

# **WEXFORD COUNTY** **FARM BUREAU® 2025 IMPACT REPORT**



## What We Do

Farm Bureau brings members together at the county, state and national levels to speak with a united voice, support one another, and give back to our communities.

## Who We Are

We are the largest general farming organization in the county. Our local programming is directed by our volunteer board of directors:

### PRESIDENT

Jill Benson  
dairywoman

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Jim Vogler  
aquaculturist

### THIRD MEMBER

Laura Abrams  
third gen pisciculturist &  
horticulturalist

*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.*

### PROMOTION & EDUCATION CHAIR

Rita Nixon  
sugarmaker

### YOUNG FARMER CHAIR

Madi Smeltzer  
sixth gen orchardist & agronomist

### YOUNG FARMER CO-CHAIR

Serena Lloyd **NEW**  
shepherd & fisheries employee

### POLICY DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

Mark Yonkman **NEW**  
beef stockman

## Our Impact

### COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

We provided

# 6

FARM Crates to schools;  
approximately

# 150-180

students participated

# \$500

provided in scholarships  
to local students

# \$1500

provided to sponsor  
local organizations or  
community events

### LEGISLATION

# 6

policy resolutions drafted by  
member farmers and submitted  
for statewide consideration

### HUNGER RELIEF

# 534

pounds of food donated to  
local hunger relief efforts

# 45

volunteer hours donated to  
local hunger relief efforts

### MEMBERSHIP BY NUMBERS

We represent

# 207

farming families

# 18

Young Farmer\* members  
belong to the organization

We hosted

# 8

County Farm Bureau Events

\*18-35 year olds



## President's Report

Farm Bureau is a grassroots-run organization that represents farmers and agriculture business in our area.

The Young Farmer Committee has been hard at work bringing young farmers together for many activities, including a forest clean-up and monthly coffee chats.

We hosted two member events: Bowling and Pizza at the Pines, and our Chicken BBQ at the Northern District Fair where the Young Farmer Committee joined to do a tie-dye event.

We purchased two pigs and donated the meat to Vets serving Vets.

We are actively working towards restoring the Book Barns to the schools and have an additional barn available through MSUE to local homeschool groups, along with FARM Crates going out to six classrooms.

Do you have ideas for how Wexford County Farm Bureau can be more involved in the community? We would love to hear from you!

Do you enjoy talking to legislators? Developing policy? Communicating with non-farmers about what we do? Please contact us for opportunities!

Jill Benson,

**WEXFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT**

## Become a Member

Contact the Wexford County Farm Bureau office to learn more about the benefits of membership.

Stephanie Morehouse

(231) 775-4430 | [smoreho@ctyfb.com](mailto:smoreho@ctyfb.com)

## 2026 Events

Monthly Board Meetings	2nd Tues, 6pm
Young Farmer Coffee Chats	Monthly
Bowling Extravaganza	Apr 11
Forest Clean-Up	Summer
BBQ Chicken Dinner & Tie Dye	Aug 21
Forestry & Friends	Fall
County Annual Event	Sept 17
Volunteer Awards Dinner	Winter

## 2026 Priorities

- Growing our Young Farmer program
- Educating our youth about agriculture
- Advocating on behalf of agriculture with legislators

## District 9

### DIRECTOR

Dan Vogler

### REGIONAL MANAGER

Matt Frollo

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Stephanie Morehouse

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

[www.michfb.com/wexford-county-farm-bureau](http://www.michfb.com/wexford-county-farm-bureau)

[www.facebook.com/wexfordcountymorehouse](https://www.facebook.com/wexfordcountymorehouse)

Wexford County Agriculture Products via 2022 Census of Agriculture County Profile

### CROPS

grains, oilseeds, dry beans, dry peas, vegetables, melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, fruits, tree nuts, berries, nursery plants, greenhouse & floriculture, sod, cultivated christmas trees, short rotation woody crops, forestry & logging, hay, straw, & more

### ANIMALS & ANIMAL PRODUCTS

poultry, eggs, cattle, calves, milk (from cows, goats, etc.), hogs, pigs, horses, ponies, mules, burros, donkeys, sheep, goats, wool, mohair, fish & aquaculture, & more