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May - June 2024

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NEWS



AREA 6 **GOLF OUTING & TRAP SHOOT** JUNE 14, 2024

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UFG & PRINS DONATE TO ILICA **EDUCATION**

(page 20)

Also Featured Inside:

- Extension Connection: Designed Biochar to Capture and Recycle ► Phosphorous in Agrosystems (page 12)
- Region IV LICA Hosted 1st Lunch & Learn (page 19) ►

Illinois LICA 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2 Galva, IL 61434



The ILICA News



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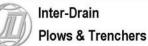
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello again. Around my part of the state, farmers will have plenty of moisture to plant into. We are in a stretch of wet weather right now that has us in the shop more than in the field. I hope everyone is having a safe and profitable spring. Overall, we have had some nice days for working, until as of

late. Equipment repairs and my desk are two places I tend to neglect this time of year. Repairs tend to build up and so does mail on my desk. It has been nice to catch up on both of those things. I have been running all spring without my only service truck. I have been using a 1980 Chevy C70 to haul equipment around and to bring fuel to the fleet. Talking to a few ILICA members the other day, they reminded me of the importance of redundancy in business. I was asked by multiple people if I had a backup truck. I don't really. This is an area of my business I need to work on. I don't have extra equipment around. I tend to trade in older equipment when I'm trading up. Maybe this is the difference in being in business for less than twenty years like me versus being in business for more than forty years like them? Regardless, every season presents new challenges to overcome. I find myself often saying, "If it was easy, everyone would be doing it."

Despite breakdowns and setbacks, being able to make a living by improving land is extremely fulfilling for me. I feel with every completed project I have made the Earth a little bit better. We as land improvement contractors make people's dreams come true daily. We are on the front lines of erosion control. We have the ability to construct practices that help with our state's nutrient loss problem.

Nutrient loss and soil health are two subjects that are not going away anytime soon. There are a few conservation practices that are approved by the NRCS, and federal funding

BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

Unless changed by the Board during the year, the ILICA business meetings are scheduled as follows:

May 4, 2024 - Regular Meeting of the Board: Virtual & IP - ILICA Office, Galva

July 20, 2024 - Picnic & Members' Meeting: Feather Prairie Farm, Dwight

Exact location, meeting times & other details will be published in the ILICA News and sent to members via mail and/or email.

is available to get these projects constructed. If you are interested in learning more about how to construct some of these approved practices, consider attending our summer drainage workshop series. We are going to hold them in three locations throughout the state, so you should be pretty close to one of them.

ILICA has constructed several wetlands in the last few years. This year's summer picnic will be held just outside of Dwight at one of these wetlands. Plenty of Shenanigans are being planned, so please consider attending and have some fun with us!

Working outside is pretty nice this time of year. I encourage you to take a minute everyday and just enjoy the little things. As always, be safe, and I thank you for your membership to ILICA.

Best regards, Eric Layden

2024 BOARD MEMBER MTG. ATTENDANCE						
A = absent P = present C = cancelled meeting						
Area / Director	Jan	March	May	July	Sep	Nov
Pres: Eric Layden	Ρ	Р				
VP: Jon Seevers	Ρ	Р				
1st VP: Tyler Seals	Ρ	Α				
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Area 1 - LaVerne Weber	Ρ	Р				
Area 2 - Steve Anderson	Ρ	Р				
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	Ρ	A				
Area 3 - Grant Curtis	Α	A				
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	Р	Α				
Area 4 - David Kennedy	Α	Α				
Area 4 - Lee Bunting	Ρ	Р				
Area 5 - Rick Maguire	-	Р				
Area 6 - Scott Day	Ρ	Р				
Area 6 - Bill Dean	Α	Α				
Area 7 - John Barttelbort	-	Α				
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	Ρ	Р				
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SPRINGFIELD'S SPRINT TO THE FINISH



As the legislative sessions in the IL House & Senate are scheduled to conclude by the end of May, the fast pace of bills seeking to become law continues with the great speed at which it started back in January.

Since the beginning of 2024, Illinois LICA has kept our Legislative Committee very active considering different proposed bills and deciding the best positions for our members and our organization to take. These decisions, ultimately recommended to the Board for approval (or the Executive Committee in time-sensitive situations), may take the form of an official witness slip submitted on behalf of the organization, a call to action for members to submit witness slips or call their local legislators, inclusion of Illinois LICA's support to sign-on letters with other organizations, and/or any combination of said activities.

As bills that have impacts to our members' companies and the construction and conservation industries continue to race into Illinois LICA's inbox, we think it is worth taking the time to highlight some of the legislative positions Illinois LICA has taken on behalf of its members.

OPPOSED

- HB 1634 Amends the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005 of the Illinois Vehicle Code by adopting rules to implement the motor vehicle emission standards of the State of California, including, but not limited to the (1) zero-emission vehicle program, (2) low-emission vehicle program, (3) advanced clean trucks program, and (4) heavy-duty low NOx omnibus program
- HB 5050 Simplifies the process of dissolution of "districts," including drainage districts

- HB 4956 Bans the sale & use of ester formulations of 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid
- SB 771 (3669) Establishes protections and regulations for wetlands and streams, recently relaxed by the US Supreme Court's Sackett vs. EPA ruling, and delegates authority to the IDNR to manage and enforce these regulations

SUPPORTED

- HB 5054: Makes the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Act's agricultural impact mitigation agreement provisions applicable to commercial wind energy facilities, battery energy storage systems, pipelines, and electric lines; describes information to be included therein; requires project inspections by an agricultural inspector; authorizes the Department of Agriculture to temporarily halt construction, deconstruction, or other activities on a project upon its finding of noncompliance with the provisions of an agricultural impact mitigation agreement
- HB 4037: Provides that a commercial wind energy facility owner or solar energy facility owner must file a land reclamation plan and a recycling plan with the Department of Agriculture; provides plans must outline how the property on which a facility has been constructed will be returned to the state the property existed prior to the construction of the facility upon removal of the facility and must outline how the material used to construct the facility will be recycled; provides that a commercial solar energy facility may not be sited on property where the property's soil's crop productivity index is greater than 110

The legislative frenzy of 2024 serves as a reminder of why Illinois ranks as the third most regulated state in the nation, according to Mercatus Center at George Mason University, behind only New York and California. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of keeping tabs on legislation throughout its life cycle; something the Illinois LICA Legislative Committee has worked hard on for you this year!

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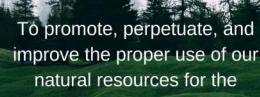
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LICA MISSION

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Part 1 of the Homesteading Time Management Series by Becky

Recently, I've had several readers ask me how I am able to do all the gardening and preserving that I do. Especially because I have a family to take care of as well. I was answering people individually but I felt it would be better to do a blog post on the subject so I could dive into detail.

An even more common question is "How do you do it all?" The truth is that I don't. I just focus my time on things which bring me joy and hold the most value in my life. There will always be things left undone because no one can "do it all."

Sometimes I get frustrated by that realization but I think it is by divine design. It is good to be industrious and work hard. And if the work was finished then it would promote laziness.

Once we accept that we can't get everything done everyday, then we can move on and recognize all the things we did do, rather than what we didn't. Noticing what does get done is a great motivator!

In talking about time-management, I am going to be breaking this up into a series of blog posts.

I thought I would first go through how I save time in the garden and in preserving food each year. Cutting out busy work in these areas and unnecessary items is vital to having enough time to accomplish your goals. Then I will explain how I allocate my time and any other tips that will help.

First, let's talk about how to shave off hours and hours of time in your garden.

Time-Saving Tips for The Fruit and Vegetable Garden

The garden is the mainstay of a homestead. Time in the garden is time well spent. Yet there are definitely some ways to keep the busy work at a minimum and productivity at a maximum. Here are some things I do in my garden to save time.

#1 Cover the soil after it's planted.

This tip is first because it's definitely the most time saving thing you could do for yourself. Covering the soil with mulch (wood chips, straw, shredded leaves, etc.) feels like a lot of work initially but it will save countless hours of weeding over time.

Also, don't be skimpy on the mulch. Add only a few inches when the plants are young and leave a little space around where the plant stem comes out of the ground. But once they

get big enough, 6 inches of mulch layered in rows and in between plants is great.

#2 Streamline your garden design.

After years of playing around with different garden formats and pretty designs, one thing I wish I had done was to stick to one size garden bed.

I think that is my one regret of my current garden. I wish I would have done raised beds that were all the same size. Then all the bug netting and row covers would be universal for all garden beds instead of making specific sizes. It also takes me a

> long time to plan where all my plants will go because plant rotation in different sized garden beds is complicated.

#3 If you plant your own indoor seedlings, don't start too early.

As someone who always does indoor starts for the garden, I've learned a lot. A huge time draining activity for me in the spring is moving those seedlings indoors and outdoors everyday to acclimate them to the outdoors.

If you start sowing the plants too early then you are dealing with taking not just a few trays but many, many trays inside and out. This is because as the seedlings get bigger you are potting them up to larger size pots. Larger pots and plants mean more trays to haul indoors and out each day.

It may not seem like a big deal but that time really does add up eventually. I realize in northern climates, the early start times may be more necessary and critical to harvest.

If that is the case for you, then you may not be able to adjust the early start time as much. A possible alternative would be growing some quicker maturing plant varieties. You can find my post about fast maturing plants for cold climates here: https://www.theseasonalhomestead.com/vegetables-for-ashort-growing-season/

#4 Get your family involved.

In my house, if you want to eat food from the garden at harvest time, you need to work for it beforehand. I personally think it is a good way for my kids to learn that you reap what you sow. The food doesn't magically appear on your plate. It comes from a seed which was planted, tended, bore fruit, and then was picked and prepared.

Doing some of the work in the garden helps all of us to

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ILICA Ladíes' Page (cont.)

appreciate what it took to grow that food. I still do the majority of the work since it is a task that brings me a lot of joy. But I have the kids and Cameron help wherever possible.

The kids have caught on to my enthusiasm for gardening and often will come and help of their own free choice. They have always come with me to help in the garden even since they were very young. Initially, teaching them how to help in the garden slowed me down but once they picked up the skills it really saved time since the entire family contributes now.

In the height of the summer harvest season, when garden tasks like harvesting and weeding can become overwhelming, I delegate assignments to each person in the family to ensure we are keeping up with what needs to be done.

I need to do this because it is usually more work than my children would come and do of their own volition. Unless of course it's berry picking which they would happily stay around to eat and pick almost all day long.

#5 Get the right tools for the job.

I can't live without my scuffle hoe for use in between garden beds or prior to planting. It saves so much time and unnecessary effort. I still use a traditional hoe inside garden beds that are already planted so I don't accidentally chop the plants I want to keep.

I also recommend getting the right tools because for some reason it took me way too long to learn that. Here's a few examples:

I used to just use a small pruner for all my chopping and pruning jobs. I would find myself hacking my way through thicker branches and blackberry canes. I finally got a large pruning tool and it was a world of difference. I could have saved myself hours and hours of time.

The same thing played out a long time ago when Cameron and I first moved to Arkansas. We were both used to having the soft and beautiful topsoil of much of the northern US. When it came time to dig a hole at our new home we took out our shovel and started to dig.







We got a big surprise when we realized we could barely make it past the first few inches. We struggled with any digging project we had. Years later we purchased a pick axe and wondered what in the world we were thinking trying to shovel in our rock/clay soil.

So long story short, having the right tool will really save you a lot of time. More often than not, it's worth the expense!

#6 Automate your watering.

Hand watering in the garden every other day can easily take anywhere from twenty minutes for small gardens to two hours for large gardens.

Before we had our watering timer and hoses set up I was in the group of watering by hand almost two hours a day a few times a week. It took way too much time. While I heartily embrace some old fashioned things, hand watering the garden is not one of them.

A timer on the spigot makes watering easy and fast. I wish I had a good one to recommend but I'm convinced there is no watering timer that is worth recommending (at least at the time of writing this). Even though I replace mine often it's worth the cost.

#7 Be vigilant about removing weeds when they are young.

In the time between planting seeds and covering the soil with mulch weeds will come around. Weeds aren't difficult to manage when they are young. A swift hoeing will kill the majority in no time.

It's imperative that you get them while they are in the baby phase because the roots are shallow and they can be removed with a tool. Once they get big enough (and trust me can double their size overnight) you will need to start pulling by hand which really adds a ton of time.

Source: Reprinted with permission from Cam Porter, The Seasonal Homestead - <u>https://www.theseasonalhomestead.com/7-time-</u> <u>saving-gardening-tips/</u>. Visit The Seasonal Homestead's YouTube channel: <u>www.YouTube.com/@theseasonalhomestead</u>





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DESIGNED BIOCHAR TO CAPTURE AND RECYCLE PHOSPHOROUS IN AGROSYSTEMS

By Agnes Millimouno & Jorge A. Guzman

The increase in the global population necessitates increased food production. This need for more food production, in turn, leads to the intensification of agriculture, and with that, the use of fertilizers (e.g., phosphorus and nitrogen) is expected to increase to sustain or improve crop yields. In some cases, the fertilizer rate of application exceeds crop needs due to the soilcrop-weather heterogeneity favoring fertilizer loss through surface runoff or tile drain leach. This fertilizer loss increases phosphorous or nitrogen concentration in water bodies, esteeming the development of algae that may result in chronic or episodic algae bloom events when weather conditions become favorable, thus degrading water quality (e.g., eutrophication) and, in some cases, impairing water. Among the two primary algae nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen), phosphorous is becoming more relevant due to its capacity to be persistent. Phosphorous attached to soil particles can develop deposits along agricultural fields and streams as soil particles are transported by air and water. Also, phosphorus can be mobilized in solution bypassing the filter capacity of soils, leaching through soils to reach adjacent water bodies from tile drain flow rapidly. Hence, excess phosphorus concentration in water bodies from agricultural fields impacts water quality, harms aquatic life and native vegetation, exacerbates environmental degradation, and can impair water bodies.

Adopting sustainable agriculture practices is crucial to balance the increase in food demands with environmental conservation while sustaining farmers' economic growth. From the pool of sustainable practices, biochar has gained attention because of its potential to improve soil quality, reduce soil degradation, and manage soil and water pollution while helping with ecosystem restoration. Biochar is a carbon-rich residue derived from biomass pyrolysis that can be enhanced by mixing with other elements and blending into different shapes. It is ecofriendly and carries soil conditioner properties that favor air and water movement in soils while being designed to adsorb target elements, such as phosphorous. Due to its carbon richness, it possesses a high surface area and charges that are useful for removing excess nutrients in water. Hence, we explore this using designed biochar conformed to the shape of



Figure 1. Laboratory experiments were performed on the designer biochar.

pellets to (1) sequester excess phosphorous in tile drainage water and (2) recycle biochar pellets as a fertilizer amendment to decrease the phosphorous rate of application. The motivation behind this work is that biochar application to soils will boost nutrient use efficiency in the long term due to its slow release capacity, favoring sustainable farming practices.

First, we investigate the adsorption and desorption rate of designed biochar pellets when in contact with tile water effluents. By doing this set of experiments, we aimed to assess their effectiveness in sequestering low phosphorous concentrations commonly found in tile water effluents and their capacity to work as a fertilizer amendment. The initial evaluation was conducted by deploying designed biochar pellets in an experimental field in Fulton County that had been exposed to phosphorus-rich wastewater for a year. A P-filter following a woodchip bioreactor and tile effluent was used to test the designed biochar pellets. Then, a series of laboratory analyses were conducted by measuring the phosphorous sorption of new and used pellets exposed to wastewater from a woodchip bioreactor and tile effluents. Also, laboratory experiments were conducted to measure the phosphorous concentration in the solution using pellets from Fulton County and new pellets in contact with tile water effluents. Moreover, new and used pellets were subjected to ICP analysis to estimate the total phosphorus concentration.

Figure 2 illustrates the sorption of the designed biochar pellets in capturing phosphorus from woodchip bioreactor wastewater and tile drain effluents. A notable increase in phosphorus uptake was observed when using new pellets on the first two days of the bioreactor effluent, but it was less important after that. On the contrary, when the pellets were exposed to tile drain effluents, phosphorous sorption remained steady for four days. The ionic concentration of the water effluent seems to have a strong influence in the capacity of the pellets to sequester phosphate and this needs to be further investigated. As the pH of the soil solution is a fundamental variable in sorption processes on soils due to its variable charge, soil samples collected from fields mixed with a 5-ton per acre pellets rate of application were evaluated. Figure 3 illustrates the contribution of phosphate from soils treated with design biochar pellets. Generally speaking, it was found that the condition of the pellets (used and new) was important. For instance, no pellets were applied to the soil collected from the control field, and a similar desorption pattern was followed as the soil treated with the used pellets. On the contrary, the soil treated with new pellets resulted in higher phosphate contribution, indicating a background load may be important.

The interplay between soil pH, sorption, and desorption processes is crucial to understanding the dynamic behavior of nutrients in agricultural systems. As the pH in the soil solution increases, phosphorus concentration in the solution may increase due to desorption from the pellets and soils. However, the experiments indicated that treating soils with biochar pellets should consider the conditions associated with specific and local managing practices as they may favor phosphorous mobilization or help decrease its application rate.



ILLINOIS Extension

Figure 2. Sorption experiments of designed biochar pellets exposed to wastewater from a woodchip bioreactor and tile drain effluents.

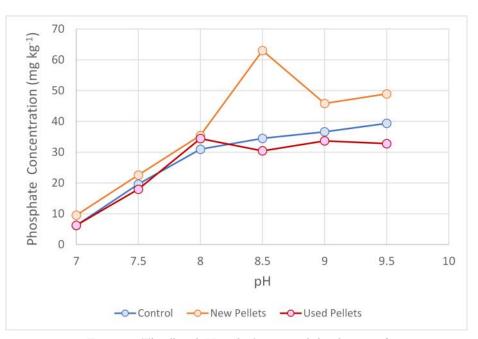


Figure 3. The effect of pH in the desorption of phosphate in soil.

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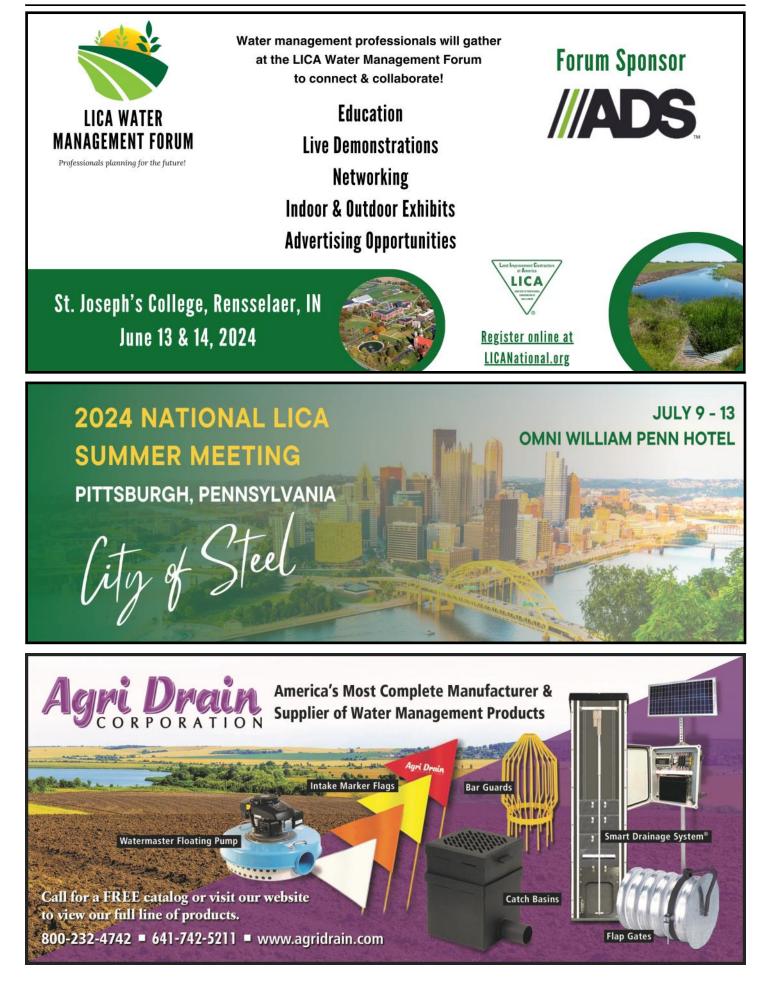
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Contact Person				
Company Name (to be listed on sign)_				
Email		Phone		
Total Enclosed \$			Credit Card	
		Cardholder		
Return this form with payme		Card #3 D		
LICA Educational Foundation fo		Billing zipcode		
3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300, Lisle	e, IL 60532			

1017 Meadowy	Golf Outing & Trap Shoot iday, June 14, 2024 McKillip Farm: 9:30 am County Rd. 1350th N., Lerna, IL 62440 iew Golf Course: 1 pm (shotgun start) Meadowview Lane, Mattoon, IL 61938	PRILES
	SPONSORSHIP	
 Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$250 Lunch Sponsor - \$250 Dinner Sponsor - \$350 Event Sponsors - \$500* Longest Drive Prize Sponsor Closest to the Pin Prize Sponsor 	Lowest Scoring Team Prize Sponsor - \$20 Green or Tee Sponsor - \$150 Please make us a sign (+\$35 pe We will provide our own sign (2 Use sign from previous year's g	er sign) 16″ x 24″)
	Includes 50 Clays, Green Fees & Golf Cart {18 holes}, Lunch, Drivin	ng Range,
	Includes 50 Clays, Green Fees & Golf Cart {18 holes}, Lunch, Drivin Beverage Tickets, Evening Steak Dinner & Prizes nner \$ 80.00 • Golf Only \$ 55.00 • Dinner Only	
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Trap Only \$ 35.00 Golf & D Name(s)	Beverage Tickets, Evening Steak Dinner & Prizes Trap, Golf, Dinner Trap Only Golf & Dinner Only Golf Only Golf & Dinner G	\$ 40.00 Dinner Only @ \$40
Trap Only \$ 35.00 Golf & D Name(s)	Beverage Tickets, Evening Steak Dinner & Prizes Trap, Golf, Dinner Trap Only Golf & Dinner Only @ \$110 @ \$35 @ \$80 @ \$55	\$ 40.00 Dinner Only @ \$40



REGION IV LICA HOSTED 1ST LUNCH & LEARN



After hearing from members during the National LICA Winter Convention about the interest and need for quality education that is available when they are and after learning about the successes that New Jersey LICA has had with hosting live webinars for their members, Region IV LICA (IL, IA, MO, MN, WI) collectively decided it was time to further develop virtual education opportunities for members in our region.

Though virtual trainings, meetings, webinars, and the like are not a new concept, especially post-COVID, only a fraction of LICA chapters nationwide host and/or offer these virtual options for their members. Yet, the benefits of having a live webinar with focused, quality content that members can actively engage with in real-time from anywhere (in the world, really) is invaluable to many members who would otherwise have to physically and monetarily seek out the same content elsewhere. Record that same webinar, making it available to members anytime that's convenient to them, and now you've added additional value to membership at a reasonable cost to the association and expanded the reach and brand of LICA.

This was the logic that ultimately inspired Region IV LICA to develop its first "Lunch & Learn" webinar held in April. Promoted to members in IL, IA, MO, MN, & WI, the webinar featured MO LICA member & attorney David Bandre who discussed some of the primary documents LICA contractors should have in place to mitigate business risk. With nearly 50 registered from across Region IV, the free webinar covered topics like contracting, employee agreements, proper insurance coverages and much more, wrapping up with a Q & A session where members posed their own unique questions for Mr. Bandre to answer. Based on the positive feedback from Region IV's first webinar, we're deeming it a success!

Given the culture and technology of today, virtual learning is in strong demand. Continued development of opportunities like Region IV LICA's Lunch & Learn webinar is an area where state chapters can provide even more value to their members in a manner better aligned with their members' schedules. Already active in this space, Illinois LICA continues to evaluate the best means and methods of providing this type of programming for our members, and we look forward to continuing to work with our Region IV chapters to further expand upon these efforts.

Did you miss the recent Region IV LICA Lunch & Learn? Visit the Business Webinars section of the ILICA website <u>https://www.illica.net/business-webinars</u> and use the code ADVANTAGE to view the recording.



UFG & PRINS DONATE TO ILICA EDUCATION

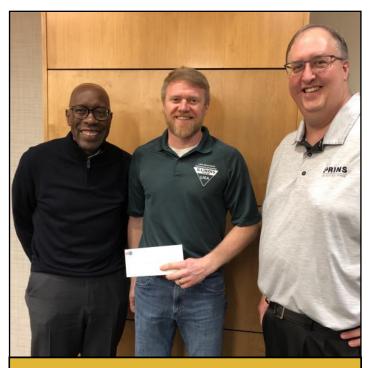
During the UFG State LICA Insurance Program Annual Meeting held in April near United Fire Group's headquarters in Cedar Rapids, IA, UFG and Prins Insurance donated \$8,282.16 towards ILICA's education fund.

The annual meeting hosted by United Fire Group and Prins Insurance is a great opportunity every year for LICA chapters involved in the UFG State LICA Insurance Program to receive program updates regarding legal and claims trends, production history, procedural changes, risk management education opportunities, and more. Geared towards the state LICA chapter executive directors, the event not only highlights the insurance program's growth and performance metrics from the previous year, but also provides the opportunity for state chapters to engage UFG and Prins Insurance representatives, underwriters, managers, and officers about in-field program functionality and general program observations. These critical discussions have led to program adaptations and protocols which continue to strengthen this great benefit for our Association and our members.

For 2024, the \$8,282.16 donation from UFG and Prins Insurance will be utilized for ILICA education endeavors in a manner consistent with risk management, furthering the overall success of the State LICA Insurance Program. Recent uses of these funds have included the purchase of safety equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) for volunteers to use during our in-field demonstrations and the funding of workshops such as in-field trench safety training.

ILICA is extremely thankful for these additional funds in 2024 and looks forward to continuing to utilize them in a way that creates and expands new education opportunities for our Association. Thank you to UFG and Prins Insurance for their partnership, for their donation to our education fund, and for hosting such a productive meeting every year!





ILICA Executive Director Ryan Arch (center) receives the 2024 education donation from UFG's John Tatum (left) and Prins Insurance's Bruce Mosier (right).





INSURANCE PROGRAM HAS MEMBERS IN 15 STATES: ARKANSAS = ILLINOIS = INDIANA = IOWA KANSAS = KENTUCKY MINNESOTA MISSOURI = NEBRASKA = NEW JERSEY

NORTH DAKOTA = OHIO = PENNSYLVANIA SOUTH DAKOTA = WISCONSIN

WRITTEN PREMIUM

STATE LICA

We at UFG are very happy with the success and growth the State LIC Insurance Program has had in 2023. We're confident we have an appealing program that will continue to build membership, and written premium, in the coming years.

States with members in the program

There are now 15 states with members in the State LICA Insurance Program with 1035 members insured in the program and a written premium of approximately \$28,942,555. (as of December 31, 2023)

STATE	INSUREDS	WRITTEN PREMIUM
Arkansas	16	\$ 591,412
Ilinois	40	\$ 1,411,944
Indiana	13	\$ 649,001
owa	168	\$ 4,725,913
Kansas	61	\$ 1,321,498
Kentucky	2	\$ 3,046
Minnesota	43	\$ 2,323,713
Missouri	126	\$ 3,065,510
Nebraska	51	\$ 1,941,426
New Jersey	79	\$ 4,585,411
North Dakota	14	\$ 471,254
Ohio	61	\$ 2,066,365
Pennsylvania	17	\$ 1,091,809
South Dakota	35	\$ 1,123,612
Wisconsin	50	\$ 2,467,087
TOTAL	778	\$ 27,877,416



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ILICA Trivia

What year did ILICA host the "Fabulous 50's" Convention?



Be the first to submit the correct answer to michelle@illica.net One lucky winner will receive a prize!

Mar/Apr Answer: Growing in his tiling route.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

Board of Directors Meeting (hybrid) May 4, 2024

> Committee meetings: 8 am - 12 pm Board Meeting: 1 pm

> > ILICA Office: Galva, IL

Virtual: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9759547353?pwd=c1ZPcjF hSTBTYjhXeERNZnFRTXdOZz09 Or call: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 975 954 7353 Passcode: 0000

Area 6 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot June 14, 2024

McKillip Farm: Lerna, IL Meadowview Golf Course: Mattoon, IL Register via QR code on page 17: https://form.jotform.com/220875527760159





New in 2022 our NovAtel receivers are able to use G_{ALILEO} & BEIDOU satellites for better availability near obstructions like trees.

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FEATURED ILICA BENEFIT: LAUNCHPOINT SITERIGHT APPLICATION



WHAT IS SITERIGHT?

SiteRight is an all-in-one app designed to LAUN simplify job-site documentation with photos, videos, permitting, and compliance information. Project data is stored in the cloud for real-time communication between the field and the office.





SRISK MITIGATION

Before your project begins, use SiteRight to document utility locate marks, safety hazards, and environmental pitfalls with geolocation and date/time referenced photos and videos to **reduce your company's risk of expensive damage claims** from utilities, municipalities, or third parties.

LAN C. Stand J. Stan

WATCH

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SINCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

SiteRight's Investigation module easily compares before and after photos while identifying the root cause of incidents. Thorough investigations can mitigate expensive damage claims and ensure your organization's safety, auditing, and field procedures are being enforced.

EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

Reduce equipment downtime with SiteRight equipment inspection forms that help identify worn or damaged parts, malfunctioning components, faulty electrical systems, and potential safety hazards to extend the lifespan of your equipment and to avoid costly in-field repairs.





SIMPROVE SAFETY

SiteRight allows your company the flexibility to craft safety forms and accident reporting programs that help identify potential hazards, assess risks, and develop strategies that prevent future accidents and injuries.



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SAFETY FEATURE: GUIDELINES FOR SAFE LOAD SECUREMENT & HAULING OF EQUIPMENT



The safe movement and hauling of heavy equipment requires training and if not done correctly, can lead to accidents. These accidents can result in loss of and damage to equipment, which can be costly, as well as potential injuries to the driver and others. Properly securing the equipment being hauled reduces the risk of loss during sudden stops, turns and accidents. The following minimum guidelines are provided for proper load securement, while hauling heavy equipment.

Load securement guidelines before equipment loading:

- The vehicle's gross vehicle weight rating and/or gross combination weight rating should be verified, so that it will not be exceeded while hauling equipment.
- Permits, if required, for oversize or over width equipment movements should be secured.
- Flags, wide load signs and other warning devices should be inventoried and made available for loading and for use while in transit.
- Review of proposed travel route should be completed. Determine if pilot cars will be required and make arrangements. Also, determine if contact or assistance with local authorities along the travel route will be required.
- Review and familiarize any and all loading guidelines that need to be followed for the equipment, such as the use of locking pins, brakes, a particular transmission gear, outriggers, or deck wideners.
- Review equipment placement on the trailer, to balance the weight distribution and to secure the equipment properly, reviewed prior to loading.
- Inspect all of the equipment's securement points for wear and/or damage.

- Determine if there will be low friction between the equipment and the transport vehicle (such as metal crawler tracks on a metal deck), and provide proper friction devices if necessary.
- Low tire pressure may result in the loosening of the tiedowns. Check the tire pressure of any equipment with rubber tires.
- Inspect and clean the trailer to remove any excessive aggregate, dirt, debris, or other substances that may fall or reduce friction during transit.

Load securement guidelines during equipment loading:

- Personnel loading equipment should be trained and familiar with the equipment operation and proper loading procedures.
- When possible, place the equipment against a vehicle structure to help prevent forward movement, unless the weight distribution or securement considerations will not allow it.
- Careful attention should be paid when attaching securement devices over brake or hydraulic hoses or cylinders to avoid potential damage to those items.
- Edge protection should be used to prevent damage to the tie-downs or the equipment.
- The manufacturer's designated attachment points should be used and the manufacturer's securement recommendations should be followed for any equipment being loaded.
- Do not use any attachment point that is of questionable strength or suitability.
- Chain is preferred for tie-down of heavy equipment and/or machinery and should be inspected.

- Verify the working load limits of chains used for equipment tie down.
- Use direct tie-downs whenever possible, but keep in mind that direct tie-downs require the use of more tie-downs than when using indirect tie-downs.
- Chocks or other devices should be used and placed against the wheels to prevent rolling of wheeled equipment. These devices should have their own securement.

Load securement guidelines after equipment loading:

- Accessory equipment and other movable parts such as hydraulic shovels, booms, plows, crane arms, etc., should be lowered and secured to the transport vehicle using tiedowns. Accessories equipped with locking pins or similar devices which prevent movement in any direction do not have to be secured with additional securement devices.
- Equipment being transported that has an articulation point, pivot, or hinge within its construction, should be locked or restrained to prevent any articulation while in transit.
- Accessories and other items that are not attached to the equipment must be secured to the transport vehicle following the general rules for cargo securement.
- The actual height and width of the vehicle should be confirmed prior to hauling.
- In-route securement inspections should be required and completed by the driver.

Equipment tie-down minimum requirements:

- Loaded equipment/vehicles with crawler tracks or wheels, should have at least four tie-downs to prevent movement side-to-side, forward, to the rear and vertically.
- Indirect tie-downs which are routed through an anchor point and attached to both sides of the trailer are counted as a single tie-down.
- A chain can be used as two tie-downs if properly attached to two anchor points using two binders, with slack in the middle of the chain, so that a break in the middle would not affect either tiedown.
- The sum of the working load limits of the tie-downs must equal at least 50% of the weight of the cargo. If unsure of the cargo's weight, additional tie-downs may be needed.
- Attach tie-downs as close as possible to the front and rear of the equipment or at the mounting points on the equipment designed for that purpose.

Summary

While not all accidents can be prevented, following the guidelines listed above will reduce the possibility that an accident or loss will occur while hauling equipment. If additional information or assistance is desired, please contact your local UFG risk control representative.

About UFG Insurance

UFG currently offers insurance to chapter members in Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The State LICA Insurance Program is administered by Prins Insurance Inc. of Sanborn, Iowa.

About Prins Insurance Inc. of Sanborn, Iowa

Prins Insurance has partnered with LICA contractors for 25 years to provide an insurance product that gives the opportunity to work with your independent agent while taking advantage of a comprehensive insurance program that focuses on the unique needs of your industry. If you have questions about The State LICA Insurance Program, contact Prins at 800-831-8545

Discussion Date: ____

Employee Participants



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