



MCHENRY COUNTY FARM STROLL

Join us for the annual McHenry County Farm Stroll on Sunday, September 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 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 Carey 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.



Tractors are lined up before departure from the McHenry County Fairgrounds.

24TH ANNUAL TRACTOR TREK

Our Annual Tractor Trek was held on Saturday, July 18, 2026. The event was co-sponsored by McHenry County Farm Bureau and McHenry County Antique Farm Equipment Association of Illinois. We had 47 antique tractors in this year's event.

Funds raised from this event support Ag in the Classroom.

As always, we are grateful for the drivers, the hosts (McHenry County Fairgrounds, Concorde Center, Crandall's Restaurant, and Bull Valley Farm Country Store) and the outstanding group of volunteers (Team Yellow) that helped make the event a success.

We would like to thank Hebron Alden Greenwood Fire Protection District for their assistance.

We would also like to thank Don Gritmacker for laying out this year's route and TLC Photography and Portraits for capturing images from the event. City Square Dental for sponsoring the ice cream break. Mark Miller was our early registration drawing winner and he donated the \$100 back to the foundation. CONSERV FS, thank you for the goodies and for helping us go further with the midday refueling!

AITC READY FOR NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Ag in the Classroom (AITC) has kicked off the school year with 2,500 McHenry County teachers receiving free Ag in the Classroom calendars for the 2026-2027 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, 69 teachers from 13 school districts received a total of 210 free agriculture related books! More than 1,700 Ag-related books have been given to teachers over the past decade thanks to our generous donors.

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

2026 FAIR BOOTHS

The Farm Bureau Food Booth at the McHenry County Fair was a success, thanks to the help of our volunteers. We appreciate all of the assistance in the booth as we strive to provide reasonably priced food and ice cream products for fairgoers, exhibitors, and vendors. Over \$10,000 was raised for the Farm Bureau Ag Education Foundation to be used for scholarships, internships, and Ag in the Classroom Programs.

The Ag in the Classroom Booth at this year's fair had more than 2,000 visitors. This year's AITC Booth was dedicated to Carol Ziller and Ziller Family Farms. Carol was passionate about agriculture education and teaching about where your food comes from. She was a dedicated dairy farmer and considered herself blessed to be able to farm with her family.

We had 19 FFA kids volunteer from all three of our County's FFA Chapters. They were a great help, and we loved seeing the young faces at both of the booths.



Food booth workers from 2nd shift on Wednesday, 12 different shifts of volunteers made this fundraiser possible.



Kelly Sadowski is ready to engage fairgoers at the Ag in the Classroom booth at the McHenry County Fair