

Debate — Swine Production and the Environment

Objective: To understand consumer concerns about large scale-commercial swine production.

Your class will be conducting a debate over whether your county should ban commercial swine production because of the fear of pollution from improperly handled waste. The instructor will assign you to a group to argue for or against the ban. Use any available resources to find information which supports your argument. Your research should take into account the views of both private and commercial swine producers as well as people not involved in swine production. It should answer the following questions.

- What local, state, and national regulations affect local swine producers?
- What is the economic impact of swine production locally?
- How many people would be directly affected if a ban occurred?
- What is the business structure of commercial operations?
- What environmental risks does swine production offer?
- Are there health risks to humans from swine production?
- What can producers do to protect the environment?

When you have completed researching your position, the instructor will moderate the debate.