



Jon-De Farm in 'Green Tier'

Jon-De Farm is making America's Dairyland a little bit greener with its acceptance into Green Tier, Wisconsin's program for organizations that voluntarily pledge to go beyond environmental compliance in their operations.

Representatives of the Department of Natural Resources welcomed Jon-De Farm into Green Tier with a celebration at the Baldwin farm's annual community picnic. Jon-De Farm is the second dairy farm to participate in Green Tier, joining Holsum Dairies, Hilbert.

As a Green Tier participant, Jon-De Farm has committed to managing its runoff and nutrient placement, conserving soil, improving training for the use of toxic chemicals, and to revising biosecurity protocols to prevent the spread of pathogens between animals, employees and the public. Jon-De Farm is also exploring new avenues of environmental performance, including new recycling opportunities and the potential for an anaerobic digester to capture energy from cow manure.

"Our participation in the Green Tier Program has given our operation the tools needed to strengthen our environmental management system," said Liz Doornink, of Jon-De Farm. "It is our desire to continue to implement new ideas, technology and practices in order to make our farm a safe and environmentally friendly business in our community."