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July - August 2020

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Upcoming Events:

U of I Extension Drainage Wksh.
Online Workshop
August 4-5, 2020

Board of Directors Meeting
In-person (Galva) & Virtual
September 12, 2020

KUTEMEIER RECEIVES NATIONAL LICA SCHOLARSHIP



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION ONLINE DRAINAGE WORKSHOP AUGUST 4-5, 2020



(page 14-15)

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- ▶ **The Extension Connection: Stabilization of Two New Drainage Installations** (page 12-13)
- ▶ **Leveraging Your “LICA Advantage” Resources During COVID-19** (page 16-17)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Illinois LICA, I hope this finds you safe and healthy!

As I think we are slowly inching back to a world we all knew before a pandemic, I am quickly reminded that things will forever be changed...“Wait, change, did someone say change?!?” Being a

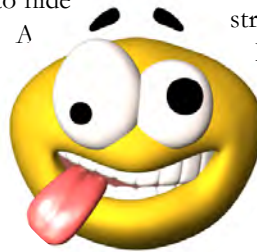
male, Lutheran, and a descendant of the Ruebush/Smith lineage, I'm not sure “change” is in my DNA, let alone my vocabulary! Guess I'm going to have to give it a shot...“I'll be right back, I need to wash my hands.”

During these past couple of months of the pandemic, I have come to a realization that...the people that are able to hide the sound of a loud sneeze are TRULY BLESSED! A few days ago, I managed to clear out a Casey's after a “trifecta sneeze-fest.” I did my best; I ran to a dark corner, took cover and let it rip. When I turned around, the sneeze spray had dissipated, but I real-

ized quickly that everyone had taken shelter outside. They were gawking back at me through the lightly tinted windows making sure I wasn't touching anything they had originally come for...it's not nice to point and stare folks. I WAS WEARING MY MASK!

We are forever changed, but this is the new us. We can fight it until the end or move on. As hard as it is for me to say, being a Lutheran and all, I'm going to try to change and move on (I'll need a lot of help). This has added a new dynamic to all of our lives; what we do with it from here is up to us. I have realized that the generation to follow will not really know the difference. It's what they will grow up with, and those that came before us were not afraid to change. They had to! Be safe, be kind and help those around you! We are tough; we are strong; and I look forward to seeing all of my Illinois LICA family soon.

Sincerely Sanitized,
Grant Curtis



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2020 BOARD MEMBER MTG. ATTENDANCE

A = absent		P = present		C = cancelled meeting		
Area / Director	Feb	Mar	May	Aug	Sep	Nov
Pres: Grant Curtis	P	P	P	C		
VP: Steve Anderson	P	A	P	C		
1st VP: Eric Layden	P	A	P	C		
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P	P	P	C		
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	A	P	P	C		
Area 3 - Wes Litwiller	P	P	P	C		
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	P	C		
Area 4 - David Kennedy	P	A	P	C		
Area 4 - John McCoy	A	A	P	C		
Area 5 - Vacant	-	-	-	-		
Area 6 - Scott Day	P	P	P	C		
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	A	P	C		
Area 7 - Vacant	-	-	-	-		
Area 8 - Norm Kocher	A	A	A	C		
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	P	A	P	C		
Associate Dir: D. Randolph	P	A	P	C		

BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Aug. 8, 2020 - Members' Meeting: **CANCELLED**

Sept. 12, 2020 - Regular Meeting of the Board:
Virtual & In-Person (Galva)

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



Conservation Engineering Services

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SENATE BILL 3462 LOOKS TO SUPPORT NUTRIENT LOSS REDUCTION STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION



By Grant Hammer

*Executive Director of
Association of Illinois Soil
& Water Conservation
Districts*

In 2015, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), along with a consortium of diverse stakeholders, created the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy to tackle nutrient runoff losses and improve water quality both at home and downstream. The objective is to reduce nitrogen runoff in Illinois waters by 15% and phosphorus by 25% by 2025. But how we get there is a little muddy without specific legislation backed with funding that targets nutrient loss.

In recent years, Soil and Water Conservation Districts have become the “boots on the ground” in implementing the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. Nutrient loss is a serious problem that we should all be concerned about. Plants and animals need nutrients to survive, but it can be harmful when too much of those nutrients (namely, nitrogen and phosphorus) are carried in runoff from city streets and farm fields or flow out of wastewater-treatment plants. Nutrient loss can have very real consequences for all of us. It can degrade our drinking-water supply, lower property values and threaten public health. The problem has become so bad that nutrients washed down the Mississippi River have created a dead zone that covers thousands of square miles in the Gulf of Mexico. Soil and water conservation districts across Illinois have helped curb nutrient runoff in dramatic ways, preventing about 90 tons of nitrogen and 45 tons of phosphorus from reaching Illinois’ ditches, streams, lakes and rivers. While those numbers are impressive, there is still a lot more work to do and resources are needed.

In 2019, the Illinois Senate voted unanimously to support the state strategy for nutrient reduction, but to date, the state has provided little funding or tangible support to help reduce nutrient loss since the strategy was established in 2015. Soil and water conservation districts are joining together with partners from across the political spectrum and from diverse interest groups to support the Illinois Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act (Senate Bill 3462: Senator Villivalam), which provides funding and operational support for the implementation of the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The bill would provide critical support for reporting, research, water quality monitoring and technical assistance through the Illinois Department of Agriculture, University of Illinois Extension, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state to reduce nutrient losses.

Republicans and Democrats, urban and rural residents, farmers and homeowners alike have come together to address this extraordinary problem. Soil and Water Conservation Districts are proud to be on the front lines working to solve this challenge, and the resources provided with Illinois Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act will help SWCDs and other key partners protect Illinois’ most greatest assets — the rich, fertile soils and water resources of the state.

BILL AT A GLANCE:

Excessive levels of nutrients are degrading the quality of streams, rivers, and lakes within Illinois and contributing to the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico. Since 2013, Illinois EPA and Department of Agriculture have been collaborating with academics, environmental nonprofits, representatives of federal, state, and local agencies, wastewater treatment professionals, and the agricultural community to develop the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The Strategy sets a milestone to reduce nitrogen in Illinois waters by 15% and phosphorus by 25% by 2025. Additional resources are needed to administer and implement the Strategy in order to meet the Strategy’s 2025 milestone. The Illinois Partners for Nutrient Loss Reduction Act extends and increases funding for the Partners for Conservation Fund to fiscal year 2026 (Current funding is through fiscal 2021). Additional resources are needed to administer and implement the Strategy in order to meet the Strategy’s 2025 milestone. These include resources needed for reporting, research, water quality monitoring, technical assistance through the Illinois Department of Agriculture and Illinois Extension, for Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state, and to provide cost-share funding for nutrient capture projects on farmland, including on the state’s lands leased for agriculture

STATUS:

May 27: Placed on Calendar Order of 2nd Reading November 17, 2020

ABOUT AISWCD

The Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD), is a grass roots organization formed in 1948. It is made up and serves Illinois’ 97-member Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). Soil and Water Conservation Districts work to protect Illinois’ greatest assets – the rich, fertile soils and water resources of the state through strategic conservation efforts. SWCDs, working in conjunction with agricultural as well as environmental stakeholders, have for decades over played a central role in efforts to protect and sustain the viability of Illinois’ finite natural resources for future generations. Clean water, healthy soils.

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ILICA Ladies Page

SPORTS & RECREATION

TARGET → ON SAFETY



Children's Sports Safety: An Overview

Every day, from soccer fields to ice rinks, millions of youths participate in sporting activities. Participating in sports builds the body and mind, but it can also result in injury if the proper safety precautions are ignored.

Each year, over 3 million children ages 14 and under suffer from sports-related injuries. It is estimated that as many as 20 percent of children participating in sports are injured each year. Young athletes are at an increased risk for injury because their bones, muscles, tendons and ligaments are still growing.

Safety Tips

The risk of injury should not keep a child from participating in sports. Instead coaches, officials and staff need to follow safety guidelines and provide the proper protective equipment to keep young athletes safe during play. Parents, coaches and children are encouraged to follow these safety precautions:

- Know and follow the rules of the sport.
- Be in good physical condition before beginning any sport.
- Wear proper apparel and protective gear.
- Know how to use athletic equipment.
- Be sure to warm up before playing.
- Drink plenty of liquids before playing to prevent dehydration.
- Do not play when tired or in pain.

If Injury Occurs

Prompt treatment can often prevent a minor injury from turning into something much worse. The first step is to use RICE therapy—an acronym for the steps you should take immediately following an injury:

- **Rest:** After being injured, an athlete should immediately rest.
- **Ice:** Ice the injury to prevent swelling.
- **Compress:** Wrap a bandage or towel around the injury.

- **Elevate:** Elevating the injury can help drain excess fluid and reduce swelling.

Sometimes, an injury will be more severe. If a child displays any of the following signs, he or she may need to visit the doctor:

- Inability or decreased ability to play
- Visible deformity
- Severe pain that prevents the use of an arm or leg
- Symptoms which persist or affect athletic performance

Eye Injuries

According to the National Eye Institute, eye injuries are the leading cause of blindness in children, and most of those eye injuries are sports-related. Eye injuries can be classified into three basic categories:

- **Blunt trauma** occurs when something hits the eye, like a hand, elbow or ball, and commonly results in bruising around the eye. This is the most common sports-related eye injury.
- **Penetrating injuries** occur when something cuts into the eye, most often a finger. These injuries are fairly uncommon.
- **Radiation injuries** are caused by exposure to ultraviolet light from the sun. They most often occur in snow- or water-related sports like skiing, snowboarding or water-skiing.

ILICA Ladies Page (cont.)

Many blunt trauma injuries can be treated with the application of an ice pack. Still, given how valuable and fragile the eyes are, it's a good idea to have all eye injuries examined by a medical professional.

Concussions

Head injuries can be especially scary for children. Sometimes, head injuries can result in concussions—an injury to the brain that can have long-term effects on the injured child.

Some children might be reluctant to report their symptoms for fear of being sidelined. That's why coaches, officials and staff need to watch for the following symptoms:

- Dazed or stunned demeanor
- Clumsy movement
- Forgetting the score, position, assignment or other information
- Answering questions slowly
- Loss of consciousness, even if brief

If you observe these symptoms in an athlete, it's essential to remove the athlete from play immediately, have him or her seek medical attention and do not allow him or her to return to play until the athlete has been cleared by a medical professional.

Safety Tips

Most sports-related injuries are preventable. The following are steps coaches and parents can take to help reduce the chances of an injury occurring:

- Have an adult present when children engage in sports.
- Make sure children are using appropriate and properly fitted protective equipment.
- Explain that helmets only offer some protection—no helmet is concussion-proof.
- Teach children to stretch beforehand to reduce the risk of strains or other injuries.
- Remind children to cool down afterwards.

Source: Target on Safety - From Prins Insurance LICA Portal

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KUTEMEIER RECEIVES NATIONAL LICA SCHOLARSHIP

The National LICA scholarship is eligible to active LICA Contractors and their family members (i.e. spouse, child, grandchild) pursuing an interest in agriculture, construction, engineering, landscaping, law, marine biology, medicine, and more. Out of eight total recipients named for 2020, one scholarship recipient was named from Illinois: Keegan Kutemeier

Keegan Matthew Kutemeier, is the son of Matthew and Kristin Kutemeier, grandson of Dan and Sylvia Day, all of Gibson City and grandson of Margaret and the late Don Kutemeier of Heyworth, IL.

Keegan is a senior at Gibson City Melvin-Sibley High School where he was inducted to the National Honor Society as a Junior and was named an Illinois State Scholar senior year. Keegan has been involved in many leadership roles, including Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, GCMS Mental Health Team, Freshman/Sophomore Mentoring, and Rotary Youth Leadership Conference. Volunteering has been a large part of his high school career. Keegan has organized and worked as a volunteer for Red Cross Blood Drives, the local food pantry, Gibson Area Hospital Junior Auxiliary, and at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Keegan excelled as a student-athlete, playing baseball and football all four years of high school. He helped his team win back-to-back 2A state football championships and led the team as Captain to a 9-2 season his senior year. He was a unanimous

choice at both Linebacker and Offensive Lineman on the HOIC All-Conference Team and earned a position on the IHSFCA All-State Team. Keegan was also named to the News-Gazette and Pantagraph All-Area teams. His proudest accomplishment to date is being honored as a member of the IHSFCA All-State Academic First Team.

His love for children and football collided senior year when he was allowed to read to an elementary school classroom every Friday morning during the football season. He not only read them stories but served as their human jungle gym, pretend grocery store checker, and had an allergic reaction to their classroom pet rabbit.

Keegan has worked for Day Drainage, "helping Grandpa and Uncle Scott," since he was young, scheduling his workdays around schoolwork and athletic practices. Fitness is one of his passions, which has led him to a tech position at Elite Sport & Fitness, where he teaches a youth class each afternoon.

After graduation, Keegan will attend the University of Missouri, majoring in Bio-Medical Engineering. His plan for the future is to enter the field of prosthetics and artificial organ development.

Please join us in congratulating Keegan and his family for his recent accomplishments. We wish Keegan the best of luck in all his future endeavors!





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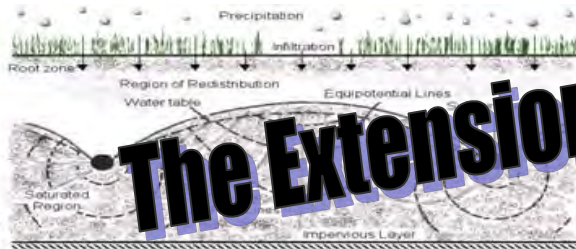
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Source: Dr. Richard Cooke,
Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL; Olawale
Oladeji, Municipal Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

STABILIZATION OF TWO NEW DRAINAGE INSTALLATIONS

The installation of a tile drainage system involves major land disturbance. Contractors intuitively know that it takes a while for the system to stabilize. We have results from two recent drainage installations at two sites that might shed some light on the persistence of this instability. Each site comprises four drainage systems with identical tile depth and spacing. Starting from this cropping season, each system will be cropped differently as part of a research effort, funded by the Illinois Nutrient Research & Education Council (NREC), titled On-Farm Evaluation and Demonstration of Reduced Off-Farm Nutrient Transport through Drainage Water Recycling. The treatments being evaluated are

1. Conventional drainage with 100% agronomic rate fertilization
2. Conventional drainage with 50% agronomic rate fertilization
3. Drainage/sub-irrigation with 50% agronomic rate fertilization
4. Drainage/sub-irrigation with 100% agronomic rate fertilization

One site, installed in Fulton County, consist of four 5-acres systems (Figure 1), and the other, on the University of Illinois' South Farm in Champaign County, of four 2-acre plots (Figure 2). Both installations were done by ILICA contractors. Each drainage system has been instrumented to monitor flow at 15-minute intervals. Water samples were collected weekly from Fulton County, and twice weekly from the South Farm, to monitor water quality.

Border tiles were installed at each site to hydraulically isolate the systems from their surroundings. For the first 18 months of installation at each site, all four plots were treated the same. They were all under free drainage,



Figure 1. Layout of Drainage Water Recycling Systems at Fulton County Site. Nearby drainage-related management, practices are also identified.



Figure 2. Layout of Drainage Water Recycling Systems at the South Farm Site. Nearby drainage-related management, practices are also identified.

The Extension Connection (cont.)

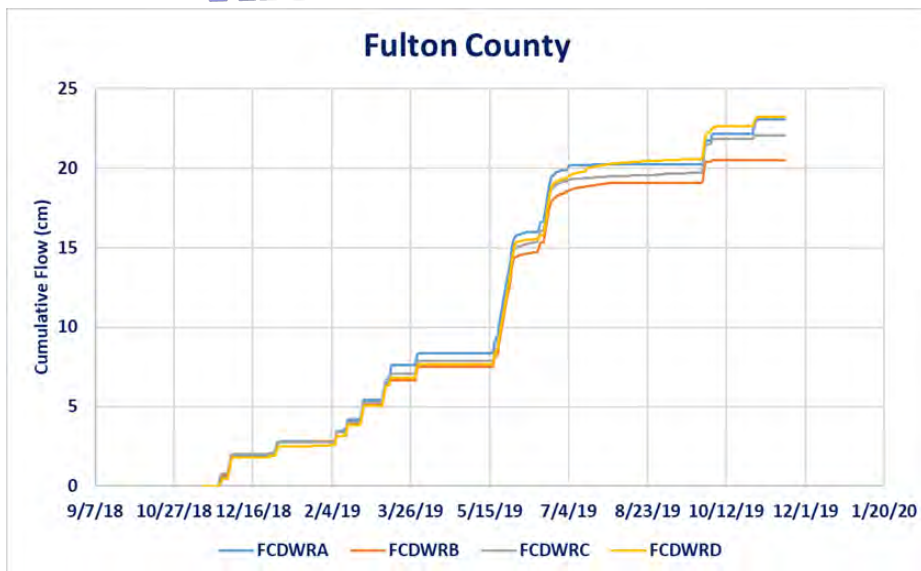


Figure 3. Cumulative flow on Fulton County fields during the second year of operation.

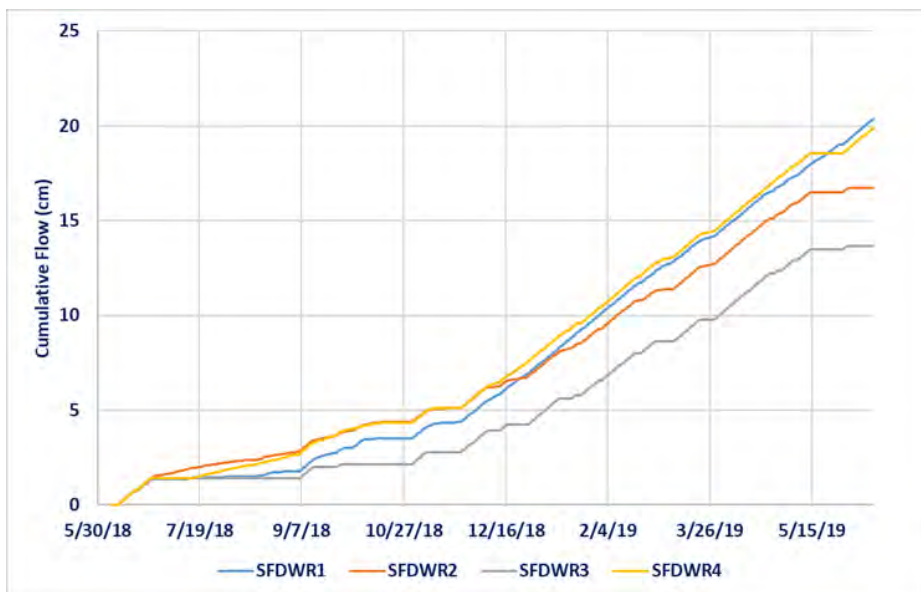


Figure 4. Cumulative daily tile flow from South Farm fields during the first year of operation.

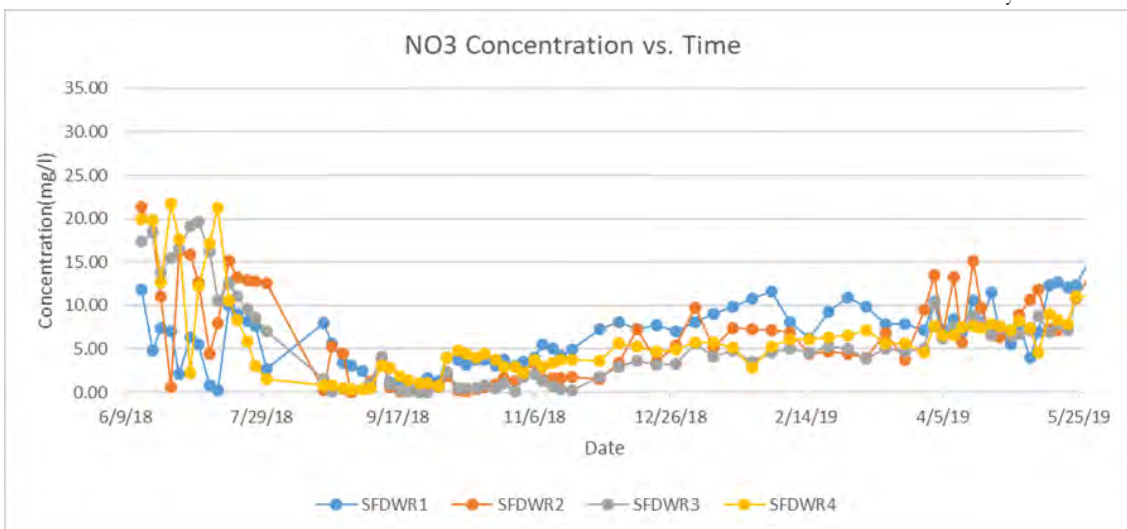


Figure 5. Nitrate-N concentration on South Farm fields during the first year of operation.

cropped similarly, and with the same fertilizer application. The cumulative flows during this period for the fields at the Fulton County site are shown in Figure 3. The flow patterns from the four fields are essentially identical, and thus the fields can be considered to be hydraulic replicates. After applying different treatments to each field in 2020 and in subsequent years, differences can be attributed to the effects of the treatments.

The cumulative flows from the South Farm fields during the first year after installation are shown in Figure 4. The main differences in flow occur before December 2018. After then the four fields have similar responses, as seen from the near parallel cumulative curves.

The instability in the systems in the early period is more marked in the nitrate concentrations as shown in Figure 5. Immediately after installation, the variability in nitrate concentrations between the plots is very high. However, this variability subsequently decreases as the systems stabilize. Even during a very wet spring 2019, the high variability was not repeated.

The replicated systems at both sites provided an opportunity to examine the persistence of land disturbance. The variability between the 2-acre plots on the South Farm was more pronounced than that between the 5-acre plots at Fulton County. However, the instability due to the disturbance caused by the installation did not persist beyond the first year at either site.

2020 Online Tile Drainage Design & Water Management Workshop



PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

Register for one or two days

Register Free: <http://www.wq.illinois.edu/ws2020>



Interactive sessions involve the use of QGIS

The latest long-term stable release can be downloaded free:

<https://qgis.org/en/site/forusers/download.html>

2020 Online Tile Drainage Design & Water Management Workshop

Tuesday, August 4th 8:30am – 1:00 pm

Creating Drainage Maps with Public Domain Applications
 (Essential for participants without prior QGIS experience)

Coordinate Reference Systems
 Latitude/Longitude, UTM, State Plane Coordinates*

Google Earth, SoilWeb*

Introduction to QGIS, QGIS Print Layout 3D Mapping in QGIS*

Wednesday, August 5th 8:30am – 5:15 pm

Subsurface (Tile) Drainage Design

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Surveying Basics *
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Illinois LiDAR data *
 LiDAR Resampling*
 Creating Contour Lines*

Water Quality (Bioreactors)

Soil Properties*
 Drainage Coefficient*
 Lateral Depth and Spacing*

Watershed Delineation*
 Watershed-scale Topo map creation*

Drainage Law

Sizing Mains*
 System Layout*

Sizing Control Zones, Lay Lines, Illinois
 Drainage Water Management Plan*

Water Quality (Saturated Buffers)

Proper Installation Procedure

* Hands-on (interactive) sessions

Presentations & example datasets available for download on July 21st

LEVERAGING YOUR “LICA ADVANTAGE” RESOURCES DURING COVID-19

Well, it's only halfway over, but already 2020 has been a year for the record books. Through these unprecedented times of the COVID 19 pandemic and civil unrest, there is nearly no region, industry, community, nor pocket of civilization that has been immune from the impacts of these unfolding events. Granted, the level of immediate impact these crises have had on people varies across the nation (and world). However, there is little doubt that long-term impacts will persist at a much greater scale in the months and years ahead.

Fortunately, in recent conversations with our members, Illinois LICA membership, as a whole, has managed to stay healthy and busy in-field, with the majority of our membership's companies meeting the “Essential Business” criteria outlined in the Governor's Shelter in Place Executive Order. Meanwhile, ILICA staff have also remained healthy and busy, albeit remotely for over two months due to the Association's “Non-essential Business” status per Pritzker's Order. With a temporarily closed office and other mandated restrictions regarding gathering sizes, etc., ILICA leadership and staff have worked closely to continually evaluate the pandemic situation and navigate its impacts on our scheduled business meetings, social events, demonstrations, and fundraisers; some of which have already been canceled or moved virtual. ILICA activities will certainly look different moving forward as we diversify our traditional methods of providing resources to our members. Along those lines, we wanted to highlight some of the newly developed tools and resources you can use to your *LICA Advantage*, during this time.

Released earlier this year, ILICA contractor members now have the option of having their company contact information and services listed on our website's “Find a Contractor” map. The interactive Google map displays members' locations with a clickable pin that expands to display company information and services, allowing farmers, homeowners, or anyone else in need of our members' services the ability to locate contractors in their immediate area quickly and easily. Members, who have not already, are encouraged to opt-in to this free service by calling or emailing

the office or by checking the opt-in box on their next directory update form which hits mailboxes at the end of the year.

Realizing the industry's regular struggles associated with filling employee vacancies, let alone during a pandemic, Illinois LICA has developed a free job board for our members to post and advertise job openings within their companies. The job board is another great outlet for reaching potential employees and will be more heavily promoted to the public in the coming months as we have additional listings to share. Only members are allowed to post, and we ask that once you have filled the position that you please delete your post. To get started, visit <https://www.illica.net/job-board> or access the job board via the “Benefits” tab at the top of our homepage. From there, click on “Create New Post” and you will be prompted to create a login for the job board (Wix Forum). After creating an account, post your job listing via the “Start A Discussion” selection under the “Create New Post” button. Please list the following minimum information in your listing(s) (included in the READ: POSTING GUIDELINES post at the top of the job board):

- Company Name
- Location
- Position Type: Full-time, Part-time, Seasonal, etc.
- Description
- Wage: Hourly, Salary, Based on Experience
- Contact Information

ILICA's Find a Contractor map lets users lookup contractors in their area that provide the services they need for their particular project.

LEVERAGING YOUR “LICA ADVANTAGE” RESOURCES DURING COVID-19 (CONT.)

Illinois LICA has also just started to develop and make available to members online education trainings and webinars with the help of our Associate members; a goal of leadership’s for the last few years. The COVID-19 pandemic has helped drive the necessity and quick implementation of this type of programming for our members, who potentially have “extra” shelter-in-place time available or restrictions impacting them from acquiring their education needs at in-person events. Currently

available online video content topics cover safety and business with other topics such as equipment management/maintenance and drainage being developed. To access, visit www.illica.net/webinars and navigate to the topic of interest. Once you have selected a particular video for viewing, you will need the member password: ADVANTAGE

As additional video content is developed, members will receive notification via email when topics are ready for viewing, so stay tuned! Associate members if you have content ready to roll or would like to help the education committee build upon this video gallery, please contact the office directly.

As we all navigate towards a “new normal,” please remember to leverage your *LICA Advantage* resources, new and old, already at your finger tips. National LICA and Illinois LICA combined have dozens of benefits ready to save you money on things like parts and products or to save you time on things like employee management and payroll services, to name a few. A complete and up-to-date listing of membership benefits can be found at www.illica.net/discounts-services.

The screenshot shows the Illinois LICA website's 'Business Webinars' section. A featured webinar is titled 'Work Comp and the COVID 19 Effect' by June 04, 2020, sponsored by Schmale Insurance. The description states: 'COVID19 could have a major impact on work comp in the state of Illinois. And most likely every company will be effected on a premium stand point, to some degree. There are new rules that were passed including one that will allow you to reclassify most of your work from home employees during the shut down , to a lower rated class. The new COVID19 Work Comp Bill that is about to be made into a law could open you up to some extra work comp claims if you are not prepared. There is so much information floating out there, that we decided to put it all in one spot and break it down for you.' A 'WATCH' button is visible below the text.

Contractors can view numerous webinars online about business management, drainage, safety and more for free; content will be regularly added, so check back often.

The advertisement features a background image of a farm with a red barn and silos. The main text reads: 'You protect the fields and increase the yields. We assist with your business succession to protect your hard earned legacy for a future generation.' On the left is a portrait of Art Littlefield, Farm Succession - Estate Planning Specialist, Lincoln Financial Advisor, with contact information: 630-408-0110, art.littlefield@lfg.com. On the right is the Lincoln Financial Advisors logo, a member of the Lincoln Financial Group, Agribusiness Services. At the bottom right, a testimonial for Arthur S. Littlefield, MBA, Registered Representative of Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp, a broker-dealer (member SIPC) and registered investment advisor, and a member of its Agribusiness Services Team, with CRN-2340061-120618.



**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
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& PRINS INSURANCE**

SAFETY VIDEOS-ON-DEMAND

Available in partnership with United Fire Group & Prins Insurance, Illinois LICA members and employees now have access to dozens of industry specific safety videos to be viewed at your company's convenience. The best part is, it's just another free perk of ILICA membership!

VISIT WWW.ILICA.NET/MEMBERS-ONLY AND CLICK ON ONLINE TRAINING



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Cultivating Accessible Agriculture



AgrAbility is a USDA program that seeks to enhance quality of life for people with disabilities in agriculture. The AgrAbility Program consists of one National AgrAbility Project and 20 state AgrAbility Projects. There are also seven previously-funded affiliate projects that provide some services through non-USDA funds.

AgrAbility assists farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities through such services as on-site assessments, recommendations for assistive technology and/or modified work practices, printed and electronic resources, workshops and other educational activities, and referral services to other agencies such as state vocational rehabilitation departments. Some AgrAbility projects also provide business planning services for self-employment. AgrAbility does not provide direct funding or products to consumers.

For more information on AgrAbility and a listing of State/Regional AgrAbility projects, please visit www.agrability.org or call 1-800-825-4264.



↑ *This lift and many more accessibility products are manufactured by Life Essentials from Walcott, IN. For more information about the services they provide, visit www.lifeessentialslifts.com or call 765-563-3158.*

**Do You Know Someone
Who Needs Help?**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

ISAP Conservation Drainage Webinar Series

July 30, Aug. 6 & 13, 2020

Virtual Series: 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Registration Coming Soon

U of I Extension Drainage Workshop

August 4-5, 2020

Online Workshop

Register: <http://wq.illinois.edu/ws2020/>

Board of Directors Meeting

September 12, 2020

Meeting to be held in-person (Galva) & virtually;
details pending

Summer Picnic

Rescheduled: October 3, 2020

Kennedy Farm Drainage - Colfax, IL
(Members' meeting cancelled)

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NOTICE

CANCELLED

**MEMBERS' MEETING.
AUGUST 8TH**

RESCHEDULED

**PICNIC
OCTOBER 3RD**

DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS, THE SUMMER PICNIC & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE HAS CHANGED.
THE MEMBERS' MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED ENTIRELY, WHILE THE PICNIC HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO OCTOBER.

UPDATE

**NATIONAL LICA
SUMMER CONVENTION**
Niagara Falls, NY: July 7-11, 2020
CANCELLED

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| Beauty & Fragrance | Finance | Insurance & Protection |
| Business & Office | Flowers & Gifts | Legal Protection |
| Cell Phones | Food | Pets Insurance |
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SAFETY FEATURE: DEFENSIVE DRIVING TECHNIQUES

You may have heard mention of defensive driving, but do you really know what it means? Defensive driving is one of the most important things you can do to prevent injury on the job. Let's take a look at the meaning of driving defensively and discuss techniques for staying safe.



What is Defensive Driving?

Defensive driving means anticipating dangerous situations by taking into account the actions of others and the presence of adverse driving conditions. Simply stated, defensive driving means being completely ready for potential surprises on the road.

What does Defensive Driving Require?

Defensive driving requires the knowledge and strict observance of all traffic rules and regulations applicable to the area in which the vehicle is being operated. A successful defensive driver will never be involved in a preventable accident. The following requirements of the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Program can be helpful in learning to drive with a more defensive mentality. According to the program, defensive driving requires:

- A constant alertness for the illegal acts and driving errors of other drivers, and a willingness to make timely adjustments in your own driving so that these actions will not cause you to get into an accident.
- An understanding and anticipation of any adjustments you may need to make in your driving for hazards presented by unusual or changing conditions. Such conditions include the mechanical functioning of your vehicle, type of road surface, weather, light, amount of traffic, and your physical condition and state of mind.
- A thorough knowledge of the rules of right of way and a willingness to yield the right of way to another driver whenever necessary to avoid an accident.
- An attitude of confidence that you can drive without ever having a preventable accident.

Three Basic Steps to Driving Defensively

Strive to follow these three basic steps:

1. See the hazard. When driving, think about what is going to happen or what may happen as far ahead of encountering a situation as possible.

2. Understand the defense. Specific situations require specific ways of reacting. Become familiar with the unusual conditions that you may face and learn how to handle them.
3. Act in time. Once you've noted a hazard and understand the defense against it, act as soon as possible! Never take a "wait and see what happens" attitude when driving.

By remembering these three steps and keeping good driving techniques in mind, you will learn to tailor your own driving behavior to the unexpected actions of other drivers and pedestrians.

You'll also be ready to adapt to the unpredictable and ever-changing factors of light, weather, road and traffic conditions, the mechanical condition of your vehicle and your physical ability to concentrate and drive.

Helping Your Company

Learning proper defensive driving techniques will not only protect you and others on the road from injury; it will also help protect your company by avoiding the property damage and liability risks that are associated with even the most minor employee driving accidents.

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants



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