

# STRONGER *Together*

## Top 5 Reasons a Farmer should belong to Illinois Farm Bureau<sup>®</sup>

### ① Profitability!

**Farm profitability and viability are top concerns for farmers everywhere.** Farm Bureau helps members achieve financial farm sustainability for today's generation and generations of tomorrow by serving as your partner in difficult farming challenges and by providing access to outstanding business services and resources through our affiliated companies.

### ② Ag Resources You Need!

**Farmers must stay current on information to remain viable.** Our members have on-demand access to the latest news, information, and staff who specialize in the hottest ag topics, including regulations, taxes, renewable energy, local farm product marketing, and more.

### ③ Shared Values!

**Are you tired of elected officials and others telling you what you should be worried about?** Through grassroots engagement, you, your friends, and your neighbors provide the roots of the organization through policy development. All with the goal of protecting the economic well-being of agriculture and enriching the quality of farm family life.

### ④ Advocacy/Protection!

**Agriculture has an incredible story to tell.** Farm Bureau provides a united voice for our members. We serve as your watchdog, protecting your interests and advocating at the local, state, and federal levels for you, regardless of your farm's size and type of production.

### ⑤ Agriculture's Future!

**Are you worried about preserving agriculture for the next generation?** We're helping farmers move forward by telling your story among non-farmers and developing the next generation of ag leaders. There is no better place to find educational, developmental, and networking opportunities than Farm Bureau.



Scan to learn more or visit [www.cookcfb.org](http://www.cookcfb.org)

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# Cook County Farm Bureau®

*A grassroots organization made up of local farmers and friends from the urban, suburban and rural areas. Members create the policy and direction of the organization and serve in various volunteer leadership roles to determine its future.*

**Here is a glimpse at Cook County Farm Bureau Farmer Member programming and focus...**

## Member Communications:

- Local information services through local member resources including the Co-Operator publication, In & Around Urban Agriculture publication, cookcfb.org, social media channels and speakers bureau deliver important agricultural and farming knowledge to members and the general public.
- State and regional focused agricultural information from the award-winning Illinois Farm Bureau communications team through FarmWeek, ILFB Partners, IFB.org, FarmWeekNow, documentaries, social media and more!

## Agricultural Advocacy:

- Leadership in local, state and national policy development and advocacy in the areas of urban agriculture, organic agriculture, specialty crops, food access, and government assisted nutrition programs.
- Development with the Cook County Board of Commissioners a county resolution recognizing the importance of and in support of area agriculture.
- Understanding of local agriculture to implement strong agricultural policies and infrastructure development in the urban area through local volunteer farm advocates and our staff.

## Marketing:

- Agricultural “buy local” guide publication, discover local/buy local directory through website, and affiliated companies that provide business solutions to solve issues and problems.
- Business development and training programming in support of the efforts of urban agriculture with marketing seminars, informational workshops, and urban garden grants.

## Education Through Foundation scholarships/funding:

- Agriculture career higher education scholarships
- Leadership training for farm members
- Master Urban Farmer certification support
- Master Gardener certification support
- Mental health resources and support
- Ag in the Classroom programming

