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**Buffalo Students Awarded Project Learning Tree® Grant
to Create a Native Pollinator Garden**

Washington, D.C. – Project Learning Tree® (PLT), the environmental education program of the American Forest Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Prince William Network, announced today that a *GreenWorks!* PollinatorLIVE grant was awarded to Wright Technical Center/Wright Learning Center in Buffalo, Minnesota. The project will involve students at WTC/WLC to restore abandoned cropland near their school and plant a pollinator garden.

Pollinators include bees, butterflies, birds, and other species that play an important role in the health of humans, wildlife, and the surrounding environment. Planting gardens with plants native to Minnesota provides the pollinators with the habitat they need to thrive.

The students in grades 6 through 12 will plan, design, and maintain the garden. The garden will also reinforce the curriculum in their science, art, math, English, social studies, and health classes, as well as teach valuable team-building and cooperative learning.

“The parcel of land is an eyesore and the school receives regular complaints about its condition,” said project coordinator Craig Hagberg. “The pollinator garden will give students a chance to learn valuable skills while providing a service to the school and the local community.”

GreenWorks! is PLT’s service-learning program that engages PLT educators, their students, and local communities in “learning-by-doing” neighborhood improvement projects. In this round of grants, funded by the U.S. Forest Service, PLT has partnered with PollinatorLIVE, a distance learning initiative that focuses on pollinators, gardening, and conservation. Since 1992, Project Learning Tree has distributed nearly \$1 million to fund almost 1,000 grant projects in communities across the country.

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About Project Learning Tree

Project Learning Tree® (PLT) uses forests as a window on the world and provides educators with environmental education curriculum resources that can be integrated into lesson plans for all grades and subject areas. PLT teaches students how to think, not what to think, about complex environmental issues, and helps them acquire the skills they need to make sound choices about the environment. Developed in 1976, PLT’s 50-state network includes more than 500,000 trained educators using PLT materials that cover the total environment. PLT is a program of the American Forest Foundation. In Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry sponsors PLT. For more information, visit www.plt.org.