

2025 Ashland County Farm Tour

September 27 and 28, 2025
Noon to 5 pm



ASHLAND COUNTY

**Brought to you by: Ashland County Farm Bureau
and the participating hosts**

Welcome to the 2025 Ashland County Farm Tour

Once again it is time to take to the rural byways of northern Ashland County to enjoy the beauty and bounty of another harvest. The Ashland County Farm Bureau invites you to spend a weekend visiting local farming operations and see firsthand what is involved in a successful modern farm operation or farm business.

Each year the Ashland County Farm Bureau is pleased to sponsor and host the Drive-It-Yourself Tour of Family Farms and Businesses in various regions of our scenic county. The farming families of Ashland County are rightfully proud of the concern they show for the animals trusted to their care and for being good stewards of the land and natural resources that help produce the food crops.

This event is designed to bridge the gap between farmers and consumers so that everyone better understands and appreciates how the food chain works.

Enjoy the day and drive safely!
Justin Ringler, Richard Sprague, Terry Hildebrand, Ben Robinson,
Lindsey Schwinn and Mark Fitch
- Ashland County Farm Bureau's Farm Tour committee



Stop #1 Broken Arrow Cattle

98 Twp Rd 1500 Jeromesville, OH 44840

Broken Arrow Cattle is a small, family-run farm that takes pride in being a start to finish cattle operation. Dakota and Amanda started raising cattle in 2016 to diversify the operation from Amanda's parents' grain farm. With the help of family and friends, other products are offered at the farm and markets including pork and chicken.

Quality is Broken Arrow Cattle's number one priority. They are able to provide Certified Angus Beef through their Ranch to Table program with cattle born and raised on the farm! During the Farm Tour, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a hayride tour of the farm (offered hourly).



Stop #2 Gortner's Maple

1244 Twp Rd 13 West Salem, OH 44287

The Gortner family has been on this 88 acre farm for over 135 years. Family legend has it that the original Lucas relative from Germany settled on the farm as payment for jumping sides from the British to the Americans during the Revolutionary War. This has never been verified as my father Harland said, "you don't live on your past but what you do today."

At the present time, the crop land is rented out and the focus is on maple productions. Upwards of 1,500 gallons of syrup are produced annually which is sold mostly within Ohio. There is a sugarbush on the farm as well as a neighbor's farm and additional woods are rented in Ashland, Richland and Medina counties.

Presently, Roger and Suzie Gortner (owners) along with their nephew, Rusty Gortner, run the maple operation. Visitors are welcome during the spring boil but please call to see when we're boiling. Tours are not scheduled since the season can get hectic. Most of the boiling occurs during the evening and night.

Attendees will have the opportunity to view all of the maple equipment and learn how the sap is collected and boiled. Maple syrup and other confections will be available for sale. Samples will be handed out.



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Stop #3 Pine Hill Park - Sauers Farm

260 Twp Rd 1601, Greenwich, OH 44837



This 99-acre park is a hiker's delight with over three miles of trails that wind through a mixture of habitats including hardwood forest, young forest and prairie grass/wildflowers. The park district acquired this property by the Sauers family and a Clean Ohio grant. The heart of the park is the Sauers family homestead. There are several other buildings, including two timber framed barns. The oldest barn was built in the 1850's and is available for rental. It also serves as home for a two-story cider press from the 1880's. An orchard on the property grows 45 varieties of apples which help supply the stock for the cider press demonstration held at the park. The homestead area also has a fishing pond, a picnic area, a playground, and a 12x20 picnic pavilion.

The park district will be offering hot dogs and hamburgers for donation during the Farm Tour. They will also have wagon ride tours. A Pheasant Forever field biologist will be on site Saturday to discuss habit management and a booth will be set up throughout the weekend by the local Pheasant Forever chapter. New this year - a corn pit for kids, a fall backdrop for pictures, and a farm toy display and sale by Featheringill Farm Toys.



Stop #4 J Star Equipment

265 Twp Rd 1381, Greenwich, OH 44837

Closed on Sunday

Started in the fall of 2016, J Star Equipment is the dream of owner and salesman Bradley Fennwald. The name of the business was inspired by the name of his daughter and Bradley has since worked tirelessly to make his dream a success. Starting with over a decade of experience and an ingrained philosophy about customer service before, during and after the sale, J Star Equipment quickly grew from simply a used equipment dealer to include Vermeer, Bush Hog and Hustler bale feeders as well as A & I parts.

During the Farm Tour, attendees will be able to view equipment and chat with staff. Children can also participate in a Kiddie Tractor Pull. The pull will be open for participation on Saturday from noon to 5 and winners will be mailed a prize following the pull. This stop will be closed on Sunday.

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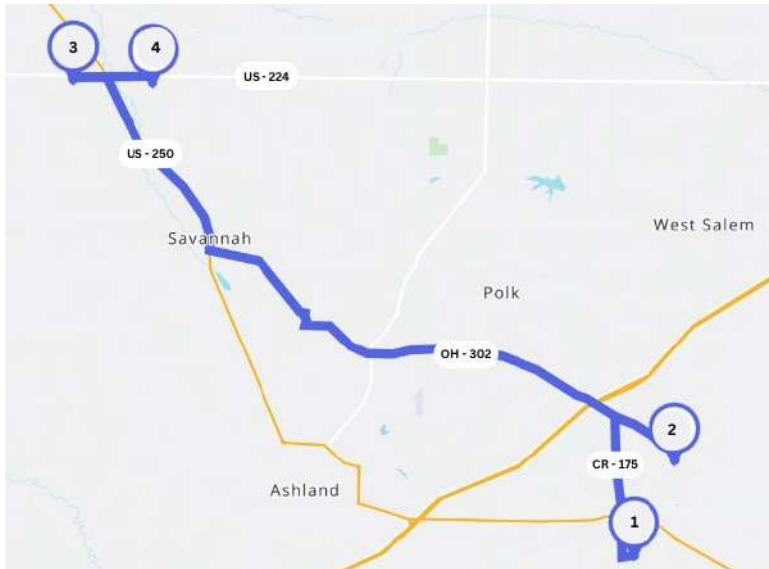
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Route and Directions

Due to safety concerns for our volunteers, directional signs will no longer be placed at intersections.



Directions from Gortner's Maple (#2) to Pine Hill Park (#3) ~21 miles

1. Go north on Twp Rd 13 for 0.4 miles and turn **LEFT** onto OH-302. Continue on OH-302 for about 14 miles. *Note - make sure to follow the road signs for OH-302 north of Ashland where it joins briefly with OH-511.
2. Upon arrival to Savannah, turn **RIGHT** onto US-250 and travel for about 5.6 miles.
3. Turn **LEFT** onto US-224 and travel for approx 1 mile.
4. Turn **RIGHT** onto Twp Rd 1601 and the park is within eye sight.

Directions from Broken Arrow Cattle (#1) to Gortner's Maple (#2) ~6.5 miles

1. Head toward CR-175 on Twp Rd 1500 and then turn **RIGHT** onto CR-175. Follow CR-175 for 3.8 miles.
2. Turn **RIGHT** onto OH-302 and go for 1.8 miles.
3. Turn **RIGHT** onto Twp Rd 13 and Gortner's Maple is down the road about 0.4 miles.

Directions from Pine Hill Park (#3) to J Star Equipment (#4) ~2 miles

1. Go south on Twp Rd 1601 until you reach US-224 and then turn **LEFT**. Drive for approx 2 miles.
2. Turn **RIGHT** onto Twp Rd 1381 and J Star Equipment is 0.2 miles down the road.

*Note - J Star Equipment is closed on Sunday

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2026 Calendar Photo Contest

Enter by Sept. 21, 2025

Share your Farm Tour Photos!

Seeking photo entries of rural and farm life for our annual Calendar Photo Contest. For rules or to enter, use the QR code above or go to: www.centerracoop.com/calendar-photo-contest

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