



# March 2026

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## POWER & PIPELINES MEETING FOR MEMBERS

Transitions in the generation and use of electricity are having an impact on agriculture. McHenry County Farm Bureau is hosting a meeting that will provide an update on the status of Illinois' electricity resources and provide suggestions for landowners and farmers considering leasing property for solar projects. The meeting will also include pipeline considerations for those who have pipelines going through their property or have one proposed to go through their property.

Speakers include Bill Bodine, Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs at Illinois Farm Bureau and Garrett Thalgott Assistant General Counsel at the Office of the General Counsel at the Illinois Agricultural Association. Attend to learn more and have your questions answered.

The program will be held at the McHenry County Farm Bureau located at 1102 McConnell Rd., Woodstock on Thursday, April 2 with a 5:30 pm meal and a meeting start time of 6:00 pm. Please call our office at 815-338-1520 or email Dan Volkers at [manager@mchenrycfb.org](mailto:manager@mchenrycfb.org) to register.

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Our Shop Local directory provides simple yet powerful search tools to connect growers, buyers, sellers, and consumers. Join and register your business today. Once you join, you can login and access your account profile as often as you need. The more information you place on your profile, the more searchable you become to the consumer and across a joint network of affiliations. You can also add an e-commerce store or link to an existing store. Visit [mchenrycfb.org/ShopLocal](http://mchenrycfb.org/ShopLocal) to get started or to update your profile.

Because of our partnerships, updating your MarketMaker profile enables automatic updates across multiple platforms, including Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Illinois Farmers Market Association, Farmer Veteran Coalition of Illinois, and Buy Fresh Buy Local Illinois. All of these affiliations are important ways to increase sales and access.



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## AG EXPO - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Ag Expo has been held every other year since 1988 (with a hiatus during COVID pandemic). In total it has reached 43,500 students.

Past participants were rotated through a variety of different stations, listening to different aspects of agriculture in 6-minute sessions. The booths included beef, bees, goats, food safety, dairy, fiber arts, monarchs, poultry, equine, soybeans, corn, specialty crops, swine, sheep, soil and water conservation, machinery/equipment safety, 4-H, Ag. careers and Christmas trees.

Our last expo had 1,300 grade school students take part. Roughly 200 volunteers helped with the event, serving as group leaders, presenters, providing animals or materials, and setting up and tearing down.

This year's event is scheduled for April 7 - 9 at the McHenry County Fairgrounds in Woodstock. Group leaders, presenters, and timekeepers are needed for this event. Call our office at 815-338-1520 or email [mcfbaic@att.net](mailto:mcfbaic@att.net) if you are interested in helping with this great event.



**FARM BUREAU 101 HOW POLICY GETS MADE**

- POLICY IDEA**  
A member brings a policy idea to their county Farm Bureau
- RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**  
County Farm Bureaus bring policy proposals to a group of county Farm Bureau leaders that serve on IFB's Resolutions Committee.
- ANNUAL MEETING**  
Committee approved policies advance to IFB's Annual Meeting for consideration by delegates from every county. Delegate approved policies that are national in scope are sent to AFBF for consideration in their policy process.
- LEGISLATION**  
Once a policy is adopted, IFB staff advocate in Springfield and Washington on behalf of members. The policy book is used as the decision making tool for the organization.
- ACTION REQUESTS**  
When it has the most powerful impact, IFB will issue an action request for members to contact their representatives on behalf of or in opposition to specific legislation.
- PROTECTING ILLINOIS FARMS**  
Through this grassroots process, our members create policy positions that aim to protect Illinois agriculture.

*McHenry CFB has provided a copy of the newsprint policy book for your review.*