



## NCEMGVA 2022 Inspire Connect Empower Project Grant Recipient

**Rowan County:** Submitted by L. Rider and D. Scott

**Project Title:** Hurley School Pollinator Trees & Shrubs

**Category:** Startup **Funding:** \$500

**Description:** RCEMGVA members have been creating a pollinator garden at Hurley Elementary School (public) since October 2020. Hurley School has a Green School initiative to provide environmental education to its students. They began recycling program, built raised vegetable beds, and an outdoor classroom area in an open area. Master Gardeners have since planted a large bed for pollinators and ecology education.

To continue with the project, they would like to plant trees and/or shrubs around the outdoor classroom to provide some shading of students. Native trees will be selected for shading, flowering, food & shelter of wildlife. They may include white oak, red maple, red buds, holly bushes, hackberry, etc. - specific varieties to the piedmont region. Educational programs will be developed to show the benefits of planting native habitat for wildlife.

Elementary school students will benefit from outdoor, hands-on science & ecology programs. Master Gardeners will be able to present and conduct garden programs with the students. Teachers will have a resource to give hands-on learning of science.