

## Oglesby Agronomy Summit At IVCC To Feature Upcoming Changes To Pesticide Regulations

Discover how biologicals, pesticides, and climate are shaping the future of agriculture at the Oglesby Agronomy Summit, hosted at Illinois Valley Community College. This year's event will take place on February 5, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and will provide producers with the latest agronomic research updates and equip them with information that will empower them in their farm decision-making.

Topics for the day include: Bio-what? Biostimulants, Biologicals, Biofertilizers: Reviewing the Market and Tips to Their Use - Connor Sible, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The bio-product market space has expanded rapidly in recent years, with each company selling a unique bio-based product "perfect for your farm's needs." After nine years of trials with different product types utilized in corn and soybean systems, the session will review how these products and terminology differ, what we now know about using these products in the field, and what the key questions are to ask before implementing a product on a farm.

Agricultural Mental Health: Extension Resources for Individuals and Communities - Josie Rudolph, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Learn about current research related to agricultural mental health and resources available through Illinois Extension for individuals and communities.

Pesticide Regulatory Update for Illinois Farmers - Corey Lacey, Illinois Soybean Association

Significant changes are coming to pesticide regulations. This session will discuss those changes and how farmers can prepare. Review the EPA's herbicide and insecticide strategies, explain how updated Endangered Species Act labels are influencing on-farm decisions are, and outline expected changes to the applicator license

## Lady Knights Drop 59-34 Decision To Dee-Mack

The Fieldcrest Lady Knights dropped a 59-34 decision to Deer Creek-Mackinaw on Thursday, January 15.

DeeMack held leads of 14-3 after the first quarter, 33-14 at the half, and 44-29 heading into the final quarter.

Fieldcrest was led by Macy Gochanour with 17 points. TeriLynn Timmerman had 11.

The Lady Knights will be competing this week in the annual McLean County Tournament.

## Collection

(From Lacon Front Page) counts per Resident in Collections in Q3 2025: 2.78

- ◆ Average Balance per Collection Account in Q3 2025: \$1,484
- ◆ % Change in Average No. of Collection Accounts per Resident in Collections (Q3 2025 vs. Q2 2025): 1.54%
- ◆ % Change in Average Balance per Collection Account (Q3 2025 vs. Q2 2025): 0.95%

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## Postal Services Changes Could Disrupt Mail-In Voting

By Jenna Schweikert & Nikoel Hytrek  
Capitol News Illinois

New postal service changes to postmarking and transportation rules could disrupt mail-in voting in the 2026 election, Illinois county clerks warn.

Ahead of the March primary election, county clerks are telling voters not to rely on past processes and to mail their ballots as early as possible, no later than one week before Election Day.

Clerks from around the state discussed how to educate voters at the annual Illinois Association of County Clerks and Records Conference.

One new rule, which took effect Dec. 24, states that the date a postmark is applied to a piece of mail may not reflect the day it was received by the Postal Service.

Currently, 14 states, including Illinois, will accept mail-in ballots if they are received within a certain period after Election Day if they are postmarked on or before Election Day.

Clerks warned that uncertainty about when ballots will now be postmarked necessitates voters to act earlier. The way postmarks are applied is not changing, the USPS says. Mail is only postmarked at distribution centers, and that will remain the same. But in an effort to improve mail delivery efficiency, some localities' mail may be sent to a different distribution center than in the past, which can increase the amount of time it takes for the USPS to receive and then postmark mail at these centers.

"It's a question mark of when will it actually get through a distribution center. So I'm advising my voters to make sure that they get their vote-by-mail ballot in the mail no less than a week before Election Day," John Ackerman, the Tazewell County clerk, said.

In the city of Peoria, for example, the distribution center is in East Peoria. Tazewell County's center, Ackerman said, is in Champaign, although East Peoria is geographically closer.

Voters can also request a manual postmark from their local post office or drop off their ballot at the election official's office.

But if election officials can't rely on postmarks to reflect accurate

dates, a number of mail-in ballots that were mailed prior to Election Day may not be counted at all clerks said.

Ballots also will no longer be automatically considered priority mail, increasing the amount of time it will take to deliver the mail. "We've utilized that successfully over the years to make sure that all those ballots not only are delivered, but they are received in time. Changing that status dramatically changes how that will impact us as well," Ackerman said.

These changes will be most felt during the recount process, when candidates are "scrambling," Ackerman said. The clerks generally agreed this could change the outcome of a race.

Clerks also said they are concerned about changes impacting voter trust in elections, especially because voter guidance is now going to be different depending on the county's location and distribution center.

"We've told all of our voters, get your vote-by-mail ballot in your box by Election Day to be postmarked for Election Day, we will process it now. We're ripping the rug out from underneath that," Ackerman said. "That leads to distrust. When you can't give a solid

date, you can't give a solid answer, when you can't reply back to them with facts, when it's left for interpretation. That erodes the trust that we've been trying to rebuild."

In the past, when this potential change was proposed, the clerks said they were able to speak to federal lawmakers to advocate for its reversal.

In late September 2025, a delegation of clerks traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with lawmakers and staff about changes to federal funding for election infrastructure and learned lawmakers didn't know about the potential changes, Ackerman said.

"They were all unaware that this change was going to take effect. They were unaware, in my opinion, of the impacts it would have on vote by mail," he said.

This time, however, clerks didn't know the changes were proposed until days before they were implemented.

To be sure your vote has been counted, voters can call their county clerk's office, or some counties offer ballot tracking online.


County clerks emphasized that voting by mail is still safe and secure, but it might take more work and planning.


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renewal through continuing education. Learn and discuss more about the regulatory landscape in Springfield, and any insight Illinois farmers need to know.

Nitrogen and Sulfur Management Update - Giovanni Preza Fontes, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

This presentation will review past and current research on nitrogen and sulfur fertilizer management in Illinois.

Dealing with Wind and Water in Illinois - Trent Ford, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The session discusses the 4 "Ds" of wind and water extremes in Illinois: derechos, dust storms, drought, deluge, and highlights soil and water management strategies to deal with these impactful events.

Registration is \$30 and includes all presentations and lunch. Certified Crop Advisor continuing education units will be available. Register by January 29, 2026, at go.illinois.edu/AGSOglesby.

This event is part of a statewide series of Illinois Extension Agronomy Summits taking place throughout January and February of 2026. Each location features unique topics and presenters.

Additional 2026 locations include:

- Peoria Agronomy Summit | Jan. 12
- Southeastern Agronomy Summit | Fairfield, Jan 22
- Northwestern Agronomy Summit | Freeport, Jan. 28
- Southwestern Agronomy Summit | Waterloo, Feb. 3
- Oglesby Agronomy Summit | Feb. 5
- Joliet Agronomy Summit | Feb. 10
- Springfield Agronomy Summit | Feb. 17
- Marshall Agronomy Summit | Feb. 24

For questions or if you need an accommodation to participate, please contact Emily Hansen at emhansen@illinois.edu or 815-224-0896. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.

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- ◆ Weddings (Indoor/Outdoor)
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- ◆ Showers
- ◆ Parties
- ◆ Banquets

**PHONE (309) 442-2020**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**COUNTY OF Marshall - Lacon, ILLINOIS**

U.S. Bank Trust National Association not in its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust  
Plaintiff

vs.

Austin Brone; Illinois Housing Development Authority; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants  
Defendant

25 FC 8  
CALENDAR

**NOTICE OF SALE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on February 4, 2026, at the hour 10:15 a.m., Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass Urban & Wentworth, 310 Fifth Street, Lacon, IL 61540, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 04-36-105-005.

**Commonly known as 318 S. Broad St., Lacon, IL 61540.**

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

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