



ARENAC COUNTY
FARM BUREAU®

2024 IMPACT REPORT

What We Do

The purpose of the Michigan Farm Bureau is to represent, protect, and enhance the business, economic, social, and educational interests of our members.

Who We Are

We are the largest general farming organization in the county. Arenac County Farm Bureau members are volunteers who have a passion for agriculture. We are farmers, landowners, veterinarians, ag educators, ag industry professionals and more!

Our local programming is directed by our volunteer board of directors:

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|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| • President: Ken Daniels | • Open – Young Farmer Representative | • Vic Daniels |
| • Vice-President: Hugh Bilow | • Diane Morley – Promotion & Education Representative | • Byron Fogarasi |
| • Third Member: Art Rivard | | • Robyn Fogarasi |
| | | • Ryan Stokoszynski |

Board members are elected each year at our county annual meeting in September. Contact our county office to learn more about serving on our board.

Membership by the Numbers

- We represent **292** farming families.
- **20** volunteers assisted with programming throughout the year.
- **18** Young Farmer (18–35-year-old) members belong to the organization.
- We hosted **7** County Farm Bureau Events with **7** partners.
- Average age of our members/farmers is **66** years old.

2024 Priorities

- Engaging with our members- Arenac County Farm Bureau actively engages with the community in which we live through our involvement with the Arenac County Fair, Bay Area Community Foundation, FFA, 4H, Arenac Conservation District and Standish Sterling Community Schools.
- Growing our Young Farmer (18-35-year-old) program- A goal we have for next year is to find a meaningful way to connect with our future upcoming agriculture community.
- Advocating on behalf of agriculture with consumers with our Farm to Table Dinner, reading in our classrooms, donating books in our newly built book barns, and participating in the Arenac Conservation 5th Grade Tour.

- Combatting childhood hunger- For the last two years Arenac County Farm Bureau has hosted a Harvest for All event to help fight hunger in our community.

President's Report

- It has been a busy year, and I am proud of our county leaders, staff and our agricultural community. Our board has stepped up once again. I am proud of the work we have done to support our local youth at the county fair, and by donating many books to our newly built book barn that supports agricultural literacy in our community.
- We have spent time talking about challenges facing agriculture both locally and statewide and took the time to craft policy resolutions to strengthen our agricultural community. These resolutions are voted on at our county's annual meeting and will move forward to be discussed at our statewide annual meeting with Michigan Farm Bureau in December.
- I would like to thank our county leaders, and our staff, who are true servant leaders in our organization. I would like to thank our board members – Art Rivard, Diane Morley (Promotion & Education Chair), Hugh Bilow, Vic Daniels, Byron Fogarasi, Robyn Fogarasi (Retiring Young Farmer Chair), and Ryan Stokoszynski. I would like to thank our agent, Karen Tremble, and her staff for all that they do for our members and their clients. Last, but not least, thank you to Angie, our administrative manager. She works tirelessly to support our ideas and our leaders and for that we are grateful!

Ken Daniels, Arenac County Farm Bureau President

Our Impact



6

Number of policy resolutions drafted by member farmers and submitted for statewide consideration.



42

Number of legislative contacts made by members on issues important to agriculture.



51

Pounds of food donated to local hunger relief efforts.



1,500

Dollars provided in scholarships to local students.



629

Number of students reached by agricultural literacy efforts.



5

Number of members who participated in Michigan Farm Bureau statewide or national programming or events.

**87**

Dollars donated to local hunger relief efforts.

**17**

Number of FARM Crates donated to local classrooms.

Reasons to Connect

- Partner on a project impacting childhood hunger.
- Partner on an event or project benefitting farmers.
- Discuss a local issue impacting agriculture/farmers.
- Express interest in attending a local board meeting and/or events.
- Seek insight or expertise on agricultural issues.

Recognition of Support

Arenac County Farm Bureau has had a successful year collaborating with community partners such as Farm Bureau Insurance, Arenac Conservation District, MSUE, Bay Area Community Foundation, Standish Sterling Community Schools and the Arenac County Fair. We have been a part of Christmas for Kids, March is Reading Month, 5th Grade Tour, donating a book barn, creating a new scholarship, raising funds for scholarships, belt sander races at the fair, ice cream at the 4H Market and more. We would like to thank Karen Tremble for her continued generous support of our efforts. We would also like to thank the following people for their willingness to contribute to our success: Robyn Fogarasi, Dawn Hergott, Missy Lafever, Diane Morley, Leona Daniels, Ken Daniels, Hugh Bilow, Vic Daniels, Art Rivard, Kelly Carruthers, Rick Rockwell, Matt Lovely, Brenda Golimbeski, Miss Brittney, Delphine Barnum,

Become a Member

Interested in being a Farm Bureau member? If you are involved in agriculture, you may qualify. Contact the Arenac County Farm Bureau office to learn more about the benefits of membership:

(989) 846-9446 or arenacounty@ctyfb.com

Visit the county's website and Facebook page to stay up to date on events and activities:

<https://www.michfb.com/arenac> | facebook.com/ArenacCountyFarmBureau