



2023

# Sustainability Report



Since founded as a veterinary clinic in 1942, PIPESTONE has been serving its mission of Helping Farmers Today Create the Farms of Tomorrow. Today, this includes a focus on: services, partnerships, and purpose.

## Pipestone Services

The Pipestone Services division represents PIPESTONE's efforts to meet the evolving needs of the pig business and its owners.



### Health

Pipestone Veterinary Services is helping pig farmers make critical decisions about animal health, productivity and profitability.

### Management

Pipestone Management focuses on providing a consistent, high-health wean pig supply. This allows the farmer to maintain farmer ownership, but focus their time and resources at home.

### Nutrition

Pipestone Nutrition is providing economic-driven, feed ingredient procurement and performance-based diet formulations.

### Research

Pipestone Research is providing practical, science based solutions to relevant issues facing farmers now and in the future.

### Business

Pipestone Business is providing resources and expertise for pig business financials, labor and records.

## Pipestone Partnerships

The Pipestone Partnerships division represents PIPESTONE's efforts to meet the growing need for helping farmers. Through a combination of PIPESTONE and farmer equity, PIPESTONE is able to aggregate producers and align opportunities through partnership offerings.



### Wholestone Farms

Farmer-owned, pork processing facility. Through a vision to Bring the Farmer Closer to the Consumer, PIPESTONE has partnered with 200 farmers to own and operate a pork harvest facility.



### Riverstone

Sow production system in Shandong Province, China.



### Pipestone Latin America

Offering design and start-up, veterinary services, and production management of sows in Mexico.



### YellowStone Cattle

Create and capture value in the beef supply chain. Using the strengths of cattle, time and teamwork, PIPESTONE is working to develop an investment opportunity for cattle farmers.



### GreenStone Farmers

Driving Profitable Carbon Solutions. As the voice of the farmer within the regenerative agricultural/carbon credit industry, Greenstone is an investment opportunity for farmers to own the company that generates carbon solutions.

## Scale and Scope

Employees

**1,593**

Office Locations

- Pipestone, MN
- Independence, IA
- DeKalb, IL
- Rensselaer, IN
- Orange City, IA

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Listen in: SwineTime Podcast

The SwineTime podcast is a monthly podcast created for the pork industry. The podcast contains world-renowned resources and expertise. Find the podcast on [www.pipestone.com](http://www.pipestone.com) or subscribe on your favorite listening platform.



Read: Swine News

Did you know that here at PIPESTONE we publish a swine-focused e-newsletter twice a month? Sign up on our website: [www.pipestone.com](http://www.pipestone.com) to get timely, top-notch research and information directly to your inbox.

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## Welcome

Tim Spade  
Sustainability Manager



Welcome to the 2023 PIPESTONE Sustainability Report. Taking care of our natural resources and environment is something farmers have done for generations. We take pride in continuing this tradition by not only monitoring the use of natural resources, but finding ways to be more efficient and sustainable. Our commitment to Pigs, People, and Planet is shown in this report and outlines some of our plans for future sustainability efforts.



### Pigs

We live out our core value by caring for our animals every day. This includes team trainings, research and innovations to enhance animal welfare, preparing for foreign animal diseases, evaluating antibiotic use, and internal and external audits to ensure animal welfare needs are being met.



### Planet

Finding efficiency solutions is a focus here at PIPESTONE. From reducing energy, water and feed inputs used at Pipestone managed sow farms to finding solutions to office paper use and transportation, every avenue of efficiency is monitored and analyzed to see where improvements can be made, and best management practices implemented.



### People

With an employee satisfaction rate of 97%, PIPESTONE takes pride in offering one of the best benefits packages in the industry. Beyond the benefits, we also strive to consistently create a positive work environment focused on employee success and advancement.

None of the steps we've taken could be possible without the continued efforts of the 1,593 team members that make PIPESTONE the successful industry leader it has become. Thank you for all of your efforts and support!

## 2023 Sustainability Goals Completion Rate

Category	Goal	Update	Status
Animal Welfare	Implement monthly training courses on animal welfare.	Training supplied prior to employment or during the first 90-day probation period.	In Progress
	Continue validation of performance through: Monthly veterinary visits to sow farms for animal welfare assessments and training, internal audits completed annually with scores over 90%, one third-party audit every 24 months with scores over 90%.	Internal Audits: 96% Third-party Audits: 99%	Complete
Antibiotic Usage	Track antibiotic use on 10% of U.S. market hogs by '24.	Percent of all U.S. Market Hogs in 2023: 15.2%	Complete
Employee Engagement	Achieve employee satisfaction scores of satisfied or higher on >98% of the team.	Employee satisfaction: 98%	Complete
	Manage farm turnover at 33% or less.	Rolling turnover at year end: 32%	Complete
Employee Training	Online training completion above 95%.	Employees who completed Online training: 90.6%	In Progress
	15% of our population in advanced training for leadership positions.	Team members who received advance training for leadership positions: 9.2%	In Progress
Employee Benefits	Maintain wages and benefits combined in the top 1/3 of our industry as benchmarked by third parties.	Benefits and wages are in the top 1/3 of our industry.	Complete

Category	Goal	Update	Status
<b>Safety</b>	Managed OSHA recordable injury rate at 5 or less.	2023 OSHA rate: 6.8	In Progress
	Training and Audit compliance goals remain at 100%.	Safety audit compliance: 9.7 out of 10.0 (97%)	In Progress
<b>Community Involvement</b>	Encourage 75% of sow farms to donate locally through the Pipestone Cares Program.	Farms participating in Pipestone Cares: 63% PIPESTONE matches \$500 of each farm donation.	In Progress
<b>Carbon Footprint</b>	Develop the GreenStone Farmers business plan to create a profitable carbon solution for its farmer-owners implementing regenerative Ag programs.	The GreenStone Farmers business development team continues to work on a profitable carbon solution for its farmer owners.	In Progress
<b>Feed</b>	Optimize on-farm feeding protocols and diet formulation to manage feed use to pig requirements +/- 5% of total feed use as validated by an expert nutrition panel.	Optimization based on the parameters has been achieved.	Complete
<b>Manure</b>	Fully compliant nutrient management program with state and third-party verification at all sites.	Achieved for all delivering barns.	Complete
	Complete direct injection manure application for greater than 95% of gallons.	Direct injection manure application: >95% of gallons	Complete
	Have manure usage under four gallons/sow/day and feeding protocols to reduce waste to less than 2% of total use.	Managed sow farms averaged 3.34 gallons of manure produced per sow per day.	Complete
<b>Energy</b>	Continue to document total energy use and set usage goals by the end of 2023.	Total energy use has been documented throughout 2023.	Complete
	Validate new technology and equipment to lower total energy use.	Heat mats have proven to lower total energy use by 25%. We continue to install heat mats in facilities as able.	Complete
	Have our sow farms on 50% renewable energy, reducing energy use by 5%.	Due to market conditions we paused our contribution to RECs in 2023 and will re-evaluate moving forward.	In Progress
<b>Water</b>	Continue to document total water use.	Bi-weekly water and propane use summaries are prepared and sent to relevant contacts.	Complete
	Validate new technology, equipment, and protocols to reduce total water usage.	A livestock water recycling pilot project is being evaluated. Water meters are being installed where possible.	Complete
<b>Waste</b>	Implement recycling program on 50% of our sow farms.	Managed sow farms recycling: 61%	Complete
	Implement waste and recycling program at the office locations.	Office locations recycling: 100%	Complete
<b>Warehouse</b>	Reduce energy use by 20% by 2025.	Average monthly electricity savings: 10% Continuous lights are being replaced with LED censored lighting in the Warehouse.	In Progress
	Reduce paper use by 30% by 2025.	Paper use reduction: 60% Implemented order processing technology, reducing paper usage.	Complete
	Utilize 100% bio-degradable packing materials by 2023.	Percent bio-degradable packaging materials utilized: 85% We switched to a completely recyclable cooler and box option for all cold shipping products via UPS and on our own delivery trucks.	In Progress
	Reduce waste by 50%.	Reduction in waste: 50% Re-purposed packing materials and implemented vigorous recycling programs.	Complete

\*\* See 2024 goals on respective pages throughout the report



# PIGS



## Animal Care

We live out our core value by caring for our animals every day. This includes team trainings, research and innovations to enhance animal welfare, preparing for foreign animal diseases, practicing responsible antibiotic use, and auditing to ensure animal welfare needs are being met.

### Enhancing Animal Welfare



#### Training

We provide monthly animal welfare training to all pig caregivers and maintain PQA and TQA certifications.



#### Research

- Completed multiple pilot projects aimed to reduce fighting in pen gestation.
- Began tracking treatment outcomes at the sow farm level.
- Installed rubber flooring to determine if we can increase success at treating lame sows.
- Trained a new anti-inflammatory medication for lameness and for inflammation associated with farrowing.
- Piloted a new syringe that tracks bent/broken needles.



#### Investigate

We provide animal welfare hotline information for employees to report animal welfare concerns and follow up appropriately on submissions.



#### Communicate

To learn more about our animal welfare program and projects, visit the animal welfare page on [pipestone.com](https://pipestone.com/pig-welfare/) --> [pipestone.com/pig-welfare/](https://pipestone.com/pig-welfare/).



#### Verify

We perform internal audits at all sow farms 6-12 times a year, and perform external audits once every three years.



### Audits

#### Third Party Audits

**98.9** /100

Average Audit Score

**20**

Audits

#### Internal Audits

**9.6** /10

Average Audit Score

**576**

Audits

Our 2024

## GOALS



Have each pig caregiver at PIPESTONE complete **1 welfare course** and pass **1 welfare quiz** each month.



Continue validation of welfare performance through:

- Internal audits with annual scores **>90%**
- External audits with annual scores **>93%**
- Expert welfare panelist visits 2 times annually



## Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness

### Secure Pork Supply Plan (SPS)

Foreign Animal Diseases (FADs) pose a significant risk to animals we care for and to the production within our operations.

The Secure Pork Supply (SPS) Continuity of Business Plan provides opportunities to voluntarily prepare before a FAD outbreak. This will better position pork premises with animals that have no evidence of infection to:

- Limit exposure of their animals through enhanced biosecurity.
- Move animals to processing or another pork production premises under a movement permit issued by Regulatory Officials.
- Maintain business continuity for the swine industry, including producers, haulers, and packers during an event of a FAD occurrence.



Customers with a filed VCPR

49%

completion rate

PIPESTONE Managed Sow Farms

100%

completion rate

### Are you prepared for a FAD threat?

Contact your PIPESTONE veterinarian to schedule time to complete a Secure Pork Supply Plan for your farm.

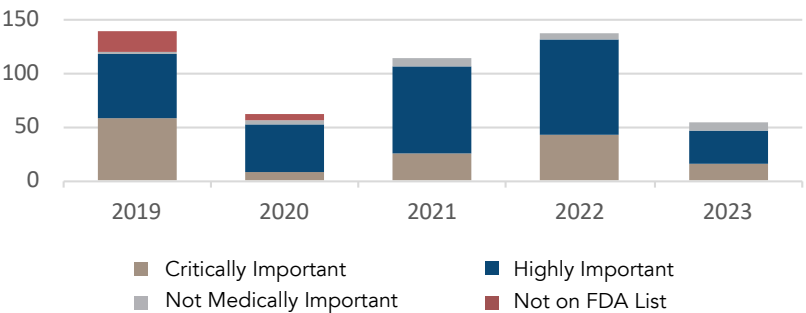
## Responsible Antibiotic Use

### Monitoring Use

Antibiotics are an important tool in our animal care toolbox. One component of practicing responsible antibiotic use is measuring use. Pipestone Antibiotic Resistance Tracker (PART) allows for real time tracking of antibiotic use on farm, and is a resource for your veterinarian and farm team.

Overall, 2023 was a high health year for Pipestone Managed sow farms and that is reflected in our decreased antibiotic use. In 2023, our average antibiotic use at Pipestone Managed sow farms was 51 mg/lb of liveweight. This change can be attributed to our teams focus on health, biosecurity, upgrading sow farm locations, and antibiotic stewardship.

Milligrams of Antibiotics/Lb of Liveweight by FDA Category





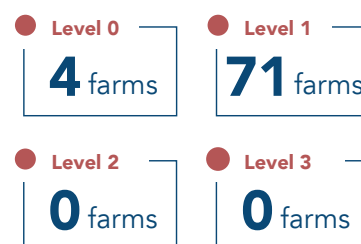
## Monitoring Use

PIPESTONE's commitment to responsible antibiotic use and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) serves as the framework for our PIPESTONE Antibiotic Use Standards (PORK). A producer certifies the production of hogs for PORK at one of the three levels as set forth. These levels apply to all stages of swine production.

### PIPESTONE Antibiotic Use Standards (PORK)

	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
ABX administration is under VCPR	No tracking of antibiotics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Antibiotics used only when necessary		Yes	Yes	Yes
No antibiotics used for growth promotion		Yes	Yes	Yes
Antibiotic Use		Use for disease treatment and control only after diagnosis has been determined	No use of critically important antibiotics	No use of ANY antibiotics

### Pipestone managed sow farms breakdown



## Monitoring Resistance

PART has research focused on antimicrobial use and resistance on commercial swine farms in the Midwest. Partners in the project include the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), the National Pork Board (NPD), and the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research's (FFAR) International Consortium of Antibiotic Stewardship in Agriculture (ICASA). The work focuses on use and resistance in relation to animal health and production-related indicators.

“The Responsible use of antibiotics is not only fiscally and financially important for our farm, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do. Consumers want to know that they are getting a quality product that is raised the right way. If [a pig] has been given antibiotics, they want to know that it has been given responsibly.

Reducing antibiotics is doing management practices better than we did it before. You need a baseline and records to evaluate where you are and where you are want to be. Ask yourself, 'is there something I can do on my farm to help reduce my antibiotics?'. We're able to be better managers because of PART. **We want to do our PART.**

- Scott Sturtevant, Sturtevant Feedlot, Shannon IL





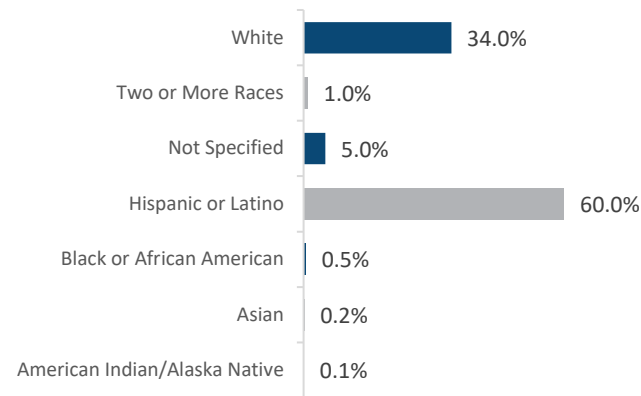
PEOPLE

Team Demographics

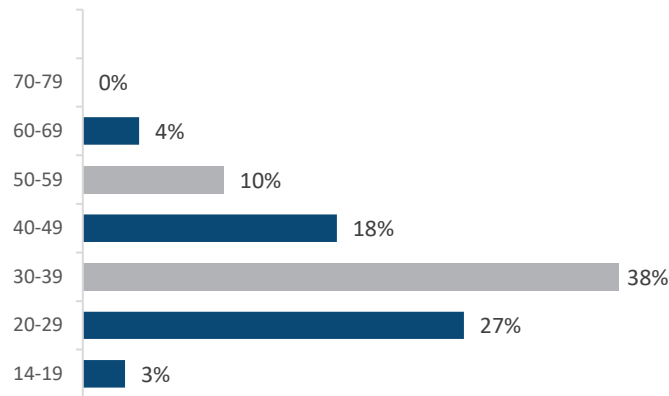
The team at PIPESTONE is what makes our mission of Helping Farmers come to life every day. We are thankful for the 1,500+ team members at PIPESTONE and are committed to creating a fun and rewarding work environment, while giving back to the communities we work and live in.



Ethnicity Demographics



Age Demographics



Full-time vs. Part-time



Gender Demographics



Team Benefits

PIPESTONE takes pride in continuing to offer competitive wages and benefit plans for full-time team members. To date, our wages and benefits rank in the top 1/3 of the pig industry. When surveyed, employees consistently say “pay and benefits” are a top like of working for PIPESTONE.



## Team Satisfaction

We strive to create a fun, challenging and a safe place to work and our team agrees! Last year, according to employee surveys, 98% of PIPESTONE team members were satisfied working at PIPESTONE.

### From our team

“

PIPESTONE cares for all employees and its customers. This is the first place where I feel like I am valued and cared for. I also feel like we really care about the customer too.

“

I appreciate PIPESTONE's commitment to people. The company shows a commitment to employees, employee's families, the communities, and the world.

“

I feel valued and my work is purposeful. There are new challenges and opportunities each day.

“

We strive to make a difference whether it be in the office, on the farm, or out in the community.

## Team Training

PIPESTONE is committed to the growth of our team members and the company. Our three leadership development programs focus on different levels of leadership including team members who display leadership potential, new managers, and senior leadership development.

### PIPESTONE Emerging Leaders

Individuals with leadership and management potential are selected to participate in this program to develop professional skill sets and prepare them for future advancement opportunities.

### Pipestone Next Gen

New in 2023, PIPESTONE introduced development training for individuals identified as possessing the skills necessary for senior management roles. This classroom style training event includes leadership training, interactive activities and social events, followed by a continuous mentorship program.

### Pipestone Growth & Advancement

Individuals newly placed in manager roles are selected to participate in training to reinforce the responsibilities of their position. This classroom style training goes beyond production to focus on areas of animal health, nutrition, financials, maintenance, and employee management.



Our 2024

## GOALS



Achieve employee satisfaction scores of satisfied or higher on **>80%** of the team.



Advanced training for **10%** of our team members in leadership.

## Safety

To align with our core value of caring, PIPESTONE is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all team members. PIPESTONE cares about team safety and demonstrates this by promoting a culture of safety, through a robust safety and health program.

- PIPESTONE's cross departmental safety committee works collaboratively with the safety team to mitigate safety risk, through proactive training, safe procedures, & employee recognition.
- PIPESTONE believes in "The Safe Way, The Only Way". This is demonstrated through our goal of 100% safety training completion.
- PIPESTONE has a robust and proactive safety auditing program. Through the auditing process, we seek to continuously improve the safety culture as an organization. Our target is 100% audit compliance.

### OSHA Recordable Injury Rate

**8.1**

Injury Rate

**5.5**

Target

## Safety Award Programs

### Zero Hero

To show our commitment to employee safety, the "Zero Hero" safety recognition program recognizes team members who implement safety practices in their day-to-day job. The program is an effort to improve morale, reduce injuries and increase productivity.

### Watch your Back

2023 back sprain prevention initiative

All employees received a t-shirt as a reminder to complete pre-work stretches and "Watch Your Back".



Our 2024

## GOALS



Achieve **5.5** OSHA recordable rate or less.



Achieve safety audit compliance goal of **100%**.



Achieve **100%** safety training completion.



## Community Involvement

PIPESTONE is committed to giving our time, talent, and treasure back to the communities where we work and live. Our charitable focuses are supporting kids and fighting food insecurity.



### Supporting Kids

#### Children's Home Society (CHS)

PIPESTONE donated \$70,000 to Children's Home Society (CHS) in Sioux Falls, SD. CHS provides residential treatment and care for children who have experienced traumatic life events, in addition to an emergency family shelter.

#### Volunteers of America

Volunteers of America's Axis 180 program in Sioux Fall, SD is a shelter for teenagers needing to transition out of unsafe environments. They help provide a safe, supportive environment to learn life skills necessary to succeed on their own. PIPESTONE donated our treasure, time, and talent by hosting an evening about building a resume and interview skills. The students came excited and ready to learn!

#### McCrossan Boys Ranch

Team members enjoyed volunteering at the McCrossan Boys Ranch Rodeo in Sioux Falls, SD. PIPESTONE's \$25,000 donation helps support the work of McCrossan Boys Ranch as they reach out to troubled boys aged 12 to 20 who have experienced conflict in their life, working with them on values, education, and life skills.

#### Camp Courageous

PIPESTONE supported Camp Courageous in Independence, IA with a donation of \$5,000 to support their camp for individuals of all ages with disabilities.

## Scholarship Program

### Our Family Scholarship

Our Family Scholarship is open to PIPESTONE team members and/or their immediate family members. The applicants must be attending college pursuing an agriculture degree or are actively involved in agricultural activities. Applicants are selected based on an essay submitted, answering the question: How are the PIPESTONE core values portrayed in your lives, and how would you pay it back someday?

**Congratulations to our 2023 Our Family Scholarship recipients.**







## Fighting Food Insecurity

### Meat the Need

Our Meat the Need program donated over **78,000 lbs of pork** across the Midwest, feeding **26,000 families**. Team members helped pack boxes for families in need to enjoy a nice holiday meal.

### The Banquet

We cooked and served a hot breakfast at The Banquet in Sioux Falls, SD. Our donation **provided 5,000 meals** to adults and children whom may have gone without one.

### Fuel4Kids

PIPESTONE supported over **80 backpack programs** across the Midwest to send home snacks and meals for kids that may otherwise go hungry over weekend breaks.



## Gifts for Good

PIPESTONE's Gifts for Good campaign expands our focuses globally, supporting kids and fighting food insecurity. We identified five different projects in four countries.

### India Evangelical Team

Provided family medicine care to urban poor and at-risk youth in India.

### Adams Thermal Foundation

Funded infrastructure for safe drinking water in Ethiopia.

### New Roots Haiti

Supported a perimeter wall to keep young women and girls safe from local gangs in Haiti.

### Tapestries of Life

Provided nutritional support for families and renovated a clinic for sick children in Mexico.

### Children of the Promise

Provided nutritional support for families in Haiti.



Pipestone Cares

Pipestone Cares is a program where sow farm owners (shareholders) are asked to contribute farm funds to charitable projects in the sow farm communities. Pipestone Management matches up to \$500 for each farm. Pipestone Cares funds are distributed to organizations the shareholders and sow farm team members are passionate about.

2023 Recap

221  
causes

\$200,000+  
total donations

Community

53 causes

First Responders

86 causes

Hunger

10 causes

Youth

43 causes

FFA/4-H

28 causes

Other

01 cause

Our 2024  
GOALS



Encourage 75% of farms to participate in Pipestone Cares.



Track employee volunteer hours across PIPESTONE-sponsored charitable initiatives.



## Ag Education





PLANET

Taking care of our natural resources and environment is something farmers have done for generations. We take pride in continuing this tradition by not only monitoring the use of natural resources, but findings ways to be more efficient and sustainable.

Stewards of Natural Resources

We measure and monitor electricity, propane, water and feed use for both our managed farms and office locations. The resource use below is monitored on a monthly basis and appropriate follow up is made if usage falls outside a normal threshold.



Electricity Usage - Kwh

Farm Total	80,102,158
Office Total	895,428
<b>PIPESTONE Total</b>	<b>80,997,586</b>



Water Usage - Gallons

Farm Total	672,446,889
Office Total	5,978,949
<b>PIPESTONE Total</b>	<b>678,425,838</b>



Propane Usage - Gallons

Farm Total	2,929,954
Office Total	66,470
<b>PIPESTONE Total</b>	<b>2,996,425</b>



Feed Usage - Lbs

Farm Total	973,247,218
Office Total	-
<b>PIPESTONE Total</b>	<b>973,247,218</b>

In addition to monitoring usage, the PIPESTONE team works to find ways to be more efficient with our resource use. The following pages illustrate a few projects implemented in 2023 aimed at maximizing efficiency.

Energy



We have continued to implement our transition from heat lamps to heating mats in the individual maternity pens at managed sow farms. The 9 sow farms that have transitioned have **saved on average 25% of their total energy usage.**

This equates to the electricity use of 350 houses each year!



We are in the process of transitioning managed sow farms and office spaces from traditional incandescent and fluorescent lights to energy-efficient LED lighting. **LEDs result in 90% energy savings per year.**



## Manure

Manure is a valuable by-product of our operations. The manure we produce is reused as a nutrient-rich organic fertilizer for the landowners adjacent to managed sow farms. We have implemented the following practices to help reduce odor, increase fertilizer efficiency, and reduce our carbon footprint.

- We maintain a comprehensive nutrient management plan to ensure optimal use of our organic fertilizer by-product.
- We utilize direct injection/incorporation application to reduce odors and increase fertilizer efficiency.
- We aim to pump pits twice a year which minimizes the production of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Manure from Pipestone Managed farms are applied to over 40,000 acres, replacing synthetic fertilizer.

### Press Separator

In a continued effort to reclaim waste and increase spreading efficiency, PIPESTONE inquired regarding a manure separator for use at a managed site in Indiana. This device would separate all the solids from the manure pits and return nutrient-rich water to an outside holding pond for later application. A press separator such as this would allow more waste product to be applied on fields farther away, for less cost than liquid application. This has an added benefit of lowering carbon emissions and being better stewards of the environment around our facilities. Although the project did not move forward at this time, PIPESTONE is continually looking for new ways to bring value to our shareholders and to increase the benefits of our environmental practices.

### Livestock Water Recycling

We have been analyzing other technologies to maximize the value of our organic fertilizer, while minimizing liquid nutrient loss. Livestock Water Recycling is an innovative technology that separates the manure in our deep pits into dry organic fertilizer and irrigable nutrient-rich water. PIPESTONE is developing a pilot project to assess the costs and benefits of implementing this system on our managed sow farms. Some of the benefits of implementing this include:

- Better control of nutrient application
- Reduce field compaction
- Reduce odor
- Reduce truck traffic and pumping hoses

## Feed

### Feeding to a precise nutrient value using near infrared spectroscopy (NIR):


We recently increased our feed lab capabilities with an NIR machine. This technology uses light wavelengths to determine the nutrient values, such as crude protein and fat, of a feed ingredient in under a minute. With this new technology we will be able to more specifically feed the pigs requirement by differentiating soybean meal and dried distillers grains by source. These two ingredients specifically are variable in protein, fat and other nutrients based on which plant they are manufactured at. By knowing precise nutrient values, we can more accurately formulate a diet to the pigs requirements, helping to lower excess nutrients excreted by the pig.

### Updating finishing pig lysine to energy requirements:

As genetics continue to improve, every 3 years we re-evaluate the lysine to calorie ratio that maximizes margin over feed cost (a combination of performance and feed cost). We are currently researching the ideal lysine to calorie ratio in the Pipestone Nutrition research barn. Preliminary data shows that increasing the lysine to calorie ratio above our current level improves feed efficiency. Ultimately, as the pig more efficiently utilizes feed, this will lower our carbon footprint of our finishing pigs.

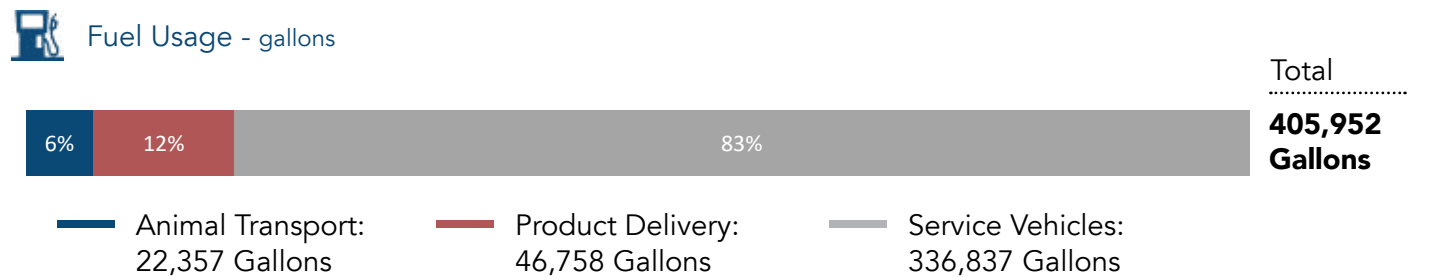


Water

 **85% of Pipestone Managed sow farms have water meters installed.** Data gathered in real-time enables us to find potential areas of waste and identify solutions quickly. The Pipestone Maintenance team is working with appropriate barns to help make adjustments on water nipples, troughs, and cistern floats to help minimize water waste.

Fuel

We monitor fuel use for PIPESTONE owned vehicles across the organization including use for animal transportation, product delivery, and service vehicles. We evaluate routes to improve efficiency and minimize fuel usage.



Carbon Footprint

The carbon footprint of a sow farm has three main hot spots. Feed, manure, and energy. PIPESTONE has implemented and encouraged the following management practices for our clients and customers.

Manure

- 86% of PIPESTONE managed sow farm sites are deep pits and all new construction sites are built deep pit. Lagoons in comparison to deep pit sites emit almost twice the emission on average.
- PIPESTONE aims to pump manure pits at each site twice a year which minimizes greenhouse gas emissions.

Energy

- Renewable energy research at PIPESTONE is an ongoing priority. Based on market influence, PIPESTONE has purchased Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) when possible which has aided the utilities in expanding their renewable energy projects and programs.
- Implementing the latest technology is a priority at PIPESTONE, especially regarding energy efficiency. Our continuing efforts to replace heat lamps with heat mats in stalls, shifting to LED bulbs from the less efficient incandescent or fluorescent bulbs, and updating our office spaces with motion sensor switches in low traffic areas are just a few of the practices we continue to implement and expand.

Feed

- A few practices that have improved feed efficiency and our overall carbon footprint are localizing feed source to reduce transportation needs, analyzing alternative feed options such as hybrid rye, and focused diet formulation.
- At PIPESTONE, landowners in proximity to our barns enjoy the benefits of the organic fertilizer that is produced as a by-product of operations. Combined with other regenerative practices such as cover crop and reduced/no-till land management, the benefits of reduced erosion and nutrient inputs sourced locally help reduce the overall environmental impact of our operations.

## Pollinator Habitat

Pollinator insect species are vital to the agricultural community within which we operate. In 2023, PIPESTONE prepped and seeded two barn sites with two different pollinator seed mixtures. One of the mixtures is geared toward local bee species and the other to the Monarch butterfly. In exchange for the plots and maintenance, Monarch Joint Venture, a Non-profit organization out of St. Paul, MN, has supplied us with seed mixes that were developed based on regional factors, so they have the best chances to survive a plot has been established.



## Regenerative Agriculture Program



In 2022, PIPESTONE founded the company GreenStone Farmers to help create and capture value for farmers in carbon markets. Today, GreenStone Farmers is owned by over 700 farmers representing 1.2 million acres across the Midwest. GreenStone Farmers is developing profitable Regenerative Agriculture Programs for farmers to receive payments for maintaining or

transitioning to environmental friendly practices. Practices such as less or better nitrogen source use, manure, cover crops, and reduced tillage provide multiple environmental benefits. Thousands of companies have set sustainability goals and/or greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. GreenStone Farmers is working directly with companies willing to pay for the environmental outcomes resulting from these regenerative agriculture practices.

To learn more, visit [www.greenstonefarmers.com](http://www.greenstonefarmers.com).



Waste



We measure our waste sent to landfill and recycling for each Pipestone managed sow farm and office location. Recycling services have been implemented at 17 sow farms. In addition, the sustainability department has expanded the in-house recycling to 22 barns around PIPESTONE, MN, Huron, SD, and Parker, SD where recycling services are unavailable. This places our **total managed sow farm recycling at 60%**! All of our office spaces have also begun recycling programs. Recycling programs removed 200,400 lbs, the same cu. ft. as 3,200 average refrigerators.



2023 Solid Waste (Cu. ft.)

	Solid Waste (cu. ft.)	Recycling (cu. ft.)	Total
Farm Total	244,836	71,928	316,764
Office Total	8,424	8,424	16,848
<b>PIPESTONE Total</b>	<b>253,260</b>	<b>80,352</b>	



In addition to measuring waste, we aim to find means to minimize waste. Our warehouse switched to bio-degradable packaging to cut down on waste of Styrofoam boxes and shrink wrap. We also implemented order processing technology that **reduced paper usage by 60% in the warehouse.**



Environment

Our 2024  
GOALS



Develop a farmer-friendly Regenerative Ag program through the farmer-owned company, GreenStone Farms.



Continue to document and monitor farm and office resource use including energy, water, and feed.



Research and validate new technologies to improve resource efficiency.



Maintain a fully compliant nutrient management program with state and third party verification at all sites.



Warehouse



Reduce energy use by 20% by 2025.



Utilize 90% biodegradable packaging materials by 2024

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