

THE DIRT

APRIL 2026 EDITION



LASALLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU IS OFF TO A BUSY START FOR 2026

The LaSalle County Farm Bureau (LCFB) has kicked off 2026 with a full schedule of events focused on education, safety, and supporting farm families.

The year began with the **Voice of the Member** meeting, where Farm Bureau members were invited to share feedback, insights, and ideas to help guide planning and priorities for the year ahead. The meeting provided an opportunity for members to discuss important agricultural topics and ensure their voices help shape the organization's direction in 2026.

In February, LCFB hosted the **Safety First, Avoid the Worst** class. The Ottawa Fire Department provided outstanding training in first aid and tourniquet use. Participants received hands-on instruction in handling emergency situations, performing CPR, administering basic first aid, and properly applying a tourniquet. Each attendee also received a tourniquet to take home,



Reagen Tibbs, Commercial Agriculture Educator serving Logan, Menard, and Sangamon Counties, speaking at Succession Planning Meeting

ensuring they are better prepared to respond in emergency situations.

March continued the educational opportunities as LCFB partnered with Illinois Extension: Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, and Putnam Counties to host a **Succession Planning for Farm Families** workshop. The session focused on succession and estate planning tailored specifical-

ly for farming families. Attendees learned practical strategies for keeping farmland in the family, navigating legal and financial considerations, and ensuring a smooth transition to the next generation.

Also in March, LCFB hosted an informational meeting on **Electric Grids and Future Demands**. Guest speaker Bill Bodine, Illinois Farm Bureau Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs, shared insights on the future of energy demand and how it may impact agriculture and rural communities. With a strong start to the year, the LaSalle County Farm Bureau looks forward to continuing to provide valuable programming and resources for its members. Community members are encouraged to follow the LaSalle County Farm Bureau on social media, sign up for the e-newsletter, or visit the website to stay up to date on future events and opportunities.



Firefighter Newbury demonstrating a tourniquet on Lt. Burke



Captain Dose showing the process of an AED



Bill Bodine, Illinois Farm Bureau Director of Business and Regulatory Affairs, sharing insight at the Electric Grid meeting

LASALLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG LEADERS ATTEND STATE CONFERENCE

Members of the **LaSalle County Farm Bureau (LCFB) Young Leaders Committee** traveled to Peoria in January to attend the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Young Leader Conference, joining fellow agricultural advocates from across the state for a weekend of learning, networking, and leadership development.

The conference featured a variety of breakout sessions focused on topics important to today's



young agricultural professionals. Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in the Harvest for All silent and live auctions, as well as a lively trivia night that encouraged connection and camaraderie among participants.

LCFB Young Leader Chair Jenna Temple shared her thoughts on the experience, saying, "Young Leader Conference was a great opportunity to attend this year. There were many great sessions such as succession planning and speaking to the media. One of my favorite



Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) Young Leader Conference 2026

opportunities is connecting with like-minded individuals and getting to see friends that we made connections with when we attended the industry tour a few years back in Costa Rica."

The annual conference continues to serve as a valuable experience for young leaders in agriculture, offering tools, insights, and relationships that help strengthen the future of the industry.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 26th LCFB Golf Outing
- July 9th-12th Lemonade Stand at the LaSalle County 4H and Junior Fair
- July 30th Property Tax meeting at 6:30pm at LCFB office
- September Ag After Hours
- September Field Day
- December LCFB Annual Meeting

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