



Heartland Community College Agriculture Complex

A Central Illinois Hub for Agricultural Advancement and Net-Zero Innovation



Resource for Future Farmers and Community Members

- 29,325 square feet
- Anchors Heartland Community College's agriculture education programs
- Responds to Central Illinois' increasing demand for jobs in the industry
- Allows the college to expand its agriculture program from 50 to 200 students
- Supports new programming in Precision Agriculture (uses technology to increase crop yields while preserving resources)
- Welcomes community members for field trips, FFA (Future Farmers of America) meetings, and 4-H club meetings



Growing Greener: A Net-Zero Pioneer

college building — the facility will produce enough energy to offset its annual energy use. The building design stems from intensive energy modeling, passive solar principles, and solar compartmentalization, while the site design highlights stormwater management and flexibility of outdoor education.

According to the Illinois Green Alliance, the center is on track to become Illinois' first native net-zero community

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Take an aerial tour of
the Agriculture Complex.



Facility Highlights

- A large multipurpose lab with roll-up doors accommodates farm equipment, interior drone flight, animal husbandry, and future tractor repair classes.
- Three greenhouses offer different growing environments.
- Other spaces include a plant and soil lab, a precision ag lab, and additional classroom spaces.
- Social spaces throughout the facility encourage interaction and mentorship.
- An outdoor classroom with a chalkboard and power connections will allow classroom activities alongside test plots.
- The structural strategy uses heavy timber as an agricultural reference point and a carbon-negative material.

Sustainable Features

- Super-insulated building envelope
- Energy-efficient mechanical system with geothermal heat pumps
- High-efficiency programmable LED fixtures and controls
- Radiant heating and cooling floors
- Rooftop solar panels
- Passive solar design
- Energy Star-rated high-efficiency lab equipment

