



Lincoln Park
Zoo

The barn doors are open! Check out the *Farm-in-the-Zoo Presented by John Deere*

What: The Farm-in-the-Zoo Presented by John Deere brings a small-scale, Midwestern family farm experience to city dwellers. The mission of the Farm-in-the-Zoo is to showcase domestic farm animals found on a typical Illinois farm and demonstrate the vital interdependence among animals, land, and people and convey the importance of agriculture in everyday life.

Farm-in-the-Zoo features a farmhouse, livestock barn and dairy barn with outdoor yards for cows, goats, pigs and ponies. A small crop garden in the center of the Farm-in-the-Zoo is a small scale replica of the main crops grown in Midwestern farms, which are predominantly corn and soy beans with some lesser-grown plants including pumpkins and wheat. The zoo also sponsors a bountiful organic vegetable garden next to the Farmhouse.

The farm is an interactive experience for people to see, touch and hear real farm animals. Visitors are encouraged to learn by doing. Cows can be fed. Chicken, rabbits, ponies and goats can be seen up close.

Size: Three acres

Opened: Opened in 1964. Major renovations and upgrade completed 2002.

Cost: \$6 million

Featured wildlife: Domestic cow, pig, goat and chickens, Jacob's sheep, European rabbit, ponies. Bees during the summer months.

Noteworthy award:

- **Distinguished Building Award – 2003**
Citation of Merit
AIA Chicago

Highlights of the Farm-in-the-Zoo Presented by John Deere:

- The Main Barn is filled with interactive exhibits for guests of all ages.
- Big Buzz About Bees enables visitors to learn about bees through video programs, then during summer months, slide back part of a honeycomb and check out a real hive. Eggsplore the Nest invites guests to experience “hatching out” of an oversized egg.
- The Farming & Weather station lets guests experience the rush of a tornado, the crackle of lightning and the rumble of thunder.
- Animal Demonstration Areas provide visitors the opportunity to get up close with the animals that live on the Farm.
- The Dairy Barn houses goats and cows, where visitors can learn about the milking process by watching a live demonstration.
- Fitz’s General Store is filled with cool new stuff, straight from the Farm-in-the-Zoo Presented by John Deere.