



# Community

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Submitted photo

Forest Lake FFA members attended the State Greenhand Leadership Conference at Deep Portage Conservation Reserve on June 11-15, designed for new FFA members to learn more about the organization and enhanced their leadership skills.

## FFA members receive personal leadership training

Forest Lake FFA members Grace Ackerman, Rebecca Anderson, and Madison Carpenter joined over 125 fellow students for the State Greenhand Leadership Conference at Deep Portage Conservation Reserve near Hackensack from June 11-15 to develop leadership skills for their communities and home chapters.

The goal of State Greenhand Leadership Conference is to give personal mentoring to first- and second-year high school FFA members. These members come from all corners of the state, represent unique sectors of agriculture and have been recognized as top leaders in their schools.

During the conference, students cover an array of topics during sessions that focus mostly on personal development. Goal setting, professional leadership and career exploration are just a few of the topics discovered during this five-day leadership camp.

"The State Greenhand Leadership Conference is a great opportunity for students to not only grow themselves as leaders, but also to make connections with others around the state and

develop their own network," Minnesota FFA President Grace Taylor said in a press release. "Throughout the time at the conference, it was amazing to see how much students were willing to challenge themselves in sessions and activities in order to grow as people and as leaders."

FFA members had the opportunity to connect with different individuals outside of sessions during fun activities such as volleyball, canoeing and hiking. Each night, the state officers shared personal reflections with the campers, and the final day wrapped up camp with a banquet, talent show and dance.

State Greenhand Leadership Conference serves the Minnesota FFA Association by building talented and young individuals. These members often go on to become chapter, region and state leaders within their FFA chapters and communities.

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