

*“My family has been on the land for over 130 years. Today, our family farm in Westfield Township, Dodge County, is surrounded by 12 swine factory farms in a 3 mile radius. Daily, my family must contend with the dangerous gases emitted from these facilities, not to mention the constant truck traffic tearing up the roads.”*

– Sonja Trom Eayrs

Dodge County Concerned Citizens (DCCC) is a non-profit organization working for the development of a sound stewardship ethic toward our townships, counties, states and nations' farmland, air, water and for public policy changes that will lead to the development of a sustainable agricultural system.

The ideal toward which the DCCC is working is that one day Americans will cherish our farmlands in the way we now do our national parks and wilderness areas; and as individuals, each farmer and landowner will strive to leave the land, air, water in better condition than when he or she received it.

Dodge County needs leadership that is community-centered.

## Keep Our Water Clean and Air Fresh

- Good governance - limiting the infiltration of "Big Ag" into local governance
- Putting people before profits
- Raising awareness regarding the negative implications of factory farms in Minnesota
- Providing assistance to farm families facing installation of a large feedlot near their homes and farms
- Promoting clean water
- Promoting clean air
- Advocating for legislative changes

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# Dodge County Concerned Citizens

## Sharing the Land Protecting the Future



[dodgecc.org](http://dodgecc.org)

# What Happened to Family Farms in Dodge County?

## Large corporate interests have infiltrated governance in Dodge County.

- Dodge County officials serve in public office – not to promote our democracy – but to promote their own financial interests.
- Land use rules have been revised to promote large corporate factory farms (only 4 or 5 acres required to construct a factory farm, but 53 acres required to build a home in the Ag District).
- Factory farm-friendly zoning ordinances, inexpensive application fees and stacked committees make the approval process for factory farms easy.
- In contrast, non-farm related applications are expensive, face lengthy approval processes and intense scrutiny, and usually end up in a legal battle.

## It's time for change in Dodge County.

- Promote candidates who value and promote our democracy – not a corporate autocracy.
- Revise land use rules to promote multiple land uses, including residential housing in the country.
- Set term limits on all non-elected committees and vote for people who promote multiple land uses.
- Housing, clean energy and other factors are changing the land use dynamic in Dodge County.

# Blanket Ag Zoning Harms Non-Tillable Land Owners

## Problem:

91% of Dodge County is classed as Ag Land. Strict density restrictions on homes per quarter-section in the agriculture district has made building in the country virtually impossible. Dodge County is one of the fastest growing counties in Southeast Minnesota. There is a large demand for land to build homes on, but there is no supply, due to county regulations. This drives up land values, and property taxes.

Blanket zoning opens the door to abuse of zoning laws and fuels discrepancies between neighbors. It's time Dodge County government works for landowners, not actively against them.

## Solution:

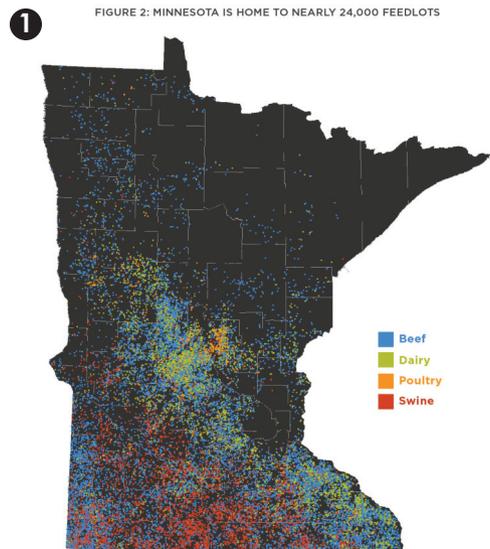
The comprehensive plan Dodge County uses as a guide for growth, states: "Increasing demand for 'homes on acreages' outside city limits." It's time the County starts following their plan.

Non-tillable land in the agriculture district needs to be developable (adhering to open space requirements).

Contact your Township Supervisors and your County Commissioner to make your voice heard.

For further information regarding the siting of livestock operations in the State of Minnesota, scan the QR code below. Be sure and check out the Animal Ordinance Map!

Siting Livestock Farms in Minnesota information >>



Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Feedlot Database.

