



Jeff Miller grew up believing that good work speaks for itself — a belief that has quietly shaped everything he's done since.

A Grayslake-based farmer and educator, Jeff has spent more than two decades building something rooted in both the land and the community around it. Through his work as Conservation Farm Director and Farmer with Liberty Prairie, he feeds over 250 families through a Community Supported Agriculture program.

Additionally, the farm donates over 10,000 pounds of organic produce annually to area food pantries and community organizations — not as a program or initiative, but simply as part of how the farm operates.

In 2023, Jeff joined Graylake District 127 as an agriculture and sustainability instructor, teaching students farming, gardening, animal husbandry, and environmental stewardship. The course carries dual college credit through the College of Lake County, giving students both practical skills and academic standing. Jeff also leads a modified version of the curriculum for students in the school's special education program, creating hands-on opportunities for all learners to contribute meaningfully. His students brought produce donations directly to Avon Township's food pantry — and many returned on their own time to volunteer there, a detail that speaks to the kind of classroom culture Jeff works to build.

His commitment to youth development extends well beyond the school day. Jeff and his sons participated in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, and he later gave back with the Lake Prairie Trail Blazers — a program honoring the bond between parent and child — where he served in multiple leadership roles over seven years. He has hosted educational tours and farm events for organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Waukegan, Mano a Mano, the College of Lake County, and several area school groups. As Farm Director of Liberty Prairie, he mentored more than 10 beginning farmers and 25 interns over the course of his career.

In this way, he lives the Scout Oath not as an aspiration but as a daily practice: serving others willingly, leading with integrity, and teaching young people that citizenship isn't a concept—it's something you grow, tend, and give away. The students who come through his program leave understanding they are part of something bigger than themselves. That doesn't happen by accident. It happens when someone believes, long before students do, that they have something real to offer the world.

Jeff holds a Master of Landscape Architecture from Ball State University and a Bachelor of Arts from Beloit College.