

David & Leslie Meuer, Meuer Farm, LLC:

- Meuer farm is well known in Calumet County as well as statewide for its agri-tourism, educational and conservation efforts. Dave & Leslie are no stranger to conservation practices and their history of conservation minded farming dates back to the early 1970s when Dave's dad John started working with the Soil Conservation Service. Dave purchased his dad's farm in 1994 and has carried on his father's legacy of conservation minded farming.
- The Meuers raise beef, hogs, broilers and egg layers, and also grow conventional and specialty grain crops, strawberries and pumpkins. Their farm also includes beehives, a maple syrup operation and a corn maze. During the summer months, the Meuers host farm to table dinners and bring in local chefs to prepare meals featuring produce grown on the farm.
- In 1983 when Dave started operating his father's farm the first thing he did was fence off the pastured woodlot and restored it by planting 500 bare root Red Oak Trees. Dave has worked closely with conservation agencies such as NRCS in the past to install conservation practices such as grassed waterways and a 30 acre rotational grazing system using all native grasses. Dave has land enrolled in the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Conservation Stewardship Program and has established a stand of Black Walnut trees via the Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Program.
- In 2009 Dave & Leslie decided to share their special property with the public, they started a 2 mile hayride tour of the farm, and their main activity building now acts as an educational center for the farm. They educate over 3,000 school children on the various farming and conservation practices they use at their farm each year. In an average year they will be visited by over 25,000 people at the farm. In the past 3 years they have had visitors from 36 states and 38 foreign countries.