

Focus on farm safety, health

BLOOMINGTON, ILL. — Illinois Farm Bureau is again partnering with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety to promote farm safety and health during National Farm Safety and Health Week, themed, “Farm Safety Yields Real Results,” Sept. 19-25, 2021.

“We’re excited to help promote and support NECAS’s efforts in keeping farmers and farm families safe,” said Tara Mayhew, manager, Rock Island County Farm Bureau. “Harvest season can be particularly dangerous for farmers with long hours and stress of weather delays, equipment breakdowns or high operating costs, and this year’s

activities will reinforce the importance of organizations like ours working together to ensure farmers make it home safely to their families at night.”

Each day of the week has a designated topic of focus to promote various aspects of farm safety:

**Monday, Sept. 20** – Tractor Safety and Rural Roadway Safety

**Tuesday, Sept. 21** – Overall Farmer Health

**Wednesday, Sept. 22** – Safety and Health for Youth in Agriculture

**Thursday, Sept. 23** – Agricultural Fertilizer and Chemical Safety

**Friday, Sept. 24** – Safety and Health for Women in Agriculture

The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers. Fall harvest time can be one of the busiest and most dangerous seasons of the year for the agriculture industry. For this reason, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week.

For more information about National Farm Safety and Health Week, contact your local county Farm Bureau, visit [www.necasag.org](http://www.necasag.org), or contact Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350 or [dgallivan@ilfb.org](mailto:dgallivan@ilfb.org).

Bioreactor field day to be Sept. 14

Edge of field practices, like bioreactors, are one key way landowners can reduce nitrate loss from agricultural land. Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District, in partnership with University of Illinois Extension, will host a bioreactor installation field day demonstration and program from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sept. 14 at Drew Hohenboken’s farm in rural Hillsdale. The event is free and open to the public and includes a boxed lunch to go.

Subsurface agricultural drainage can allow large gains in productivity, however there are concerns about the amount of pollutants and nutrients moving and exiting from these systems, including nitrates. The water quality of our local streams and rivers can be negatively impacted by nitrate in tile drainage. Woodchip bioreactors remove nitrate from subsurface (that is, tile) drainage water without significantly impacting production ground or crop yield.

Field day attendees will have the opportunity to see a por-

tion of the bioreactor being installed on-site during the visit. Dr. Bryan Maxwell from University of Illinois will discuss the basics of woodchip bioreactors, Joe Gates from Rock Island County SWCD will present cost-share programs and opportunities, and Reid Christianson from University of Illinois and Rachel Curry from Illinois Extension will discuss the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy.

The field day will be held at Drew Hohenboken’s farm at 10414 317th St. N., Hillsdale, Ill. Reservations are suggested to ensure adequate space and food. To RSVP, contact Joey Deloian at 309-581-3002 or [Joseph.deloian@il.nacdn.net](mailto:Joseph.deloian@il.nacdn.net) or call Rock Island Soil and Water Conservation District office at 309-762-1486, extension 3.

To learn more about bioreactors, check out a recent news release from University of Illinois titled, “How the Humble Woodchip is Cleaning Water Worldwide” @[go.illinois.edu/WoodchipStory](https://go.illinois.edu/WoodchipStory)

New RICFB board seated

The following directors were elected to the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Board for a two-year term at the Aug. 16 County Annual Meeting.

**District 1:** Joe Franks, David Mueller, Kevin Oak

**District 2:** Jake Coyne, Andy DeKeyrel, Dennis VanDaele

**District 3:** Scott Bohnert, Brent Riewerts, Travis Smeltzly

The full board is as follows:

**District 1:** Bill Onken, Kevin Oak, David Mueller, Phil Fuhr and Joe Franks

**District 2:** Dennis Van Daele, Marty McManus, Andy DeKeyrel, Jake Coyne and Jeff Yeater

**District 3:** Drew Hohenboken, Brent Riewerts, Travis Smeltzly, Wes

DeClercq and Scott Bohnert

The Rock Island County Farm Bureau board is made up of 15 board members – five farmers representing each of the three districts in Rock Island County. Six board members range in age from 25 to 44, four board members range in age from 45 to 59 and five board members range in age from 60 to 71.

Following the county annual meeting the board convened its August board meeting. A reorganization of the board followed with the election of officers: President, Marty McManus; Vice President – Brent Riewerts; Secretary – Dennis VanDaele; Treasurer – David Mueller.

Let’s meet our new directors

**Joe Franks – District 1**

I grew up outside of Aledo, Ill., and although not raised on a farm, you could find me on our neighbor’s row crop and cattle operation at a very young age. It gave me the opportunity to show livestock during my 4H and FFA years, for which I developed a sincere passion. I graduated from Western Illinois University in 2004 with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture science as an agronomy major. Upon graduating college, I spent 16 years in the FS/GROWMARK system. In December 2020 I had the opportunity to go to work for Advanced Agrilytics as a Precision Agronomist. My wife, Jolee, and I have been married for 10 years and we have two children, Lylah 7, and Landry, 4. We reside on our first-generation farm outside of Reynolds, Ill., raising corn, soybeans and alfalfa. We also have a sheep flock consisting mainly crossbred ewes and we raise, sell and show club lambs. If not in the sheep barn or show ring, our spare time is spent camping with friends and family. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as a director on the Rock Island County Farm Bureau board of directors.



**Jake Coyne – District 2**

Hello, I am Jake Coyne and I live in Milan, Ill. I graduated from Iowa State with a degree in agricultural business/agricultural studies. I served in the agriculture field for four years as a seed coordinator and agronomy sales rep. Our family operation (my dad and I) consists of a 50-head cow/calf operation and 500 acres of row crop/hay. Within that, selling some show cattle and freezer beef.

I am excited to be a part of the Rock Island County Farm bureau as a younger director. It is an honor for me to learn from the current generation and incorporating some of the younger generation to help educate and protect the farmer and family traditions!



**Travis Smeltzly – District 3**

My wife Lauryn and I live on a farm in Cordova, Ill., and are expecting a baby Jan. 2. My Dad Gary, my uncle Mike, cousin Keaton, and I run our farming operation. Keaton and I after high school got ag business degrees and then started full time on the farm. We are all corn and soybean farmers. My uncle sells Becks Seed to area farmers and Keaton and I also run a sweet corn operation over the summer and sell roughly 10 acres worth of sweet corn. My mom Chris works at Tyson Foods in Joslin and my brothers Trent and Tyler work for John Deere.

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER	
1-2	Farm Progress Show, Decatur
6	Labor Day – office closed
10	Young Leaders Night at Modern Woodmen Park
14	Bioreactor Field Day at Drew Hohenboken’s Farm
20	RICFB Board of Directors meeting
20-24	National Farm Safety and Health Week
24	Freezer meal orders due
OCTOBER – PORK MONTH	
11	Freezer meal pickup
18	RICFB Board of Directors meeting
26	Pork Month Virtual Cooking Class



**FREEZER MEAL FUNDRAISER**

**COST FOR 10 MEALS = \$170**

**DEADLINE TO ORDER: SEPTEMBER 24TH**

- MEALS BY CUSTOM CATERING & BBQ
- MEALS WILL BE PREPARED & FROZEN FOR YOU! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS COOK THEM!
- A MEAL SET (10 MEALS) INCLUDES ONE MEAL OF EACH ITEM ON THE MENU – NO SUBSTITUTIONS.
- STOP BY THE ROCK ISLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICE ON OCT. 11 AND PICK UP 10 DELICIOUS MEALS.
- SERVES 3-5 PEOPLE DEPENDING ON EATERS.

Proceeds to benefit the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation.



**MEAL PICK-UP: OCT. 11 4:00-5:30 PM**

**MENU:**

- PULLED PORK
- SMOKED PORK LOIN
- BBQ PULLED CHICKEN
- CHICKEN PARMESAN
- BREAKFAST BURRITOS
- PULLED PORK MAC & CHEESE
- CHICKEN BACON RANCH PASTA
- PHILLY MEATBALLS
- CHEESY HAM & POTATOES
- BEEF WELLINGTON WITH GRAVY

Return this portion with payment by September 24<sup>th</sup>  
\*\*Make checks payable to Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of meal sets ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment total (Included): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: 1601 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 3, Moline, IL 61265