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## NATIONAL LICA OPEN HOUSE WELL ATTENDED

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## FARM PROGRESS SHOW OR BUST

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- ▶ **ILICA Gives Back** *(page 11)*
- ▶ **Renewed Discussions** *(page 14)*

Illinois LICA  
P.O. Box 474  
Brimfield, IL 61517

### Upcoming Events:

#### Board of Directors Meeting

Cisco Fire Dept.: Cisco  
November 2, 2019

#### ILICA Convention & Annual Mtg

Crowne Plaza: Springfield  
February 19-22, 2020

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings,

As I write this, we have had 2 frosts in Western Illinois and harvest has finally started at Curtis Family Farms.

A big THANK YOU to Brian Brooks, Jon Seevers, and Ryan Arch for all of their hard work

on Show Committee this year! Farm Progress Show was awesome, and the line strike on Thursday was a great success. In addition, THANK YOU to all the Volunteers and Associates who helped by donating their time, materials and equipment at the Farm Progress Show and our other various projects throughout the year. We could not have completed these projects without your assistance, THANK YOU!

The 2020 Annual Meeting & Convention details are coming together for Feb. 19-22, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, where the final Strategic Planning session is scheduled for the last day of convention. Members are encouraged to attend to help provide input and help steer the Association into the future. Stay tuned for registration details for these events and for the upcoming IDOT Trucking Regulations Workshop series to be held across the state in January. Registration fees for non-member contractors that accompany a member will be waived, so members are encouraged to bring a fellow contractor to the event.

As always, keep a safe work environment as one of your main goals this fall work season and hope your harvest is bountiful!

Sincerely,

Grant Curtis



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## BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

**Nov. 2, 2019** - Regular Meeting of the Board:

Cisco Fire Dept., Cisco

**Feb. 22, 2020** - Board/Members' Meeting (Winter Conv.):

Crowne Plaza, Springfield

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

### 2019 BOARD MEMBER MTG. ATTENDANCE

A = absent	P = present		C = cancelled meeting			
Area / Director	Jan	Mar	May	Aug	Sep	Nov
<b>Pres:</b> Grant Curtis	P	P	P	A	P	
<b>VP:</b> Steve Anderson	P	P	P	P	P	
<b>1st VP:</b> Eric Layden	P	P	P	P	P	
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P	P	P	P	A	
Area 2 - <b>Vacant</b>	-	-	-	-	-	
Area 3 - Wes Litwiller	P	P	A	A	P	
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	A	P	P	
Area 4 - David Kennedy	P	P	A	A	P	
Area 4 - John McCoy	P	A	P	A	A	
Area 5 - Earl Mast	-	P	A	A	A	
Area 6 - Jon Seevers	P	P	P	P	P	
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	P	A	A	A	
Area 7 - <b>Vacant</b>	-	-	-	-	-	
Area 8 - Norm Kocher	A	A	A	A	A	
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	P	A	P	A	P	
Associate Dir: Brad Baker	P	P	A	P	A	

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# EPA, U.S. ARMY REPEAL 2015 RULE DEFINING “WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES” ENDING REGULATORY PATCHWORK

DALLAS – (Sept. 12, 2019) At an event at the Dallas Builders Association, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 Administrator Ken McQueen announced EPA and the Department of the Army are repealing a 2015 rule that impermissibly expanded the definition of “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act. The agencies are also recodifying the longstanding and familiar regulatory text that existed prior to the 2015 rule—ending a regulatory patchwork that required implementing two competing Clean Water Act regulations, which has created regulatory uncertainty across the United States.

“Today, EPA and the Department of the Army finalized a rule to repeal the previous administration’s overreach in the federal regulation of U.S. waters and recodify the longstanding and familiar regulatory text that previously existed,” said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. “Today’s Step 1 action fulfills a key promise of President Trump and sets the stage for Step 2 – a new WOTUS definition that will provide greater regulatory certainty for farmers, landowners, home builders, and developers nationwide.”

“Today, Administrator Wheeler and I signed a final rule that repeals the 2015 Rule and restores the previous regulatory regime exactly how it existed prior to finalization of the 2015 Rule,” said R.D. James, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. “Before this final rule, a patchwork of regulations existed across the country as a result of various judicial decisions enjoining the 2015 Rule. This final rule reestablishes national consistency across the country by returning all jurisdictions to the longstanding regulatory framework that existed prior to the 2015 Rule, which is more familiar to the agencies, States, Tribes, local governments, regulated entities, and the public while the agencies engage in a second rulemaking to revise the definition of ‘waters of the United States.’”

“Hardworking Americans will be able to build a better future for themselves and their communities as a result of today’s action,” said Regional Administrator Ken McQueen. “I look forward to working with our state partners and our stakeholders as we move forward.”

“Texans know better than most the importance of protecting water sources, but the 2015 ‘Waters of the U.S.’ rule prevents farmers, landowners, and job creators from taking care of their land how they know best,” said U.S. Senator John Cornyn. “Today’s announcement represents another success in breaking down President Obama’s misguided regulatory regime that harmed Texans of all walks of life.”

“TCEQ supports the decision to repeal the 2015 Waters of the United States rule,” said Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Executive Director Toby Baker. “The rule expanded coverage of the Clean Water Act in a haphazard and unsupported manner increasing regulatory uncertainty. The revised

rule proposed earlier this year provides the appropriate level of clarity and coverage.”

“The Dallas Builders Association believes that everyone deserves a roof over their head and an affordable place to live. And we will continue our advocacy with that in mind,” said Dallas Builders Association President Matt Robinson. “We appreciate that this Administration is also showing the same commitment.”

Today’s rule is the first step—Step 1—in a two-step rulemaking process to define the scope of “waters of the United States” that are regulated under the Clean Water Act. Step 1 provides regulatory certainty as to the definition of “waters of the United States” following years of litigation surrounding the 2015 Rule. The two federal district courts that have reviewed the merits of the 2015 Rule found that the rule suffered from certain errors and issued orders remanding the 2015 Rule back to the agencies. Multiple other federal district courts have preliminarily enjoined the 2015 Rule pending a decision on the merits of the rule. In this action, EPA and the Army jointly conclude that multiple substantive and procedural errors warrant a repeal of the 2015 Rule. For example, the 2015 Rule:

- Did not implement the legal limits on the scope of the agencies’ authority under the Clean Water Act as intended by Congress and reflected in Supreme Court cases.
- Failed to adequately recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibilities and rights of states to manage their own land and water resources.
- Approached the limits of the agencies’ constitutional and statutory authority absent a clear statement from Congress.
- Suffered from certain procedural errors and a lack of adequate record support as it relates to the 2015 rule’s distance-based limitations.

With this final repeal, the agencies will implement the pre-2015 regulations, that are currently in place in more than half of the states, informed by applicable agency guidance documents and consistent with Supreme Court decisions and longstanding agency practice. The final rule takes effect 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

In December 2018, EPA and the Army proposed a new definition—Step 2—that would clearly define where federal jurisdiction begins and ends in accordance with the Clean Water Act and Supreme Court precedent. In the proposal, the agencies provide a clear definition of the difference between federally regulated waterways and those waters that rightfully remain solely under state authority.

Source: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-us-army-repeal-2015-rule-defining-waters-united-states-ending-regulatory-0>



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# ILICA Ladies Page

With the 2020 Illinois LICA Convention around the corner, the Ladies Committee Chairwoman, Lindsey Curtis, is requesting input from the ILICA Ladies on desired programming for the event. For those interested in participating in a brainstorming session over lunch in the coming months, please contact Lindsey at 309.333.4966. During the lunch, ILICA Ladies will have the opportunity to discuss potential DIY crafting activities (such as those pictured), tours, ladies day outing venues, and more.



## JANUARY WORKSHOP SERIES ANNOUNCED

Scheduled for early 2020, Illinois LICA will host an education workshop series across the state in all 8 ILICA Areas. The workshop series will focus on DOT trucking regulations (i.e. safety scores, audits, load securement, CDL license requirements, weight regulations, axle loading, GVWR vs. license plate size, permit loads, etc.). The series will contain roughly a full day of content complete with an ILICA benefits update, hands-on load securement displays, and Associate member venue tours (where applicable). It is FREE to ILICA members and \$10 for non-members.

Registration will be available soon and is strongly encouraged, as space will fill up fast. ILICA members are also encouraged to invite fellow contractors to join our group for the day to learn more about what ILICA membership has to offer their company. The \$10 registration fee will be waived for non-members with personal invites from members.



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# NATIONAL LICA OPEN HOUSE WELL ATTENDED

To showcase the new National LICA office in Lisle, IL, an open house was held the afternoon of Friday, October 9th at headquarters. The roughly 4 hour event was very well attended with about 50 people in attendance from all over the nation including New Jersey, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri, New York, and Virginia. The new LICA of-



fice is a larger, remodeled space complete with updated furniture that is located just down the hall from the previous office space. National LICA staff (Eileen & Allison) actually completed the whole office relocation themselves by literally rolling shelves down the hall with boxes on them! To further simplify matters, the same office address was even retained by swap-



ping office number nameplates. Talk about the easiest move ever! The new LICA office provides the Association room to grow with a large conference room and extra offices for future staff. The new headquarters will also provide a great space for hosting state chapter Executive Directors once a year and for meeting with Associates in a modern and accommodating setting.





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*By Roger Watwood, Southern Illinois Damage Prevention Manager*

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cate company have been to the jobsite and marked their underground facilities within the extent provided on the locate request, and you need them to return because the marks are destroyed partly or in full because of weather, construction activity or vandalism. Don't just default to the idea that the utility or utilities are a No-Show to mark. If there is any evidence of existing marks within the extent provided on the locate request then it is a remark request where you are required to provide 48 hours or 2 business days advance notice prior to excavating. A remark request can be submitted online 24/7 using the REV tool or by calling JULIE at 8-1-1. If in doubt, reach out to the member utility companies listed on the locate request and ask if they have been to your jobsite and marked.

*For more information, contact Roger Watwood at [watwood@illinois1call.com](mailto:watwood@illinois1call.com) or visit the JULIE website at [illinois1call.com](http://illinois1call.com). Source: Reprinted with permission from JULIE's Between The Lines, October 2019 digital newsletter issue*

## ILICA GIVES BACK

Whenever Illinois LICA receives assistance or services from entities outside of the organization, the Board of Directors always discuss giving back in some way to those that have volunteered to help us achieve our endeavors.

For his hospitality and donations to our first trap shoot in Area 6 this past summer, Paul McKillip would not accept any payment but instead requested that any financial reimbursement be directed to the Shriners Hospitals for Children - St. Louis. After the success and popularity of the event, the Illinois LICA Board made a \$350 contribution to the hospital in Paul McKillip's name for his efforts that helped bring another great ILICA event to fruition.

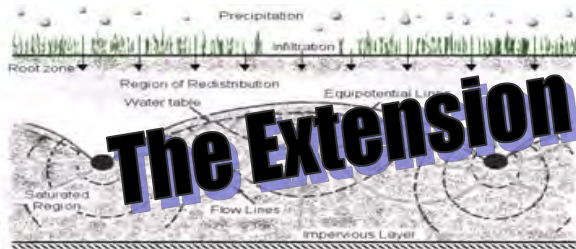
With the addition of three mock utility line strike demonstrations to the Farm Progress Show this year, ILICA required a number of additional resources to re-create the real-life situation that occurs surrounding a utility gas line strike scenario. A critical piece of the demonstrations was the response of local EMS and fire fighters to the scene of the accident. Their response adds gravity to this type of demonstration and realistically depicts the sometimes grave consequences of beginning an excavation before calling in a utilities locate request. For their critical involvement with the mock utility line strikes and assistance with equipment clean up post Farm Progress Show demonstrations, the Board of Directors made a \$1,000 donation to the Cisco Fire Department.



*John Nay, Corn Belt Shrine Club President, receives a \$350 check from Paul McKillip for the Shriners Hospitals for Children - St. Louis*



*Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Reeves accepting the donation to the Cisco Fire Department from Illinois LICA Area 6 Director Jon SeEVERS*



# The Extension Connection

Source: Gregory McIsaac, PhD - Associate Professor Emeritus - Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Urbana, IL; Adjunct Research Scientist - Agricultural Watershed Institute, Decatur, IL

## MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING OPEN WOODCHIP BIOREACTORS

In 2015-2016, Eric Miller had six woodchip bioreactors installed on his farm in Piatt County using NRCS technical and financial assistance. In 2019 he expressed concern about caving sidewalls and deteriorating plastic lining (see photo).

When I visited in June of 2019, the woodchip level in the bioreactors was a foot or more below the ground surface as a result of decomposition and settling of the woodchips. In September 2019, I visited a farm in Macon County with a bioreactor installed in 2016 that was in a similar condition. Dr. Ruth Book, Illinois State Conservation Engineer for USDA-NRCS, pointed out that keeping the woodchip level at or above ground level will stabilize the sidewalls and protect clear plastic from degradation from ultraviolet light. Black plastic lining was initially specified by NRCS because it has greater resistance to degradation from UV light. But NRCS allowed use of clear plastic so that contractors could more easily see the overlap between adjacent sheets during installation. Mr. Miller had ordered additional woodchips in 2018 but delivery was delayed due to extended periods of wet soil conditions.

Some bioreactors are designed with a two foot soil cap, which would also help stabilize sidewalls and protect the plastic lining from ultraviolet radiation. "Installing a soil cap is often left up to the preference of the landowner; there are advantages and disadvantages to each style. The open top design allows more flow through the wood chips because there's no soil weight compressing the chips – and this can mean a smaller bioreactor. However, in some cases, the soil cap is required to protect the bioreactor from surface runoff," Dr. Book said. "The plastic liner is there to separate the wood chips from the soil, so

the important work is being done below ground level where there is no sunlight to degrade the plastic. Degradation of excess plastic above ground is usually not a problem."

Unstable sidewalls can also be a safety hazard when replacing old wood chips in a bioreactor, depending on the equipment used to do the work. Dr. Richard Cooke, Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department, reported that he experienced collapsing sidewalls when attempting to replace old woodchips. He decided to abandon the bioreactor site rather than risk an accident. According to Dr. Book, woodchip bioreactors have an expected life of about 10 years, after which the wood chips will probably need to be replaced. As some of the already-installed bioreactors age, there may be a potential for NRCS funding to replace the wood chips and renew the functional life of a bioreactor. With proper equipment and planning, old wood-

chips can be safely removed and new wood chips added.

Some researchers are considering new bioreactor designs made of rigid modular containers that could be lifted out of the ground and the wood chips dumped out and replaced, according to Dr. Laura Christianson, Assistant Professor in the department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Further research and development are needed before these new concepts are ready for field testing and adoption, but if successful, these designs may provide options for improving efficiency and safety of replacing wood chips.

The current recommendation for bioreactors with open top is to keep the level of wood chips at or above ground level.



Eric Miller and Lowell Gentry inspecting and discussing one of Mr. Miller's bioreactors in June 2019.





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## RENEWED DISCUSSIONS

As the holiday season will come to a close with the end of the calendar year, so, too, will annual membership within Illinois LICA for 2019, offering the chance to reflect on the past year's achievements and *Advantages* of ILICA membership.

Active contractor membership within Illinois LICA provides our members with three primary returns on investment: education, representation, and bottom-line savings; collectively described as *The LICA Advantage*. These standard benefits of membership have provided Illinois LICA contractors with yet another year full of opportunities including:

### 5 New Cost-Saving Benefits

- 10% Discount at Sunbelt Rentals
- Sandhills Publishing: Website Design, Free Equipment Advertising on National LICA Website, Inventory Management Program, Equipment Financing, Online Credit Card Processing

### Annual Convention & Trade Show

- Free Registration for New Members; +35 Exhibitors; Business Education; CAT Tour

### 3 OSHA 10hr & Defensive Driving Workshops

- Mt. Vernon, Springfield, Peru

### Hands-on Field Demo Training

- 2 Saturated Buffers: Sullivan, Longview
- 1 Bioreactor: Decatur
- 1 Acre Constructed Wetland: East Peoria
- 35 Acres Pattern Tile: Decatur

### Legislative Voice on Industry Issues

- Opposed Bills for Dissolution of Drainage Districts & Expanding Prevailing Wage Act to Trucking/Hauling
- Opposed Recommendation from IEPA on Adoption of Water Quality Numeric Standards
- Supported Effort to Develop Nutrient Loss Reduction Project Funds in IL

### Bi-monthly Industry News & Events via *ILICA News*

But what about those benefits of membership that aren't advertised? Undeniably, members always learn something new at an ILICA workshop from our professional experts, but they are also learning from shared in-field experiences over a cup of coffee during a break or networking over lunch with an Associate member on a product they've been researching. There's no question that members receive more hands-on operator experience in various pieces of equipment, across brands, with the newest technology during ILICA field demonstrations. But what about the opportunities to have one-on-one time with an Associate member representative in their own piece of demonstration equipment? What about the opportunity to work alongside state level engineers to learn about a new conservation practice or to ask a question about one of your projects you are working on? How about the shared stories, jokes, meals, drinks, and camaraderie with your peers after a long day of implementing conservation on the landscape and educating the general public about it? What about the local networking and client opportunities that exist when members are onsite promoting the Association's mission with 60 local producers in attendance looking to install the same practice and others on their farm? Indisputably, membership discounts are expected to provide bottom line savings. But did you know that some stand-alone ILICA benefits are capable of paying for your yearly membership in its entirety? How about that certain ILICA benefits actually make money for you? Offering more benefits than any other Association nationwide, ILICA offers members deep equipment, parts, shop supply, tire, commercial lines & health insurance discounts (check [www.illica.net/discounts-services](http://www.illica.net/discounts-services) for a complete listing).

As your Illinois LICA dues renewal notice arrives before the end of the year, take the chance to reflect on what *The LICA Advantage* has provided for you and your company. Beyond the standard membership benefits, consider taking *Advantage* of all the opportunities a 2020 Illinois LICA membership can provide you in the coming year.





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# FARM PROGRESS SHOW OR BUST

The 2019 Farm Progress Show (FPS) held on August 27-29 in Decatur, IL featured another in-field tiling demonstration from Illinois LICA. And this year's demo once again showcased the installation of a woodchip bioreactor, similar to the 2017 FPS. While the drainage demonstrations went off without a hitch at the FPS, the new mock utility line strike demonstrations, co-hosted by ILICA in partnership with ILICA Associate member Ameren and National LICA Associate member The Drain Tile Safety Coalition, took a couple attempts to achieve the desired effect.

Due to heavy rain the week prior and rain the day before, all field demonstrations were cancelled on the first day of the Farm Progress Show. However, to keep on track for the scheduled installation of over 30 acres of pattern drain tile and a 12'x50' woodchip bioreactor during the three days, Illinois LICA was able to complete some field work the first day of the FPS, albeit without a crowd. By the afternoon, the new mock utility line strike demo had been setup and hosting partners were on-hand for a "dry" run of the demonstration before hundreds would be in attendance the following day. With the partners' first-ever run of the mock utility line strike demo completed that afternoon with the expected results, the stage was set for the highly anticipated and highly advertised demonstration the following day.

The first public mock utility line strike on the second day of the FPS drew an estimated 500 attendees and numerous media personnel. With three drones in the air and countless cameramen on the ground, Ameren shared information, details, and statistics about the utilities locate service in Illinois, as well as the dangers of beginning excavation before completing a "one call" request (811), over the PA system. With the scene set, volunteer ILICA members and crewmen began trenching towards the unmarked utility line, a 2" airline under 150 psi of pressure and filled with blue powder and confetti simulating a gas line. Local emergency responders (Cisco Fire Dept.) were poised to respond as soon as the strike (blue plume) was wit-

nessed from down the road. As the trencher passed through the line, evidenced by the yellow plastic pieces passing through the wheel machine, hundreds stood with bated breath as..... nothing. Unfortunately for all those present, and to the frustration of the partners involved, a blockage was discovered in the 2" airline that plugged the line solid and prevented the intended visual impact for the demonstration. After a quick explanation and apology to attendees, partners immediately regrouped and planned a few adjustments for the last demo

scheduled for the following day. Perhaps on account of the adjustments, perhaps because of luck, the strike on the last day of the Farm Progress Show finally demonstrated the realistic dangers of completing any below ground work without first calling 811.



With assistance from volunteer ILICA contractors and associate members and the Illinois Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in-field attendees at the FPS learned about pattern drain tile, bioreactors, and water quality. And in

partnership with Ameren and The Drain Tile Safety Coalition, attendees learned about (and/or witnessed) the risks of failing to request a utilities locate prior to beginning below ground activities...a dangerous behavior that doesn't allow for second attempts.

*(Continued pg. 17)*



## ILICA Supporting Participants

### Associate Members



<p><b>Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Agri Drain Corp.</b></p> <p><b>Alta Equipment Company</b></p> <p><b>Altorfer, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Birkey's</b></p> <p><b>Bower's Great Lakes Inter-Drain</b></p> <p><b>BRON</b></p> <p><b>Brown Bear Corp.</b></p> <p><b>Fratco, Inc.</b></p>	<p><b>Martin Equipment of Illinois</b></p> <p><b>Northland Trenching Equip.</b></p> <p><b>Port Industries, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Prinsco, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Roland Machinery Co.</b></p> <p><b>Schlatter's, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Springfield Plastics, Inc.</b></p> <p><b>Xylem, LTD.</b></p>
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*Also thanks to: Sunbelt Rentals*









## 2020 National Winter Convention March 7 - 9th · Harrah's Las Vegas

**Room Rate: March 7, 8, 9th**  
**\$179 per night (plus taxes & Fees)**  
 Hotel Reservations for the LICA Block at Harrahs will be available after Halloween.

**If you are staying for CONEXPO  
 (Tuesday, March 10th and on)**  
**You will book the remainder  
 of your stay via the CONEXPO link.**

**CONEXPO - CON/AGG**  
 March 10 - 14th  
 Registration opens July 23, 2019

Click below to register for CONEXPO:

<http://registration.experientevent.com/ShowCON201/Flow/ATTENDEE/?marketingcode=LICA>

**Be sure to register for CONEXPO by using this link ONLY. Anyone that registers via that link receive discounts on registration and education sessions.**

LICA CONEXPO Registration	Standard CONEXPO Price
\$95.00 if registered by January 17	\$54.00 off standard price of \$149.00
\$149.00 if registered by March 9	\$46.00 off standard price of \$195.00
\$179.00 during the show	\$70.00 off standard price of \$249

LICA Discounted Education Tickets	Standard CONEXPO Price Education Tickets
\$495.00 All Session Pass & USB	\$100.00 off standard price of \$595.00
\$345.00 All Session Pass	\$50.00 off standard price of \$395.00
\$175.00 Day Pass Package	\$20.00 off standard price of \$195.00
\$59.00 Single Tickets	\$10.00 off standard price of \$69.00



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Illinois

### Board of Directors Meeting

November 2, 2019

Cisco Fire Department - Cisco, IL  
 Committee meetings: 9:30 am - 1 pm  
 Board Meeting: 2 pm

### IDOT Trucking Regulations Workshops/ Area Members' Meetings

January 20-29, 2019

TBD (Statewide): Education, Benefits Update, FREE Meal

### 2020 ILICA Convention & Annual Mtg.

February 19-22, 2020

Crowne Plaza  
 3000 S Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield, IL 62703

## National

### 2020 LICA Winter Convention

March 7-9, 2020

Harrah's Las Vegas

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**ILICA CONVENTION & ANNUAL MTG.**

**FEB. 19-22 2020**

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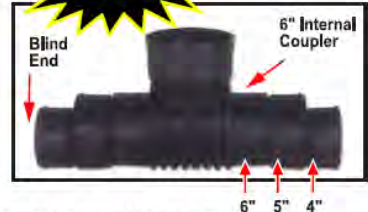
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# SAFETY FEATURE: EARTH MOVER SAFETY

Because of their size and mobility, earth movers present a host of unique risks on the jobsite. Moreover, when injuries occur in or around earth-moving machinery, they tend to be serious—and sometimes even fatal. To prevent accidents and injuries on the worksite, follow these safety guidelines.

### Plan Ahead to Prevent Accidents

Your commitment to safety begins before you even step into the driver’s seat. Thorough preparation and planning can greatly reduce your chance of accident or injury. Earth-moving machine operators should:

- Check the work area for hazards such as boulders, tree roots or overhead power lines. If power lines are present, maintain 10 feet of clearance at all times.
- Take note of ground conditions, especially if mud, snow, ice or surface water is present.
- Inspect your equipment prior to use. Look for loose or missing bolts or pins, oil or coolant leaks, and any signs of damage to wheels, tires, hydraulic systems or other moving parts.
- Check the brake system and brake lights to ensure they are fully operational.
- To ensure safe visibility, make sure the windshield and mirrors are free of dirt and debris.

### Safe Operating Procedures

Earth movers can cause serious damage if proper operating precautions are not followed:

- Stay seated with your seatbelt fastened at all times while operating the earth mover.
- Wear any and all required personal safety equipment, including safety glasses, gloves, helmet, ear protection and proper footwear.
- Do not exceed manufacturer’s recommended load limits.
- Avoid sharp turns on uneven terrain, which can cause the vehicle to become unsteady and potentially flip over.

### General Safety Policies

- Make sure all earth-moving vehicles are equipped with rollover protection.
- Maintain back-up alarms for equipment with limited rear visibility.
- Train workers to stay clear of backing or turning vehicles with rotating cabs.

- Verify that all machine operators have proper training and experience.

If you have any questions or concerns about earth mover safety, do not hesitate to contact your supervisor. Your safety is the first priority.



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

### Employee Participants

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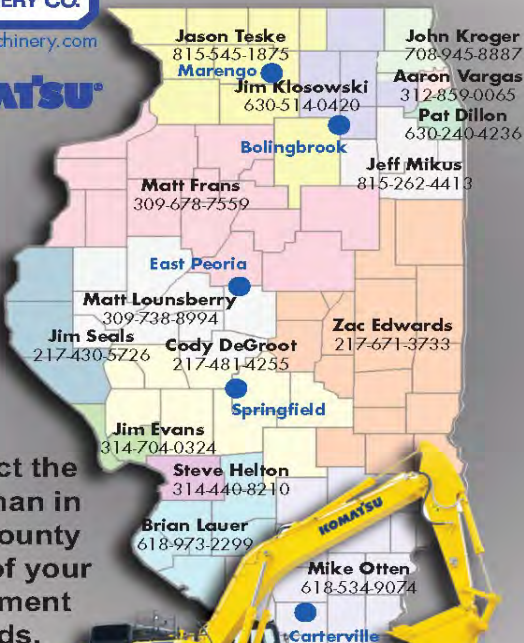


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