**Overview of the Independence FFA Chapter,**

**Agricultural Science Department & SAE Component**

**Independence FFA:**

* FFA Enrollment- Currently at 75 Members and plan on growing in 2012.
	+ - Wisconsin- 18,000+ members; USA- 523,000+ members
	+ **Goal #1**: Continue to encourage members to create in-depth Supervised Ag Experience (SAE) projects at State & National Level, which will increase member involvement.
	+ **Goal #2:** Focus on finding more ways to give back to our community (Day of Service, Community garden/orchard concept, etc).
* 2010- 3 American Degree Recipients, 2 State Degree Recipients, 1 National Proficiency Runner-up, Have an Official FFA Alumni Affiliate to provide more opportunities for students.
* 2011- PRIDE Award at State Convention for Membership Increase, James Woychik top in state for his proficiency area, Codey Bisek will receive American FFA Degree at National FFA Convention.

**Current Classroom Offerings:**

* **Plant****Science** *(Transcripted College Credit Through WTC)(3 Credits)*
* **Animal Science**-( *Transcripted College Credit Through WTC, Offered @ Whitehall High School*) *(3 Credits)*
* **Small Engines** (*Advanced Standing Credit Available through WTC, Available to Whitehall Students*) *(3 Credits)*
* **Soil Science & Conservation** (*Advanced Standing Credit Available through WTC) (3 Credits)*
* **Renewable Energy Systems** (*Advanced Standing Credit Available through Mid-State Technical College) (2 Credits)*
* **Environmental Science** *(Offered to Whitehall Students)*
* **Food Science & Processing**
* **Agribusiness & Leadership**
* **Introduction to Agriscience**
* **Forestry & Aquaculture**
* **GPS & GIS Systems**
* **Wildlife & Recreation Management**
* **Landscape Design & Construction**
* **6th-8th Middle School Exploring Agriculture**

**Supervised Ag Experience (SAE) Projects:**

* 2011-2012- All Students enrolled in an Ag course will have an SAE project.
* SAE’s- 48 different areas recognized through FFA organization-
	+ Traditional Ag Areas: Dairy, Beef, Swine, Crop Production, etc.
	+ Non-Traditional Ag Areas: Landscaping, Aquaculture, Renewable Energy, biotechnology, etc.
* Projects may look like:
	+ Agriscience Fair Project or research project
	+ Work Experience at local farm, golf course, greenhouse, etc)
		- Placement or Entrepreneurship
	+ Working with animals and bringing to county fair
	+ Teaching ag literacy to others (ie Kindergarten or scout troop)
* Members can record hours, experience gained, and results on a proficiency application and see how they “stack up” against other members from around the state and nation. (Results in Scholarships, Award $, etc)
* Goal of sending at least 6+ proficiency applications to state competition this year.