

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

January - February 2024

Past President

Steve Anderson

President

Eric Layden

Vice President

Jon SeEVERS

First Vice President

Tyler Seals

Executive Secretary

Ryan Arch

Treasurer

Lee Bunting

Associate Director

David Randolph

Executive Director

Ryan Arch

Directors

Area 1

Brian Brooks

Area 2

Steve Anderson

Stuart Anderson

Area 3

Joe Streitmatter

Grant Curtis

Area 4

David Kennedy

Lee Bunting

Area 5

Rick Maguire

Area 6

Bill Dean

Scott Day

Area 7

John Barttelbort

Area 8

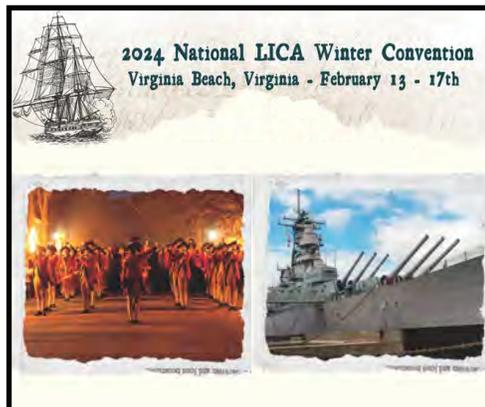
Tom Beyers

Tyler Seals



ILLINOIS LICA CONVENTION & MEMBERS' MTG. FEB. 1-3, 2024

(page 16)



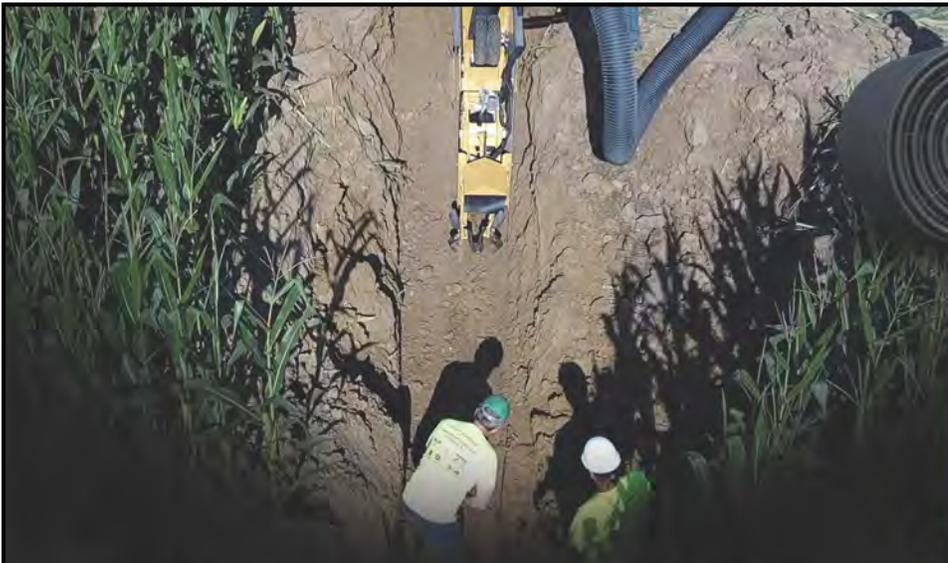
NATIONAL LICA WINTER CONVENTION FEB. 13-17, 2024

(page 24)

Also Featured Inside:

- ▶ Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act to Take Effect Jan. 1, 2024 (page 6)
- ▶ ILICA: More in Store for 2024 (page 9)
- ▶ Hypoxia Task Force Releases 2023 Report to Congress (page 10)

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



WE'RE WITH YOU IN THE TRENCHES.

SPRINGFIELD PLASTICS, INC. IS RIGHT THERE WITH YOU to ensure every job goes smoothly and the quality of our drainage tile lines up with the high quality of your work.

Only Springfield Plastics uses **100% VIRGIN RESIN** in our tile, so you can count on the highest-quality, most consistent tile available.

HEAVY, DURABLE TILE AND FITTINGS

NO CRACKS, SOFT SPOTS, OR BLOWOUTS

INTEGRITY THROUGHOUT THE PIPE

For a drainage tile supplier that will support you through the entire project, talk to Springfield Plastics.



800-252-3361 • spipipe.com

Schlatter's Inc.

Intelligent Water Management™



Drainage Plows
GPS Machine Control
Design Software
Custom Fabrication



Since 1952 16179 W 500 S
Francesville, IN 47946
(219) 567-9158
www.SchlattersInc.com



OUR NEW CATALOGS HAVE ARRIVED!



THE COMPLETE LINE OF HICKENBOTTOM PRODUCTS

REQUEST YOUR COPY ONLINE AT HICKENBOTTOMINC.COM OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER

Hickenbottom Inc.
LOOK FOR THE BRIGHT ORANGE INLET - HICKENBOTTOM'S TRADEMARK

The ILICA News



Editor / Advertising Manager
Ryan Arch

Past President
Steve Anderson, Marseilles

President
Eric Layden, Hoopeston

Vice President
Jon Seevers, Argenta

1st Vice President
Tyler Seals, Mt. Carmel

Executive Secretary
Ryan Arch, Galva

Treasurer
Lee Bunting, Dwight

Educational Advisor
Professor Richard Cooke
University of Illinois

The *ILICA News* is the official publication of Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc. at 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2, Galva, IL 61434. (309) 932-1230.

Subscription price is \$50.00/year, issued bi-monthly: Jan.-Feb.; Mar.-Apr.; May-June; July-Aug.; Sept.-Oct.; Nov.-Dec., and also includes one annual directory.

FEATURES

Illinois Paid Leave for All Works Act to Take Effect January 1, 2024 6

ILICA: More in Store for 2024 9

Hypoxia Task Force Releases 2023 Report to Congress 10

2024 ILICA Annual Convention & Members' Meeting 16

2024 National LICA Winter Meeting 24

COLUMNS

President's Message 4

2023 Board & Members' Meeting Schedule & Attendance 5

New Members 5

ILICA Ladies' Page: Tips for Decluttering Your House This Winter. 12

ILICA Trivia 26

Calendar of Events 27

Advertiser Index 27

Featured LICA Benefit: FREE Convention Registration for New Members. 28

Safety Feature: Hazards of Winter Work - Cold Stress 30

Northland Trenching Equipment, LLC

"We are the largest volume supplier for this type of equipment in the US"

 TRIMBLE GPS SYSTEMS



The Inter-Drain plow, three types, double link, single cantilever, or single link, each in three sizes. Cat, Cummins or Volvo power. Offset available.



Inter-Drain
Plows & Trenchers



The Inter-Drain chain trencher. Four size choices, mechanical or hydraulic chain drive, vertical and offset available. Cummins, Volvo or Cat power.

 FULL SERVICE AND REBUILDS

 HUGE PARTS INVENTORY

Corporate Office
12929 410th Avenue
Waseca, MN 56093
Phone: (507) 835-4214
Fax: (507) 835-2032

Eastern Division - Indiana
3578 North State Road 59
Brazil, IN 47834
Phone: (812) 835-2900
Fax: (812) 835-2535

Email: nte@hickorytech.net
www.northlandtrenching.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I want to start out this new year by personally thanking you for your membership with ILICA. I continue to feel honored to lead this wonderful organization into 2024. In a world where people are more and more reluctant to join

trade organizations, ILICA is still growing. We maintain our organization's original objectives to "encourage high standards of workmanship in resource management and land improvement practices and to promote private enterprise in land improvement contracting." We are here for you. We want you to get the most out of your membership. Do you get the Legislative updates from National LICA via email? Have you emailed the National LICA office and acquired your login for the LICA Safety Portal where you can get all sorts of downloadable safety information? This can be shared with the crew in the form of "tailgate talks" or used to update your company's safety manuals. You have access to free legal advise, health insurance, business insurance, and a whole lot more.

As your president, I get a seat at the National board meetings held during Summer and Winter Conventions. I get to proudly read our Illinois State Chapter Report, listing all the things we were involved with this past year. I want you to know that ILICA is a standout nationally year in and year out. Our land improvement projects, educational outreach, industry partnerships, and strong committee structure impress all the other states represented. ILICA has lots of committees. You don't need to be a director to be a member of one of our many committees. Most all committee meetings are organized using Zoom meetings and don't require travel. Lots of business gets settled via email. You should think about helping us out by joining a committee today. New people bring new ideas, and

this is what steers an organization forward. More members are going to need to step up and help lead this organization in the future. This is the only way we will continue to thrive as we are today. We are the only chapter of LICA in the nation with a full-time Executive Director and assistant. Ryan and Michelle are here to help you navigate through your membership benefits. Give them a call. They would be happy to provide information about upcoming events or to answer whatever questions you may have about your membership to this great organization.

As you know by now, I use this newsletter article to promote this organization's benefits and encourage more membership participation. Two of the best LICA events of the year are upon us. Please join us for our Illinois LICA Annual Convention and Members' Meeting on Jan. 31-Feb 3rd at the Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, IA. If you are wondering why we are having our IL state convention in Iowa, it is because our trade show has so many exhibitors that we are limited as to where we can hold this event. There isn't another industry specific trade show in the state like it. With free trade show admission again this year, there's no reason not to join us. National LICA Winter Convention will be held Feb. 13-17 in Virginia Beach, VA. I strongly encourage you to join us for this event as well. Come see how Illinois LICA stands out on a national stage. We have one of the most successful state chapters in the country. Please help us represent Illinois this February in Virginia Beach; doesn't sound so bad right now.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Winter is here. Continue to work safely if you are still at it. Winter brings all sorts of challenges.

Best of luck my friends,

Eric Layden



MAURER-STUTZ
ENGINEERS SURVEYORS

Conservation Engineering Services

- State and Federal Permitting Assistance
- Familiarity with NRCS Conservation Practice Standards
- NRCS Technical Service Provider (TSP)

Contact Gayle Baker, PE
309.693.7615

3116 N. Dries Lane, Suite 100 • Peoria, IL 61604 • mslutz.com



BERNS, CLANCY AND ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS • PLANNERS

WEB: www.bernsclancy.com

<p>405 EAST MAIN STREET POST OFFICE BOX 755 URBANA, ILLINOIS 61803-0755 PHONE: 217 - 384 - 1144 FAX: 217 - 384 - 3355</p>	<p>101 THORNTON BUILDING 28 WEST NORTH STREET DANVILLE, ILLINOIS 61832-5729 PHONE: 217 - 431 - 1144 FAX: 217 - 431 - 2929</p>
---	---

NEW MEMBERS

Associates

BigIron

Kolby Henness

PO Box 111
 1066 E. US Hwy 136
 Hamilton, IL 62341
 Ph: 217-430-1220

Email: kolby.mcclelland@bigiron.com

Pinion

Michael Ropp

8801 Renner Blvd., Ste. 100
 Lenexa, KS 66219
 Ph: 319-350-2681

Email: michael.ropp@pinionglobal.com

Website: pinionglobal.com

2023 BOARD MEMBER MTG. ATTENDANCE

	A = absent		P = present		C = cancelled meeting	
Area / Director	Jan	March	May	June	Sep	Nov
Pres: Eric Layden	P	P	P	P	P	P
VP: Jon Seevers	P	P	P	P	P	P
1st VP: Tyler Seals	P	A	P	P	A	A
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P	P	P	P	P	A
Area 2 - Steve Anderson	P	A	P	A	P	P
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	P	P	P	A	A	P
Area 3 - Grant Curtis	P	A	A	A	A	A
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	A	A	P	A
Area 4 - David Kennedy	P	A	P	P	A	A
Area 4 - Lee Bunting	P	P	P	P	P	P
Area 5 - Rick Maguire	—	P	P	A	A	P
Area 6 - Scott Day	P	P	A	A	A	P
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	A	P	P	P	A
Area 7 - John Barttelbort	—	A	A	A	P	A
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	P	P	P	P	P	P
Area 8 - Tyler Seals	P	A	P	P	A	A
Associate Director: David Randolph	P	A	A	A	P	A

BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Feb. 3, 2024 - Final Regular Meeting of the Board & Member's Meeting:
 Isle Casino Hotel, Bettendorf, IA

March 9, 2024 - Regular Meeting of the Board:
 TBD

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



HYDRAMAXX

www.PortIndustries.com

(573) 769-3338

HydramaxxSales@portind.com

Trimble
 Authorized Dealer

ILLINOIS PAID LEAVE FOR ALL WORKERS ACT TO TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2024

Employee Benefits, Employment Policies and Procedures, Illinois
by Anthony J. Caruso Jr. & John D. Simmons, *Wessels Sherman*

On March 13, 2023, the Paid Leave for All Workers Act was signed by Governor J.B. Pritzker to take effect on January 1, 2024.

What employers are covered under the new law? Private and public employers with at least one employee. Also includes State of Illinois, local governments, and political subdivision employers.

What employers are NOT covered?

- Construction industry with collective bargaining agreement and related defined activities under the Act. Also, includes snow plowing and removal and refuse collection.
- Employers covered under paid leave/sick pay ordinances enacted before this law. For example, this would include the City of Chicago Sick Pay Ordinance and/or Cook County Sick Pay Ordinance with municipalities opt-in.

What employees are covered?

- All Illinois workers to include full-time, part-time, seasonable, or temporary workers whether salaried exempt or hourly.

What employees are NOT covered?

- College/university student employees or employees on temporary/short term basis as defined in the act.

What does the Law require employers to do?

- Paid leave for any reason to covered employees beginning January 1, 2024 or when employment begins, whichever is later.
- The amount of leave must accrue with at least one hours of paid leave for every 40 hours worked for up to 40 hours of paid leave for every 12-month period. This accrual counts all time that an employee actually works, including overtime hours, but does not include time when the employee is on paid or unpaid leave or otherwise non-compensable time.

◇ EXAMPLE: Employee A works 15 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Employee A is entitled to accrue 19.5 hours of paid leave annually. (15 times 52 = 780 hours worked per year. 780 divided by 40 = 19.5 hours of paid leave time).

◇ EXAMPLE: Employee B works 50 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Employee B is entitled to accrue at least 40 hours of paid leave annually. Employee B's employer may choose to provide more than 40 hours, but is not required to do so.

◇ EXAMPLE: Employee C is paid on a salary basis and qualifies for the "administrative" exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Employee C's office hours are regularly 37.5 hours per week, but in some weeks, this employee's work hours may be fewer or more, depending on workload. Employee C's employer requires employees to earn paid leave via accrual. Employee C's paid leave shall accrue on the basis of 37.5 hours per week, even in weeks when they work fewer hours.

- Accrual method: paid leave can be earned on a pro-rata basis with carryover, up to a maximum of 80 hours carried over. If the paid leave is front-loaded to the employee in at least the total 40 hour minimum, then no carryover is required.
- Upon separation of employment, the employer is NOT required to pay employees for earned/unused leave. However, if paid leave under the act is comingled into a common leave pool with vacation paid leave, sick paid leave, or any other form of paid leave, then it has to be paid out in the same measure as those other forms of leave. Best practice is to keep distinct books tracking any variable types of paid leave, and letting employees opt which type of paid leave they are utilizing.
- Upon re-hire of employee within one year of separation, employer must reinstate to the employee any earned but not-used paid leave.
- Penalties: If an employee is owed paid leave and disallowed from using it, the penalties are: the actual value of the disallowed leave, compensatory damages, a fine of between \$500 and \$1000, equitable relief, and a penalty to the Illinois Department of Labor of \$2,500 per offense.

What does the Law provide for Employees?

- 90-day waiting period prior to use of paid leave. This waiting period can be applied to both accrual and frontloaded paid leave.
- Request for paid leave can be oral or written for any reason. The employee is NOT required to provide documentation.

- The Employee must give Notice to the Employer
- If foreseeable – 7 calendar days.
- If not foreseeable – – as soon as practicable.
- The amount of pay under the leave is the employee’s hourly rate plus tips and gratuities under the Act. The Act has special provisions for domestic workers.
- No waiver of employee’s rights under the act can be required by the employer. It is against public policy under the Act.
- No retaliation by the employer against employee for taking leave.
- The employer CANNOT require an employee to secure a replacement while on leave.
- The employer can change the 12-month period with written notice to employees.
- The employer MUST allow leave in increments, which the employer can set to no greater than a 2 hour minimum increment, and only if the scheduled workday is more than two hours. If the employee’s scheduled workday is less than two hours, they may restrict the amount of paid leave used per day to the equivalent of the scheduled workday.
- The employer MUST post a poster of the law which is provided by the Illinois Department of Labor.
- The Employer MUST maintain records for at least three years on paid leave.
- The Employer MUST provide notice to employees of amounts earned and used on the accrual pro-rata basis.

Denial of Paid Leave Requests:

- Must be provided in a “reasonable, written paid leave policy, made available in English and in any additional language commonly spoken by the employer’s workforce that, at a minimum, includes the protections of the Act and is consistent with the provisions of the Act. A written paid leave policy, other than a qualifying pre-existing policy, that is inconsistent with the Act is invalid, and an employer with such a policy waives its right to notice of employee’s use of paid leave time.”
- The policy can be part of an employer manual, employer handbook, or a separate document.
- Grounds for denial:
 - ◊ The employer’s policy for considering leave has been disclosed in writing; AND
 - ◊ The policy establishes certain limited circumstances in

which paid leave may be denied in order to meet the employer’s core operational needs for the requested time period. In considering whether an employee’s request may be denied based on operational needs, relevant factors include:

- * Whether the employer provides a need or service critical to the health, safety, or welfare of the people of Illinois; and
 - * Whether similarly situated employees are treated the same for the purposes of reviewing, approving, and denying paid leave; and
 - * Whether granting leave during a particular time period would significantly impact the business operations due to the employer’s size; and
 - * Whether the employee has adequate opportunity to use all paid leave time they are entitled to over a 12-month period.
- ◊ The employer must provide to the employee and maintain a record of each request which is denied and the employer’s reason for the denial.

Best practice recommendations for Employers:

- Check with payroll 3rd party vendor as to a separate employee account for paid leave.
- Decide on the type of company policy to comply with the law: PTO policy or self-contained Paid Leave Act policy.
- Decide on accrual method: front loaded OR accrual/pro rata based on hours worked.

Questions? Contact attorney Anthony J. Caruso, Jr in our St. Charles office at (630) 377-1554 or by [email](#).



REMINDER: Questions of about paid leave, employment law, personnel problems related to employment, and more can be addressed via Wessels Sherman’s attorney telephone consultation program — an exclusive Illinois LICA member benefit at no cost to you. If your questions cannot be answered under the phone program, and/or if additional legal work needs to be performed, you will be billed for said work. Learn more: <https://www.illica.net/discounts-services>

CONSERVATION CROPPING
20  **24**
 SEMINARS



Managing your inputs for healthy soils

Join us to learn about

Nutrient Efficiency
 New upcoming technologies
 Strip-till / No-till

Regenerative Ag Systems
 Networking
 Conservation Cropping Systems

January 31st, 2024 - 9AM (CST)
 Hybrid Event-In-Person & Virtual - CEUs Available!
 Illinois Department of Agriculture - Springfield, IL

Registration Deadline is Jan. 24, 2024 — <https://www.ccsxcd.com/conservation-cropping-seminars>



Have you renewed your
LICA ADVANTAGE?

Renew Today!

← illica.net/members-only

ILICA: MORE IN STORE FOR 2024



With the close of 2023, we could dedicate pages and pages of this newsletter issue to all the activities, all the benefits, all the knowledge, all the relationships, and all the

stories that Illinois LICA has shared with its members this past year. Our “Association Management 101” training, however, reminds us of the value of investing more time looking forward and planning for the future of the Association and our members rather than reflecting on our past endeavors. (Besides, if you are an avid reader of this newsletter, you’re already up to speed on our recapped events.) With this in mind, Illinois LICA is excited to share that we have “More in Store for 2024.”

The new year’s calendar is already filling up with opportunities for you to join us (in-person & virtually) to really leverage your membership to meet your personal and/or company needs. We want to give you a New Year’s challenge right out of the gate...tap into one!

Check out the 2024 Annual Convention

Illinois LICA’s largest single event of the year, our Annual Convention is just around the corner on February 1-3 and serves as more than just the chance to influence the direction of the Association through the election of officers and leadership. It’s the best time to get out and to socialize with other members from across the state, to engage on meaningful topics that impact our industry, to chat with our Associate members about their products and services, and to GAMBLE! Okay, the last part is on your own (and not specifically endorsed nor funded by Illinois LICA), but the casino floor is just around the corner if you like betting on red. Plus, everyone registered for convention is entered into a chance to win \$500 cash! So, that’s like gambling but with way better odds. Let me explain in more detail why you need to be there:

- “I am a new member that joined in 2023. Why should I come? I don’t know any other members yet.”
 - Because it’s FREE to you! No gimmicks; totally free ALL 3 days including meals, education, trade show, and entertainment (minus the gambling part, remember). And it is hands-down the best way to meet other members; hence why it’s offered as a new member benefit (see page 28)...now you are starting to put it together!
- “I’ve been a member for years and have never been to a convention. What’s in it for me?”
 - See third paragraph above...weren't you paying attention?! Seriously, though, you will meet new

people and lifelong friends. You will come away with several new ideas, approaches, services, and/or products that you can apply to your company the following day that will have a serious impact on how you do business going forward. You will help change the industry (read about the “One Call, One Life” session on page 18 and plan on having your voice heard). You will help bring recognition to those that have given the most to the Association over the last year at the Awards Banquet. You will stay up too late in a hospitality room (thank you sponsors!). You will lose money on red...let’s be honest on that one, too. When you do, though, and if you somehow do so before you have registered for convention, we’ve got you covered. The trade show is FREE during certain hours each day. So, you really don’t have an excuse not to come! Plus, if you’re the lucky winner of the \$500 cash prize drawing that all registrants are eligible to win, then you could even head back to the Casino for a chance to win back or double your money.

Hang out at a Social Event

Every year, Illinois LICA hosts numerous social events and activities across the state. This year will be no different with dates already on the calendar for the summer picnic and Area 6 and Area 3 golf outings and trap shoots. Are these long-standing events not your “cup-of-tea?” Let us know how you like it served, and we’ll make it happen; members only perk.

Come Learn Something for Once

Illinois LICA hosts more events for members (and non-members) to find the education and training they need than we do events just to hang out...but there’s nothing to say you can’t do both between sessions or over a meal while your in town. The first two months of this year are already scheduled with virtual septic training opportunities, convention sessions, and other items in-the-works. During this summer, hands-on, in-field training is a guaranteed chance for your company to learn more about different conservation practices, equipment technology, and construction methods during our field days and demonstrations. Haven’t been to an education training or demonstration with Illinois LICA lately? Ever? You’re missing serious, targeting industry training at little to no cost to you. And remember, all your company employees get member pricing, not just the individual listed in the Illinois LICA directory. Is the education content offered by Illinois LICA “not tickling your fancy?” Tell us what you and your employees need. Our Association has the resources and is nimble enough through our committee structure to meet your needs. After all, that’s our promise to YOU...so let’s get back to our challenge. Can you promise US that you’ll tap into at least one of the opportunities curated for you in 2024?

HYPOXIA TASK FORCE RELEASES 2023 REPORT TO CONGRESS



The Hypoxia Task Force recently released its 2023 Report to Congress. The report describes progress made through activities directed by the Task Force toward attainment of the goals of the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan 2008. This is the fourth Report to Congress since 2015.

The Task Force – EPA, its federal partners, Tribes, and 12 states along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers – has taken steps to reduce the size of the Gulf’s dead zone and will continue to work together to address this extraordinary environmental challenge. The Task Force is focused on implementing EPA’s new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Gulf Hypoxia Program, which provides \$60M over 5 years to implement the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan. The Task Force is continuing to identify the highest priority nutrient source areas for conservation treatment, as well as estimating nutrient load reductions to help target resources to improve water quality for communities in the basin.

Below is the **Executive Summary** of the report:

“The Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2014 (HABHRCA) directs the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, through the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force (Hypoxia Task Force or HTF), to submit a progress report to the appropriate congressional committees and the President beginning no later than 12 months after the law’s enactment, and biennially thereafter.

This 2023 fourth Report to Congress describes progress made toward the goals of the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan 2008 (Action Plan; USEPA 2008) through activities directed by or coordinated with the HTF and carried out or funded by EPA and other HTF members. This report provides updates since the [2019/2021 Report to Congress](#),

including federal and state actions and newly published science advancements.

This report is organized consistent with the structure of HABHRCA section 604(b):

- The HTF and an Assessment of Progress Made Toward Nutrient Load Reductions (Part 1)
- The Response of the Hypoxic Zone and Water Quality Throughout the Mississippi/Atchafalaya River Basin (MARB) (Part 2)
- The Economic and Social Effects of the Hypoxic Zone (Part 3)
- Lessons Learned (Part 4)
- Recommended Appropriate Actions to Continue to Implement or, if Necessary, Revise the Strategy Set Forth in the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan 2008 (Part 5)

The HTF, its partners, and the scientific community have advanced the understanding of the hypoxic zone and many of the upstream, land-based factors that contribute to its annual formation. This report includes a summary of the current scientific understanding of projected climate change impacts on the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf), the status of the hypoxic zone in the Northern Gulf, and the delivery of nutrients to the Gulf from the MARB. HTF members continue to advance the scientific understanding of key topics including nutrient load quantification; nutrient source, fate, and transport in the MARB and to the Gulf; the resource response of the hypoxic zone and water quality throughout the MARB; and the economic and social effects of excess nutrients.

The HTF remains committed to its 2035 goal of reducing the 5-year average areal extent of the hypoxic zone in the Gulf to less than 5,000 square kilometers by 2035, with an interim target for reducing total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) loads by 20 percent by the year 2025. The [2019/2021 Report to Congress](#) noted that recent science confirms that strategies to reduce both nitrogen and phosphorus by 48 percent are needed to meet the HTF’s 2035 goal; that finding is reiterated in Section 4.2 of this

Report. Progress to date on reducing nitrogen loads has been strong; the Task Force has met its 2025 interim target to reduce total nitrogen loads by 20 percent. However, total phosphorus loads have increased. More work is needed to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus by 48 percent to meet the HTF's 2035 goal.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Public Law 117-58, also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provides a critical investment in strategies to improve water quality in the MARB and the Gulf and reduce the northern Gulf hypoxic zone. The IIJA includes \$12 million per year during federal fiscal years 2022–26 (\$60 million in total) for EPA to support implementation of the Action Plan. These funds provide equal support to the 12 HTF member states for development and implementation of their nutrient reduction strategies, with funding supporting the tribes with land in the 12 HTF state area of the MARB and other Action Plan partners. With the IIJA, all HTF states have the opportunity to upgrade their municipal wastewater treatment infrastructure with billions in additional investment through the CWA State Revolving Loan funds; some HTF states have also used support from EPA under the American Recovery and Reinvestment to upgrade municipal wastewater treatment plants. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Public Law 117-169, provides for significant investment in nutrient reduction activities on private lands, with \$19.5 billion nationally for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service to support climate-smart agriculture, including improving nutrient management opportunities. With this funding, USDA will target lands in need of conservation treatment, increase program flexibilities, launch a new outreach campaign, and expand partnerships to develop and improve nutrient management plans; in the MARB these funds will support Action Plan goals.

Accelerated implementation of nutrient reduction strategies throughout the MARB continues to be the HTF's primary path forward. In addition to the IIJA and IRA funding noted above, the work of the HTF is supported by technical and financial support from federal HTF members, including support through Farm Bill Conservation Programs, the Clean Water Act, the Water Resources Development Act, and other authorities and programs, with active participation by private sector, nongovernmental, and

other partners and stakeholders. The HTF engages a wide range of partners in the public and private sectors. As states and tribes implement their nutrient reduction strategies, they work with diverse groups including universities, agricultural associations, business councils, conservation organizations, municipalities, wastewater utilities, nonprofits, and private foundations.

The HTF continues to identify the highest priority nutrient source areas for conservation treatment using tools to target priority watersheds, inventory existing conservation practices, and estimate nutrient load reduction to help target scarce resources. The HTF is working to communicate successes to producers and their networks of trusted advisors to further build support for conservation investments. The HTF is sharing [stories of success](#) and acknowledging remaining challenges with the public. Better communication and engagement with the public is essential to sustaining and expanding the HTF's work.

This Report to Congress is one important tool for describing the HTF's progress toward reducing nutrient loads to the northern Gulf, amplifying state summaries of progress, sharing lessons learned in implementing nutrient reduction strategies, and adaptively managing strategies for improving water quality in the Gulf. “

The full report may be accessed via the USEPA website at: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-11/10305_2023-btf-report-to-congress_508.pdf.

Portions of this article contain excerpts from the “Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force Newsletter:” https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-11/hypoxia-task-force-newsletter-special-issue-november-2023_508.pdf

ILICA Ladies' Page



As it becomes winter and temperatures outside begin to drop, many of us will take shelter from the cold in the warmth of our homes. Not only is this extra time inside the perfect opportunity to snuggle up with a blanket and a hot drink; it's the perfect opportunity to declutter your home! And by decluttering now, you'll get a head start on cleaning before you entertain guests for the holidays. In this post, we offer some tips for cleaning and organizing your house this winter!

Start Small

Decluttering your entire home can be a daunting task. If you're feeling overwhelmed, remember that you don't have to tackle an entire room at once. Break each room down into sections—the closet, the chest of drawers, underneath the bed—and treat each section as a separate project. This allows you to clearly see the work that needs to be done and approach it in an organized way.

It can also be beneficial to begin a day of decluttering with the smallest project you plan to do that day. This way you can swiftly check something off of your to-do list, leaving you with a well-deserved feeling of accomplishment and motivating you to keep going.

Divide Your Time

Remember that you don't have to declutter your entire home in a day. By cleaning different rooms on different days, you'll make steady progress (and you'll avoid feeling like you're tearing your house apart!). To make decluttering even more manageable, divide a room into a few separate projects and tackle one each day.

Use Bins And Labels

Decluttering involves more than just getting rid of items you don't use. It also involves organizing what you have left. Using

bins with labels makes it easy to find what you're looking for and maximizes your space.

Organizational containers come in a wide range of shapes and sizes to fit every storage space, from drawers to cabinets to closets. And if you feel like getting creative, many are easy and fun to DIY. (Discover more organizational tips in this blog post!)

Get The Whole Household Involved

Getting your family involved not only makes the decluttering process more efficient; it also makes it a lot more fun! If you have children, assign them small projects. Many kids enjoy being given responsibilities, and it's beneficial for them to develop teamwork and organizational skills from an early age.

Older kids and teenagers, for example, can go through their old toys and games and decide what they no longer need. Kids can even help organize a yard sale if you choose to sell unused items. By working together, the whole family can share in the feeling of satisfaction of having completed a project. So get the family together, put on some music, and get to work!

Donate Or Sell

Give back to your community and the environment by donating unused items. Donating not only benefits recipients who may otherwise not have access to those items, but also benefits the earth by reducing waste and giving unused items a second life. If you decide to sell your unused items, consider donating part of the profits to a charity whose mission you care about.

Get Help

While these tips make it easier to declutter your home, it's still a time- and energy-consuming task. And whether you'd still like to tackle it by yourself or if you'd prefer someone else did it for you, the Everyday Helper is here to assist you.

Not only can the Everyday Helper help you with cleaning and organizing your home; we also offer errand running, personal assistance, child transportation, dog walking, pet sitting, and senior companion services. By taking over any of these tasks, we give you back free time. And, if you have something else in mind that you'd like help with, we'd love to talk and see if we can make it happen!

Takeaways

Decluttering your home is a great way to spend time indoors this winter. While it is a huge project that requires a substantial investment of time and energy, the returns to you, your family, and your community are invaluable. And with help from the Everyday Helper, decluttering your home this season is totally achievable!

Source: Reprinted with permission from Kelly Sedlacek, Everyday Helper - <https://youreverydayhelper.com/tips-for-decluttering-your-house-this-winter/>

Bulk mulch available!

309-654-2261
www.xylemltd.com
 Cordova, IL 61242

XYLEM^{LTD.}

Quality wood chips for bioreactors!

“The World’s Best Heavy-Duty Lubricants”™

CEN-PE-CO LUBRICANTS

“Our customers consistently tell us that Cen-Pe-Co Lubricants save them both time and money”.

- 🔥 **CEN-PE-CO ENGINE OIL** - Longer drain interval protection, better fuel economy, less wear.
- 🔥 **CEN-PE-CO MULTI-PURPOSE HYDRAULIC OIL** - Runs cooler, better system performance, longer hose life.
- 🔥 **CEN-PE-CO SYNTHO LUBE AND MEGA MOLY GREASES** - “Stay Put”, resist wash out, last longer.
- 🔥 **CEN-PE-CO HY-TORQUE GEAR LUBRICANTS** - Lowers working temperature, maximum protection.
- 🔥 **CEN-PE-CO FUEL ADDITIVES** - Boost Power, improve fuel economy, lubricate, increase cetane, formulated for bio-diesel blends, all weather protection.

SAVE MONEY WITH CEN-PE-CO!



American-Made Since 1911



Central Petroleum Company

Cleveland, OH Walcott, IA

1-800-341-1616

LARRY BAYER
 IL REGIONAL MANAGER
larrybayer@gmail.com
www.cenpeco.com

When Heavy-Duty Protection Counts - CEN-PE-CO is the Best Choice



Quality Products...Unequaled Service

Over 50 years of manufacturing and supplying corrugated metal pipe and related highway drainage products.

Havana, IL Office (309) 543-2271
Monmouth, IL Office (309) 734-4113
Corporate Office (800) 735-7312

Email: sales@metalculverts.com
www.metalculverts.com

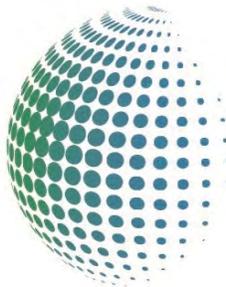
1807 179th St North
East Moline, IL 61244
(309) 751-9540

120 East Martin Dr
Goodfield, IL 61742
(309) 965-3300



Vermeer[®]
Midwest

WWW.VERMEERMIDWEST.COM



ENVISION
INSURANCE GROUP

Four Area Locations to Serve You

PEORIA • (309) 683-1100
1616 W Pioneer Parkway
Peoria, IL 61615

MORTON • (309) 263-2400
150 B S Main St.
Morton, IL 61550

GALESBURG • (309) 343-1168
456 E Main St.
Galesburg, IL 61401

DECATUR • (217) 422-5000
225 S Main St.
Suite 300, Decatur, IL 62523

Business & Personal Insurance • Life & Health • Benefits • Bonding



REMINDER:

FREE Classified Listings for Contractors!

Contact the ILICA Office for More Info: 309.932.1230



Scan to see our commitment to supporting Illinois contractors.

We keep business flowing.

With historically high prices for corn and soybeans, there has never been a better time to reinvest in land. Together with drainage contractors across Illinois, ADS products and solutions help farmers improve yields, increase farmable acres and create sustainable water management solutions to ensure the long-term success of their operation.

ADS®, the ADS logo and the Green Stripe are registered trademarks of Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
© 2021 Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. 03/21

///ADS[™]
Our reason is water.[™]



Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association

2024 Annual Convention & Members' Meeting

Save \$100

Register before Jan. 5th and get early bird pricing!



REGISTER ONLINE

**Septic Installers,
Pumpers, &
Technicians
3.0 Hrs. CEUs**

***Attention*
New Contractor
Members**

Convention registration is FREE with your first year of membership!

A promotional graphic for the convention. It features a red and white striped awning at the top. On the left is the Illinois LICA logo. In the center, it says "ILICA has FOR 2024 MORE IN STORE FOR 2024" above an illustration of a worker in a hard hat and safety vest standing in front of a store with a red and white striped awning. To the right, it says "Each registrant entered to win: \$500 CASH PRIZE DRAWING". Below the store illustration is a blue banner that says "February 1-3 Bettendorf, IA". At the bottom, it reads "Illinois LICA's ANNUAL CONVENTION".

February 1 - 3, 2024

Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf

1800 Isle Pkwy, Bettendorf, IA 52722

"ILICA has More in Store for 2024," and we are excited for you to attend our first, big event of the year. The 2024 Illinois LICA Annual Convention & Members' Meeting has a full agenda including a pre-tour, member company focused education sessions, septic license CEU training, trade show (35+ vendors), awards banquet, evening entertainment, and hospitality opportunities galore. Join us for the 2024 Illinois LICA Annual Convention and see what we have "in store" for you.

ILLINOIS

CHAPTER

Land Improvement Contractors
of America**LICA**DEDICATED TO PROFESSIONAL
CONSTRUCTION OF
LCA & ILICCA

Convention Agenda

Wednesday, January 31

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Registration

3 pm; 4 pm; 4:30 pm

Convention, Nomination, Awards Comm. Mtgs.

Thursday, February 1

6:30 am - 4:00 pm

Registration

6:30 am - 8:00 am

Breakfast

7:30 am - 12:00 pm

Pre-Tour: John Deere Davenport Works Factory Tour

Jump on the bus with other members to head down the road to tour John Deere's Davenport Works facility where skidders, wheeled feller-bunchers, four-wheel-drive loaders, articulated dump trucks and motor graders are made (long pants, closed toe shoes, photo ID required).

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Septic Training

Installers, pumpers, and portable sanitation technicians receive 3 CEUs from this inclusive training provided by Doug Ebelherr, Contractor Training Store.

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Ladies Activity

Join the ILICA Ladies for in-house crafts and activities.

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Morning Break

12:00 pm

Welcome Luncheon

Convention committee chairman welcome and new member recognition.

Thursday, February 1 (Continued)

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

FREE Trade Show + Silent Auction

Visit over 35 industry vendors and chat with Associate members to check out all their latest equipment, technology, and product offerings.

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Afternoon Break

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Hospitality Hour

Speculate over the 2023 award recipients with a drink.

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Awards Banquet

Help us recognize those individuals and entities that have contributed so much to the Association over the past year during this formal event. Friends and family welcome.

8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Entertainment: Mind Reader Mark Toland

After the awards banquet, brace yourself for an unforgettable journey into the unknown, full of psychological illusions and mind blowing feats from mind reader Mark Toland.

9:00 pm - 1:00 am

Associate Hospitality Room

Before you turn in for the night, pop on in to the Associate Hospitality Room to congratulate the 2023 award winners one more time. We know they would appreciate it!

Friday, February 2

7:00 am - 4:00 pm

Registration

7:00 am - 8:30 am

Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:00 am

Devotions

Jump start your morning with scripture, testimony, and hymns.

Friday, February 2 (Continued)

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

FREE Trade Show + Silent Auction

Take advantage of your last opportunity to visit over 35 industry vendors and get in on the silent auction action before it closes!

10:30 am - 10:45 am

Morning Break

12:00 pm

Luncheon

1:00 pm

Associates Committee Meeting

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Ladies Activity

Join the ILICA Ladies as they day trip around the local area touring shops, historical buildings, and more.

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

JULIE Proposed Law Changes

Learn about the details and status of the proposed JULIE law amendments and how they impact your business.

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

One Call, One Life: Case Study & Industry Dialogue

Hear from member Mark Shortz about a recent line strike incident and join us in strengthening the one-call utilities locate process and results through open dialogue and shared experiences with industry representatives.

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Afternoon Break

Grab a sweet treat at the ice cream social.

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

LaunchPoint SiteRight App

Explore the LaunchPoint SiteRight App benefit and how this tool can reduce your company's risk through job site documentation of locate marks, utilities, safety hazards, and more. Be sure to bring your phones to this step-by-step demonstration from ELM LaunchPoint's Andrew Stanley.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Tax Updates

Get all the latest tax & accounting updates from Dustin Courson, Courson & Associates.

Friday, February 2 (Continued)

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Hospitality Hour

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Dinner & Trivia Challenge

Gather up your savviest friends & family members at a dinner table to compete in the ILICA Trivia Challenge.

8:00 pm - 1:00 am

Associate Hospitality Room

Pop into the Associate Hospitality Room before calling it a night to chat about the day's events and the anticipation of tomorrow's.

Saturday, February 3

7:00 am - 10:00 am

Registration

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:00 am

Devotions

Jump start your morning with scripture, testimony, and hymns.

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Ladies Activity

Join the ILICA Ladies for in-house crafts and activities.

8:00 am - 8:15 am

Final Regular Board of Directors Meeting

8:15 am - 12:00 pm

Members' Meeting & Election of Officers

All attendees are encouraged to participate. Members will be given updates from our various committees, as well as have the opportunity to guide Illinois LICA through 2024.

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Morning Break

12:00 pm

Luncheon

12:30 pm

Convention Committee Meeting

Saturday, February 3 (Continued)

1:00 pm

Isle Casino

Just because the Convention is officially over doesn't mean the party has to stop! Members are encouraged to stick around and try their "hand" at the Isle Casino for an evening of fun on their own dime...pennies, nickels, quarters, or whatever your preference in play!

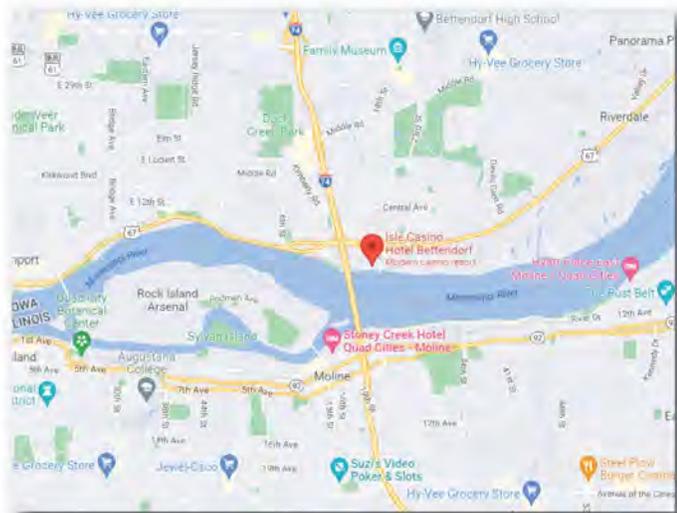
Hotel Info

The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf is offering a room rate of \$146 per night for a standard king or a double queen, plus applicable state and local taxes. To take advantage of this block room rate, please visit:

<https://www.caesars.com/book/?regionCode=IAM&propCode=IBE&action=FindRooms&arrivalDate=01/30/2024&departureDate=02/03/2024&groupcode=ILLIC24>



Or call 563-441-7115 and simply ask for the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association room block Group Code: ILLIC24. This rate will expire on January 16, 2024, so reserve your room as soon as possible!



Entertainer Info

MARK TOLAND

CORPORATE & VIRTUAL MIND READER



Mark Toland's is the go-to corporate & virtual mind reader for corporations worldwide. He has been named "The Top Booked Mind Reader in the US & Canada", spoken on the TEDx Stage, and made multiple television appearances on WGN, NBC, and FOX. Mark's client list reads like the Fortune 500, including companies such as McDonald's, PepsiCo, Citi Bank, Disney, the US Marine Corps, Tiffany's, and more. The audience is the cast, your thoughts are the props, and your mind is his stage. It's an unforgettable journey into the unknown, full of psychological illusions and mind blowing feats. Everything else is a mystery.

PHOTOS & VIDEO:

<https://funny-business.com/entertainer/mark-toland/>

ILLINOIS
ILICA

WANTED

ILICA HISTORY SPOTLIGHT

Antique Items to Display at the
2024 ILICA Convention

Tools | Tile Pieces | Photos | Etc.



ILICA has
FOR **2024**
MORE IN STORE
2024



Illinois LICA's Annual Convention & Members' Meeting
February 1-3, 2024
Isle Casino Hotel, 1800 Isle Pkwy, Bettendorf, IA

Each registrant entered to win:

\$500
CASH PRIZE
DRAWING



Registration Deadline: Jan. 5, 2024

(\$100 late fee after deadline)

Full Participation - February 1-3

(all meals, activities, & trainings, except septic)

Individual	#	_____	x \$205 =	_____
Couple	#	_____	x \$315 =	_____
Child (5-12)	#	_____	x \$90 =	_____
JD Tour	#	_____	x \$50 =	_____
Total			=	_____

FREE Admission

Trade Show Only

Thursday, Feb. 1st 1-5 PM
Friday, Feb. 2nd 8 AM-12 PM

- Heavy Equipment
- Drainage Supplies
- Engineering Consulting
- Environmental Support
- Erosion Control Products
- Waste Mgmt. Products
- Rental Equipment
- Insurance
- Laser/GPS Products
- Safety Equipment

John Deere Davenport Works Factory Tour: Feb. 1st, 7:30 am

- Convention registration required
- Visitors must be 13 + years of age
- Minors must be accompanied by an adult
- Adults must present a valid photo ID upon arrival
- Cell phone, camera/video recorder use is prohibited in the factories
- Visitors must wear long pants & shoes that cover the toes & heels

Wanted

Please bring historical items to showcase at the ILICA history table (tile pieces, tools, photos, etc.)

Attendee Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 Phone: _____
 Company Name: _____
 Additional Attendee Name(s): _____
 Special Dietary Needs: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____
(\$100 late fee after Jan. 5th)

Payable to: ILICA
112 Exchange St., Ste. 2
Galva, IL 61434
Email: michelle@illica.net
Fax: 309.932.1231



Reserve your hotel room today to ensure a guaranteed room rate of \$146/night, plus tax!
Call 563-441-7115 and simply ask for the IL Land Improvement Contractors Association room block or book online [here](#).

Hotel reservation deadline: January 16, 2024

Cash prize drawing will be held Feb. 2nd at the conclusion of the trade show.



Private Sewage Disposal Contractor Training



February 1, 2024
Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, IA

Installer, Pumper, Portable Sanitation Technician CEU's

The Contractor Training Store and Illinois LICA are pleased to announce a 3 CEU training required for the renewal of Illinois Septic Licenses at a **discounted rate of \$50 for single, \$80 for dual or \$110 for all 3 licenses for ILICA members & employees** during the 2024 convention in Bettendorf.

Plus, Illinois LICA is **offering a single license training FREE for any non-members that join Illinois LICA at the training**. So, be sure to invite fellow septic contractor service providers to the training and the free convention trade show, too!

Training Schedule:
8 am-12 pm: 3 Hour IDPH approved CEU course for Private Sewage Disposal Contractors
(includes sign-in, breaks between sessions, sign-out, workshop evaluations and certificate distribution)

In addition to the septic training fees, the following Convention charges may apply:
8 am - 9 pm: **Full Day Registration:** Trade Show, Breaks, Lunch, Banquet Dinner, and Entertainment **\$100.00**
12 pm - 5 pm: **1/2 Day Registration:** Lunch & Trade Show **\$35.00**
(+\$15 late fee after Jan. 5th)

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

IDPH Installation Contractor License #: **049** - _____

IDPH Pumping Contractor License #: **054** - _____

IDPH Certified Portable Sanitation Technician #: **901** - _____

Single License Training - \$50	2 License Training - \$80	3 License Training - \$110						
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Septic Training:</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Convention Registration:</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>			Septic Training:	\$ _____	Convention Registration:	\$ _____	Total:	\$ _____
Septic Training:	\$ _____							
Convention Registration:	\$ _____							
Total:	\$ _____							
<p>Please complete this form and mail it along with a check for your participation to:</p> <p>Illinois LICA 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2 Galva, IL 61434</p>								

IT HAPPENED TO HIM. IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU.



Watch online at ThreeSecondsLater.org



Watch the award-winning, first-person account of a tragic drain tile accident and its impact on a close-knit community.



SCAN TO WATCH FILM



Always **Contact 811** or clickbeforeyoudig.com before starting any drain tile project.



LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR TOMORROW

Your reputation is on the line with every job you do. For 100 years, we've held ourselves to the same standard.

When your tomorrow depends on a pipe you can trust, count on Fratco for the quality drainage products you need.

FRATCO

FRATCO.COM/100





2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Agenda

Please note:

**The Winter Convention Agenda has changed.
National LICA Committees are now Thursday.
Seminars & Associates' Night are Friday.**

Tuesday, February 13

8:30 am - 3:30 pm Aviation Museum/
Nauticus Tour

Wednesday, February 14

8:30 am - 3:30 pm Tour of Williamsburg

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Executive Committee

Thursday, February 15

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Committee Meetings

12:00 pm Opening Lunch

Friday, February 16

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Educational Seminars

12:30 pm - 3:00 pm Executive Directors'
Meeting

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Associates' Night
(Exhibition)

Saturday, February 17

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 10:00 am Delegates' Meeting

10:00 am - 11:00 am Board Meeting

12:30 pm Lunch

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Reception

7:00 pm Awards Banquet

What does Registration Include?

Winter Convention registration includes all meal functions, Associates' Night, Educational Seminars, Committee Meetings, and the Board & Delegates' Meetings. All registered members will receive meal tickets, a name badge, and a program when they check-in on site and are welcome to attend any of the Committee Meetings and the Board Meeting. For a list of committees and their functions, visit LICANational.org.

Tours

Those who pre-register for any of the tours will receive an admission ticket to those events when they check-in on site. Tours leave promptly at the listed time.

Attire

The attire for our Winter Convention is mostly casual. Members do wear "dressier" attire for the Awards Banquet Saturday evening. Slacks, dresses, and nice shoes are often worn, but not required.

Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront

LICA members will be soaking in the views of the Atlantic Ocean right in the middle of the Virginia Beach Boardwalk this February. The Boardwalk has a plethora of restaurants and activities just minutes from the Hilton. But you don't even need to leave the hotel for a bite to eat. Dine next to the Atlantic Ocean at Catch 31, for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Located on the first floor of the Hilton.

Scan Code for:

Convention Registration,
Hotel Reservations &
more details.





2024 National LICA Winter Convention

Virginia Beach, Virginia - February 13 - 17th

Convention Registration

Name _____ Name _____

Company _____ Name _____

City _____ State _____ Name _____

Email _____ Name _____

Early Bird Rate Postmarked by January 22, 2024	Price	# Attending	Total
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Lunch, Friday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Reception & Awards Banquet. Seminars & Meetings.	\$375.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
Registration postmarked after January 22, 2024			
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Lunch, Friday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Reception & Awards Banquet. Seminars & Meetings.	\$400.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
Tour Registration			
Tuesday, February 13 Military Aviation Museum/Nauticus	\$93.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$50.00		
Wednesday, February 14 Colonial Williamsburg	\$96.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$50.00		
Winter Convention Total (Registration plus Tours)	\$		

Accommodations:
Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront
 3001 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA
 Room Rate: \$149/night (plus taxes & fees)
 Call: (757) 213-3000 - Option 1
 Group: LIC
 Deadline: Monday, January 22, 2024

Make check payable to: LICA
3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300, Lisle, IL 60532

Amount: \$ _____

Cardholder: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp.: _____ 3-Digit Code: _____ Billing Zip: _____

YOUR CONSTRUCTION INSURANCE PARTNERS



Dimond Bros.
INSURANCE | Est. 1867

Peru
1701 4th St.
Peru, IL 61354
815-223-7923

Fairbury
310 S. 7th St.
Fairbury, IL 61739
815-692-2343

DimondBros.com

ILICA Trivia

Who was the only lady to participate in the Backhoe Rodeo in 2020?



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



Nov/Dec Answer: Leo Shaw & George & Zade Turner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

**Contractor Training Store & Illinois LICA
Virtual Septic Training
January 11, 2024**

8 - 11:30 am

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/210405973758159>

**2024 ILICA Convention & Members' Mtg.
February 1 - 3, 2024**

Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf

1800 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, IA 52722

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/222925682060051>

or via page 20

**Contractor Training Store & Illinois LICA
Virtual Septic Training
February 29, 2024**

8 - 11:30 am

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/210405973758159>

National

**2024 LICA Winter Convention
February 13 - 17, 2024**

Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront

Virginia Beach, VA

Register: <https://www.licanational.com/2024-winter-meeting-registration/>

or via page 25

ADVERTISER INDEX

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	15
Agri Drain Corp	28
Berns, Clancy & Associates	4
BRON	29
Cen-Pe-Co Lubricants	13
Cook's AGPS, LLC.....	29
Dimond Bros. Insurance., LLC	26
Drain Tile Safety Coalition.....	22
Envision Insurance Group, LLC	14
Fratco, Inc	23
Hickenbottom, Inc	2
Martin Equipment of Illinois, Inc	32
Maurer-Stutz, Inc	4
Metal Culverts, Inc	14
Northland Trenching Equipment, LLC.....	3
Port Industries, Inc.	5
Precision Intakes, Ltd	29
Prins Insurance, Inc./United Fire Group.....	32
Prinsco, Inc	32
Purple Wave Auction	32
Schlatter's, Inc.	2
Springfield Plastics, Inc.....	2
Vermeer Midwest, Inc.....	14
Xylem, LTD.....	13



FEATURED ILICA BENEFIT: FREE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FOR NEW CONTRACTOR MEMBERS

Are you a new contractor member that just joined the Association in 2023/2024? If so, you are eligible to receive a FREE full convention registration. That's right, all 3 days of meals, activities, and entertainment included! The Illinois LICA Annual Convention and Members' Meeting will be held at the Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf on February 1-3 (see pages 16-20

for event details). Come for the trade show, education, entertainment, and hospitality Thursday through Saturday...or just come on whichever day works best for your schedule! Bring your spouse or partner along and have lunch and dinner on us! We look forward to seeing you there.



ILICA has
**FOR 70%
MORE IN STORE
LULU**

67th Annual ILICA Convention & Members' Meeting



This card entitles a new active contractor member (or his/her company designee) to **one (1)** **FREE** full participation at the 2024 ILICA Convention: **\$205 value!**

Additional registrations may apply:
Over 12 years of age: \$205
5-11 years of age: \$90

Return this card with the convention registration by December 22, 2023 to:

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


➔
[Illica.net/events](https://illica.net/events)

Use code:
STORE24



America's Most Complete Manufacturer
and Supplier of Water Management Products



Water Quality Inlets



Grates



Rat Guards



Catch Basins



Flap Gates



Bar Guards



Smart Drainage System®

Call for a FREE catalog or visit our website to view our full line of products.
800-232-4742 ■ 641-742-5211 ■ www.agridrain.com

BRON

POWER TO PERFORM

www.rwfbron.com

- Five Core Cooling System exceeds cooling for Tier 4 engine standards
- Quieter Reconfigured Cab Interior for Operator comfort
- Standard DL 850 Drainage Plow increased strength & durability
- LED Light Package for increased visibility for those long days in the field
- Improved swing mechanism for the Onboard Reel for smoother reel speeds & consistent torque
- Optional hydraulic rear step raises out of the way when plowing and lowers when required.
- Standard oscillating track frames.



BRON 585

SELF-PROPELLED DRAINAGE PLOW

AUTO STEER READY | LOW GROUND PRESSURE
CAT OR CUMMINS ENGINE

DEDICATED TO
SERVING OUR
CUSTOMERS

COOK'S
//AGPS LLC

YOUR CONTINUED SOURCE FOR:

//AGPS



INDUSTRY LEADING FINE GRADE RTK GPS
MACHINE CONTROL SYSTEMS



Design and machine control for tile drainage, land leveling and surface water management needs.

GPS-GNSS RECEIVERS & ANTENNAS



Announcing our newest NovAtel receivers are able to use GALILEO satellites for better availability near obstructions like trees.

ASK US HOW YOU CAN SAVE TIME SURVEYING
LESS WITH OUR LIDAR DATA PREP SERVICES

Contact Nate at 989-640-2347 or nate@cookswms.com
Visit our new website at www.cooksagps.com

PRECISION
INTAKES

2064 Republic Ave • Monroe, IA 50170

SURFACE WATER INTAKES

- 6"-8"-10" SIZING
- HIGHLY ADJUSTABLE
- INTERCHANGEABLE
- USER FRIENDLY
- EXCLUSIVE TWIST LOCK DESIGN



800-932-7611

OFFICE@PRECISIONINTAKES.COM

"Dealer Inquiries Welcome"

www.precisionintakes.com

Hazards of winter work: Cold stress



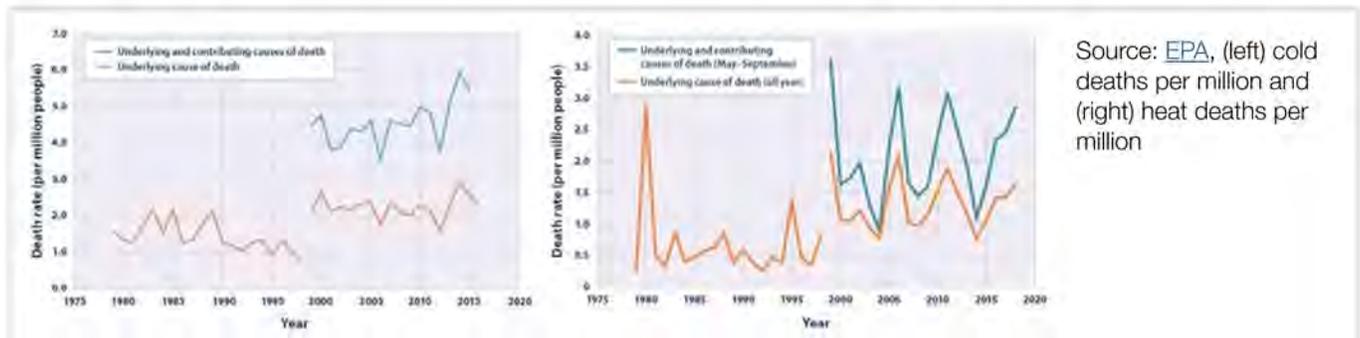
By John Freese, CPCU, ARM, Risk Control Operations Manager, UFG Insurance

We always hear about warm temperatures and heat-related illnesses affecting workers. The usual culprits: heat exhaustion and heat stroke. But what about cold temperature hazards affecting workers? With major winter storms becoming a more frequent occurrence, these hazards should be top of mind for employers. During winter storm Elliott for example, many regions of the United States saw air temperatures reaching -20 degrees Fahrenheit or lower and at least 56 people are estimated to have died as a result of the storm.

With climate change being a popular topic, we often hear about the concern of rising global temperatures. Yes, warmer temperatures do present a challenge, but how dangerous are cold weather events? Let's take a look at the annual number of deaths due to hot versus cold temperatures. According to the EPA, since 1979 there have been 11,000 deaths due to heat and 19,000 deaths due to cold in the United States. Annually, there are up to two deaths per million people and up to 2.5 deaths per million due to heat and cold, respectively. So, historically, cold has presented a much more severe challenge to people than heat.



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Source: EPA, (left) cold deaths per million and (right) heat deaths per million

Cold temperatures are a serious hazard facing workers that must brave winter conditions. OSHA indicates that there are three types of cold stress to be aware of and what to do in case you or another worker suffers from one of them. Here are the three:

Hypothermia

Hypothermia occurs when your normal body temperature drops to 95 degrees Fahrenheit or less. Other symptoms include shivering, confusion, slurred speech, slow heart rate and breathing, and loss of consciousness.

Frostbite

Frostbite occurs when body tissue freezes such as your fingers, hands or feet. Temperatures don't have to be below freezing for frostbite to occur if wind chills dip below freezing. Symptoms may include numbness, reddened skin with gray and white patches, feeling of firmness or hardness and blistering. Depending on severity, frostbite may result in amputation.

Trench (Immersion) foot

Trench foot is a non-freezing injury to feet. This injury may occur due to prolonged exposure to wet and cold environments. Symptoms include redness, swelling, numbness and the development of blisters.

Here are a few tips to prevent workers from being affected by cold stress:

1. For non-emergency work, schedule work for a warmer time or day.
2. Dress properly by wearing layers, insulated jackets, boots, gloves, etc. Clothing should not be tight fitting, so blood circulation is not restricted.
3. Implement engineering controls such as trailers or shelters with heat sources available.
4. Implement a rotation schedule with relief employees to limit time workers are exposed to cold temperatures.
5. Drink warm, sweetened liquids.
6. Monitor yourself and other workers for the above listed symptoms and seek immediate medical attention if affected.
7. Utilize the table below to determine shifts and break schedules depending on temperatures and wind speeds.

Work/Warm-up Schedule for a 4-Hour Shift

Air Temperature--Sunny Sky		No Noticeable Wind		5 mph Wind		10 mph Wind		15 mph Wind		20 mph Wind	
°C (approximate)	°F (approximate)	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks	Maximum Work Period	Number of Breaks
-26 to -28	-15 to -19	(Normal Breaks) 1		(Normal Breaks) 1		75 min	2	55 min	3	40 min	4
-29 to -31	-20 to -24	(Normal Breaks) 1		75 min	2	55 min	3	40 min	4	30 min	5
-32 to -34	-25 to -29	75 min	2	55 min	3	40 min	4	30 min	5	Non-emergency work should cease	
-35 to -37	-30 to -34	55 min	3	40 min	4	30 min	5	Non-emergency work should cease			
-38 to -39	-35 to -39	40 min	4	30 min	5	Non-emergency work should cease					
-40 to -42	-40 to -44	30 min	5	Non-emergency work should cease							
-43 & below	-45 & below	Non-emergency work should cease									

Source: [The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists \(ACGIH\)](#) work/warm-up schedule for a 4-hour shift

Unfortunately, the world does not stop moving due to storms. Modern society requires workers to be available 24/7. Hospitals need to keep running to keep people alive and well. Downed electrical lines need to be repaired to keep delivering power to cities. The list goes on and on. Cold weather presents a serious challenge to the health and wellness of the workers that keep us moving, but with the right training and the right risk management practices, we can continue to keep workers safe and businesses running.

We've got your back

We understand how hard you work during the tiling season, that's why we are out in the field with you, answering questions, finding solutions and making sure you have pipe when and where you need it. Dig deep, go hard and count on us to have your back.

Find a Sales Rep in your area
prinsco.com/agsales

PRINSCO
WATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

800.992.1725 | prinsco.com | YouTube

certified WBENC

JOHN DEERE

**STRONG SERVICE.
 POWERFUL EQUIPMENT.
 ENDLESS DEDICATION.**

In addition to selling industry-leading equipment for every customer need, Martin Equipment is a proud member of the Illinois chapter of the Land Improvement Contractors Association. Together, we share dialogues, connections, and education to improve the construction business and environment.

JOHN DEERE | **MARTIN**
EQUIPMENT

Connect and learn more at
MartinEquipment.com

IL: Goodfield, Peru, Springfield, Rock Island, and Toluono
 IA: Cedar Rapids and Dubuque MO: Columbia and Palmyra

Straight. Simple. Sold.®

The easiest way to **SELL** used equipment.

purplewave.com

purple wave
 AUCTION

INSURANCE ELEVATED. BEYOND DEDICATED. > WE'RE ALL IN.

You've worked hard to construct a reliable business.

We're trusted partners equally committed to protecting your business and reputation.

Visit ufginsurance.com to find an agent today.

ufg INSURANCE
 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA

PRINS INSURANCE

ILLINOIS CHAPTER LICA

© 2022 United Fire & Casualty Company. All rights reserved.