

## Amelia LaMair selected for stewardship grant

Tecumsh resident Amelia LaMair has been recommended to receive a \$1,087 grant from the North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) for the project "Fostering Good Stewardship of Ozarks Forests through a Sustainable Forestry Field Trip."



Amelia LaMair

"Through this project, a trip to the Alford Forest (a 3,200-acre forest in Ozark County) will teach youth about timber stand improvement, biodiversity, agroforestry, carbon sequestration. This project will present forest-based agriculture as an alternative to clear-cutting and make youth aware of the economic, environmental, and social benefits of sustainable forestry," according to a news release announcing the grant, which was awarded as part of NCR-SARE's Youth Educator Program. The program supports educators who seek to provide programming on sustainable agriculture for youth.

The NCR-SARE focus is on research and education. Funding considerations are based on how well the applicant presents the problem being addressed, the project's relevance to sustainable agriculture in the region, and how well it aligns with NCR-SARE's goals, among other factors.

NCR-SARE's administrative council decides which projects will receive SARE funds. The council includes a diverse mix of agricultural stakeholders in the region. Council members hail from regional farms and ranches, the Missouri University Extension Service, universities, federal agencies and nonprofits.

Since 1988, the SARE program has helped advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for communities through a nationwide research and education grants program. The program, part of USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, funds projects and conducts outreach designed to improve agricultural systems.