

In an effort to find out what kind of community we live in, we decided to pass around a petition among the farmers in our township. This petition has only been presented to those who are raising corn and would therefore be the ones who would stand to benefit from the higher corn prices an ethanol plant promises.

The petition reads: (read petition)

We've by no means gotten around to all the farmers in the township but have been very impressed with the response so far. To date, ___ farmers have signed the petition. The land they run totals nearly 7000 acres or about half of the tillable acres in the township. Non-farming land owners wanted to sign as well but we had to say no. Several others have said they are very much against this plant being built but didn't feel they could sign because of their jobs or friendships.

It's not easy to sign a petition. It's not easy to put yourself out there in such a public way. We found out we have a lot of farmers who care about this issue more than the thousands of dollars a year most would be passing up and we should thank them for their conviction and their courage.