



Aquaculture Boot Camp (ABC) WI Class

 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

In partnership with The Ohio State University (OSU), the UWSP Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility & UWSP Aquaponics Innovation Center is collaborating with Nelson & Pade, Inc.®, WI Aquaculture Association to offer Wisconsin's first Aquaculture/Aquaponics Boot Camp Class. This project is funded by USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture through OSU.

What is Aquaculture Boot Camp? This educational training opportunity prepares participants for fish farming in the Midwest. Applicants register for a one-year tour of duty that includes classroom and field training paired with mentoring from some of the industry's top-ranked leaders including college educators, government specialists, business professionals, and experienced aquaculture/aquaponic producers. Graduates will have the knowledge and hands-on experience to successfully operate or manage an aquaculture or aquaponics farm.

What is the Cost? The intensive trainings, lunch included, are offered **AT NO CHARGE**. You are responsible for any travel costs related to attending the workshops and events.

What is Required? Minimum of 16 days is required to complete this training over the course of a year:

- ✓ Participate in 12 one-day training workshops at various locations (i.e. UWSP-NADF, UWSP-AIC or UWSP campus). Most workshops are held on the third Saturday each month starting February 2018.
 - Aquaculture/Aquaponics Workshop Topics:
 - February: Introduction to program, aquaculture/aquaponic industry status
 - March: Marketing & products
 - April: Principles of aquaculture & aquaponics, system selection
 - May: Fish reproduction & fry production
 - June: Pond production
 - July: Aquaponic business plans & financing
 - August: Water quality
 - September: Plant & fish health
 - October: Fish/plant selection and feeds
 - November: Harvesting, processing & labelling/certification
 - December: Recirculating aquaculture systems
 - January: Presentations and Graduation
- ✓ Participation in 3 additional aquaculture workshops throughout the year at various locations
- ✓ Attend the Aquaculture/Aquaponics bus Tour of WI farms, in collaboration with WI Aquaculture Association

Who is Eligible? Up to 35 recruits will be accepted for this program. We are looking for highly motivated, beginning fish farmers and aquaponic producers across Wisconsin and the Midwest that can dedicate themselves to this program.

How Do I Register? For more information, or to register, please contact UWSP-NADF Outreach Specialist, Emma Wiermaa at ewiermaa@uwsp.edu or 715-779-3262 to fill out an application form.