

Activities

1. Valero Renewable Energy, Linden Indiana

Valero Renewable Energy is located near Linden, IN, about 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis. The bio-refinery sits on approximately 80 acres and started ethanol production in August 2007. The facility uses a dry-grind production method and state-of-the-art technology to maintain industry-leading standards in production, safety, product quality and environmental stewardship. The Linden plant annually processes nearly 45 million bushels of corn (1.1 mmt) into 120 million gallons of ethanol and 350,000 tons (320,000 mt) of dried distillers' grains with soluble (DDGS). The bio-refinery employs approximately 60 full-time individuals.

The entire kernel of corn is converted to ethanol or distillers' grains. Ethanol is an environmentally friendly, high-octane renewable fuel produced by fermenting converted corn starch with yeast. It is used as a blending agent with gasoline. Distillers grains are the co-product left after the ethanol is removed from fermented corn mash, and are sold as a valuable livestock feed. Distiller's grains are high in protein, fat, vitamins and minerals, making an excellent feed supplement for beef and dairy cattle, swine and poultry. The Linden plant markets both dried distillers' grains with soluble (DDGS) and modified (or wet) distillers grains with soluble (MDGS).

2. Cargill Inc. Grain Handling Facility

Cargill, Inc. is the world's largest handler of grains and oilseeds in international trade. They are also the largest privately held company in the agricultural industry. The Linden facility hands corn, soybean, and wheat and the grain originates from about 30-40 miles around the facility. Cargill has an agreement with Valero Renewable Energy at Linden to coordinate the corn used by the ethanol facility. So, most of the corn moving through the facility will go to Valero, although some corn may move by train to the Southeastern U.S. for poultry and hog production.

Soybeans are purchased from farmers for delivery to either the Linden facility or for delivery to soybean crushers in a nearby Cargill plant in Lafayette, Indiana or an ADM plant in Frankfort, Indiana. Some soybeans are also shipped to crushing plants in the Southeastern U.S. by train.

Few soybeans from this area would be destined for China. Much of the soybean production for China would be along the Mississippi River system that includes smaller rivers, including the Illinois River, the Ohio River, the Missouri River, the Tennessee River and the Arkansas River. Also soybeans produced in western Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and South Dakota tend to move by unit trains to west coast ports of Portland and Seattle and then on to Asia.

3. Fair Oaks Farms

Fair Oaks Farms is an escape to the country with acres of great outdoor fun, food and learning where you can explore family farms and reconnect with nature, animals and our planet.

Fair Oaks Farms are not only committed to educating the public about modern farming efforts, but also to protecting the environment, caring for animals and ensuring the highest quality products possible.

Fair Oaks Farms brings Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to a whole new light. The entire facility runs on cow & pig manure. They transform the farms' waste into energy by way of anaerobic digesters, reducing their dependency upon natural gas and electricity during the milk and manufacturing process. In 2013, the use of CNG will reduce the amount of diesel that their milk tanker/trailers use by 2 million gallons; which is the amount used in 2011. The barns and plants are also powered by this cutting edge "poo power."

4. Purdue Extension

The Cooperative Extension Service is one of the nation's largest providers of scientific research-based information and education. It's a network of colleges, universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, serving communities and counties across America. The Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service program areas are: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Health and Human Sciences, Economic and Community Development, and 4-H Youth Development. Purdue Extension is a service tailored to meet the needs of Indiana, needs which they know firsthand. Their educators, specialists, and volunteers live and work in all 92 Indiana counties. They provide the link between Land Grant research and Indiana citizens. In doing that, they provide practical solutions to local issues. They provide information and expertise that's available in the form people want, when they want it. That's Purdue Extension, Indiana's home team advantage.

5. Farm Credit Mid-America

Farm Credit Mid-America is an agricultural lending cooperative owned and controlled by their customers. They are one of the largest associations within the Farm Credit System. With more than 1,100 employees, they serve nearly 100,000 customers throughout Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Since all their customers are members, they have a voice in how the organization is run. Customers help shape who they are, define the course they take moving forward and decide who will be on the Board of Directors to guide them there.

6. West Lafayette Farmer's Market

The West Lafayette Farmer's Market is a seasonable market organized by local farmers. Farmers come and sell their vegetables, fruits, and flowers in the afternoon during that period of time. The selling price is usually a little bit higher than the regular grocery store, but their products are premium on freshness and tastes. Other than product trading, farmers usually share their production ideas and other entertainment communication.

7. Samara House

Samara, also known as the John E. Christian House, is a house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright located in West Lafayette, Indiana. The home is an example of the Usonian homes that Wright designed. Samara was built from 1954 to 1956 and was still occupied by the original owner, John E. Christian, until he died on July 12, 2015.

8. Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT)

The Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT), established in 1848, is one of the world's oldest futures and options exchanges. More than 50 different options and futures contracts are traded by over 3,600 CBOT members through open outcry and electronic trading. Volumes at the exchange in 2003 were a record breaking 454 million contracts. On 12 July 2007, the CBOT merged with the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) to form the CME Group, a CME/Chicago Board of Trade Company. CBOT and three other exchanges (CME, NYMEX, and COMEX) now operate as designated contract markets (DCM) of the CME Group.

9. Chicago Chinatown

The Chinatown neighborhood in Chicago, Illinois, is on the South Side (located in the Armour Square community area), centered on Cermak and Wentworth Avenues, and is an example of an American Chinatown, or an ethnic-Chinese neighborhood. By the 2000 Census, Chicago Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area had 68,021 Chinese. The combined 60616 and 60608 zip codes in Chicago, as of the 2010 Census, were home to 22,380 people of Chinese descent. In addition, as of 2010, the Chicago-Joliet-Naperville IL-IN-WI metro area had 92,712 people of Chinese descent. Chicago is the second oldest settlement of Chinese in America after the Chinese fled persecution in California. The present Chicago Chinatown was formed around 1915, after settlers moved steadily south from near the Loop where the first enclaves were established in the 19th century.

10. RDM Aquaculture

RDM Aquaculture LLC is a family owned business. Started in Fowler, Indiana in 2009 by the Brown family, RDM looked into starting a tilapia farm, but decided to take a different, more unique route into the shrimp farming industry. They were under the impression there were hundreds of these in the United States already existing; they later they found out that they were the 6th in the U.S. (three were Universities, making RDM the 3rd privately owned facility).

11. Gutwein Popcorn

The Gutwein family has been a part of Indiana agriculture since 1906 when Philip Gutwein, Sr., and family moved to the Francesville area to farm and eventually started Gutwein Milling. In 1936, Fred Gutwein, along with Harvey F. Gutwein, founded Gutwein Hybrids. In 1998, Harvey R. Gutwein started Gutwein Popcorn Company. Gutwein popcorn is a family owned business located in northwest Indiana. They strive to carry on the tradition of producing quality products and providing quality service. Their new state-of-the-art processing plant has been in operation since 2014. Gutwein Popcorn is committed to providing quality products and continuing to be an innovative leader in the popcorn industry.

12. Tyner Pond Farm

Tyner Pond Farm is located in Hancock County, Indiana. It is established in 2010 to feed people, not create profits. They raise cattle, chickens and pigs through rich pasture, dining on nature's salad bar and make their living as nature intended. Tyner Pond Farm also plays an important role in the local food movement.

13. Beck Agricultural Center

Beck Agricultural Center is located at the Agronomy Center for Research and Education, where people meet to discuss urgent issues in agriculture today and prepare to meet the needs of tomorrow. The center provides opportunities to combine hands-on field experience with classroom presentations and discussions. It has ample room for classes and demonstrations as well as flexible space for meetings, conferences, workshops and retreats associated with agriculture education. More than 25 companies use the Agronomy Center for Research and Education for field-oriented educational programs every year, as agriculture businesses rely on land-grant universities for industry educational needs. The Beck Center helps Purdue Agriculture work with producers and agribusiness leaders to grow the state's agricultural economy.

14. Indiana Historical Society

The Indiana Historical Society is one of the United States' oldest and largest historical societies and describes itself as "Indiana's Storyteller." Housed within the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, it is located at 450 West Ohio St. in Indianapolis, Indiana, in The Canal and White River State Park Cultural District with neighbors such as the Indiana State Museum and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art. The Indiana Historical Society is the oldest state historical society west of the Allegheny Mountains.

15. Indiana State Capitol

The Indiana State House is the state capitol building of the U.S. State of Indiana. Housing the Indiana General Assembly, the office of the Governor of Indiana, the Supreme Court of Indiana and other state officials, it is located in the State Capital, Indianapolis, at 200 West Washington Street. Built in 1888, it is the fifth building to house the state government. The first statehouse, located in Corydon, Indiana, is still standing and is maintained as a state historic site. The second building was the old Marion County courthouse which was demolished and replaced in the early 20th century. The third building was a structure modeled on the Parthenon, but was condemned in 1877 because of structural defects and razed so the current statehouse could be built on its location.