

DEWITT COUNTY FARM BUREAU

# NEWS



## ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

In an effort to elevate rural communities, Illinois Farm Bureau partnered with county Farm Bureaus (CFBs) to award 30 Rural Development Grants totaling \$120,000 to support local efforts across the state, including projects in DeWitt County!

Of the grants awarded, nine are addressing rural emergency services' needs, and 21 are projects focused on supporting community and economic development or enhancing quality of life.

The Rural Development Grant Program provides resources and support to help local communities and counties successfully implement projects and overcome challenges inherent in rural development projects, such as lack of funding and volunteers or complicated grant applications. In selecting grants, IFB searches for projects that will meet a need in a community, county or rural area, get residents excited about what is happening in their community and benefit farm families.

For the 2026 grant program, IFB and COUNTRY Financial invested \$100,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

**GRANT RECIPIENTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:**

Farm to City Harvest Store Inc., through



DeWitt CFB, received a grant to support development of the Farm to City Harvest Store, a grocery cooperative that will help supply the grocery needs of a rural community that has not had a grocery store in nearly a decade. The emphasis will be placed on supplying the store with locally produced meats and produce whenever possible. This will provide local producers with a local outlet for their products and will allow residents access to farm-fresh, locally grown products.



EARTH DAY  
APRIL 22



## Summer Ag Institute

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND APPRECIATION  
FOR TEACHERS  
JUNE 11-12 9AM-3:30PM  
PIATT COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
& CORKS AND CANVAS

See you there!

## YOUNG LEADER BOWLING NIGHT

The DeWitt County Young Leaders had a great night of bowling at Pheasant Lanes in Bloomington! It was the perfect way to end a week with a few hours of bowling and spending some time with friends! Not only that, the DCFB Young Leaders were joined by the Logan County Young Leaders! We were grateful to have the Logan County folks join us for the evening. This event was the perfect way to get to know one another, gutter balls and all! Stayed tuned for this summer to see what the DeWitt and Logan County Young Leaders get up to – the Foundation Tractor Drive may see a few new updates this year!

## Summer Ag Institute

Get ready for an engaging and hands-on experience at the 2026 Summer Ag Institute!

Over two days, educators will dive into the world of agriculture through interactive learning starting with a unique sourdough-themed session that connects food, farming and classroom concepts in meaningful ways. Participants will enjoy free Farm to Table lunches, hear inspiring speakers, and explore real-world agricultural systems with a visit to local businesses. The experience continues with creativity and reflection, as teachers participate in a guided farm-themed painting session while discovering the deep connections between agriculture and everyday life. This fun, educational event is designed to spark fresh ideas, build connections, and leave you refreshed and inspired to bring agriculture alive in your classroom—don't miss it!

CPDU's will be awarded and Mileage paid

## SCHOLARSHIP SEASON!

As we are in this season of scholarship applications and letters of recommendations we want to take a moment once again to say thank you to the ongoing support that the DeWitt County Farm Bureau Foundation receives. Through the generosity of our membership and through the support of our community, the foundation is able to provide support to the next generation of agricultural leaders in DeWitt County. From donations provided through membership renewals, program support, or honoring the passing of a loved one. The students of DeWitt County are so fortunate to have the support of members like you. Thank you for making a donation to the DeWitt County Farm Bureau Foundation. Stay tuned to the April FarmWeek to learn who the 2026 scholarship recipients will be!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- APRIL 2ND – YL Meeting
- APRIL 3RD – Closed for Good Friday
- APRIL 14TH – DCFB Board Meeting