



## Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

*January - February 2010*

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### **Upcoming Events:**

**ILICA Winter Convention -**  
January 14 - 16, 2010

**2010 Drainage Workshops**  
- February 3 - 4, 2010  
March 10 - 11, 2010

## NATIONAL WINTER CONVENTION, PHOENIX, AZ - FEBRUARY 14-16 *(page 14)*



### **Also Featured Inside**

**Drainage Workshop Registration** *(page 7)*

**National LICA Phoenix AZ Convention Agenda** *(page 15)*

**National LICA Phoenix AZ Convention Registration** *(page 17)*

Return To: Illinois LICA  
P.O. Box 474  
Brimfield, IL 61517

# CONTRACTORS FORUM - CORRECTION!

## BINDING CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS

By: Forrest Davis  
Construction



There are things everyone should consider before signing any contract, however, when a contractor is entering into a business partnership by signing a sub-contracting document, it is extremely important to understand the details of that contract **BEFORE** you sign. Regardless of who the general contractor is or the spotless reputation they may have, each party is responsible for insuring that their interests are addressed specifically within that document.



The only way to truly insure the sub-contractors interests are adequately specified in the contract is to have an attorney, who is paid to look out for client's interests, review the legal language it contains. The general contractor will have already done this, insuring his company will have recourse if problems or disputes occur.

Since no contractor can foresee the outcome of any job, the best advice is to hope for the best and prepare for the worst. After an attorney reviews the contract and makes rec-

ommendations, you can also protect yourself and your company by:

- Keeping a daily diary of all work done, materials ordered or delivered and of any communications with the general contractor and/or other subcontractors.
- Keeping pictorial documentation of the job's progress, including dates and specific locations of the photos
- Having someone else present at all meetings with the general contractor. If that isn't possible, a tape recorder, **which must be in plain view of everyone involved**, can be helpful in resolving any misunderstandings.



The importance of detailed documentation cannot be overstated. Keep a **bound** notebook in each vehicle or piece of equipment and take a few minutes to jot down activities as the day goes by, **including time, temperature and weather conditions**. That and a small legal fee up front could save thousands of dollars and months if not years of legal battles, attempting to collect what another company actually owes you!

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# The ILICA News



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## FEATURES

- November Area Meetings Feature OSHA .....5
- Drainage Workshop Registration .....7
- 2010 ILICA Convention Exhibitors..... 13
- National LICA Winter Meeting Update .....14
- National LICA Winter Meeting Agenda ..... 15
- National LICA Winter Meeting Registration ..... 17
- Safety Feature: Machine Safety: Safe Operation On A Slope .....19
- Pesticide Levels Decline In Corn Belt Rivers .....20
- University of Illinois Extension: Vertical Tillage .....21
- Erosion Control Workshop Update..... 22
- Certified Flagger Training..... 23

## COLUMNS

- Contractors Forum: CORRECTION - Binding Contractual Agreements ... 2
- Board Meeting Notice ..... 3
- Presidents Message .....4
- New Members ..... 5
- Gabbin' With the Gals ..... 8
- Legislative Update: IL SWCD Appeal Travels to DC ..... 10
- Pride In America ..... 10
- Member Application ..... 11
- ILICA Benefits ..... 12
- 2009 Committee Members..... 16
- Advertisers Index ..... 18
- Calendar of Events .....18
- Contractors Classifieds.....22

### The LICA Creed



Land, the foundation of the Nation  
 The basis of all wealth  
 The heritage of the wise  
 The thrifty and prudent  
 The poor man's joy and comfort  
 The producer of food, fiber and fuel  
 The basis of factories  
 The foundation of banks

All that man builds is from the land. We often take it for granted or even abuse it; And yet many, unthinkingly and unknowingly pass the land by. What man does with the land will be the deciding factor of his survival.



### Meeting Notice

**ILICA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Illinois LICA Office**  
**118 E. Knoxville St. - Brimfield, IL**  
**Saturday, March 6, 2010 - 2:00 pm**

**Committee Meetings**  
**10 am - 1:00 pm**  
**Lunch Provided**



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings for the Holiday & New Year,

The end of the year fast approaches and hopefully by the time you are reading these words you will have enjoyed wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrations. For such a year of excess moisture, insufficient temperatures, and fewer working days, the year has gone by rapidly. It must be from being on the downhill side of life, easier to pick up speed working down the grade.

It has been a great year for the state chapter as we have pushed membership well over 100 members. I can't say enough about the efforts of the membership committee and the success that they have had with the area meetings and getting the face of LICA out there. Also included is great thanks to those associates who opened their facilities and fed those hungry contractors for these activities. Thanks as well to the speakers for their efforts in making us all more knowledgeable about the business we are in. Also, we have hosted our first golf outing with an enjoyable day had by the attendees at Coyote Creek near Peoria. We had sponsorships for the holes by both contractor and associate and raised

some funds for the association. There was the well attended winter workshop providing the 10 hour OSHA training. And then the great convention last winter on some pretty cold days. And have to get in a mention of our winning the top state award at the National LICA convention in Nashville. Hopefully we can repeat again this year, then as President I will feel a bit more comfortable accepting for the state than last year when it should have been Bill Dean and his administration. Just a little bit though, as I offer my heartfelt thanks to all those committee chairs and members for the efforts they have put forth this year for without them I would wear myself and my car out trying to do what they have done. And I don't want to forget the University of Illinois for their help in workshops and for their inviting us to help on their projects this summer. It is nice to be able to help in return for all they have done for us over the years.

Let us look to build upon this past year as we head into the second decade of the century. Look to find ways you can help support the organization on committees and take advantage of the educational and social activities. Get out to the conventions, both state and national. And lets really fill the summer national meeting we are hosting in Peoria this summer, it promises to be an interesting and educational time with some great pre-convention tours. At least lets make sure we have more people there than any other state. We have some drainage workshops coming up as well as a summer class at the new erosion control site at the U of I at a date to be named later. Also this year we are looking to begin a more regular meeting schedule in each area to be able to bring a more local presence to LICA. It is the people you meet that keep you in as much as anything else.

In closing just want to wish everyone a good year in the trenches, the ponds, the roads or whatever work it is that you do. Do it well, do it right, and do it safely.

Steve Anderson, President

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Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year from the ILICA office.

"Thank You" to all our members for their help and dedication to ILICA.

# NOVEMBER AREA MEETINGS FEATURE OSHA PRESENTATIONS



Greg Erb opened the doors of his Mt. Vernon John Deere dealership once again for another educational session and delicious dinner during ILICA's Area 8 member meeting this November. Erb Equipment was one of the first associates in that area to welcome this new concept and remains committed to the partnership that benefits ILICA members as well as their own customers.

2009 provided one of the most difficult work seasons for land improvement contractors in recent memory, which may have impacted the overall attendance at the November area meetings. And while the industry struggled to complete at least some of the workload that was rained out week after week, ILICA members in Area 3 and 8 confirmed the notion that sustaining the organization requires bringing benefits to members all over the state. Many of the new members who joined ILICA during the first area meeting series attended the OSHA sessions in their area, along with several familiar faces.

*(left)* Jerry Biuso reviews how to take advantage of the many National LICA member benefits available.

*(above)* Area 8 presentation by Ken Koroll, Compliance Assistance Specialist from the U.S. Dept of Labor - OSHA - Fairview Heights IL

Ken Koroll provided a thorough overview of how inspections might occur and what to expect once the process starts. Ken has served OSHA as a Compliance Safety & Health Officer for eight years and spent two years as a Training Instructor at the National OSHA Training Institute teaching OSHA policy and procedures to government and private sector individuals. His knowledge of the topic was evident and following the presentation, several contractors stayed for more than an hour, discussing the OSHA presentation and much more. The membership co-chairs and ILICA office send out a big THANK YOU to Larry Medders at Erb Equipment's Mt. Vernon location for his help, once again, in organizing this well received meeting.

*Continued on page 6*

## NEW MEMBERS

### Associate Members

- AgSolutions - Paxton
- BM Truck Equipment, Inc. - Olney
- Vincennes Tractor, Inc. - Vincennes, IN
- Mike Yordy & Sons, Inc. - Morton
- Hoerr Machinery LLC - Peoria
- Best One Tire of Robinson - Robinson
- Morton Buildings - Morton
- TDG Enterprises - Bushnell



# Thank You!

### Active Contractors

- Bill Poe**  
Wep Asphalt - Lawrenceville
- Stevan Moore**  
Moore Brothers Contractors, Inc - Bridgeport
- Eric Layden**  
Layden Drainage, Inc. - Hoopeston

# NOVEMBER AREA MEETINGS FEATURE OSHA PRESENTATIONS *(Cont.)*



(Above) Chris Harrison from Central Illinois Trucks (CIT Group, Inc.) welcomes attendees and provides a quick overview of CIT's locations and services.



(Right) Bruce Mosier, CIC Prins Insurance, Inc. with Jerry Biuso welcome contractors at the Area 3 registration table, prior to the evening program.

Two days later, Bruce Mosier of Prins Insurance, Inc. provided a similar presentation for Area 3, hosted by Central Illinois Trucks (CIT) at the Ashland House in Morton Il. CIT Group, Inc. may be one of ILICA's newest associate members but General Manager, Chris Harrison welcomes the genuine family atmosphere he heard expressed by ILICA contractors at the demo hosted by IronHustler Excavating.

Over 30 of Area 3's ILICA members enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner in the beautiful conference center, followed by another informed presentation. Bruce began by stating that although he is not from OSHA he has been authorized by OSHA to teach and train their material. He provided a well

organized packet of handouts for attendees along with a down-to-earth presentation regarding OSHA inspections, including contractors rights during and after a visit from OSHA. He stressed the importance of having a safety program in place, offered updates and safety meeting materials making it clear that he is available to any ILICA contractors with questions about their program.

Both meetings confirmed that ILICA contractors realize the benefit of continuing education and take advantage of these Area meetings. Area 5 plans to begin meetings near Springfield this spring with details to be announced soon. If you'd like to see area meetings near you, contact the ILICA office or your area director. (see map below)

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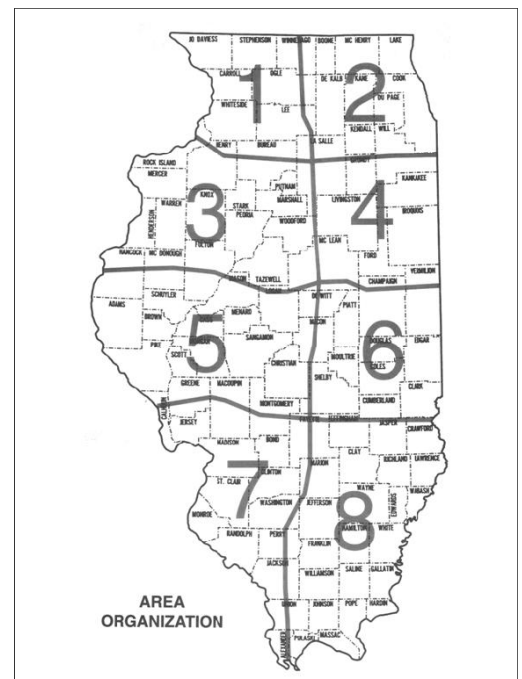
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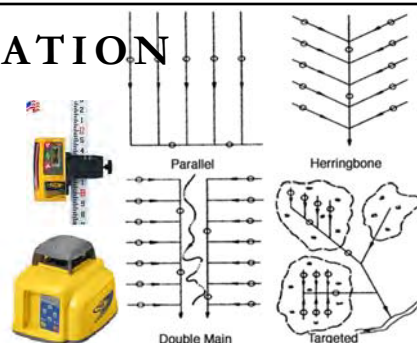
# 2010 DRAINAGE WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

## DRAINAGE SYSTEM SURVEY & DESIGN

February 3 - 4, 2010 - Henry White Farm near Belleville, IL

March 10 - 11, 2010 - University of Illinois South Farm at Urbana, IL

Both workshops will be facilitated by Dr. Richard Cooke, University of Illinois, starting with a field survey exercise (weather permitting) followed by a classroom session on designing a system from survey data. **Lunch will be provided for both days.**



**ILICA Certification Review and Testing** will be offered at the conclusion of Thursday's session for those interested in obtaining ILICA certification or expanding their classifications, providing sufficient registrations are received. There is no charge for additional classifications. Other charges are listed below.

**National Safety Council Certified Flagger Training** (4 Hour class) is being offered concurrently for contractors who are not involved in the drainage workshop, providing sufficient registrations are received.

**Workshop Fees - ILICA Members**

2 Day Drainage Survey & Design - \$100  
NSC Certified Flagger Training - \$ 85

Fee After January 22, 2010 (Henry White Farm)

Fee After February 26, 2010 (U of I South Farm)

2 Day Drainage Survey & Design - \$125

Optional Certification Review & Testing  
(2 year certification period)

\$100—Initial Certification Per Applicant  
\$50—Bi-Annual Renewal Per Applicant  
No fee for re-testing or additional classification testing

**Workshop Fees - Non-Members**

2 Day Drainage Survey & Design - \$150  
NSC Certified Flagger Training - \$110

Fee After January 22, 2010 (Henry White Farm)

Fee After February 26, 2010 (U of I South Farm)

2 Day Drainage Survey & Design - \$175

Optional Certification Review & Testing  
(2 year certification period)

\$100—Initial Certification Per Applicant  
\$50—Bi-Annual Renewal Per Applicant  
No fee for re-testing or additional classification testing

**Yes, I will attend the 2010 Annual Workshop and/or Certification Review and Testing program.**  
(Mark all choices of interest. See pricing listed above)

**Belleville Area**

February 3 - 4 Belleville area Drainage Workshop

February 4th Belleville area ILICA Certification

February 4th Belleville area NSC Flagger Training

**Champaign - Urbana**

March 10 - 11 Urbana Drainage Workshop

March 10 - 11 Urbana ILICA Certification

March 10 - 11 Urbana NSC Flagger Training

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Area #: \_\_\_\_\_

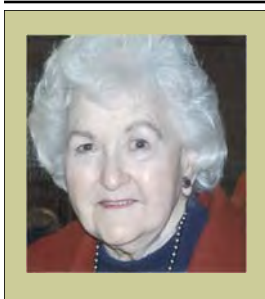
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Attendees \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-Registration fees must be received in our office by deadlines stated above.**

**Mail to: ILICA - P.O. Box 474 - Brimfield, IL 61517 or Fax: (309) 446-3744**      **Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



## GABBIN' WITH THE GALS...



Time - what a four letter word that is! Sometimes we like it and other times it's a pest. We should be glad we have it - that's our purpose, to survive time from daylight to dark.

Right now where I live the cold weather is certainly not welcome. Makes us appreciate that we are even here to hate it. Weather will do as Mother Nature directs and we humans suffer or enjoy as the case may be. At this point, I don't envy the postal delivery people who, although they have a vehicle that they drive from point to another point, still have to walk to and from. Son Dan installed a slot in my house for the mail and I don't have to go outside to retrieve it. Marilyn, one of my good neighbors, comes over and brings my mail to me from the entry hall. She is a jewel. The box we used to use is an old antique and has come along with us every time we moved. It was re-installed to the other side of the front door. One day the mail lady put the mail in the old box and I happened to



catch her attention as she walked away and told her about the new method of using the slot (even tho' I had put a notice on the old box on white paper where to put the mail, she said she didn't see it???)

My Mother was a "fix it" person. If she needed a box or a walk-way reinforcement she did it herself. My Father had serious asthma and farming is not a good idea but if that's what is available, that's what you do. By the time he came in from the field he was worn out for the day so Mother just did it. You had to be careful - if something didn't move for a while it would be painted! She must have been one of the first carpenter women - sort of a hammer pro-right? Ladies, do you remember when it came to painting the ceiling of a stairway which was very high - it didn't phase her at all. She just got her ladder, planks and paint and painted the high ceiling - no sweat. That was scary to me but outside of holding the plank, that's all I could contribute to help. My Mother - one of a kind!

Does your mind ever wonder about the good people who settled the land especially those going west? They must have run into all kinds of weather and a lot of them survived. I'm no historian so can't comment on that. This cold (brrrr) snap we have been having can find another direction asap. Old Man winter for contractors is a bane - it's a conundrum every year, will it be gain or pain. Sometimes the mind wanders to

older days when people have went to find a plot of ground to settle down

*Provided by: Rose Day*

for life - can you imagine all kinds of weather they must have traveled through? We should be thankful for those who chose to give it a try and somehow or other, came out a winner from mother nature and she has a tough constitution.

A misprint in a church bulletin reads, "the choir will sing "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." The following conversation was overheard at a party attended by high-society people. "My ancestry goes all the way back to Alex the Great" said one lady. She turned to a second lady and said, "And how far does your family go back?" "I don't know," the lady replied. "All our records were lost in the flood."

Hope all of you folks had a great Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas. With winter upon us with a vengeance this gal will probably have to miss Christmas Mass because of weather. If it's dry and cold, that's okay, but not wet and cold. Seems some of those that are in control get distracted by various and sundry complications. Sometimes singing helps to stay focused, the worse the singing the better it is because it will keep everyone awake.

This person has ended up a lot different than it was ever believed it would be - it is difficult to keep an even keel sometimes because it seems so strange. Perhaps "stranger" is the way to describe me now with my life so different. They say if you end up with lemons make lemonade. Well, mine is as different for what was imagined to be, we could have a "Lemonade Party" (in lieu of a Tea Party) for all you young ones out there and no sour faces either. I have to have a "talk" with the Man in Charge above (at times to see if one understood the other.) It's a day's work (no pun intended) to not complain especially when you don't know where one's final resting place will be. We can only hope our life has been lived as He wants us to do. You all know how difficult that can be, right? So, the word for this issue is "destination".

.....Rambling Rose



*It has never been, and never will be, easy work! But the road that is built in hope is more pleasant to the traveler than the road built in despair, even though they both lead to the same destination.*

**Marion Zimmer Bradley**



# CINDY LAEGLER NAMED 'PATRONESS OF THE YEAR' BY DECATUR JWA

Cindy Laegeler, Chief Operating Officer of Progress City, 2006 and 2008 Conservation Expo partner (and innkeeper) and ILICA affiliate member received the Patroness of the Year award from Decatur's Junior Welfare Association. JWA is a women's service organization that supports local charitable organizations through service projects and donations collected by hosting annual fundraisers. The award is given to someone who has been an active JWA member for more than six years which means that person has volunteered more than 600 hours in the Decatur community, bringing thousands of dollars into several not-for-profit organizations. A recent article in the Decatur Herald & Review listed Cindy as "someone who continues to fulfill JWA's mission of improving conditions in Decatur and Macon County." according to JWA President Heather Cross. Those in ILICA that have had

the pleasure of working with Cindy also recognize her spirit of service and commend her for this latest award.

Cindy was also the recipient of the 2006 ILICA Merit Award, presented at the 2007 Convention in Moline, IL for her many efforts during the first Conservation Expo at Progress City USA in Decatur. She also received the 2008 ILICA Merit Award for opening her home to expo volunteers and for her outstanding support during that expo, although she was unable to attend the 2008 awards ceremony. Congratulations to Cindy on her latest achievement.



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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE; ILLINOIS SWCD APPEAL TRAVELS TO WASHINGTON DC

After reading the article submitted by Annyce Winters, Green Co. SWCD published in the Nov. - Dec. issue of *ILICA News*, John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations was moved into action for other SWCD offices around the country. John's position as a Director of the No. VA SWCD as well as VASWCD NACD Board Representative really made this story hit home. After contacting the ILICA office to commend us for taking up this cause, he contacted the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) to set up a meeting to discuss how other LICA chapters might follow suit to support their state SWCD offices.

John, along with Jerry Biuso, LICA Exec. V.P., met and teleconferenced with several officials at the NACD on No-

vember 30th and found enthusiastic support. John plans to provide a follow up for other LICA chapters to aide in re-establishing the long standing, close relationships once held by SWCD offices and the organization.

ILICA members will have another opportunity to voice their opinions at the "Breakfast With Your Legislators" set for Friday morning during ILICA's January convention. Several legislators plan to attend this casual get-together to hear the concerns of small businesses around the state. Please feel free to contact your districts' Senator and Representatives to encourage them to be there as well. Rich Nichols, Executive Director of the AISWCD, will address the group following Thursday's lunch so that everyone has the latest information regarding future funding for Illinois SWCD offices for Friday's breakfast.



## PRIDE IN AMERICA

*by John Peterson, LICA Director of Government Relations*



The president displayed dignity and humility in accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo recently. I realize this has nothing to do with LICA positions, but thought it was worth a mention as we have often taken positions in opposition to the administrations. He diplomatically but candidly acknowledged that grave doubts surrounded his worthiness of the award, having been nominated only a few days after his inauguration. He rightly said that "my accomplishments are slight" compared to those of past recipients, and he acknowledged that "there are men and women around the world who have been jailed and beaten in the pursuit of justice" who are "far more deserving of this honor than I"

He further recognized the irony that just a few days earlier he had announced his decision to send 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan (our oldest son MAJ Mike will be off to his 5<sup>th</sup> deployment, this time to Iraq, right after Christmas). We are grateful for that decision.

And most important of all, he added this: "The United States of America has helped underwrite global security for more than six decades with the blood of our citizens and the

strength of our arms. The service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform has promoted peace and prosperity from Germany to Korea, and enabled democracy to take hold in places like the Balkans. We have borne this burden not because we seek to impose our will. We have done so out of enlightened self-interest, because we seek a better future for our children and grandchildren, and we believe that their lives will be better if other people's children and grandchildren can live in freedom and prosperity."

These observations I hope herald the appearance of a more mature and reflective president, and are words of which every American can be proud. Merry Christmas everyone.

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Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB:(required for active members only) \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Email : \_\_\_\_\_

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| EMC - Earthmoving/Land Clearing | SP - Site Prep  |
| EXG - Excavating/Grading        | SWU - Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities                                   |
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| ODW - Open Ditch Leveling       | Other: _____  |

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(Active members are individuals engaged in the business of entering into contracts for performing work that will result in soil, land, natural resource conservation or rehabilitation, water conservation, control and prevention of soil erosion, depletion and misuse of natural resources and soil and water pollution and contamination.)

**Associate Membership - \$295** (Associate members are those businesses that manufacture or sell equipment, materials or services used by active members)

**Affiliate Membership - \$85** (Affiliate members are individuals employed by an active member in the business that makes the active member eligible for membership)

# ILLINOIS LICA BENEFITS



## Education

Illinois LICA provides many educational opportunities throughout the year with sessions at our annual convention, at Area 3 and 8 member meetings and at workshops each year. Area 5 director, Brent Breedlove, is in the planning stage of beginning meetings in his area with other areas following suit.

Illinois LICA state convention, which includes exhibits by our associate members, is scheduled each January in various locations around the state. First year contractor members will receive 1 free full participation registration to the convention, which includes all meals during the 3 day event. Several educational sessions are scheduled during the convention along with many social and networking opportunities.



Workshops have been offered annually, however, there is an expanded schedule this year, including two survey and design drainage workshops and an erosion control workshop in August. OSHA 10 Hour certification will be offered every other year as well as Certified Flagger training available as often as demand warrants.



## Continental Western Group/LICA Insurance Program

Continental Western Group has designed a comprehensive LICA Insurance program, blending Property, Inland Marine, Crime, General Liability & Business Auto coverage into a simple and convenient policy. It offers standard coverage for many items specific to the Land Improvement industry, providing outstanding coverage at a very competitive rate, even before the Safety Group Dividend potential return. Although the dividend is not guaranteed, the return rate has been between 3.5% and 12% most years.

## ILICA News & Annual Directory

The ILICA News is a bi-monthly publication distributed to all Illinois LICA members that contains 24 pages of information relative to the land improvement industry and notice of activities and upcoming events. The annual directory of members is published each April and distributed to all members and many IEPA, NRCS and SWCD offices in Illinois.



## Legislative Representation

ILICA has an active Legislative Committee that monitors legislation that impacts small business in Illinois. They participate in the Agricultural Legislative Roundtable caucus and many other events then disseminate that information to ILICA members. They are currently working on a system to streamline this process for more effective communication.

ILICA not only maintains its own relationship with legislative contacts, Illinois along with other state chapters have a combined voice in Washington DC through national LICA. Each year, representation from ILICA travels to Washington DC along with several other chapters, to lobby their congressmen and women regarding legislation that affects land improvement contractors.

## National Benefits

A LICA membership entitles contractors to many benefits that can give their company a competitive edge. Listed below are just a few:



- National LICA Contractor Magazine
- LICA Contractor Safety Management Plan
- LICA Mini-Med Basic Healthcare Program
- LICA PerksCard Program
- LICA Transamerica Retirement Program
- National LICA Winter Convention and Summer Meeting
- LICA 6-Pack Health Care Savings Card Program
- LICA FlexSystem
- LICA BizPlan
- Term Life-Insurance

Each active Contractor member receives a complimentary \$5,000 Term-Life policy and \$5,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment policy.

# 2010 ILICA WINTER CONVENTION UPDATE



The 2010 ILICA Convention is stacking up to be one of the best yet. There are several new exhibitors registered for Thursday and Friday's trade show scheduling, bringing lots of products, materials and expertise for ILICA contractors to check out. The current list of exhibitors is shown here but you'll have to come to the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield to really see what all is in store for attendees.

Convention registration will be available from 8 am on Thursday, January 14 with the first of 4 educational sessions beginning at 9 am. As our exhibitors set up, the first series of speakers will address the group following lunch and at 3:30 pm, exhibits open and the real fun begins! Step back in time to the Fabulous 50's, complete with soda fountain, drive-in diner cash

## Convention Exhibitors

Advanced Drainage Systems	Metal Culverts, Inc.
AGPS	Midwest Auger-Aerator
Agri Drain Corp	Morton Buildings
Applied Turf Products	Northland Trenching Equipment
Birkey's Farm Store - Mattoon	Port Industries, Inc.
Central Illinois Trucks, Inc.	Precision Intakes, LTD
CPI Supply	Prins Insurance Inc. & CWG
Ero-Tex	Prinsco, Inc.
Fratco, Inc.	Roland Machinery Co.
Great Lakes InterDrain	RWF Bron
Hickenbottom, Inc.	Schlatters, Inc.
Howe Advertising	Springfield Plastics, Inc.
J.U.L.I.E.	Vermeer Midwest
Martin Equipment of IL, Inc.	

bar and a casual evening of networking with our associates and other contractors. Many of our newest contractors plan to take advantage of their free convention registration benefit, so lets all take the time to make them feel welcome.

**We Hope To See You in Springfield, January 14 - 16!**



FRATCO... Now serving Indiana AND Illinois!

With more than 86 years of supplying quality drainage products, you can count on FRATCO!

**FRATCO DELIVERS** - We maintain a full inventory of drainage products ready for delivery, so we always have what you want, when you want it. Our extensive manufacturing capabilities ensure that your order is filled promptly and accurately.



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**FRATCO PRODUCES** - Our products include:

- 2" - 24" HDPE Single Wall Pipe
- 4" - 60" HDPE Smooth-Corr Pipe
- Water Tight and Silt Tight Joints
- Full line of HDPE Fittings and Accessories
- Custom Fabricated HDPE Fittings
- Septic Tanks, Distribution Boxes, and PVC Pipe



**FRATCO NOW SERVES ILLINOIS**

- This Spring, Fratco acquired Eastern IL Clay Company. We look forward to introducing new customers to our unparalleled quality and friendly service!



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www.fratco.com / office@fratco.com





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## NATIONAL LICA WINTER MEETING - PHOENIX AZ - FEBRUARY 16 - 20, 2010

The next winter national meeting is set for Phoenix Arizona at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel, pictured below. This lovely hotel is currently taking reservations for the LICA winter meeting in February. Be sure to mention LICA to get the guaranteed group room rate of \$119.

The tentative agenda, shown on the following page, is for a 6:30 am departure on Wednesday for the John Deere proving grounds where contractors will have from 9:30 am until noon for hands-on operation of their favorite piece of heavy equipment. Following a Deere sponsored lunch, it's off to the F1 Race Factory for go-kart racing. Other tours are the

Phoenix Zoo, Heard Museum, the Dolly Steamboat and Greasewood Flats, a historic old west bunkhouse. It's a great time to plan a warm visit to Phoenix while cold wind and snow blow here in Illinois

Educational programs are scheduled on Thursday with committee meetings on Friday and business meetings Saturday. The registration form is located on page 17 of this newsletter and tour descriptions along with other forms, are available on our website, [www.illica.net](http://www.illica.net). Please contact the Sheraton Crescent Hotel at **(602) 943-8200** to insure you get a room at this beautiful conference location.



## Heiser Insurance & Financial Services

At Continental Western Group, business insurance is what we do; period. Our single focus is to provide our customers with the business insurance coverage they need today and in the future. Continental Western Group is the Illinois **LICA endorsed carrier** for property and casualty insurance. Contact Tim Neuhauser at Heiser Insurance at 1-800-727-9775 or Continental Western Group directly at 1-800-235-2942 for more information.

**CWGW**  
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**Continental Western Group**

[www.cwgins.com](http://www.cwgins.com)

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# The National LICA Winter Convention - February 16-20, 2010

## Sheraton Crescent Hotel ~ Phoenix, Arizona

### Tentative Agenda

#### Tuesday, February 16, 2010

12:30pm-4:30pm Dolly Steamboat  
 6:00pm Executive Committee

#### Wednesday, February 17, 2010

6:30am-3:30pm John Deere/Racetrack  
 9:00am-3:00pm Phoenix Zoo & Heard Museum

#### Thursday, February 18, 2010

Registration

**Educational Seminars**

8:00am - 8:45am LICA Benefits by Allison Hack  
 9:00am - 9:45am Legislative by John Peterson  
 10:00am - 10:45am Safety Seminar by Jason Oswald, CNA  
 11:00am - 11:45am Emissions by John Deere  
 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch on your own  
 1:00pm-3:45pm Equipment Costing by Doug Egeland  
 3:00pm Executive Directors Meeting  
 Pool party for the kids  
 4:00pm-4:45pm National Equipment Register  
 6:00pm-9:00pm Exhibit Hall

#### Friday, February 19, 2010

7:30am-8:00am Devotions  
 8:00am Breakfast  
 9:00am-10:00am Committee Meetings  
 Certification  
 Devotions  
 Legislative  
 Water Table Management  
 10:15am-11:15am Committee Meetings  
 By-Laws  
 Conservation, Excavating  
 Ladies  
 Education Technology  
 11:30am-12:30pm Committee Meetings  
 Convention  
 Long-Term Planning/Past Pres.  
 On-Site Waste  
 Safety/Insurance  
 12:30pm Lunch  
 1:30pm-2:30pm Committee Meetings  
 Associates Advisory  
 Membership  
 Policy  
 2:30pm-3:30pm Region Meetings  
 Region 1            Region 4  
 Region 2            Region 6  
 Region 3            Region 8  
 3:30pm-4:30pm Nominating Committee  
 5:00pm Optional Dinner at Greasewood Flat

#### Saturday, February 20, 2010

8:00am-8:30am Devotions  
 8:30am Breakfast  
 9:30am-10:00am Budget Committee  
 10:30am-11:45am Delegate Meeting  
 12:00pm John Deere Luncheon  
 2:00pm Board Meeting & Issue Session  
 5:00pm CNA Insurance Reception  
 6:00pm Caterpillar Awards Banquet

### Hotel Information

**Sheraton Crescent Hotel  
 Phoenix, AZ**

Room Rate: \$ 119 plus tax

Reservation Number: 800-325-3535

On-Line Registration:

[www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/LICAWinterconv](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/LICAWinterconv)

Request: Land Improvement Contractors Group

**Associate**

Corey Getz - ADS, Chair  
 Mark Baker - Springfield Plastics  
 Eugene Glueck - Martin Equipment  
 Bruce Mosier - Prins Insurance  
 Chad Nicholson - Eastern IL Clay  
 Ron Schlatter - Schlatter's Inc.

**Auditing**

Forrest Davis, Chair  
 Steve Anderson  
 Ron Masching

**Awards**

Bill & Janet Doubet, Chair  
 Brent & Tracy Breedlove  
 Rose Day  
 Bill & Bev Dean

**Budget**

David Kennedy, Chair  
 Forrest Davis  
 Dan Day  
 Bill Dean  
 Wayne Litwiller

**By-Laws**

Stuart Anderson, Chair  
 Bill Doubet  
 Dave Hurst  
 Stan SeEVERS  
 Joe Streitmatter

**Certification**

Dave Hurst, Chair  
 Forrest Davis  
 Wayne Litwiller  
 Ron Masching  
 Prof. Kent Mitchell, U of I  
 Stan SeEVERS

**Certification Board**

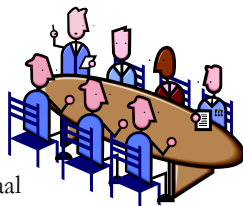
Dave Hurst, Chair  
 Forrest Davis  
 Dave Kennedy  
 Wayne Litwiller  
 Ron Masching

**Convention**

Kristin Kutemeier, Chair  
 Neal & Tracey Barnes  
 Bill & Bev Dean  
 Greg & Jennifer Furkin  
 David & Lori Kennedy  
 Joe & Jackie Streitmatter

**Devotions**

Jean Davis, Chair  
 Steve Anderson  
 Norm & Coretha Rozendaal

**Education**

Carol Kiley, Chair  
 Neal Barnes  
 Brent Breedlove  
 Prof. Richard Cooke—U of I  
 Bob Grothaus  
 Ron Masching  
 Mike Yordy

**Executive**

Steve Anderson, Chair  
 Janet Burtle-Doubet  
 Forrest Davis  
 Bill Dean  
 David Haag  
 David Kennedy

**Golf Outing**

Wayne Litwiller, Chair  
 Jerry Biuso  
 Janet Burtle-Doubet  
 Forrest Davis

**Headquarters**

Dan Day, Chair  
 Steve Anderson  
 Mark Baker  
 Dale Collinson  
 Forrest Davis  
 David Haag

**Industrial & Business Relations**

Wayne Litwiller, Chair  
 Charlie Adams  
 Dale Collinson  
 Dan Day  
 Bill Dean  
 Bill Doubet

**Insurance**

Dave Hurst, Chair  
 Charlie Adams  
 Dan Day  
 Stan SeEVERS

**Ladies**

Janice Litwiller, Chair  
 Jean Davis  
 Bev Dean  
 Cathy Masching  
 Jackie Streitmatter

**Legislative**

Steve Anderson, Chair  
 Neal Barnes  
 Lee Bunting  
 Dale Collinson  
 Bill Doubet  
 Dave Hurst  
 Carol Kiley  
 Norm Kocher  
 Joe Streitmatter

**Long Term Planning**

Steve Anderson, Chair  
 Stuart Anderson  
 Neal Barnes  
 Dan Day  
 Bill Doubet  
 Ron Masching

**Membership**

Wayne Litwiller, Co-Chair  
 Norm Kocher, Co-Chair  
 Mark Baker  
 Neal Barnes  
 Forrest Davis  
 Scott Day  
 Carol Kiley

**Nomination**

Forrest Davis, Chair  
 Stan SeEVERS  
 Joe Streitmatter

**On-Site Waste**

Wayne Litwiller, Chair  
 John McCoy  
 Larry Rhodenbaugh  
 Jon SeEVERS  
 Jason Winings

**Picnic**

Neal & Tracey Barnes  
 Norm & Mary Jane Kocher

**Publicity**

Bill Doubet, Chair  
 Mark Baker  
 Neal Barnes  
 Bev Dean  
 Wayne Litwiller

**Safety**

Doug Nicholson, Chair  
 Dave Hurst  
 Dave Kennedy  
 Carol Kiley  
 John McCoy  
 Jason Winings

**Show & Other Income**

Neal Barnes, Co-Chair  
 Jon SeEVERS, Co-Chair  
 Brent Breedlove  
 Brian Brooks  
 Forrest Davis  
 Joe Krupps  
 Wayne Litwiller  
 John McCoy  
 Joe Streitmatter



# 2010 NATIONAL LICA WINTER CONVENTION

## Sheraton Crescent Hotel

### Phoenix, AZ February 16-20, 2010

## REGISTRATION

*(Includes: Thursday evening Opening Reception; Friday breakfast & Lunch; Saturday breakfast, lunch & dinner)*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Early Bird Registration- Postmarked before January 15, 2010</b>		
Members, Spouses, Associates, Government Employees, Consultants	\$225.00	\$ _____
Youth- 13 years of age and under	\$120.00	\$ _____

<b>REGISTRATION - Postmarked after January 15, 2010</b>		
Members, Spouses, Associates, Government Employees, Consultants	\$250.00	\$ _____
Youth- 13 years of age and under	\$140.00	\$ _____
Children 3 years of age and under		Free

**Print Names for Badges**  
(add age if youth or child)

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
 4) \_\_\_\_\_  
 5) \_\_\_\_\_

**TOURS**

<b>John Deere/Racetrack</b>	Number Attending _____
Cost \$ 65 per person	Total \$ _____
<b>Zoo/Heard Museum</b>	Number Attending _____
Cost \$ 25 per person	Total \$ _____
<b>Dolly Steamboat</b>	Number Attending _____
Cost \$ 50 per person	Total \$ _____
<b>Greasewood Flats</b>	Number Attending _____
Cost \$ 55 per person	Total \$ _____
<b>Total Tours \$ _____</b>	

**ADD TOUR REGISTRATION:** Please put total tour cost amount here: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL: MEETING REGISTRATION FEES PLUS TOURS** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Policy:** Only individuals registered and wearing badges may attend Winter Convention events. All must register to attend conventions, programs or functions. No registration will be processed without payment. Registration fee deadlines will be strictly enforced.  
**Refund Policy:** For cancellations received prior to February 1, 2010 a \$30.00 charge will be deducted from the original amount paid. No registration payment will be refunded after February 1, 2010 unless there has been an emergency.

For further information call: (630) 548-1984

Please return this form with payment to:  
**LICA Winter Convention**  
 3080 Ogden Ave.  
 Lisle, IL 60532

**Sheraton Crescent Hotel**  
 Phoenix, AZ  
 1-800-325-3535  
 or online:  
[www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/LICAWinterconv](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/LICAWinterconv)  
 Room Rate: 119 plus tax  
 Request: Land Improvement Contractors

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Illinois

**2010 ILICA Convention & Member Meeting**  
**President Abraham Lincoln Hotel - Springfield, IL**  
 January 13 - 16, 2010

**Drainage System Survey & Design**  
**Henry White Farm - Millstadt, IL**  
 February 2 - 3, 2010

**Drainage System Survey & Design**  
**University of Illinois South Farm - Urbana, IL**  
 March 10 -11, 2010

**Erosion Control Workshop**  
**University of Illinois South Farm - Urbana, IL**  
 August, 2010 (exact date TBA)

### National

**2010 LICA Winter Convention**  
**Sheraton Crescent Hotel· Phoenix, AZ**  
 February 16 - 20, 2010

**2010 LICA Summer Convention**  
**Holiday Inn City Centre· Peoria, IL**  
 July 13 - 17, 2010

## ADVERTISERS INDEX

Agri-Drain Corp. . . . . 22  
 Central Illinois Ag. . . . . 4  
 Continental Western Group/Heiser Ins. . . . . 14  
 Fratco, Inc. . . . . 13  
 Martin Equipment of Illinois . . . . . 24  
 Midwest Auger Aerator. . . . . 24  
 Precision Intakes LLC . . . . . 24  
 Prins Insurance Inc . . . . . 9  
 Prinsco . . . . . 6  
 Roland Machinery Co . . . . . 2  
 RWF Bron. . . . . 2  
 Springfield Plastics Inc. . . . . 24  
 Stadel Electronics . . . . . 10  
 Wisconsin Plastic Drain Tile. . . . . 23

## LADIES COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

\$5.00 Each or 3 for \$10.00



This beautiful quilt depicts several state LICA chapters and is a collaboration involving many LICA ladies hands, time and efforts.

## NATIONAL LICA RAFFLE TICKETS - \$25

**LICA** 2010 LICA Raffle

Grand Prize: \$5,000  
 2nd Prize: \$2,500  
 3rd Prize: \$1,000  
 4th Prize: \$500

Drawing Date: Saturday, February 20, 2010  
 LICA National Winter Convention, Phoenix, AZ

**No 0201**

They're raffling off money this time...\$5000 to the grand prize winner and \$500 for 4th prize.

For \$25 a ticket, you get 4 chances to get way more than your money back!

Contact the ILICA office for your lucky ticket!

# SAFETY FEATURE - MACHINE SAFETY: SAFE OPERATION ON A SLOPE



*The safe operation of a machine on a slope relies on three factors: the type of terrain, a properly maintained and equipped machine, and a well-trained operator. Provided by: SAFETY.CAT.COM™*

## Type of Terrain

- Uneven terrain can make the machine less stable
- Be cautious of newly filled material
- Rocks and moisture can reduce traction and stability
- Rocky surfaces can cause a machine to side slip down a slope

**Discussion Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Employee Participants

## Properly Maintained and Equipped Machine

- Balance is critical, be sure you have the right equipment and attachments
- Know the weights and balance of any implements being towed
- Be sure you have the correct type of tires
- Make sure the machine's fluids are full
- Always consult the Operator and Maintenance Manual for proper fluid level requirements

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## Well-Trained Operator

- Always read and understand the Operator and Maintenance Manual before operating
- ALWAYS wear your seat belt
- Avoid operating across the slope
- Always operate up and down the slope
- Make sure the heaviest end of the machine is going uphill
- Keep all attachments or pulled loads as low to the ground as possible
- Know when the slope is too steep to be safely worked on
- Identify potential hazards



## PESTICIDE LEVELS DECLINE IN CORN BELT RIVERS



Concentrations of several major pesticides mostly declined or stayed the same in “Corn Belt” rivers and streams from 1996 to 2006, according to a new U.S. Geological Survey study.

The declines in pesticide concentrations closely followed declines in their annual applications, indicating that reducing pesticide use is an effective and reliable strategy for reducing pesticide contamination in streams.

Declines in concentrations of the agricultural herbicides cyanazine, alachlor and metolachlor show the effectiveness of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulatory actions as well as the influence of new pesticide products. In addition, declines from 2000 to 2006 in concentrations of the insecticide diazinon correspond to the EPA’s national phase-out of nonagricultural uses. The USGS works closely with the EPA, which uses USGS findings on pesticide trends to track the effectiveness of changes in pesticide regulations and use.

Scientists studied 11 herbicides and insecticides frequently detected in the Corn Belt region, which generally includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska and Ohio, as well as parts of adjoining states. This area has among the highest pesticide use in the nation; mostly herbicides used for weed control in corn and soybeans. As a result, these pesticides are widespread in the region’s streams and rivers, largely resulting from runoff from cropland and urban areas.

Elevated concentrations can affect aquatic organisms in streams as well as the quality of drinking water in some high-use areas where surface water is used for municipal supply. Four of the 11 pesticides evaluated for trends were among those most often found in previous USGS studies to occur at levels of potential concern for healthy aquatic life. Atrazine, the most frequently detected, is also regulated in drinking water.

“Pesticide use is constantly changing in response to such factors as regulations, market forces, and advances in science,” said Dan Sullivan, lead scientist for the study. “For example, acetochlor was registered by the EPA in 1994 with a goal of reducing use of alachlor and other major corn herbicides — acetochlor use rapidly increased to a constant level by about 1996, and alachlor use declined. Cyanazine use also decreased rapidly from 1992 to 2000, as it was phased out because of environmental concerns. Metolachlor use did not markedly decrease until about 1998, when S-metolachlor, a more effective version that requires lower application rates, was introduced. Each of these declines in use was accompanied by similar declines in concentrations.”

Although trends in concentration and use almost always closely corresponded, concentrations of atrazine and metolachlor each declined in one stream more rapidly than their estimated use. According to Skip Vecchia, senior author of the report on this analysis, “The steeper decline in these instances may be caused by agricultural management practices that have reduced pesticide transport, but data on management practices are not adequate to definitively answer the question. Overall, use is the most dominant factor driving changes in concentrations.”

Only one pesticide — simazine, which is used for both agricultural and urban weed control — increased from 1996 to 2006. Concentrations of simazine in some streams increased more sharply than its trend in agricultural use, suggesting that non-agricultural uses of this herbicide, such as for controlling weeds in residential areas and along roadsides, increased during the study period.

Additional information, including data, reports and maps on pesticide status, trends and use may be found at the USGS Pesticide National Synthesis Project Web site. For more information, visit [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov).

*Source: U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey. Released: 11/9/2009. USGS provides science for a changing world.*





Look for lots of helpful information, suggestions and ideas on Agriculture, Natural Resources & the Environment and much more on the University of Illinois Extension web-site...  
<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/state/>

## VERTICAL TILLAGE - One of Topics at State Tillage Conference



Photos courtesy of the University of Delaware Kent County Agricultural Extension

After another wet fall and spring, corn and soybean farmers must decide what field tillage operations are essential before the 2010 crop season. "With wet fall seasons, there may be less tillage done prior to the next spring's planting. In this situation," says Tony Vyn, Purdue University agronomist, "farmers have fewer alternatives to consider." "One option for spring field preparation is vertical tillage—an operation in which producers use tools with straight coulters, harrows and rolling baskets in order to fluff up remaining surface crop residue with shallow soil penetration, without actually inverting the soil," he adds.

"Vertical tillage tools have the advantage of leaving more residue cover than a field cultivator or a disk, but less residue cover than an undisturbed no-till operation," Vyn said. "This operation is best suited for fields that are poorly drained or have high clay content and therefore dry more slowly in the spring."

Vyn will be one of the featured nationally and state recognized speakers at the 2010 Illinois Tillage Seminar scheduled for January 26 in Peoria. Persons interested in attending should go to <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/rockfordcenter> for how to register either by mail or on-line, or phone 815-395-5710. Advance reservations are required by January 19 with the \$25.00 per person registration fee.

Vyn said that whatever tillage operation is chosen, it's of utmost importance to wait for dry enough soil conditions and to keep all operations shallow.

"If we continue to deal with wet spring conditions, soil moisture will increase very quickly with depth, which means that deep tillage operations in spring could cause smearing and compaction," he said. "The combination of smearing and compaction is always going to be more of an issue when the soil conditions are reasonably wet at the time of tillage, and when dry, warm conditions persist after doing the operation."

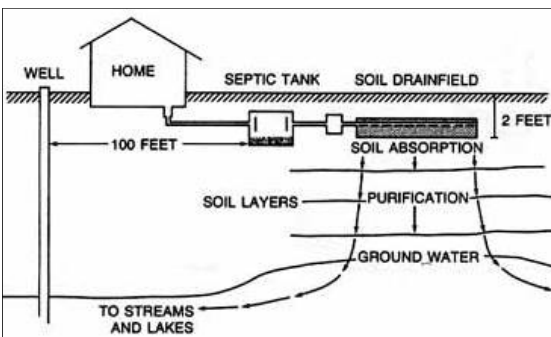
"The worst possible combination would be doing the tillage when the soil is wet and having that followed by a hot, dry spring. So a big part of tillage is trying to make sure you limit soil damage and creation of any root-restricting layers during that operation. That way, you give the maximum potential for unimpeded root development after tillage and planting."

Source: University of Illinois Extension News Release - 12/21/09

## ILLINOIS PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CONTRACTOR EXAM PREPARATION



University of Illinois Study Guide for State Licensing Exam - <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/septic tanks/>



This website was developed for individuals wishing to pass the Illinois state licensing exam for septic system installation and maintenance. Review questions are based on Illinois state codes and Federal regulations related to private sewage disposal. It is recommended that these codes be reviewed prior to answering the questions. An answer key is provided to show correct answers, along with the location of the answer in state or federal regulations.

After completing the review questions, please complete the evaluation, to help us know how effective this site is in helping people pass the state licensing exam.

## EROSION CONTROL WORKSHOP - AUGUST 2010

Although exact dates are being set at this time, the first Erosion Control Workshop generated by the efforts of ILICA volunteers last August will be held in **August 2010**. Dr. Kalita, Associate Professor of Agricultural & Biological Engineering at Champaign, will facilitate the initial workshop at this very specialized property to provide an unparalleled training opportunity for ILICA contractors.

As is the case with the drainage workshop at this same location in March, the classroom has a 20 student capacity. With the limited capacity and session focus, the expected audience is lead personnel in this area, so if this is a workshop you simply don't want to miss, please sign up early. The testing facility will have rain simulators installed over the berm, collection ditches to measure siltation and a detention pond to provide water for and collect water from the testing.

Look for additional information on this workshop in future issues of the *ILICA News* and contact the ILICA office now if you would like to pre-register, insuring your spot.

(Upper r. to lower r.) Erosion Control Testing Facility sediment collection ditches; Constructed berm with well established vegetation; Dr. Kalita overlooking the detention pond during initial excavation at the site.



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**www.agridrain.com**

### FOR SALE CONTRACTOR CLASSIFIEDS



#### John Deere 430 Row Crop, Narrow Front Tractor

New rear tires, original paint, runs good and would make a perfect winter project!

**\$3250**

Call (309) 639-2015 evenings



(photo is NOT actual tractor)

# CERTIFIED FLAGGER TRAINING

In an effort to continue promoting safe and profitable construction operations, Illinois LICA Area 5 director Brent Breedlove, has added opportunities to receive the National Safety Council's (NSC) Certified Flagger Instructor Course at the upcoming drainage workshops. The course is being offered concurrently with the first day of each drainage workshop but will only be held if sufficient registrations are received. Workshop registration form may be found on page 7 of this issue and online at [www.illica.net](http://www.illica.net).



The primary objective of the flagger training is to teach standardized flagging procedures, minimizing confusion and providing safe passage of traffic through and around work



zones. Anyone whose worksite has the potential to create an interaction with traffic should attend this class. The four-hour course provides hands-on training, classroom activities and a flagging skills test which will give students increased ability to coordinate traffic movement through any work zone.

Since Flagger Training can be scheduled anywhere in Illinois, ILICA contractors can learn the same essentials of proper work zone flagger training at a site and on a schedule convenient to you and your crew. There is a 15 day notification period to comply with NSC requirements, so contact Brent at (309) 696-9992 or via email at [btlove06@casscomm.com](mailto:btlove06@casscomm.com) to discuss availability. Keep watching the ILICA calendar for other scheduling or call the ILICA office at (309)446-3700 for more information about this important safety program.

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