

Growing Our Community *Together*



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mchenrycfb.org/ShopLocal



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LOCAL
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GROW. BUY. EAT.



EDIBLE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AT THE FARM BUREAU OFFICE:

Honey (3 lbs.)	\$15.00
Pork Barbeque Spice (12 oz.)	\$12.00
Pork Burgers (1 lbs.)	\$6.00
Bratwurst (1 lb.)	\$6.00
Italian Sausage Links (1 lb.)	\$6.00
Breakfast Sausage (1 lb.)	\$5.00
Italian Sausage (1 lb.)	\$5.00

Items are produced locally.

Curbside pick-up is available
815-338-1520.

Farm Bureau Office is located at
1102 McConnell Rd, Woodstock.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
(Office is closed 12:00-1:00 pm)

AITC READY FOR NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Ag in the Classroom (AITC) has a full lineup to kick off the school year, more than 2,000 McHenry County teachers are receiving free Ag in the Classroom calendars for the 2025-2026 school year. Calendars highlight agricultural topics with colorful photographs, interesting new vocabulary words, additional books to read about each topic, and fun facts to learn every day.

Teachers are also able to choose free books for their classrooms. Last year, 122 teachers from 16 school districts received a total of 336 free agriculture related books! More than 1,500 Ag-related books have been given to teachers over

the past nine years, thanks to donations to the foundation totaling more than \$12,000!

AITC visits classrooms with pumpkins. Early grade school students have the opportunity to learn all about pumpkins this fall: their history, life cycle and how they get into our Thanksgiving pie! Students make a tasty "pumpkin pie" to try together!

Ag Expo is back! Spring 2026, third and fourth-grade students and their teachers are invited to our popular Ag Expo to be held April 7-8-9 at the McHenry County Fairgrounds in Woodstock. Students will learn about 18 to 20 different agricultural topics.

Students will see animals, crops and machinery. Volunteers are the backbone of this very popular program.

Summer Ag Institute planned for June 2026; teachers visit local agricultural businesses and farms and learn how to incorporate agriculture into their classrooms. The program offers teachers professional development hours or graduate credit.

Thank you to our foundation donors for making Free Books to Teachers, AITC Classroom visits, Ag Expo and SAI possible!



2025 MCHENRY COUNTY FARM STROLL



DISCOVER
LEARN
CONNECT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 | 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MCHENRY COUNTY FARM STROLL AND EXPLORE 11 FAMILY-OWNED FARMS.

This **FREE**, self-guided tour offers a unique opportunity to learn about local agriculture and connect with the farming community.

VISITOR INFORMATION:

- **Free and Family-Friendly:** Choose the farms that interest you and visit them at your own pace during the designated time frame. Limited restrooms are available. View the farm descriptions on the website for details.
- **Local Products for Sale:** Many farms will offer food, produce, and other farm-related products. Bring cash and a cooler.
- **Working Farms:** Follow farmer instructions, respect the animals, dress appropriately, and supervise children. No pets allowed. Wash your hands after exposure to livestock.

The Farm Stroll is organized by the McHenry County Farm Bureau, University of Illinois Extension, and the Center for Agrarian Learning. McHenry County Extension Master Gardeners and 4-H volunteers will be onsite to assist farm families in accommodating guests and conducting demonstrations and tours.

For the latest information, please visit mchenrycfb.org/farmstroll. If accommodation is needed to participate, call 815-338-3737. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet an individual's access needs.



FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

John Hoffman was a long-time member of the Northeastern Illinois Twin Cylinder Club (NEITCC) and served on its board of directors. He was an integral member of the Club, a 41-year employee of Alliance Contractors, Inc., a tractor restoration expert, and a member of the agricultural community.

NEITCC previously decided that a scholarship benefiting someone from the next generation of farmers or tradesmen was a fitting tribute to a man who volunteered constantly and was always willing and able to help. It would be John's hope that a scholarship in his memory would go to someone with the same love of farming and/or the trades that he had.

Mason Nicolai of Woodstock is this year's recipient of the \$1,500 scholarship that is administered through the McHenry County Farm Bureau Foundation. He plans to attend Lake Land College where he will enroll in the John Deere Tech program. Mason is the son of Jason and Amanda Nicolai.

Teresa Merlo of Harvard was also awarded a thousand-dollar scholarship from our foundation. She will be attending the University of Illinois where she will further her studies in Agriculture Education. Teresa is the daughter of Jamie and Sarah Merlo.

mcfb
McHenry County Farm Bureau
FOUNDATION

FARM STROLL FARMS



Bull Valley Farm Country Store and Cow Valley Creamery

**8815 IL Route 120,
Bull Valley**

The Aavang extended family has been farming in McHenry County since the 1840s. This working family farm on 76 acres is home to dairy cows and a creamery where their milk is freshly bottled. Crops including pumpkins are grown in the fields. Their Country Store sells their milk, beef, pork, and chicken and carries a wide variety of items from local farmers and small midwestern businesses.

Bvfamilyfarm.com • (815) 333-6840 • Toilets available



Jorge's Farm

**6710 S Oak Grove Rd.,
Harvard**

Jorge Guereca and family have run Jorge's Farm since 2014 with a large variety of fruit trees, cut flowers and veggies plus chickens and goats. They offer a "u-pick" area in late summer and a farm stand; both will be open during the stroll. They also supply area grocery stores with their large array of veggies from melons and peppers to sweet corn and maize blanco used for tamales and atole. Service provided in English and Spanish.

(815) 790-0018 • Toilets available



Piscasaw Gardens

**9306 Lawrence Rd.,
Harvard**

Piscasaw Gardens is run by the Kinney family. Their mission is to cultivate bonds of community through the abundance of farming. They grow cut-flowers and vegetables at their main location, and Mirai Sweet corn, popcorn seed, and perennial flowers elsewhere. Their bouquets, bulk flowers, popcorn, and vegetables are sold at farmers markets and at their farm store. The store will be open with field maps for self-guided tours of the property.

Piscasaw.com • (608) 352-3236 • Toilets available



Wanda Farms

**17419 Hebron Rd.,
Harvard**

Wanda Farms is a first-generation regenerative farm operated by Joe and Hannah Wanda. They raise grass-fed beef, heritage pigs, pasture-raised chicken and laying hens. Their products are shipped directly to consumers via their e-commerce website. They are on a mission to help families conveniently eat healthier with better tasting, quality meats from a farmer they trust. Their farm store will be open. Farm tours and kid activities will be offered.

Wandafarms.com • (815)-323-4777 • Food Truck on site • Toilets available



Hephzibah Farms Inc

**13202 Hebron Rd.,
Hebron**

Hephzibah Farms sits on 160 acres, is run by the Millers and believes in 'beyond organic' practices when raising their meat and vegetables. The farm store is stocked with beef, lamb, goat, chicken, and pork that they raise naturally along with eggs and vegetables. The store also has baked goods from the farm along with items from local vendors like tallow lotion, natural health and beauty products, gourmet popcorn, chocolate and candies.

Hephzibahfarms.com • (847) 530-7373 • Food Truck on site • Toilets available



Adama Farm

**18317 Garden Valley Rd.,
Marengo**

This is a first-generation, no-till, regenerative farm run by Jessica Davies. The 63 acres are rooted in ecological stewardship, beauty, and nourishment. Over 40 varieties of vegetables and flowers are grown using WWOOF volunteers (learn more at the farm!). Adama focuses on soil health, biodiversity, and slow, intentional growing practices. Walk the gardens, pick pears in the orchard and purchase from their farm store. Bouquet making activities while supplies last.

adamafarm.com • Toilets available.



Garlic eScape Farm

14115 Kishwaukee Valley Rd., Woodstock

Art and Silvia Caines' mission is to offer nutrient dense super foods and to educate about their healing

potential. This certified organic Forest Farm grows garlic and medicinal herbs, rotationally grazes sheep and ducks, and 'tree-range' chickens are integrated in the native flora. Linda Karlen, certified ANFT guide, will offer two forest therapy walks at 11 and 2. Kris Muse' veggies will be sold, and their farm store will be open with fresh baked goods. Farm tours and activities offered. **Garlicescape.com**



Hitch'N Post Alpaca and Llama Farm and Country Cottage

1406 Park Lane Dr., Woodstock

Jeff, CJ, and daughter Julie operate Hitch'N Post. They

work with the VA helping veterans who struggle with PTSD as they find peace with these gentle animals. The Country Cottage is filled with beautiful natural products, mostly made from the fiber of the animals on the farm: socks, scarves, sweaters, dryer balls, stuffed animals, and blankets. Jeff's rehabbed whiskey and wine barrel creations and antiques will be available plus 12 local vendors showing off their artistic & musical creations!

HitchNpostalpacafarm.com • 815-979-6939



Lazy K Ranch

18209 Collins Rd., Woodstock

The Lazy K Ranch is a small-scale family farm active in 4-H. With the help of 2nd and 3rd generation

families, the farm offers horse boarding, riding lessons, costumed pony and donkey appearances, plus custom hay baling, farm-fresh eggs, and raw honey. Visit the animals, enjoy fall photo ops, see antique tractors, and learn how they make it all work. As on Autumn Drive, they will have vendors on premise for the Stroll.

Facebook @lazykranchwoodstock • (815) 715-2070



Soulful Prairies

4706 Alden Rd., Woodstock

This equine Gestalt therapy and retreat center on 80 acres, welcomes you to explore, meet the

fairies in the forest, and take time to nuzzle a horse or goat. Gestalt demos will be at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Soulshine Farm will be selling produce and giving tours at 11:30 AM and 2:30 PM. Crust and Crumb sourdough bread will be for sale and Escential Aroma will be selling lavender products. **soulfulprairies.com • Food Truck on site • Toilets available.**



Sun Berry Orchard

2318 Greenwood Rd., Woodstock

Sergiy and Tanya Bazylyuk and family own Sun Berry Orchard on 30 acres dedicated to diverse fruit

production with over 150 apple varieties, from the newest hybrids to cherished heirlooms plus peaches, plums and apricots. Take hayrides to apple picking while savoring the first air and visit the pasture-raised animals. See ethical and sustainable farming practices. Their produce stand will be open with fruits and vegetables from the fields.

sunberryorchardfarm.com • (847) 404-7555 • Toilets available



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

