning waste into a community resource, SWF addresses such topics as community and economic development, health/wellness concerns, the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and environmental awareness and stewardship concerning local and global themes of food, soil, water, and energy.



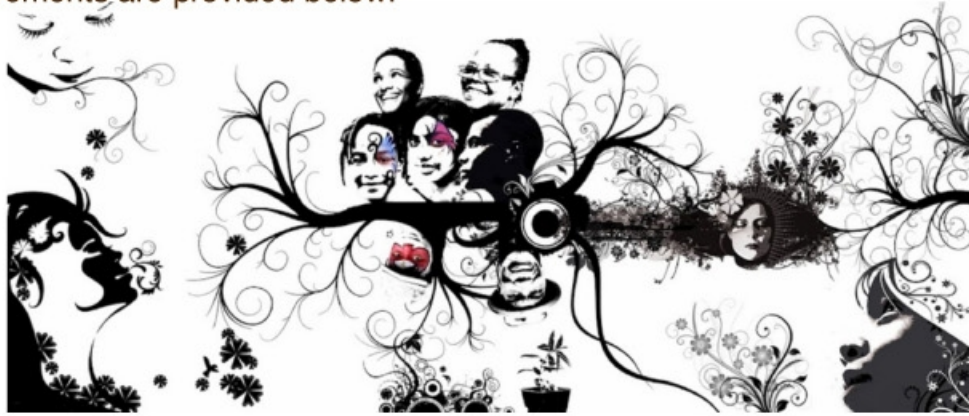
Currently Sweet Water Foundation is working with more than 1,500 students in schools and community organizations, 15 universities, and the Great Lakes Water Institute. Sweet Water's interactive, educational facilities, located at the Sweet Water Organics site in Milwaukee and at the Aquaponics Center at Chicago State University, provide the environment necessary for hands-on learning. Underscoring these spaces are a pedagogy that stresses the relationship between inspiration, education, action, and innovation. Students who participate in our programming walk away with skill-sets that will prepare them for both their academic and career futures, particularly as we move toward a more "green-collar" economy. Our goal is to reach 10 percent of schools in the Midwest by 2020.

Since our founding in December 2009, our small but dedicated team has been recognized by IBM Smarter Cities for a Smarter Planet Challenge, NBC Nightly



SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

News, the New York Times, National Public Radio, and most recently the MacArthur Foundation. We have also been recognized by the mayors of both of the cities we serve - Chicago's Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Milwaukee's Mayor Tom Barrett - for our efforts to re-engage the disengaged learners and actively transforming the educational paradigm through hands on interdisciplinary and intergenerational models of learning. Web links that highlight these achievements are provided below.



In the Media

NBC Nightly News:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/40202285#40202285>

MacArthur Foundation's Digital Media and Learning Competition:

Press release:

www.dmlcompetition.net/media/4/BadgesforLifelongLearningAnnouncement.pdf

Full concept detail

<http://www.dmlcompetition.net/Competition/4/badges-projects.php?id=3197>

New York Times:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/28/business/energy-environment/28iht-rbofish.html>

IBM Smarter Cities Report:

http://smartercitieschallenge.org/executive_reports/SmarterCities_Milwaukee.pdf

Modeled Media

<http://www.modeldmedia.com/features/visionpratt412.aspx>

Programs 2011-12

Farm Tours

Sweet Water Foundation led educational tours of Sweet Water Organics farm for over 30, K-12 schools, universities and youth organizations in the Milwaukee area in 2011 and over 50 groups since the onset of 2012. Educational tours include an introduction to the benefits and values of urban agriculture, healthy eating, urban revitalization, and environmental care. The tour also includes hands-on lessons in gardening, composting, or aquaponics.



School Visits

Sweet Water Foundation visited 3 schools and other organizations in the Milwaukee area in 2011, delivering content lessons on urban agriculture, as well as hands-on lessons in vermiculture, composting, gardening and aquaponics. In 2012, SWF has to date worked with over 10 schools in the Milwaukee and Chicago areas, and seeks to expand its programs to accommodate 5 additional schools later this year.



Consultation and Installation

Sweet Water Foundation consulted and/or implemented urban agriculture practices at over 10, K-12 schools and 1 community organization in the Milwaukee area in 2011 and 10 schools since the onset of 2012. SWF works with all stakeholders at the site: teachers, students, administrators, parents – to make sure all practices at the school are sustainable and beneficial to the site and program. Practices developed on school sites include miniature aquaponics systems, greenhouse gardening, outdoor gardening, vermiculture and composting systems.





SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

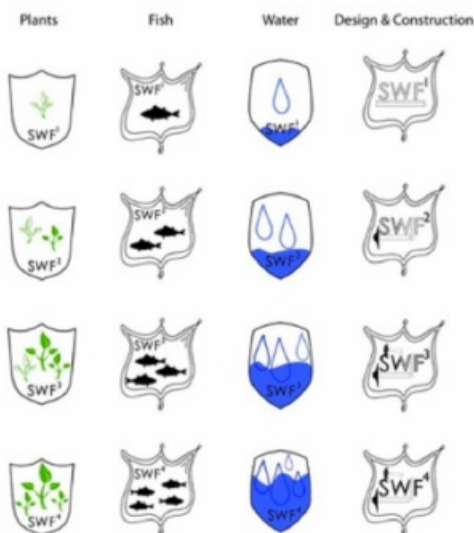
Midwest Aquaponics Expertise Development Initiative (MAEDI)

Sweet Water Foundation is currently in the pilot stage of the Midwest Aquaponics Expertise Development Initiative (MAEDI). In conjunction with the Milwaukee Teacher Education Center (MTEC), Sweet Water Foundation received funding from the US Department of Agriculture to conduct a teacher training and educational pilot program to support student's entry into food science related careers. Through MAEDI, SWF is developing an aquaponics learning framework to increase high school teacher instructional competencies in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines using school-based miniature aquaponics systems. The framework is being piloted through the training of 5 aquaponics instructional coaches and teachers from a variety of content areas in 6 schools who will design and deliver aquaponics based lessons to high school students in the 2011-12 school year.

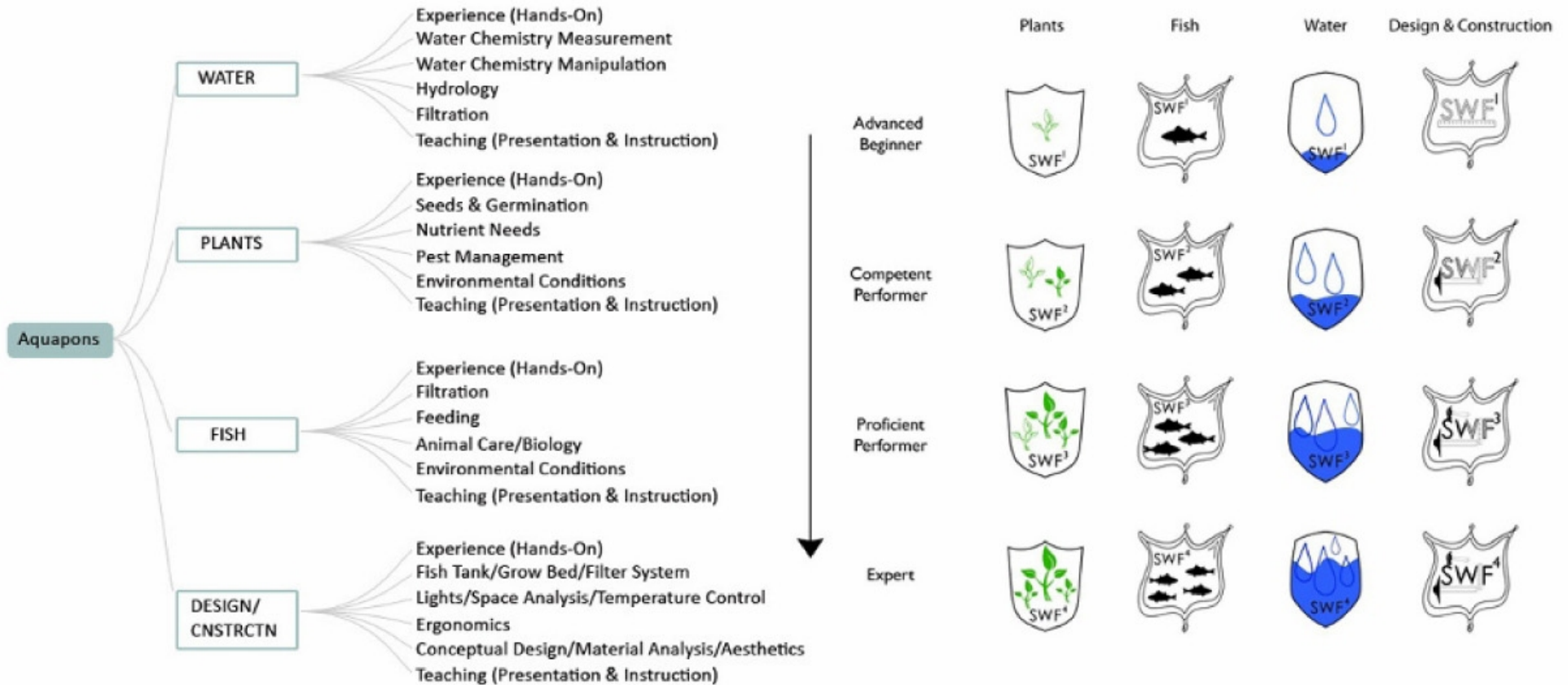


Sweet Water AQUAPONS

Sweet Water Foundation, was named a winner of the MacArthur Digital Media and Learning Competition, and has received funding from Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC) to develop a replicable model for urban agriculture education, entitled AQUAPONS. During 2012, SWF will develop and enhanced curriculum and digital learning platform that will support the requirements of Common Core Learning, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), IMS Interoperability Standards, and Open Standards. The AQUAPONS model, which will be fully developed by 2013, will meet the growing needs of lifelong learners to help improve their professional, academic, and personal endeavors, as well as build opportunities to expand SWF's reach outside the Milwaukee and Chicago areas.



SWEET WATER AQUAPONS BADGE HIERARCHY



The Seed to Table Initiative

Funded by the Newman's Own Foundation, the Seed to table Initiative engages students in the production and distribution of food from seed to table. Through the program, students from La Causa Charter School have been tasked with germinating seeds, constructing an aquaponics system, growing fish and plants, and producing a culturally oriented meal with their produce. Through the Seed to Table Initiative Sweet water seeks to promote interdisciplinary education, especially in the STEM disciplines.



Growing Networks- India



Sweet Water Foundation is currently partnering with Mahattil LLC, UW-Madison, and St. Albert's College in Cochin to form the Growing Networks Collaborative. As a part of the Growing Networks Collaborative, SWF is working to expand the reach of its AQUAPONICS curriculum to communities overseas- beginning in Kerala, India. The Growing Networks pilot project "Empowerment through Aquaponics" will progress in the summer of 2012, through a UW-Madison based service-learning project in which 8 UW-Madison students are tasked with constructing a scalable aquaponics system at St. Albert's College an Aquaculture College in India. SWF's primary role in the project is that of curriculum development. The UW-Madison students will be hosted at SWF's facilities in late May to learn how to construct and operate a fully functioning aquaponics system.

The Mycelia Leadership Institute

The Mycelia Leadership Institute is an innovative and educational collaboration, between Sweet Water Foundation and various K-12 schools, that seeks to unite communities through hands-on, experiential projects that promote learning focused on food, soil, water, and energy sustainability. The major focus of the Mycelia project is connecting K-12 students from diverse neighborhoods to support growing (through aquaponics systems and gardens) & learning (by developing teacher expertise through training and customized STEM-based curriculum units). Sweet Water Foundation is currently initiating the Mycelia project in Chicago.



Current Partnerships

Milwaukee:



Schools:

- Bay View High School
- Fernwood Montessori
- La Causa Charter School
- Rufus King High School
- Shorewood New Horizons Charter School
- Texas Bufkin Christian Academy
- Centro Hispano High School
- Glenwood Elementary School
- Grandview High School

Non-Profit Organizations

- Journey House
- Center for Veterans Issues
- National Association of Black Veterans
- Milwaukee Teacher Evaluation Center
- YouthWorks
- Student Conservation Association

Universities:

- Milwaukee School of Engineering
- Marquette
- Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
- University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee

Business

- Sweet Water Organics



SWEET WATER FOUNDATION

Chicago:

Schools:

- CCA Academy
- CSW Academy
- Carnegie Elementary School
- Chicago Vocational High School
- Francis Parker High School
- Grandview High School
- Kwame Nkrumah Academy
- Whitney Young Magnet High School
- Yale Elementary
- KIPP Chicago
- Lindblom Math and Science Academy
- Perspectives Charter School
- St Ignatius High School
- Woodlawn University Charter School
- Woodlawn Community School
- Lane Tech College Prep
- Dunbar Vocational High School
- Chicago Vocational High School
- ACE Tech High School
- Kenwood Academy High School
- Hyde Park High School
- Lindblom Math and Science Academy
- Wendell Phillips Academy



Universities:

- Chicago State University
- Kennedy King City College
- DePaul University (Steans Center for Community-Based Service Learning)
- St Ignatius High School

Non-Profit Organizations

- Architecture for Humanity
- Center for Urban Transformation
- Cannon Design Architects
- Real Men Cook
- Richards Academy
- Shedd Aquarium
- MK Chicago Restaurant



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **DEC 07 2010**

SWEET WATER FOUNDATION INC
C/O OLIVER PLUNKETT
2151 S ROBINSON AVE
MILWAUKEE, WI 53207

Employer Identification Number:
27-1391983
DLN:
17053082302020
Contact Person:
YVONNE LIGGETT ID# 31296
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
December 7, 2009
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 947 (DO/CG)