



Community

IMPACT GRANT

Applications Available

The Clinton County Farm Bureau's "Community Impact Grant" program seeks to identify projects that will improve our communities and create partnerships with groups and individuals to make them happen.

Deadline is April 30th



SCAN FOR ONLINE APPLICATION

SOIL TESTING KITS NOW AVAILABLE

The Clinton County Farm Bureau, in partnership with the Clinton County Illinois Extension office, is offering soil testing kits this spring through Illinois Farm Bureau's Nutrient Stewardship Grant Program. These kits help homeowners and gardeners better understand their soil and take the guesswork out of fertilizer and nutrient management. Each test includes analysis of soil pH, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, organic matter,

and cation exchange capacity—along with customized fertilizer recommendations. Each kit includes instructions, sample bags, forms, and a shipping box. Soil probes are also available for loan.

Pricing:

- 1 sample: \$25 members, \$30 non-members
- 2 samples: \$40 members, \$50 non-members
- 3 samples: \$55 members, \$70 non-members

**(Pricing subject to change)*
 Illinois Extension Educator Chris Lueking and local Master Gardeners are also available to help interpret results and answer questions on soil health, lawns, trees, and gardening. Kits are available at the Clinton County Farm Bureau office in Breese. For more information, call (618) 526-7235.

Soil Testing Program

Soil testing takes the guesswork out of soil improvement, growing plants, and fertilizer recommendations.

- What's wrong with this lawn?
- Why won't my garden grow?
- The flowers need something...
- Why aren't these shrubs performing?
- These crops aren't yielding like they should?

Pricing:
 1 Sample Soil Kit: \$25 for members/\$30 non-members
 2 Sample Soil Kit: \$40 for members/\$50 non-members
 Stop by our office in Breese for more information and to obtain your kit.

(618) 526-7235 www.clintoncofb.org



Ray Archuleta addresses over 150 in attendance at the Clinton CFB's "Soil Summit" in St. Rose on March 5th.

OVER 150 ATTEND "SOIL SUMMIT" ON MARCH 5TH

The Clinton County Farm Bureau's 2026 Soil Summit drew more than 150 attendees to the St. Rose Development Club on March 5th, highlighting strong local interest in soil health and regenerative agriculture. Hosted as part of CFB's 2026 Nutrient Stewardship Grant project, the event brought together farmers, landowners, and community members for an evening of learning, discussion, and practical insight. Guests enjoyed a catered meal before an engaging presentation from returning speaker Ray Archuleta. An internationally recognized agronomist and leader in the

soil health movement, Archuleta challenged attendees to rethink traditional management practices by focusing on soil biology, reducing disturbance, maintaining cover, increasing diversity, and keeping living roots in the ground. A highlight of the evening was his hands-on soil demonstration comparing forest, pasture, no-till, and tilled soils—clearly illustrating how healthier soils hold together better and improve water infiltration, reinforcing the importance of building long-term soil resilience. The Summit also encouraged action, offering eligible producers a chance to

participate in a cover crop seed subsidy program for Fall 2026. With strong attendance and enthusiastic engagement, the event underscored the value of continued investment in conservation-focused programming. Mark your calendars to join the Clinton County Farm Bureau for additional Field Day opportunities, including a Regenerative Agriculture Bus Tour on April 18th and a Summer Field Day on August 8th. More information on both will be available on the Clinton CFB's website at www.clintoncofb.org.



Members from Clinton County Farm Bureau met with Senator Jason Plummer and Reps. Blaine Wilhour & Charlie Meier during the evening legislative reception portion of the 2026 Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference (GALC) in Springfield on February 17th.



Centered on the theme "The Power of Grassroots," this year's conference highlighted the impact of member voices shaping policy at every level. Attendees also heard from numerous lawmakers, including Illinois House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch and Illinois Senate President Don Harmon, as well as U.S. House Ag Committee Chair Glenn "GT" Thompson, outgoing Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin and U.S. Rep. Darin LaHood.