



# Kane County

## KC Agriculture Committee

### Agenda

Government Center  
719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. A  
Geneva, IL 60134

JUBY, Roth, Allan, Lenert, Penesis, Sanchez, Williams and ex-officio Pierog (County Chair)

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**Thursday, February 20, 2025**

**10:30 AM**

**County Board Room**

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#### **2025 Committee Goals**

Goals from the July Agriculture Committee meeting

- Revise County Code Definition of the Agriculture Committee
  - Awareness & Support of Agriculture - Raise public awareness and support for agriculture in Kane County as an industry sector and community resource
  - Farmland Protection - Work in concert with the Farmland Protection Commission and County Board to oversee the successful implementation of Kane County's Farmland Protection Ordinance and related conservation efforts, and pursue funding
  - Continue Growing for Kane Program - Direct the implementation of programs and policies that expand the production of locally grown foods and improve community access to fresh and healthy food choices, and pursue funding
    - Continue partnerships with Kane County Farm Bureau and Northern Illinois Food Bank
    - Implement current grant funded projects
    - Continue to apply for additional outside grants
    - Implement economic development projects for Agriculture
    - ARPA Small grants for farmers
    - Other projects identified by the Economic Development Strategic Plan for Kane County
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**1. Call To Order**

**2. Roll Call**

**3. Remote Attendance Requests**

**4. Approval of Minutes: January 23, 2025**

**5. Public Comment**

**6. Partners**

**A. Kane County Farm Bureau Updates (Steve Arnold, Manager)**

**7. Presentations/Announcements**

**A. Everything Local Conference Recap (Matt Tansley, Planner)**

**B. Riding in Kane: Identifying Equine Facilities (Catherine McKenna, Planner / GIS Specialist)**

- 8. New Business**
  - A. Proclamation Declaring Kane County's Support for National Agriculture Day
- 9. Reports Placed On File**
- 10. Executive Session (if needed)**
- 11. Adjournment**

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
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 ) SS.  
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COUNTY OF KANE )

**PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-249**

**KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU UPDATES (STEVE ARNOLD, MANAGER)**

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
                                  SS.  
COUNTY OF KANE  )

**PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-250**

**EVERYTHING LOCAL CONFERENCE RECAP (MATT TANSLEY, PLANNER)**

# Growing for Kane Report Everything Local Conference & Program Updates

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Kane County Agriculture Committee  
February 20, 2025  
Matt Tansley, Planner

# Everything Local 2025

## The Illinois Food, Farmers Market & Specialty Crop Conference

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- Statewide gathering of food growers, market operators, supply chain partners, universities, non-profits, and other agencies
- Conference sessions covering
  - Fruit, vegetable, and flower production
  - Urban agriculture
  - Market management
  - Community food systems development
  - Business development



# Grow Lake County



- A community-based effort to cultivate a thriving and sustainable local food system in Lake County
- An initiative of the Lake County Local Food Task Force to strengthen the local food system
- Core output: Grow Lake County website ([growlakecounty.org](http://growlakecounty.org))



# Find Local Food – Interactive Map



## Farmhouse on North

**Community:**  
Barrington

Food is seasonal and house-made from local farms whenever possible

**Address:** 117 North Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010

**Phone:** 847-387-3408

**Website:** [View our website](#)



## Inovasi

**Community:**  
Lake Bluff

Rooftop garden for herbs and produce (peas, beans, squash, peppers, tomatoes); bread from Hewn in Evanston; butter from Pine River Dairy in WI; chicken from Gunthorp Farms in Lagrange, IN; all tomatoes and veggies from local sources

**Address:** 28 E. Center Ave., Lake Bluff, IL 60044

**Phone:** 847-295-1000

**Website:** [View our website](#)





# Illinois Food System Roadmap

- Experimental Station is leading a six-month task force engaging stakeholders across the local foods sector and supply chain
- Information gathering for developing a potential state-wide food systems plan



**What would an Illinois Food System Roadmap look like?**



**What are the initiatives already underway to improve the food system?**



**Who's working with whom?**



**What are the needs and gaps?**

# HEAL Food System Partners

Greater Peoria area



Primary Mission: Improve the emergency food system by...

- Increasing healthy food access
- Advancing community education
- Creating agricultural and community development opportunities using existing services and programs



# USDA Grant Program Update

## Urban Agriculture Innovative Production

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- Request submitted to USDA for one year no-cost extension
- Additional time will allow for a second class of Kane County beginning / prospective growers to complete the Master Urban Farmer Training Program, led by U of I Extension
- If approved, the grant program would be extended through September, 2026

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
                                  SS.  
COUNTY OF KANE )

**PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-252**

**RIDING IN KANE: IDENTIFYING EQUINE FACILITIES (CATHERINE  
MCKENNA, PLANNER / GIS SPECIALIST)**

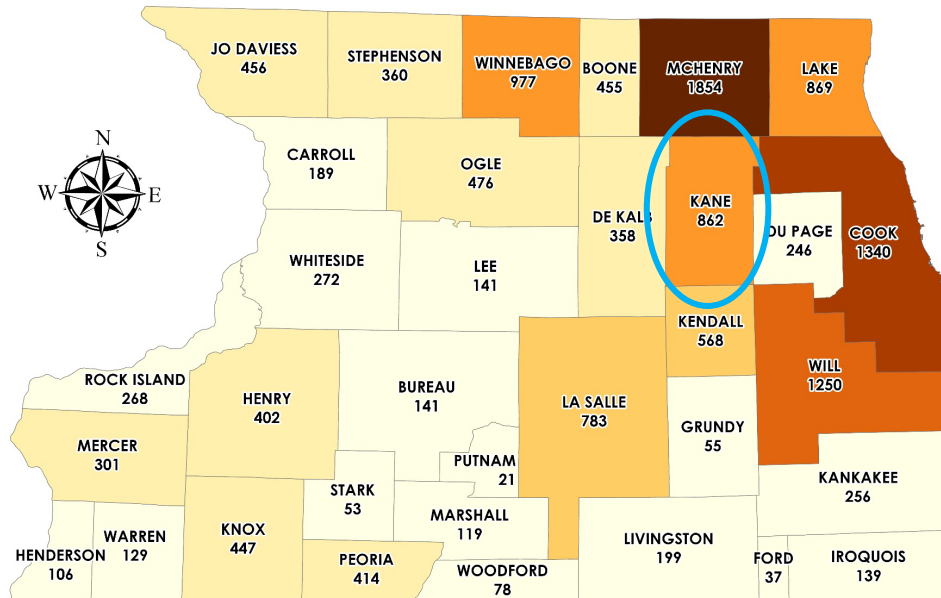


# Riding in Kane

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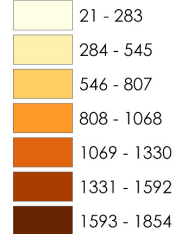
IN PROGRESS: IDENTIFYING EQUINE FACILITIES IN KANE COUNTY  
FEBRUARY 2025

# 2022 USDA Agriculture Census: Northern Illinois Horses and Ponies



0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

Inventory: Horses and Ponies

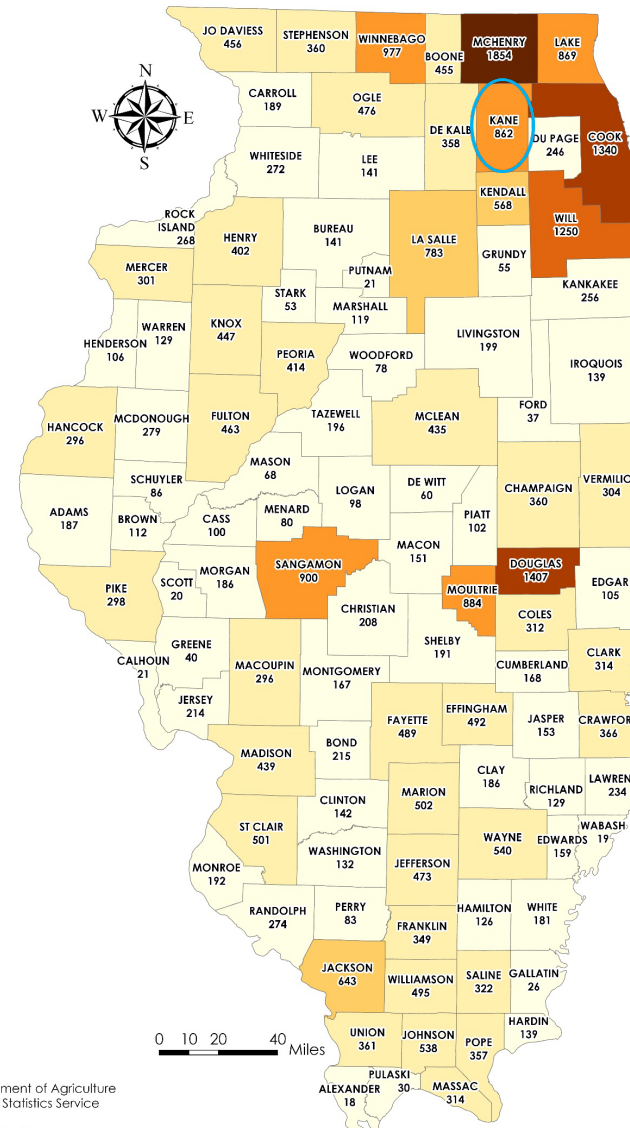


**Kane County: 862 horses and ponies inventoried**

Data:  
United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
County-Level Data  
[www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus)

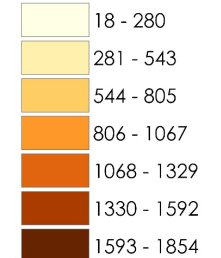
USA COUNTY  
2024 RELEASE  
05/14/2025

# 2022 USDA Agriculture Census: Illinois Horses and Ponies



0 10 20 40 Miles

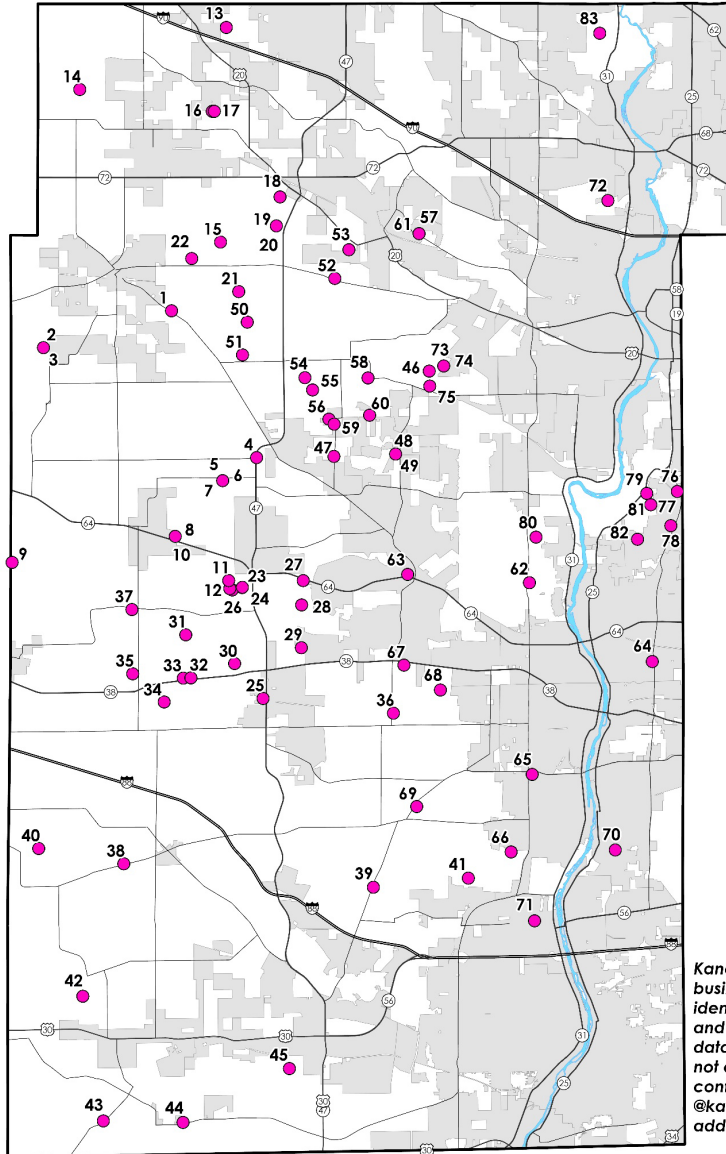
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Data:  
United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
County-Level Data  
[www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus)

USA COUNTY  
2024 RELEASE  
05/14/2025

# Riding in Kane



*Kane County private equine businesses and facilities identified via Google Maps and County animal shelter data in January 2025. This is not an exhaustive list. Please contact McKennaCatherine@kanecountyil.gov for additions and/or corrections.*

- 1: Scottdale Feed and Supply
- 2: Balanced Horse Training
- 3: August Acres
- 4: Casey's Safe Haven
- 5: Silver Spur Ranch
- 6: LCM Equestrians Unlimited
- 7: Horse Logic LLC
- 8: Versailles Equestrian
- 9: Rancho Hurtado
- 10: Compass Equestrian LLC
- 11: C & M Clydesdales LLC
- 12: Glenwood Farm
- 13: The Ranch of Hope Reins
- 14: Creekside Quarter Horses
- 15: Serosun Farms Equestrian Center
- 16: KarmaFarm
- 17: Bit By Bit Stables LLC
- 18: Running Oaks Farm
- 19: Canterbury Farm
- 20: Tukaway Farm
- 21: Tower Hill Stables
- 22: NCE Equestrian
- 23: Copper Ridge Farms
- 24: Meadow Brook Stables
- 25: Elburn Co-Op
- 26: Equestrian Events LLC
- 27: Burberry Gates Farm
- 28: Stable Minds
- 29: Bull Run Equestrian Center
- 30: Dassenbrook Stable
- 31: Bellis Show Jumping Stables
- 32: Lewis Veterinary Services LLC
- 33: Fox Chase Farms, Inc.
- 34: Epona Dressage
- 35: CHS Illinois Grain
- 36: Fox Valley Equine Practice
- 37: Illinois Equine Humane Center, NFP
- 38: Little Cottage on the Farm
- 39: Wishing Tree Equine, LLC
- 40: Fieldstone Farm
- 41: Deerpath Equestrian Club
- 42: Jay Stables
- 43: Sunset Knoll Riding Academy
- 44: Steinke Farms
- 45: Christine's Dream
- 46: Our Day Farm
- 47: Truly Bound Farm
- 48: Rolling Oaks
- 49: Wayne Equestrian Center
- 50: Fox Valley Saddle Association
- 51: Morning Light Stables
- 52: TopLine Equestrian Center
- 53: Invitation Stable
- 54: Kendall Road Equine Hospital
- 55: Las Brisas Polo Club
- 56: Promise Hill Farm, LLC
- 57: Edgewater Equestrian
- 58: ThoroughQuest Acres
- 59: Landmark Farms
- 60: Stonebrooke Farm
- 61: Pingree Oaks Farm
- 62: Over the Top Equine
- 63: Trellis Farm & Garden
- 64: Trellis Farm & Garden
- 65: Dover Saddlery
- 66: Van Aken Stables
- 67: Johnsen's Farm & Country Store
- 68: Hickory Lane Equestrian, LLC
- 69: Happy Hooves Therapeutic Farm
- 70: Beau Cheval LLC
- 71: Huntoon Stables
- 72: Frontenac Farm
- 73: Campton Hills Equestrian Center
- 74: McCarthy Farm
- 75: Dunham Woods Farms, Inc.
- 76: Lamplight Equestrian Center
- 77: HorsePower Therapeutic Riding
- 78: Woodland Oaks Farm
- 79: Kinvarra Farm
- 80: Seven Oaks Farm
- 81: Honey Bridge Ranch
- 82: Hands & Hooves
- 83: Somerset Sporthorse Inc

**83 private equine businesses and facilities in Kane County identified thus far**

**Next steps: filling in the gaps and categorizing the data**

STATE OF ILLINOIS )

SS.

COUNTY OF KANE )

**PROCLAMATION NO. TMP-25-251**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING KANE COUNTY'S SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURE DAY**



## 2025 Proclamation

### Declaring Kane County's Support for National Agriculture Day

WHEREAS, agriculture in Kane County contributes \$284 million in annual sales to the local economy, including crops and livestock products; and

WHEREAS, Kane County accounts for 509 working farms operating on 146,717 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, small to mid-sized farms constitute a large share of the county's working farmland, with farms of 49 acres or less accounting for 50% of agricultural operations; and

WHEREAS, active farms can be found in rural, suburban, and urbanized areas of the county, representing a diverse cross-section of the agricultural sector including equine activities, commodity crop, livestock, fruit, vegetable, floriculture, apiculture (beekeeping), and dairy production; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in five of the county's farms stable horses, with Kane County ranking 9<sup>th</sup> in the State of Illinois by horse population out of 102 counties; and

WHEREAS, the county's agritourism farms provide programs and experiences that educate residents on the source of their foods, seasonal entertainment and special event venues, and additional lines of income for farm businesses; and

WHEREAS, Kane County is home to numerous legacy family farms with 15 centennial farms and 30 sesquicentennial farms; and

WHEREAS, we value the contributions of our farmers as stewards of the land and providers of fresh and healthy foods for our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kane County Board does hereby proclaim Kane County's support for National Agriculture Day on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Kane County residents are invited to celebrate the tireless work of our farmers who contribute substantially to the historic character and wellbeing of our communities.