



**Title: Crawford County Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Study Committee Holds Community Dialogue**

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**Community Dialogue** to be held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 at 6:00 pm to hear from community members about their values and priorities for the future of farming, water quality, health, and wellbeing for Crawford County. This meeting will be held virtually, via Zoom. You can participate by using a computer, smartphone, tablet, or a landline telephone. All are welcome!

In December 2019, the Crawford County Board of Supervisors passed a CAFO Moratorium for 12 months, which stipulates that a study committee be formed to research issues around CAFOs - specifically the issues that are unique to Crawford County's geology, hydrology, topography, ecology, practices, attitudes, culture, and values.

To learn about what this study committee has accomplished so far, please visit the following webpage that outlines the meetings, agendas, and presentations.

<https://crawford.extension.wisc.edu/community-development/cafo/>

The Community Dialogue is a learning opportunity for everyone involved. The intention is for the study committee to bring together diverse community members, to hear about community members' experiences and values, and to create a learning environment to illuminate the complexities of farming, water quality, health, and wellbeing in Crawford County.

The Community Dialogue will be facilitated by our Extension Crawford County Community Development Educator, Jessica Jane Spayde. Spayde states, "Any well-facilitated community dialogue is successful if community members leave feeling heard, feeling like they understand their neighbors better, and feeling like they learned something about themselves and their community." Spayde also states, "I've called upon my statewide network of Community Development colleagues within UW-Madison Division of Extension to be facilitators of our small group discussions. This way, each discussion will be expertly facilitated by qualified professionals, ensuring a civil, respectful dialogue." Additionally, during the Community Dialogue, we will go over the following "Guidelines for Dialogue."

**Guidelines for the dialogue include:**

*Civil and respectful discourse.* We can easily keep our discourse civil and respectful if we simply remember that our neighbors are in the room with us, and that we all love our community and want what's best for our community.

*Dialogue, not debate.* We don't want you to argue or try to win anyone to your side. Instead, we expect participants to spend most of their time listening and trying to understand one another. If you feel the need to argue, we ask that you first ask yourself, "What is it that I might not understand about this person's experience, attitudes, or worldview?" Then, if you must interject, do so by asking an appreciative question, instead of making a declaration or statement.

*Honoring your experience.* We want to hear your experiences, values, and practices, and we will honor your contribution by holding space for your voice.

*Ensuring these guidelines are kept.* If anyone feels uncomfortable or unsafe, they can use the Zoom “Chat” function and chat directly with our facilitator, Jessica Jane Spayde, who will address the problem for them.

### **Community Dialogue Agenda**

All Crawford County community members are welcome! We have dedicated most of the agenda to hearing from you! See the complete Agenda below.

6:00. A brief introduction from our Facilitator about the CAFO Moratorium and the CAFO Study Committee.

6:10. A brief overview of the dialogue process.

6:15. Facilitated small group discussions, using the Zoom Breakout Rooms function, with these guiding questions:

- A. What do you feel about health, safety, and welfare issues around CAFOs in general?
- B. What other areas do you want the CAFO Study Committee to look into?

6: 55. Back to the Large Group: Facilitators report back:

- A. What questions came up?
- B. What concerns came up?
- C. What directions forward were suggested?

7:20. Next Steps & Closing

### **Registration is Required**

All members of the Crawford County community are welcome. People from outside Crawford County are welcome to attend and listen, but we hope you understand that our primary goal is to hear from our community members during this virtual Community Dialogue.

**Register here:** <https://crawford.extension.wisc.edu/community-development/cafo/>

If you have any questions, or would like to attend a pre-session to learn Zoom, please contact Extension Crawford County with any questions: 608-326-0223 or [Spayde@wisc.edu](mailto:Spayde@wisc.edu).



**Extension**

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