



MEDIA ALERT

PRESS CONFERENCE: Schuyler County Citizens Speak Out to Oppose Planned Olive Branch Acres Industrial Hog Operation

Concerns over the impact of proposed 20,000-head swine confinement near Littleton; public health threats & environmental risks fuel local opposition

WHAT: An open-air press conference & public testimony by local residents & farmers against the proposed Olive Branch Acres industrial hog operation prior to the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) public information meeting

WHEN: Thursday, June 1, 2017 | 4:45 p.m. CT [before the IDOA public meeting]

WHERE: Rushville Downtown Park Gazebo (across from the Schuyler County Courthouse)
102 S. Congress Street, Rushville, IL 62681

WHO: Schuyler County residents & farmers
Members of the [Illinois Citizens of Clean Air & Water \(ICCAW\)](#)
Representatives of the national nonprofit [Socially Responsible Agricultural Project \(SRAP\)](#)

The residents & local farmers of Schuyler County are concerned -- and they should be. Their public health, environment, surface waters, recreational lakes, roads, tourism, property values and overall quality of life are all in jeopardy. Olive Branch Acres, LLC -- a massive swine concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO), or "factory farm" -- is proposed by Carthage-based Professional Swine Management for a site near Littleton. The industrial animal operation will confine **approximately 20,000 swine** in extremely close proximity to area farm homes, recreational lakes, cabins and long-time residents -- some of whom have preexisting respiratory and other health problems.

Community members have gathered information showing **the CAFO proposal fails to meet a majority of the siting criteria set forth in the Livestock Management Facilities Act.** They will share their findings at a 4:45 p.m. press conference before the Illinois Department of Agriculture public information meeting at Schuyler Courthouse and testify at the 6:00 p.m. IDOA meeting.

Local speakers will include Marshall and Glenna Prather, Keitra Smith, Carrie Johnson and John Paul

Media contacts:

Karen Hudson, SRAP | ICCAW
309-742-8895 | karenh@sraproject.org

Carrie Johnson, Schuyler County resident
309-255-2978 | humanity9@live.com