

# { Meet the Clark Family }

My grandfather set roots in Vermilion County in 1966, and our family has been here ever since. We are fortunate to be the third generation to take care of this land. Adding livestock to our farm will give us the opportunity to fully provide for our family of four, and diversify our family farm. We have two young boys and need this addition for them to have a chance to farm with us in the future. We also see the value of using the manure from our barns directly on our fields, to grow better crops.

- Carl Clark



## Family History

- 3rd Generation farmers in Vermilion County.
- Family farm established in 1966, by grandparents Oral and Imo Clark. Carried on by parents John and Carol Clark, and now Carl and Jody.
- Carl and Jody have two sons, Caleb, 6 and Lucas, 4.
- The Clarks are contracting with The Equity who will own the pigs, provide feed, and veterinarian services.
- Carl and Jody own the barns and equipment, and are responsible for upkeep and managing the barns.
- Carl's sister, Dianne, obtained a Veterinarian Technician degree from Parkland College and will be managing the barns. It truly is a family commitment.
- The family chose to build these barns to diversify their farm, use the manure for their row crops, and bring more opportunity to the next generation.

## Construction and Operation Oversight

- Two barns, which will each house 4,100 pigs.
- Each barn is oriented East/West and measures 101'x341'.
- The hog barns have been constructed per stringent standards set forth by the Livestock Management Facilities Act (LMFA) governed by the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA).
- IDOA representatives inspected the farm before, during and after construction.
- Once in operation, the farm must continue to comply with the IL Environmental Protection Act, enforced by the IL EPA.

## Manure Management

- The manure will be stored in an eight foot deep concrete pit built according to engineering standards in the LMFA, which ensure the protection of the environment.
- Manure will be used to fertilize corn and soybean fields that the Clarks own/farm.
- Manure will be applied under the soil per a nutrient management plan, which ensures an accurate ratio of manure to soil, providing a very sustainable system.





## The Pigs

- Pigs will enter the barns weighing around 12 pounds, where they will be housed for six months until they reach market weight of approximately 280 pounds.
- They will have full access to feed and water.
- Computer controlled ventilation will properly control the temperature and humidity levels in the barns to give the pigs a comfortable environment.

## Odor Mitigation

- The barns are set back from the road 1,800 ft. to minimize interference, which exceeds the setbacks for residents and populated areas determined in the LMFA.
- Research and changes to feed additives are constantly reducing/mitigating odor.
- State of the art ventilation systems are in place to manage the air inside and outside of the barns.
- The barns will be completely cleaned and disinfected after each group of pigs.

## Local Economic Benefits

- In one year, the pigs will consume approximately 170,000 bushels of corn and 15,000 bushels of soybeans. Feed will be sourced locally, supporting the local grain farmers.
- The hog farm will support jobs of people involved in the milling and delivery of feed and transporting the pigs.
- Local tax revenues to Vermilion County is estimated at more than \$20,000 per year in new money with a large percentage going to the Hoopston School District, CUSD #11.
- This hog farm will produce over 600,000 (5-7 oz.) pork chops, over 16,000 (22 lb.) hams, and over 8 million slices of bacon per barn, per year, feeding the local community and beyond!

“My father gave me the opportunity to come back and farm with him, and then passed it on to me. I want to give my sons the same chance and keep our farm going for generations to come.” Carl Clark



## The Clark Family

**Carl Clark**

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### Farm Address

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