

# **Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area**

**“To preserve and promote  
the agricultural economy  
and its social, cultural,  
and economic heritage”**



Submitted by:  
Citizens in the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity;  
Clark County; Wisconsin

Prepared according to s. 91.86 Wis. Stats. guidance

## Heart of America's Dairyland AEA Petition

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Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection  
 Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
 P.O. Box 8911  
 Madison, WI 53708-8911  
 (608) 224-4500

## Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition

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The undersigned persons hereby petition the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), pursuant to s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., to create an Agricultural Enterprise Area (**AEA**) under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats. We have read the guidance provided and submit the following information in support of the petition (*use the space provided or check the appropriate box*):<sup>1</sup>

### PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A. Name of AEA.   | Heart<br>America's<br>Dairyland<br>Clark                            |
| B. County or counties in which the proposed AEA is located.   | Clark   |
| C. All towns, villages or cities in which the proposed AEA is located.  | Towns of<br>Mayville, Colby,<br>Unity, Beaver,<br>and Loyal<br>157  |
| D. Number of owners of eligible farms, within the proposed AEA, who are signing this petition.  | 157   |
| E. Total number of acres in the proposed AEA.   | 61,410.00   |
| F. All counties signing the petition have a certified farmland preservation plan.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| G. All parcels in the proposed AEA are located within a farmland preservation area designated in the certified county farmland preservation plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| H. All parcels in the proposed AEA are contiguous.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| I. The proposed AEA is primarily in agricultural use.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| J. Primary agricultural land use in proposed AEA.   | Dairy and Cash<br>Grain Farming                                     |
| K. Designated contact person for the AEA.   |   |

Name: Matt Zoschke

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<sup>1</sup>Personal information you provide may be used for purposes other than that for which it was collected, s. 15.04(1)(m), Wis. Stats.

## PART II. PURPOSE AND RATIONALE FOR AEA<sup>2</sup>

Introduction to proposed AEA (optional):

The Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area's mission statement is "To preserve and promote the agricultural economy and its social, cultural, and economic heritage." Clark County has a rich tradition of agriculture that spans more than 140 years. By the late 1800's, citizens from other parts of Wisconsin and immigrants from Eastern and Western European Countries including Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Poland, Slovakia, and parts of Scandinavia, began settling into the area to clear the tree stumps leftover from the era of timber harvesting. These immigrants settled the area with the prospect of establishing farms on the fertile soils that once produced the giant pineries, but now would produce one of the largest dairy farming areas in the Nation. By 1910, dairy production within Clark County increased seven times over in ten years. In central Wisconsin alone, there were more than 14,000 dairy farms producing 23.6 million gallons of milk; 8,000 gallons of cream that made 3 million pounds of butter; and 88,500 pounds of cheese. Almost every town in Clark County had at least one, if not more cheese factories, and each town and city usually had its own creamery to produce butter.

The Town of Colby, in Clark County, has a rich, rural, agriculturally based history. For example: Ambrose Steinwand built the first cheese factory in northern Clark County in 1882, in the Town of Colby. His son, Joseph, invented a mild cheddar cheese in 1885. He named it 'Colby' after the town it was invented in. The Town of Colby is still the home to many family dairy farms and many more dairy cows. Although today, the milk produced in the Town of Colby can be found not just in Colby cheese, but also cheddar, bleu cheese, mozzarella, and many other favorites made at one of the fourteen cheese factories still processing milk in Clark County. The agricultural tradition established by those first hardworking individuals willing to clear the cutover stumps and break the fertile ground with a plow still exists today.

According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, Clark County is the largest dairy county in Wisconsin, the second largest dairy county in the Midwest, and the twentieth largest dairy county in the Nation. It was the last Wisconsin County to drop below 1,000 dairy farms; The decrease occurred relatively recently in 2009. According to information found in 2010 Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics, Clark County currently has 993 dairy farms, 249 more than the next largest dairy county in Wisconsin, Marathon County. Clark County ranks in the top tier of Wisconsin counties for the production of corn for silage, oats, alfalfa hay, and all other hay. Clark County has more dairy cows than any other county and ranks second in state for the production of milk. It also ranks third in the state for total number of cattle. The 2010 Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics can be found at the

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<sup>2</sup> DATCP will evaluate petitions under s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., and will consider information provided in response to the following questions.

following website:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Annual\\_Statistical\\_Bulletin/AnnBull\\_2010\\_final\\_web.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/AnnBull_2010_final_web.pdf).

The boundary of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA encompasses numerous other types of farms than just dairies. Included in the AEA are numerous cash grain farms that supply the local dairy farmers with corn, soybeans, small grains, and additional hay. These same grain farms produce ample quantities of commodities that are shipped throughout the Midwest and North America for processing into feed for people and livestock. This proposed AEA is predominately managed as agriculture and reflects what makes Wisconsin "America's Dairyland" and a consistent leader in the Nation's agriculture production.

Within the last two decades, Amish and Mennonite families have moved into the area, reinvesting and rehabilitating old unused farmsteads. These families tend to look for large contiguous acres of farmland that can eventually be split into smaller farming parcels that are handed-down to the next generation of farmers within their families. Mennonite and Amish farmers have nurtured a thriving fresh market vegetable and fruit industry that supplies regional grocers with fresh in-season produce through sales at the Central Wisconsin Produce Auction, located just west of Withee or about fifteen minutes from the boundary of the AEA. Many Mennonite farmers, through their family owned and operated greenhouse businesses, have successfully begun direct sales of bedding plants and garden transplants to consumers. Numerous orchards and berry farms dot the landscape providing pick-your-own opportunities to interested families. The diversity of agricultural operations provides for a stable agricultural economy that maintains a strong influence on the local and regional economies.

According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, the market value of products sold by farms in Clark County is almost \$279 million. This equates to an average sales per farm of about \$128,500. Clark County is agriculture. Agriculture makes up more than 60% of the local economy and provides more than 40% of the jobs for the local workforce. The designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland as an agricultural enterprise area will support the local economy and bring a sense of certainty to local farms and farm service providers that not only Clark County supports agriculture, but that Clark County's agriculture is also supported by Wisconsin. At one of the first AEA workgroup meetings held in the Town of Colby, the local town officials and landowners were discussing the value of agriculture to Clark County and Wisconsin. Many workgroup participants noted that this proposed AEA is very agriculturally diverse, just like Wisconsin. From that discussion, the following circular statement, a guiding principle for the AEA workgroup, was developed: "Wisconsin is Agriculture; Agriculture is Clark County; Clark County is Wisconsin." Clearly, this proposed AEA not only reflects what is best about Clark County's agricultural heritage, but it also reflects what is best about Wisconsin's agricultural heritage, hence the reason behind the name of "The Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area."

1. State the goals of the proposed AEA for:
  - a. preservation of agricultural land use
  - b. agricultural development

The mission statement for the Heart of America's Dairyland is the following: "To preserve and promote the agricultural economy and its social, cultural, and economic heritage." This mission statement was drafted on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Colby Town Hall under the direction of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA workgroup. The workgroup consisted of more than twenty local landowners and town officials that met seven times during the months of November, December, and January to develop the AEA petition materials and to update each other on their Town's respective activities regarding the progress of the petition.

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2. What activities in the proposed AEA aid in achieving the goals stated above? Please identify any past activities, ongoing activities or future activities **and** the primary entity responsible for the activity.

Past Activities:

1. Develop and maintain a strong economically-viable agricultural infrastructure-  
Public/Private Investments.
2. Preserve farmland through the adoption of exclusive agricultural zoning ordinances-  
Town of Colby.

Ongoing Activities:

1. Develop and maintain a strong economically-viable agricultural infrastructure-  
Public/Private Investments.
  2. Preserve farmland through the adoption of exclusive agricultural zoning- Other Towns  
located in proposed AEA boundary.
  3. Maintain a stable and predictable supply of milk and grain that local agriprocessors need to sustain  
and grow their agribusinesses- Private Landowners.
  4. Promote the development of existing and new business relationships among the farm petitioners  
and the agribusiness community- Private Landowners and Public Entities.
  5. Adopt and implement the Soil and Water Conservation Standards- Private Landowners,  
Clark County Land Conservation Department, USDA Farm Service Agency, and USDA Natural  
Resources Conservation Service.
  6. Document existing agribusiness relationships between producers, processors, and  
consumers- UW Extension and Economic Development.
  7. Conduct farm expansion and modernization workshops and field days to promote the expansion of
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- the agricultural economy and it's associated infrastructure- UW Extension and Land Conservation.
8. Implement public outreach programs that inform and educate the general public about the goals and objectives of the Heart of America's Dairyland's mission statement.- Land Conservation and Town Officials.
  9. Create or upgrade business plans for agricultural producers and agribusinesses within the AEA- UW Extension and Economic Development.
  10. Identify and apply for grant opportunities that will be used by producers and agribusiness to expand the agricultural economy- Land Conservation, UW Extension, and Economic Development.

Future Activities:

1. Develop and maintain a strong economically viable agricultural infrastructure- Public/Private Investments.
2. Extend the AEA boundary into surrounding towns and counties to assist with creating the largest contiguous acreage of farmland preservation in the State of Wisconsin- Land Conservation and Town Officials.
3. Utilize the AEA as a vehicle of opportunity to formalize relationships between the petitioners and the agribusiness community- Agricultural Producers and Agribusiness Community.
4. Create new agribusiness ventures that grow the local economy and advance State and local agricultural goals- Economic Development and Private Investment.
5. Build upon existing agribusiness relationships that exist between producers, processors, and consumers to identify areas for future infrastructure development - Economic Development and Private Investment.
6. Assist other landowners, towns, and counties with developing farmland preservation strategies through the use of agricultural enterprise areas- Land Conservation Department and Town Officials.
7. Promote the concept of "brick and mortar" agribusiness parks and assist with new research and development agribusiness incubation- Economic Development, UW Extension, Town Officials, City of Owen, and Central Wisconsin Agricultural Innovation Center.
8. Encourage agricultural producers and agribusinesses to partner together to invest and adopt new conservation-orientated technologies that efficiently utilize the economies of scale created by the preservation of large blocks of contiguous farmland.- Land Conservation, UW Extension, Town Officials, Local Agribusinesses, Local Agricultural Producers, and Other Private Investors.

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3. How did you determine the boundary (location and size) of the proposed AEA?

Since the purpose of the Working Lands Initiative is "to save Wisconsin farmland, to promote agriculture, to protect the environment, and to minimize land use conflicts," the petitioners

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incorporated these considerations into the establishment of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA boundary. The boundary for the AEA was determined through a multi-faceted approach that included the consideration of current and future trends in regards to economic development, environmental protection, amount of landowner interest, and other supporting land use controls. Many meetings were held in each town to discuss the approach used to designate the AEA boundary. Many maps were created and reviewed in order to create an AEA boundary that reflected the considerations of the interested landowners. The petitioners realize that the proposed AEA consists of more than 60,000 acres that span the borders of five towns. However, the petitioners made significant efforts to limit the amount of acreage and to include only those parcels that were eligible and/or only those parcels that are owned by landowners who were interested in participating. Many of the town officials and petitioners were pleasantly surprised at the amount of interest in farmland preservation and they decided early on in the AEA discussion to not limit the acreage to a predetermined amount of 30,000 acres because the petitioners felt that the larger the block of contiguous acres, the larger amount of farmland, farm, and farm service provider preservation. Most of the gaps in the AEA occur because those parcels were either not primarily in agricultural use (non-managed woodlots, wetlands, grasslands, etc.) or because landowners (mostly Amish and Mennonite) specifically requested that their land not be included in the AEA boundary.

#### Economic Development:

The purpose of the Working Lands Initiative program is to "promote agriculture"; the petitioners focused very closely on the areas of Clark County with substantial agribusiness development and agricultural infrastructure. Within twenty minutes of the proposed boundary of the AEA, there are more than 250 agribusinesses employing more than 2,000 individuals. A list and map of these agribusinesses is included in Exhibit 1. The proposed AEA boundary includes numerous agribusinesses, including agricultural machinery manufacturers, agricultural commodity processors, veterinary clinics, livestock auction services, agricultural equipment sales and service dealerships, seed/feed/fertilizer suppliers, agricultural lending and financial services, and numerous other agribusinesses. Most of the agricultural commodities produced in this area are shipped to local processors. This economic relationship is essential to the ongoing stability and sustainability of the local agricultural infrastructure. Furthermore, this AEA has an excellent transportation infrastructure that assists with delivering agricultural goods and services from farm to market. The AEA is located adjacent to the Highway 29 freeway and Highway 13 transportation corridors. Highway 29 is a major east/west thoroughfare in Wisconsin and Highway 13 is a major north/south thoroughfare in Wisconsin. It is important to note that the AEA also has direct rail service that provides an efficient means to distribute agricultural commodities to regional agriprocessors. This area is uniquely positioned to allow complete access to the major metropolitan consumer areas of the Midwest and the

East Coast, which are the ultimate destinations for those value-added agricultural products that have been produced by local agriprocessors.

Lastly, The Department of Commerce has delineated this area as an Agricultural Development Zone (ADZ). This designation assists local communities with focusing on the promotion, creation, recruitment, and expansion of agribusiness within this area. The ADZ encourages agricultural business clustering that includes all of the economic activities and/or operations involved in the growth, production, processing, manufacturing, distribution, wholesaling, and retailing of agricultural commodities and their value-added products. Approximately \$2.5 million of tax benefits may be claimed in the zone during the ADZ's tenure of ten years.

This proposed AEA encompasses a wide variety of agricultural operations and agricultural service providers; both entities are needed to build and maintain a strong agricultural economy. The State of Wisconsin has been influential in promoting agribusiness retention and development in the proposed AEA. The designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA will serve to continue that economic support already sustained by the private and public economic sectors.

#### Environmental Protection:

The purpose of the Working Lands Initiative program is to "protect the environment"; the petitioners focused very closely on the areas of Clark County where there is a strong environmental ethic that includes the support for and the adoption of numerous land stewardship practices. Farmers continue to be the strongest supporters and implementers of land stewardship practices and this AEA will continue to promote environmental stewardship through the adoption of soil and water conservation practices. Truly, a strong agricultural economy must have a strong environmental ethic, for it is the land which ultimately produces the food that farmers provide to their neighbors. The proposed AEA currently has eighteen fifteen-year Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) agreements covering 385.5 acres. The area also has twenty-one Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) agreements covering 4,321.45 acres. According to records maintained by the Clark County Land Conservation Department, more than 30,000 acres of nutrient management plans are currently being implemented within the proposed boundary of the AEA. It is important to note that this area contains more than 50,000 acres of prime farmland that benefit from these environmental protections.

Additionally, the Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 2022 published in 1974 by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the University of Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey titled "Water Availability in Central Wisconsin- An Area of Near-Surface Crystalline Rock" reports that the area that the proposed AEA encompasses is a region of WI that is considered to be groundwater

quantity deficient. This survey can be found at [http://wi.water.usgs.gov/pubs/water\\_supply\\_papers.htm](http://wi.water.usgs.gov/pubs/water_supply_papers.htm). Farmland and other open spaces are essential for groundwater infiltration. These types of landscapes are pervious and allow rainwater and snowmelt to infiltrate through the soil profile and contribute to the increase in groundwater quantity. Residential development is often associated with increased impervious surfaces, which limit rainwater and snowmelt infiltration, thereby decreasing the amount of groundwater recharge and increasing the amount of runoff water that may transport pollutants into the surrounding surface waters. The best land use for increasing infiltration of water, and subsequently groundwater quantity, is agricultural, forested, and other open space lands.

#### Landowner Interest:

The purpose of the Working Lands Initiative (WLI) program is to "minimize land use conflicts"; the petitioners focused very closely on areas of Clark County where landowner interest in farmland preservation is high and existing land use controls already serve to reduce the amount of rural residential development. The meeting that was pivotal in stimulating Town Board and subsequent landowner interest in the Working Lands Initiative Program, and more specifically the creation of agricultural enterprise areas, occurred on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at the Clark County Town's Association Meeting at the Loyal Legion Hall. At this meeting, Keith Foye, Chief of the Land Management Section at Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, presented Working Lands Initiative Program information to more than sixty town officials. After the Clark County Town's Association Meeting, the Clark County Land Conservation Department (LCD) immediately received requests for more information about WLI. Town officials were encouraged by the Clark County LCD to engage in discussions with their landowners to determine whether or not there was interest in furthering the WLI discussion. Over the course of the next eighteen months, more than thirty-five public participation meetings were held concerning the proposed AEA. A list of these meetings is included in Exhibit 2. A sample of the meeting announcements can be found in Exhibit 3. All of the towns sent direct mailings to every landowner in their town informing their residents of the meeting dates and the discussion that would be occurring at those meetings. A sample of these direct mailings can be found in Exhibit 4. Additionally, WLI information, especially information regarding agricultural enterprise areas, was published in numerous local newspapers. A sample of those newspaper articles can be found in Exhibit 5. Those thirty-five public meetings culminated in the passing of resolutions at the county and town levels in support of the proposed AEA. These resolutions can be found in Exhibit 6.

Initially, landowners demonstrated varying levels of interest in WLI. The Clark County LCD, at the request of the towns, created some additional guidance documents that the towns could use when discussing the concept of agricultural enterprise areas with their landowners. A sample of these

guidance documents can be found in Exhibit 7. The towns involved in the AEA petition realized the importance of engaging their landowners in a discussion concerning the opportunities presented by the Working Lands Initiative. Town officials also realized the importance of going door-to-door to educate landowners and gather the signature pages needed for the petition. It is important to note that this petition did not stop gathering written public support after receiving the required five landowner signature pages. More than 150 signature pages were gathered by the town officials demonstrating that this AEA has an enormous amount of landowner support. These signature pages are included in Exhibit 8. The total area of the proposed AEA is 61,410 acres. The associated tax parcel list is found in Exhibit 9. Landowners signing signature pages represent 34,939.00 acres or 57% of the total land area included in the proposed AEA. A map of the petitioner parcels can be found in Exhibit 10. The Towns worked extremely hard to gather as many signature pages as possible. However, many landowners were unavailable when town officials stopped at their farms, but in many cases those landowners called the town officials or their county board representative to give verbal approval to include their land in the proposed boundary of the AEA.

Due to the fact that this area is heavily populated by Amish and Mennonite farmers, town officials engaged these communities with sensitivity toward their cultural identities and included only those Amish/Mennonite parcels where the landowner expressed either verbal or written interest in including their land in the proposed AEA boundary. Many Amish and Mennonite landowners opted out of including their land in the AEA boundary. Yet, both communities still realize the importance of farmland preservation, not only in principle, but also in practice, due to the fact that farming is their main occupation. Interestingly enough, a few Mennonite landowners who initially opted out of including their land in the AEA, eventually decided to include their land in the AEA, when they realized that their land provided the necessary contiguousness to a neighboring (usually English) parcel. Those acts of including their land in a government program (both the Amish and Mennonite cultures are extremely skeptical of government anything) demonstrated a willingness to be neighborly and build a community around the concept of farmland preservation. The only discrepancy on the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA Map is in Section 22, Town of Mayville, where the surrounding Mennonite landowners did not include their land in order to make the parcels touch the proposed AEA at two points. Those parcels do, however, touch the AEA at one point. The majority of the gaps in the proposed AEA are due to Amish and Mennonite landowners who opted out of including their land in the proposed AEA boundary, but, more importantly, who have not opted out of farmland preservation.

#### Supporting Land Use Controls:

Currently, the Town of Colby is the only town participating in the AEA that is zoned as exclusive agriculture. However, adjacent towns in Marathon County have adopted exclusive agricultural zoning.

This AEA also includes Clark County towns that are discussing the adoption of exclusive agricultural zoning. Furthermore, the towns participating in the AEA petition wanted to ensure that there was a large contiguous area for farmland preservation that was supported by not only the AEA designation, but also supported by additional land use controls. The towns also wanted to ensure that there was room for growth of the AEA. Currently, two additional towns in Clark County are interested in pursuing AEA designation in 2012 and towns located in Marathon County are also interested in pursuing AEA designation in the future.

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4. Describe (a) all current land uses within the proposed AEA **and** (b) provide information about land use trends in and around the AEA. *(The proposed AEA must be primarily in agricultural use.)*

According to the tax assessment information provided by the Clark County Treasurer's office, the current land uses within the proposed AEA are as follows:

Agricultural- 49,283 acres  
Undeveloped (wetlands, grasslands, etc.)- 4,603 acres  
Agricultural Forest- 4,764 acres  
Managed Forest- 819 acres  
Other Forest Lands- 881 acres  
Residential- 297 acres  
Commercial- 6 acres  
Exempt/Other- 41 acres  
Other- 716 acres  
Total acreage- 61,410 acres

More than 80% of the land included in the AEA is taxed as agricultural and receives the benefit of use-value assessment. 819 acres in the proposed AEA are associated with the DNR Managed Forest Law Property Tax Credit program, which requires the implementation of a DNR approved timber management plan. In total, the land that is associated primarily with agricultural use is approximately 59,469 acres and the non-agricultural use is approximately 1,941 acres. Clearly, this proposed AEA primarily consists of working lands predominantly under agricultural management. The tax assessment data is located in Exhibit 11. Current land use maps for each town are included in Exhibit 12.

The land use trends associated with those towns located near the Highway 29 and Highway 13 transportation corridors differ depending upon whether or not exclusive agricultural zoning has been

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adopted. Those towns that have not adopted exclusive agricultural zoning have experienced more fragmentation of productive agricultural and forest lands than the town that has adopted exclusive agricultural zoning. Fragmentation converts land into smaller parcels that are much less efficient for farmers to profitably manage. These fragmented parcels have been converted to other uses, such as residential and non-farm recreational uses. Agricultural operations require large blocks of contiguous land in order to make the best use of the efficiencies associated with agricultural economies of scale. The fragmentation of prime farmland creates difficulties for farmers to accumulate contiguous blocks of land, either through ownership or rental agreements. Large blocks of contiguous farmland that are free from residential encroachment are needed to sustain efficient agricultural operations. Scattered cropland locations decrease the economies of scale by increasing the distances farmers travel, thereby requiring the farmer to spend more unproductive time traveling on the road and more money on fuel consumption and equipment repairs. Most of the parcel fragmentation in the unzoned towns is not due to subdivisions, but rather the fragmentation is due to increased levels of scattered rural residential development. These scattered non-farm residences increase the incidences of land-use conflicts due to the non-farm residence owner's perception of increased traffic congestion, increased dust and noise from operating farm machinery, increased odors associated with the spreading of manure, and increased concerns about off-site impacts due to the application of agricultural fertilizers and chemicals.

Based on information found in the most recent draft of the "Year 2025 Comprehensive Plan for Clark County, Wisconsin", the development trends for this overall area average an anticipated population growth of about 3%. However, municipalities such as the City of Colby that are located close to the Highway 29 and Highway 13 transportation corridors are averaging a much higher population growth rate of about 7.5%. The Town of Colby, which is directly adjacent to the City of Colby, has enforced exclusive agricultural zoning since 1986. When the Town of Colby is compared to the other towns, namely Mayville and Unity, which are close to the City of Colby, but do not have exclusive agricultural zoning, residential development data demonstrates that the Town of Colby has received the least amount of new residential development between the years of 1999-2009. Only 17 permits for new sanitary systems have been issued by the Clark County Planning and Zoning department in the Town of Colby during 1999-2009, while both the Towns of Mayville and Unity have each issued almost 50 new sanitary permits during the same time frame.

Since the AEA designation is the first step toward allowing a landowner to sign a farmland preservation agreement, the designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA will support a landowner's choice to maintain his/her land in agricultural production. Therefore, a landowner's decision to sign a farmland preservation agreement would limit the fragmentation of the agricultural

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landscape and the concerns associated with increased parcel fragmentation. If many contiguous landowners sign the farmland preservation agreements, the localized land use trends will change in the proposed AEA and those large blocks of contiguous farmland will be preserved for the current and future generation of farmers.

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5. Confirm that the proposed AEA is consistent with any existing local comprehensive plan. Submit a future land use map, if available. *Please do not submit a complete copy of any comprehensive plan.*

The county of Clark (currently unadopted) has a comprehensive plan and the proposed AEA is consistent with this plan.

The Town(s) of Mayville (adopted October 2005) , Colby (adopted July 2005), Unity (currently unadopted), Beaver (currently drafting), Loyal (currently drafting) has(have) a comprehensive plan and the proposed AEA is consistent with this plan.

There are no comprehensive plans for the political subdivisions in which the proposed AEA is located.

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6. (a) Select which of the following land use controls will support the agricultural uses in the proposed AEA. (b) Explain if the selected control is currently in place or will be implemented in the future **and** how the control will support the proposed AEA.

Farmland preservation zoning ordinance (provide a copy of the certified zoning map as supporting documentation)

Town of Colby- Current, Towns of Mayville and Loyal- Future

The Town of Colby adopted exclusive agricultural zoning in 1986. A zoning map is included in Exhibit 13. The Town of Mayville has completed Draft 6 of their proposed exclusive agricultural zoning ordinance. The Town of Loyal has a zoning ordinance (2006) that includes an agricultural land preservation district. The Town Board is currently reviewing the ordinance to determine what, if any, changes need to be made to the ordinance in order to meet the requirements of Chapter 91 Farmland Preservation, subchapter III Farmland Preservation Zoning.

Other zoning ordinances

Town of Beaver, Colby, Mayville, Loyal- Building Ordinance

Farmland preservation agreements

twenty-one agreements covering 4,321.45 acres

Easements or purchase of development rights

Transfer of development rights

Subdivision ordinances

Clark County: Preservation of working land due to smaller lot sizes and promotion of cluster development.

Provision in ordinance states: 16.04.370 Cluster Development- Purpose- Use of Undeveloped Area:

"Grouping of residences in cluster subdivisions will permit individual minimum lot sizes to be reduced; provided that the overall density within the subdivision is maintained. The remaining undeveloped area within the subdivision is to be used to provide common open space and preserve the scenic qualities...."

Cooperative boundary agreements

Natural area protections

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)  
eighteen fifteen-year agreements covering 385.50 acres

Other (specify)

Shoreland Zoning Ordinance- Clark County: Soil and Water Compliance Monitoring

Provision in ordinance states: 17.08.459 Permitted Uses:

"All new construction of farm buildings housing animals, and all new barnyard or feedlots, shall be located at least three hundred feet from any navigable water, and shall be located so that manure will not drain into any navigable water. All barnyards, holding pens or animal feeding facilities located within three hundred feet of any navigable water are subject to periodic inspection and review for possible pollution of those waters. Waste collection and disposal systems may be required to prevent the manure from draining into any navigable water."

Other (specify)

Animal Manure Management Ordinance- Clark County: Soil and Water Compliance Monitoring

Provision in ordinance states: Article IV: Activities Subject to Regulation- 16.16.470 Manure Management Provisions:

"(1) All livestock operations shall comply with the following:

- a. A livestock operation shall have no overflow of manure storage facilities.
- b. A livestock operation shall have no unconfined manure piles in a water quality management area.
- c. A livestock operation shall have no direct runoff from a feedlot or stored manure into the waters of the state.
- d. A livestock operation may not allow unlimited access by livestock to waters of the state in a

location where high concentrations of animals prevent the maintenance of adequate sod or self-sustaining vegetative cover. This prohibition does not apply to properly designed, installed and maintained livestock or farm equipment crossings."

Other (specify)

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7. Describe any recent investments made to support agriculture and agricultural-related business in or near the proposed AEA.

Many recent investments have been made to support agriculture and agricultural-related business in and near the area encompassing the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA. For example, the following is a list of farms located in the following towns that have expanded their dairy farming operations within the last five years:

Town of Beaver- Meyer Family Dairy, Berger Farms, Haselow Farms, Lynn Smith Farm

Town of Colby- Jim Rankel Farm, Jim Johnson Farm, Rick Weber Farm

Town of Mayville- Bach Farms, DicWisco Farms, Tom Peissig Farm, Clark Co. Line Dairy

Town of Loyal- Elusive Hill Dairy, Tom Shafto Farm, Dennis Roehl Farm, Urs Grossenbacher Farm

Town of Unity- Abel Acres, Badger Holsteins, Todd Ertl Farm

Furthermore, not all recent investments made by farmers have been for barns and cows. Bach Farms recently built a manure digester, which currently is producing electricity for a local energy cooperative. Lastly, numerous Amish and Mennonite farmers have moved into the local area and have invested time and money repairing buildings and adding livestock to formerly inoperable farms. In the past five years, twenty-four manure storages have been constructed on Mennonite Farms in order to assist them with managing their on-farm nutrients.

The preceding list of recent dairy farm expansion and modernization investments is by no means complete, but the list does represent a sample of the significant investment of time and money made by local farmers and the addition of at least 2,000 dairy cows to the proposed AEA within the last five years. The Heart of America's Dairyland AEA is still vibrant with economically-growing dairy and cash grain farms. These expanding farms have increased the demand on local agricultural service providers who, in response, have increased their capacity to manufacture, process, and/or ship and receive agricultural goods and services. For example, the following list of agricultural service providers have expanded their businesses within the last five years:

1. Heartland Coop- added new grain storage bins and a grain dryer.

---

2. Golden Grains- added new grain storage bins and repaired an unused COOP facility to store grain.
3. Northside Elevator- added new grain storage bins.
4. Vita Plus- added new grain storage bins and constructed a new fertilizer blending plant.
5. Short Lane Agronomy- constructed a new fertilizer blending plant and increased the warehousing capacity for liquid fertilizer and agricultural chemicals.
6. Citizens State Bank- added a new location in Spencer to increase agricultural lending services.
7. Ray's Meat Market- expanded processing and retail facility to accommodate the increased demand for locally raised meat.
8. Abbyland Foods- expanded processing capacity, built new cattle-hauling truck servicing and washing facility, and increased capacity to treat and manage the wastewater generated on-site.
9. Meyer Manufacturing- installed a new laser cutting device used to cut farm machinery steel.
10. Roth Manufacturing- increased shipping and receiving capacity to meet increased demand.
11. Meyer Equipment Manufacturing- increased production capacity to meet increased demand.
12. Lynn Dairy- expanded milk processing and cheese production capacity.
13. Nasonville Dairy- expanded milk processing and cheese production capacity.
14. Mullin's Cheese- expanded milk processing and cheese production capacity.
15. Grassland Dairy- expanded milk processing and butter production capacity and added a milk dryer to produce non-fat dry milk for export.

The following is a list of new agribusiness developments near the proposed AEA within the last year:

1. City of Owen Agribusiness Park- development of a "brick and mortar" business park to attract new technology-orientated agribusinesses to the local area.
2. Central Wisconsin Agricultural Innovation Center- associated with Owen Agribusiness Park. The center will strive to attract new agricultural research and development businesses and assist with agribusiness incubation.
3. Caseus Energy LLC.- DuBay Biofuels- new business that developed the technology to convert whey to ethanol.
4. Schlafka Meat Processing- new business to meet increased demand for processing of local meats.
5. Weaver Manufacturing- new business devoted to farm machinery repair.

The above list is by no means complete. However, the list does give an accurate picture of the diverse level of recent investments to support agriculture and agricultural-related businesses in or near the proposed AEA. Millions of dollars have recently been invested in the proposed AEA to increase the production capacity of the local agricultural operations and the farm service providers.

8. Explain how designation of an AEA may do the following:
  - a. promote future agricultural and related investment and cooperation within the AEA;
  - b. support or encourage agricultural economic activity within the broader community.

According to a recent University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension publication (July 31, 2009) titled "The Contribution of Agriculture to the Wisconsin Economy," an increase agricultural investment and income provides a corresponding economic multiplier effect to other parts of the local economy. This study can be found at the following web address:

[http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/wisag/documents/Ag\\_Impacts\\_2007\\_FINAL\\_7%2031%2009.pdf](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/wisag/documents/Ag_Impacts_2007_FINAL_7%2031%2009.pdf). The third section of the report outlines the economic contributions of agriculture using economic multipliers derived from an economic input-output model. The study looked at the direct, indirect, and induced effects of the agricultural economy on other parts of the larger Wisconsin economy. The economic impact of agriculture is far-reaching and wide-spread with numerous multiplier effects. For example, the industry sales multiplier demonstrates that every dollar of dairy processing activity stimulates an additional 95 cents of industrial sales in the local economy or, in other words, dairy processing has an industry sales multiplier effect of 1.95. The report also outlined that the employment multiplier for all dairy is 2.23, which suggests that every 1.0 job in dairy stimulates 1.23 jobs in the local economy. Furthermore, the income multiplier for all dairy is 2.54, meaning each \$1.0 dollar in income on a dairy farm brings an additional \$1.54 in income to the local economy. Increased economic activity also increases local tax revenues, which will assist in maintaining public services and local infrastructural development. Any new investment into the economy surrounding the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA will radiate beyond the boundary of the AEA producing multiplier effects that infiltrate into the local agribusiness sector and the broader local economy. Each dollar the state invests into the AEA will be passed around the local economy multiple times, not just benefiting those landowners who receive the farmland preservation income tax credit, but also those landowners who may be ineligible or who choose not to receive the income tax credit.

According to the most recent 2004 UW Extension Clark County agricultural economic study titled "Clark County Agriculture: Value and Economic Impact", Clark County has 6,590 (~40% of the workforce) of it's residents working in an agricultural related business. These jobs are diverse and include occupations such as farm owners; farm employees; veterinarians; crop consultants; seed, feed, and fertilizer dealers, agricultural commodity handlers, processors, and distributors; farm machinery dealers and manufacturers; builders; and lenders. According to the study, on-farm milk production and dairy processing employment account for about 3,400 jobs in Clark County. The 2004 UWEX study also determined that agriculture accounts for \$882.6 million (~60% of total economy) in economic activity in Clark County. The dairy industry alone contributes \$667.2 million to the county's economy: the on-farm production and sale of milk accounts for \$156.1 million in economic activity; the processing of milk accounts for another \$511.2 million. According to the statistics found in the study, one dairy cow generates \$1,900 in direct income to the farmer and that same dairy cow stimulates an additional \$15,000 to \$17,000 of economic activity in the general economy.

Each dollar of agricultural income (all agriculture, not just dairy) generated an additional \$1.33 of other income in the local economy. The multiplier effect discussed in the preceding paragraph is clearly demonstrated within this economic relationship. The 2004 UW Extension study can be found at the following web address: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/wisag/2004/documents/Clark.pdf>.

If the UWEX agricultural impact study was updated to include the more recent economic figures found in the 2007 Census of Agriculture (the 2007 census lists agriculture's contribution to the local economy at almost \$279 million, instead of the lower \$180 million reflected in the 2004 UWEX study), it is certain that the economic multiplier effect would demonstrate that agriculture is a much larger contributor to the overall health of the local economy in 2007, than in 2004. Therefore, any additional agricultural investments will now produce a significantly higher multiplier effect in the general economy than before. The 2007 Census of Agriculture data for Clark County can be found at the following web address: [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online\\_Highlights/County\\_Profiles/Wisconsin/cp55019.pdf](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online_Highlights/County_Profiles/Wisconsin/cp55019.pdf).

The Heart of America's Dairyland AEA includes the portion of Clark County that is most heavily dominated by agriculture and agribusiness. More than 250 agribusinesses are located within twenty minutes of the boundary of the proposed AEA. See attached map in Exhibit 1. These businesses employ more than 2,000 Clark County residents or one-third of the local workforce. Any increase in agricultural income to this area, be it from an increase in agricultural production and sales or from an increase in farmland preservation tax credits, will stimulate economic activity in other sectors of the economy. This direct and indirect economic stimulus will provide for a more stable economy with a more stable investment atmosphere attractive to businesses.

The AEA designation will also bring a level of economic certainty to the area due to the fact that business investments are being made from both the private and public economic sectors. This economic certainty will allow new and existing agribusinesses to be more comfortable in risking their financial investments in the local economy. If agribusinesses know that their clientele will be more secure financially, then those businesses will be more financially secure themselves, due in part to the local multiplier effect discussed in the preceding paragraphs.

Ultimately, the designation of the AEA will support existing agribusiness investments and promote future agricultural investments. These agricultural investments directly influence numerous other economic sectors in the local economy, both private and public, agricultural and non-agricultural. Therefore, the AEA designation will encourage economic activity within the broader economy through both direct and indirect economic cooperation of the public and private, agricultural and non-agricultural economic sectors.

9. Indicate the approximate level of petitioner compliance with state soil and water standards.

- Nearly all petitioners are in compliance
  - More than half of the petitioners are in compliance
  - Half or less than half of the petitioners are in compliance
  - Few or no petitioners are in compliance
  - Compliance status of petitioners is unknown
- 

10. If the proposed area is designated as an AEA, what steps will be taken to encourage farmland preservation agreements between landowners and the department?

Landowners have a two-step voluntary process to complete before they become eligible to receive the farmland preservation income tax credits established under Chapters 71 and 91. The first step is to include their land in the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA boundary. The second necessary step is to sign a farmland preservation agreement. If the proposed area is designated as an AEA, the following steps will be taken to encourage farmland preservation agreements between landowners and the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection:

The Towns will:

1. Notify all landowners within the AEA boundary via a direct mailing and describe their new opportunity to sign a farmland preservation agreement and invite those landowners to participate in a "Kick Off Agreement" meeting at their respective town halls.

The Land Conservation Department will:

2. Publish articles in the county newspapers and the UWEX "News and Views" announcing the designation of the AEA and advertise the town organized "Kick Off Agreement" meeting.
  3. Attend town board meetings, especially annual meetings (more attendance from residents of the town at this meeting), to inform/remind town officials/landowners about the opportunity to sign farmland preservation agreements. These meetings will also be used to update each town about the annual progress of the farmland preservation agreements.
  4. Hold annual compliance workshops/field days for participating landowners to teach them about the proper way to maintain and self-certify their compliance.
  5. Continue to provide annual Nutrient Management Farmer Training Workshops at the town halls.
  6. Continue to annually provide public informational meetings about farmland preservation opportunities at each town hall located in the agricultural enterprise area.
-

---

11. Describe the level of non-petitioner cooperator support for the petition.

The Heart of America's Dairyland AEA petition is strongly supported by the local agribusiness community. Twenty-nine letters in support of the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA have been received by the petitioners from the agribusiness community. These letters encompass a wide variety of agricultural service providers and promoters representing the following areas of service:

1. Livestock Auction Services- 1
2. Veterinary Services- 1
3. Agricultural Promotion and Economic Development- 2
4. Farm Insurance- 2
5. Agricultural Trucking and Transportation- 2
6. Agricultural Commodity Processing- 3
7. Agricultural Lending and Financial Services- 3
8. Agricultural Equipment Manufacturing- 4
9. Seed/Feed/Fertilizer Suppliers- 5
10. Agricultural Equipment Sales and Service- 6

The above referenced letters of support are included in Exhibit 14.

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12. Are there any other compelling reasons to choose this AEA proposal from among competing AEA proposals?

The petitioners have not been able to review all of the other 2011 AEA proposals, so they are currently unaware of what distinguishes the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA from other proposed AEAs. However, the AEA petitions from 2010 have been reviewed and this AEA proposal differs greatly from many of those proposals. Each of the following reasons have been discussed at some point in an answer to one of the preceding petition questions. The following list is a representation of those compelling reasons:

1. Largest dairy county in the state, #2 in Midwest, #20 in Nation.
  2. All sizes of farms from 30 cows to 1,300 cows.
  3. All types of farms from dairy to beef to cash grain to fresh market vegetables.
-

4. Historic and current trends associated with dairy farming.
5. Rural economy- 14 milk processing facilities, 250+ agribusinesses, 1,000s of jobs.
6. Located in Agricultural Development Zone established by the Department of Commerce.
7. Numerous CREP and Farmland Preservation Agreements.
8. Area of high groundwater recharge in an area delineated as groundwater deficient.
9. Multiple town and county cooperative effort.
10. Thirty-five meetings open to the public.
11. Landowner involvement – more than 50% of included land has signature pages.
12. Amish and Mennonite cooperation.
13. Ability to expand AEA- Marathon County interest.
14. Adjacent to other exclusive agricultural zoned towns in Marathon County.
15. Existing and planned future exclusive agricultural zoning.
16. Large contiguous block of viable cropland with existing agricultural infrastructure.
17. Numerous recent private and public investments in the agricultural economy.
18. Development of the City of Owen Agribusiness Park.
19. Presence of the Central Wisconsin Agricultural Innovation Center (CWAIC).
20. Economic multiplier effect as demonstrated by the UWEX study.
21. Strong support from local agribusinesses.

In summary, there are more than twenty reasons why this AEA petition differs from the petitions submitted in 2010. It is expected that many of these same reasons will distinguish the Heart of America's Dairyland AEA petition from other AEA petitions submitted in 2011.

# Heart of America's Dairyland Ag Enterprise Area

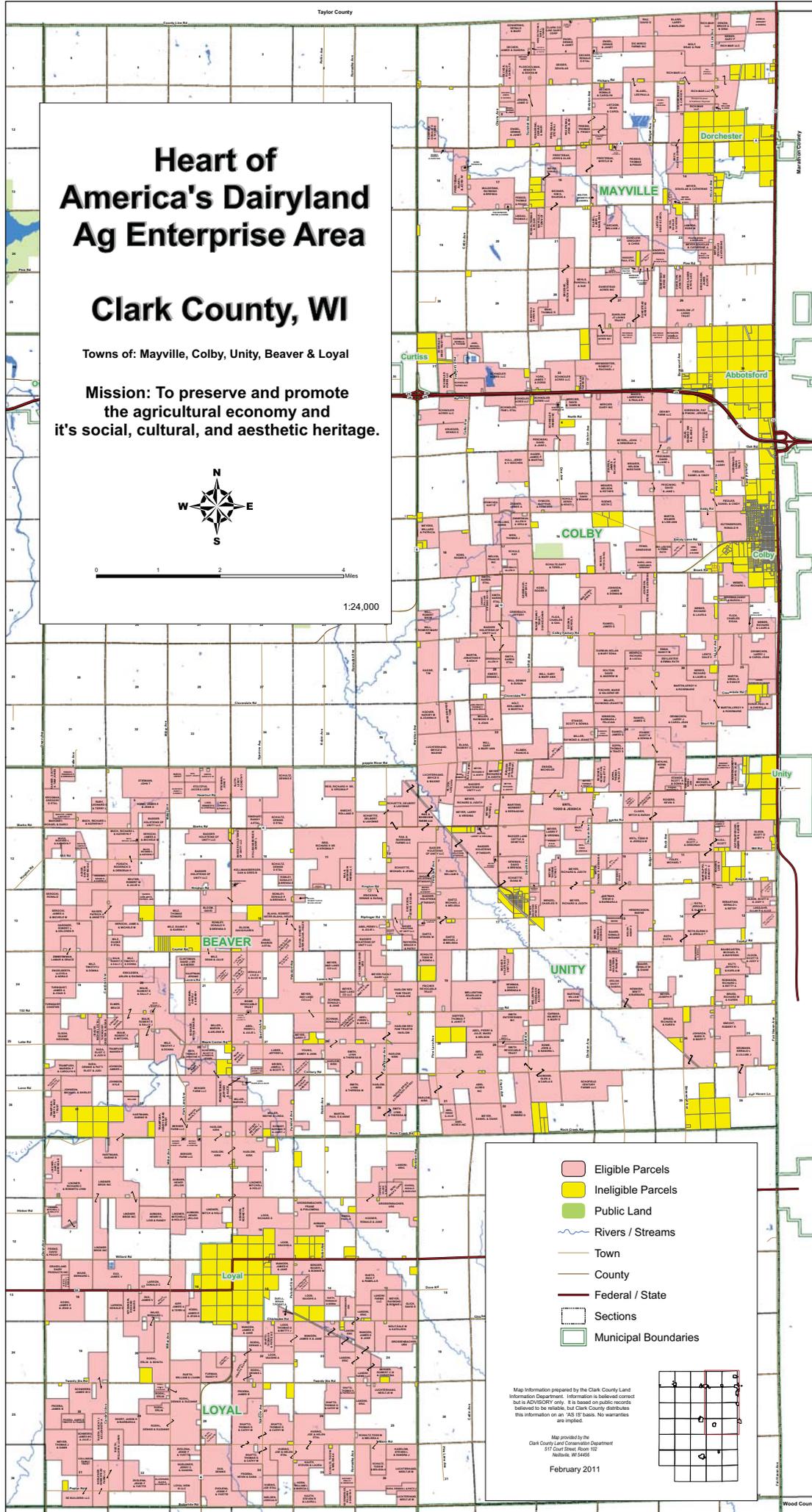
## Clark County, WI

Towns of: Mayville, Colby, Unity, Beaver & Loyal

Mission: To preserve and promote the agricultural economy and it's social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage.



1:24,000

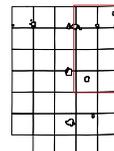


- Eligible Parcels
- Ineligible Parcels
- Public Land
- Rivers / Streams
- Town
- County
- Federal / State
- Sections
- Municipal Boundaries

Map information prepared by the Clark County Land Information Department. Information is believed correct but is ADVISORY only. It is based on public records believed to be reliable, but Clark County distributes this information on an "AS IS" basis. No warranties are implied.

Map provided by the Clark County Land Information Department  
317 Court Street, Room 102  
Neillsville, WI 54456

February 2011



## Exhibit 6: Resolutions in Support of AEA

Motion:  
 1<sup>st</sup> Okonek  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Rueth  
 No: 2 Yes: 25  
 Absent: 2

Adopted:   
 Lost:   
 Tabled:

Number of votes required:  
 Majority  Two-thirds

Reviewed by: LMB  
 Corp Counsel

RESOLUTION # 5-1-11

IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN  
 AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA  
 WITHIN THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL,  
 MAYVILLE AND UNITY, CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Clark Co Board Roll Call Vote	Y E S	N O	A
1 Hochhalter	X		
2 Leichtman	X		
3 Schindler	X		
4 Kallberg	X		
5 Renderman	X		
6 Waichulis	X		
7 Alger	X		
8 Kodl			X
9 Holtzhausen	X		
10 Kolzow	X		
11 Jalling	X		
12 Mathison		X	
13 Bower	X		
14 Gray			X
15 Rahm	X		
16 Hendrickson	X		
17 Rueth	X		
18 Parker	X		
19 Haseiow	X		
20 Okonek	X		
21 Rollins	X		
22 Kunze	X		
23 Boon	X		
24 Kirn	X		
25 Fitzmaurice	X		
26 Bakker	X		
27 Garbisch		X	
28 Harwick	X		
29 Wesenberg	X		

1. WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and
2. Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, under s. 91.86,
3. Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas
4. throughout the State of Wisconsin under s.91.84, Wis.
5. Stats.; and
- 6.
7. WHEREAS, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark
8. County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic
9. heritage; and
- 10.
11. WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville,
12. and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged
13. agricultural preservation and promotion; and
- 14.
15. WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville,
16. and Unity believe that establishment of an Agricultural
17. Enterprise Area ("AEA") will preserve and promote the
18. development of the local economy; and
- 19.
20. WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville,
21. and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to
22. the establishment of an AEA and have determined that
23. there is public support for the AEA; and
- 24.
25. WHEREAS, the proposed boundaries of the Heart of
26. America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area are
27. depicted on Exhibit A; and
- 28.
29. WHEREAS, the choice to voluntarily participate in
30. programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be
31. at the sole discretion of the property owner; and
- 32.
33. WHEREAS, the continued preservation of agricultural land
34. will support and create jobs in the local economy; and
- 35.

I, Christina M. Jensen,  
 Clerk for the County of Clark,  
 hereby certify that this  
 Resolution was adopted by the  
 Board of Supervisors at the  
 meeting held January 18, 2011

  
 Christina M. Jensen  
 Clark County Clerk,  
 Neillsville, WI 54456

SEAL

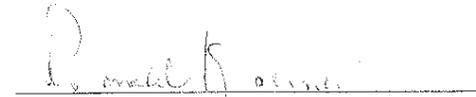
36. **WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use that is  
37. worthy of preservation and promotion.  
38.  
39. **NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CLARK**  
40. **COUNTY BOARD** in session this 18th day of January,  
41. 2011, that the Clark County Board of Supervisors supports  
42. the petition requesting the designation of the Heart of  
43. America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area by the  
44. State under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats.

**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frederick Garbisch

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Fitzmaurice

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Duane Boon

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald Koerner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Erickson

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

(Current Year)

Projected new positions:	none
Anticipated revenues:	none
Wages & Benefits:	none
All other costs:	none
Space requirements:	none

RESOLUTION NO. #120710

IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA WITHIN THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL, MAYVILLE, AND UNITY, CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN.

Whereas, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, unders.91.86, Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin under s.91.84 Wis. Stats.; and

Whereas, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage: and

Whereas, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged agricultural preservation and promotion: and

Whereas, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity believe that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area ("AEA") will preserve and promote the development of the local economy: and

Whereas, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to the establishment of a AEA and have determined that there is public support for the AEA: and

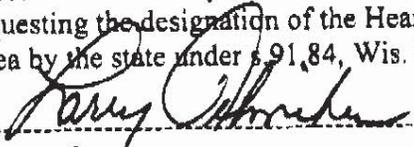
Whereas, the proposed boundaries of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted on Exhibit A: and

Whereas, the choice to voluntarily participate in programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the property owner: and

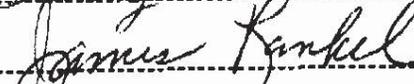
Whereas, the continued preservation of agricultural land will support and create jobs in the local economy: and

Whereas, agriculture is an important land use that is worthy of preservation and promotion.

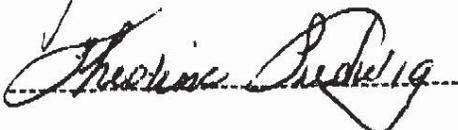
Now, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF COLBY, CLARK COUNTY, in session this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010, that this township supports this petition requesting the designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area by the state under s.91.84, Wis. Stats.

-----Larry Oehmichen, Chairman

-----Larry Mader, Supervisor

-----James Rankel, Supervisor

Attested to on December 7, 2010

-----Theoline Ludwig, Clerk

**TOWN OF LOYAL, RESOLUTION NO.2011-1**

**IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA  
WITHIN THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL, MAYVILLE, AND UNITY,  
CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, under s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin under s.91.84, Wis. Stats.; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged agricultural preservation and promotion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity believe that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area ("AEA") will preserve and promote the development of the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to the establishment of an AEA and have determined that there is public support for the AEA; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed boundaries of the Heart of America's Dairy Land Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted on Exhibit A; and

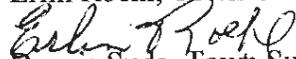
**WHEREAS**, the choice to voluntarily participate in programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the property owner; and

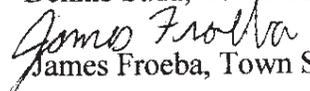
**WHEREAS**, the continued preservation of agricultural land will support and create jobs in the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use that is worthy of preservation and promotion.

**NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LOYAL TOWN BOARD** in session this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011, that the Town of Loyal supports this Petition requesting the designation of the Heart of America's Dairy Land Agricultural Enterprise Area by the state under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats.

Erlin Roehl, Town Chairman

  
Dennis Suda, Town Supervisor

  
James Froeba, Town Supervisor

Karen Santilli, Clerk

**RESOLUTION 12/14/2010**

**IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE  
AREA WITH THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL, MAYVILLE,  
UNITY, CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, under s.91.86, Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin under s91.84, Wis. Stats.; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged agricultural preservation and promotion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to the establishment of an AEA and have determined that there is public support for the AEA; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed boundaries of the Hear of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted on Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, the choice to voluntarily participate in programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the property owner; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued preservation of agricultural land will support and create jobs in the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use that is worthy of preservation and promotion.

**NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BEAVER** in session this 14<sup>th</sup> date of December, 2010 that the Town of Beaver supports this petition requesting the designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Are by the state under s.91.84, Wis. Stats.

12-14-10

Charles Rueth

Michelle Malm

Ken Zorn

RESOLUTION 01-2011

IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA  
WITHIN THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL, MAYVILLE AND UNITY,  
CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, under s.91.86, Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin under s 91.84, Wis. State.; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged agricultural preservation and promotion, and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity believe that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area ("AEA") will preserve and promote the development of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to the establishment of an AEA and have determined that there is public support for the AEA; and

WHEREAS, the proposed boundaries of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted on Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS; the choice to voluntarily participate in programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the property owner; and

WHEREAS; the continued preservation of agricultural land will support and create jobs in the local economy; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is an important land use that is worthy of preservation and promotion.

NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF MAYVILLE TOWN BOARD in session this 12th day of January, 2011 that Town of Mayville supports this petition requesting the designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area by the state under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats.

Adopted at the Town of Mayville Town Board Meeting on Jan. 11, 2011

  
Dennis Engel, Chairman

  
Gloria J. Nixdorf, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 101**

**IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA WITHIN THE TOWNS OF BEAVER, COLBY, LOYAL, MAYVILLE, AND UNITY, CLARK COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is requesting petitions, under s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., to designate Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin under s.91.84, Wis. Stats.; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is a vital component of the Clark County economy, and its social, cultural, and aesthetic heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have consistently supported and encouraged agricultural preservation and promotion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity believe that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area ("AEA") will preserve and promote the development of the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Towns of Beaver, Colby, Loyal, Mayville, and Unity have held several public meetings in regard to the establishment of an AEA and have determined that there is public support for the AEA; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed boundaries of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted on Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, the choice to voluntarily participate in programs related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the property owner; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued preservation of agricultural land will support and create jobs in the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use that is worthy of preservation and promotion.

**NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF UNITY BOARD** in session this 8th day of December, 2011, that supports this petition requesting the designation of the Heart of America's Dairyland Agricultural Enterprise Area by the state under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats.