

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

July - August 2023

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NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING JULY 11-15

(page 14)



PARTNERSHIP FIELD DAY TOURS WOODCHIP BIOREACTOR & SATURATED BUFFER

(page 20)



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- Friendly Competition Abounds in Mattoon (page 12)
- Calling All Volunteers, Maximize Your ROI (page 19)

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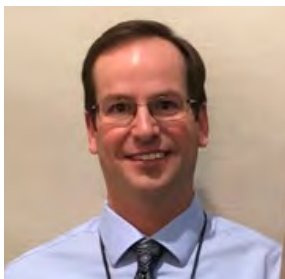
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, hello again! It is June 12th as I'm writing this article, and we are dry here in east central Illinois. I've never felt my yard so hard and the grass so crispy. I know many of you are feeling my pain as well. It's been dry in many places around the state. Around here, we are performing much needed

maintenance and repairs on the equipment. My equipment stayed working most of the winter and spring and didn't make it home for repairs. So now, we are finally getting caught up on things, just in time for a couple summer main installations and a little bit of wheat ground to drain.

As this summer is starting to heat up, so is ILICA! We have multiple events coming up this summer. National LICA Summer Meeting is July 11-15 in Lincoln, Nebraska. I have attended a few of these National events now, and they are really fun. If you want to meet some amazing people from around the country and talk to lots of industry insiders, this is an event you should consider attending.


ILICA is helping with a drainage field day on the campus of Illinois Central College in East Peoria on August 1-3. We will be draining 20 acres, installing 8 water control structures, and building a water & sediment control basin. We will also be providing trench safety education for a couple field day tours for different groups. One group will be touring the various conservation practices implemented on ICC's campus for the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement's (C2A3) national conference held that week. Another group, Illinois Sustainable Ag Partnership (ISAP), will be hosting a tour entitled "Ag & Conservation Family Night" for producers and the public the evening prior. Also, there are plans in the works to offer OSHA competent person training for excavation, trenching, and shoring certification for contractors one day that week, too. I encourage all of you to attend any and all of these events. People are injured and even killed during excavations all the time. I was in the land improvement business for over a decade before I received any trench safety education. Looking back on it, I'm lucky to be alive. I know many contractors that have been injured because of a trench cave-in. Don't be one of them. Get educated for your safety and for the safety of your employees! Don't get me started about the modern world of business and the importance of limiting your liabilities. Safety should be at the top of your list.

On August 29-31, ILICA will be putting on another drainage field day demonstration on the show grounds of the Farm Progress Show in Decatur. Come see all the new machines installing drainage pipe. We will be right next to Progress City this year. It will never be any more convenient for you to come out and say hi. Remember, those members that volunteer a bit

of their time to this demonstration also receive free entry into the Farm Progress Show just for helping.

Summer keeps us all busy these days. I still have a trip to Arizona planned to visit the In-Laws and several antique tractor shows I would like to attend. It's the 100 Anniversary of both the Farmall and the John Deere D. I wish everyone a safe and joy filled summer. I hope to see you all at least once in the next couple of months.

Best Regards,
Eric Layden



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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		
VP: Jon Seevers	P	P	P	P		
1st VP: Tyler Seals	P	A	P	P		
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P	P	P	P		
Area 2 - Steve Anderson	P	A	P	A		
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	P	P	P	A		
Area 3 - Grant Curtis	P	A	A	A		
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	A	A		
Area 4 - David Kennedy	P	A	P	P		
Area 4 - Lee Bunting	P	P	P	P		
Area 5 - Rick Maguire	—	P	P	A		
Area 6 - Scott Day	P	P	A	A		
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	A	P	P		
Area 7 - John Barttelbort	—	A	A	A		
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	P	P	P	P		
Area 8 - Tyler Seals	P	A	P	P		
Associate Director: David Randolph	P	A	A	A		

BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Sept. 9, 2023 - Regular Meeting of the Board:

Virtual & IP - ILICA Office, Galva

Nov. 4, 2023 - 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.



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illica.net/events

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THE EBB & FLOW OF AG BILLS AND REGULATIONS



By Nick Yaksich, Director of Govt. Relations, National LICA

The term negotiation refers to a strategic discussion intended to resolve an issue in a way that both parties find

acceptable. Negotiations involve give and take, which means one or both parties will usually need to make some concessions. Recent headlines out of Washington focus on the debt limit bill, but there are on-going negotiations taking place on a number of issues of interest to IL LICA members. Here is an update on farm bill, Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) and the funding for and hiring of additional Technical Service Providers (TSPs) by the Department of Agriculture.

Farm Bill

House and Senate Agriculture Committees have been meeting for months developing the five-year farm bill that must be passed this year. Leaders of the committees say the debt limit agreement should remove SNAP work requirements as a potential sticking point in the upcoming farm bill debate, but also said the deal takes away some potential funding.

The agreement to increase the debt ceiling takes back some unspent pandemic assistance to reduce the deficit. Leaders of the committees disagreed on whether there would still be a significant amount of additional, unobligated funding that could be moved into the farm bill to shore up commodity programs and other provisions.

The agreement “takes the issue of SNAP work requirements off the table,” Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., told reporters Tuesday evening. “So, that’s just one less issue we’re going to have to negotiate.”

“I think it helps the farm bill process, absolutely,” House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson told Agri-Pulse about the agreement on SNAP work requirements.

The debt ceiling bill increases the maximum age for SNAP work requirements from 49 to 54 but also adds exemptions for the homeless, veterans and young people under 24 who have left the foster care system.

The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the SNAP provisions would wind up costing taxpayers \$2.1 billion over 10 years because 78,000 people would gain benefits in an average month due to the new exemptions, which more than offset the impact of the increased age limit.

Stabenow and Thompson believe the debt limit deal would affect the timing for writing a new farm bill. “We’ve got a lot of work to do yet, and information we need from CBO, and

other information, and it’s just it’s going to take time to get this done,” said Stabenow.

The back-and-forth negotiations within and between the House and Senate will continue throughout the summer. Thompson said he expected House Ag to consider a bill in September. He also said there was more unspent funding that could be folded into the farm bill but wasn’t sure of the amount. Stabenow said she didn’t think there was any significant amount of money remaining available.

Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS)

Efforts to bring clarity to the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) regulation continue to be interpreted in courts and, as has happened in the past, may be pushed back to Congress to negotiate a new proposal

The Supreme Court’s Clean Water Act decision restricting the federal government’s jurisdiction over “adjacent” wetlands prompted warnings that millions of acres of wetlands could be at risk, but the ruling generated cheers from farm groups that have fought for decades to limit the interpretation of the 50-year-old law.

It also may be the death knell for what remained of Chevron deference, even before the court takes up that specific issue in a later case. The Chevron doctrine says when a law is ambiguous, courts should defer to federal agencies’ interpretation.

Travis Cushman, deputy general counsel at the American Farm Bureau Federation, said the decision in *Sackett v. EPA* was “the exact result we were looking for.”

“It makes it much easier for farmers and folks in the field to walk out and know, just by looking at the property, whether or not something should be regulated as a water,” he said in an interview with Agri-Pulse.

Cushman said the way the opinion’s result has been reported – as a 5-4 decision – is misleading because all nine members of the court rejected the federal government’s “significant nexus” test, which was crafted by former Justice Anthony Kennedy in the 2006 *Rapanos* decision.

That test said wetlands could be regulated if they “either alone or in combination with similarly situated lands in the region, significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity” of navigable waters.

EPA Administrator Michael Regan did not say how the agency would respond to the decision. EPA is facing court challenges that have already resulted in its latest rule, which relies on the significant nexus test, being temporarily blocked in 27 states.

One option would be for EPA to simply withdraw the rule and ask the courts now handling the litigation to allow EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to negotiate a new rule.

Technical Service Providers

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) earlier this year opened the first round of staff positions to implement \$19.5 billion in Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding. The soil conservationist openings are part of a broader effort to assist producers in developing conservation plans and implementing stewardship practices.

NRCS hiring is being done in the context of following the Service's priorities of diversity, climate change, and promotion of urban agriculture and an unstable funding path as Congress negotiates the debt ceiling provisions and annual appropriations.

IRA funding will support four programs: Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Regional Conservation Partnership Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program as well as conservation technical assistance.

The funding includes money designated for measuring, evaluating and quantifying carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emission reductions from conservation investments.

"To help agricultural producers invest in conservation on their farms, ranches and working forests, we need to grow our team that delivers our conservation programs," said Robert Bonnie,

USDA's undersecretary for farm production and conservation. "This next generation of conservation talent will help us build upon our long history of working one-on-one with producers to get conservation on the ground."

USDA's job posting for soil conservationists seeks candidates who can "offer conservation planning and technical help to agricultural producers, helping them implement practices that sequester carbon, mitigate against climate change and conserve other natural resources."

Positions would be in the general service 5, 7 and 9 payroll levels within the federal government. Jobs are posted in the Central, Southeast, Northeast and West regions with placements in nearly every U.S. state and territory. Applications are due May 15.

NRCS says it is also working with external partners to hire nearly 3,000 people in the coming years to "play a critical role in the conservation planning and implementation process, complementing the work done by NRCS employees,"

While the ag community remains frustrated with the seeming failure of Congress to resolve these important issues, there should be some optimism that negotiations are moving forward in a bipartisan spirit, reflecting the importance of these issues to America's heartland.



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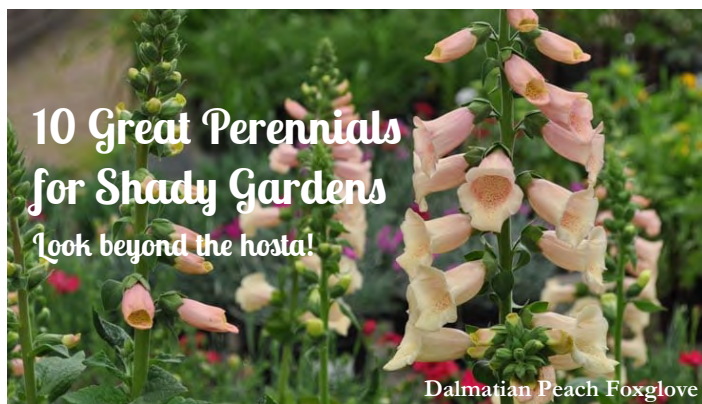
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ILICA Ladies' Page



10 Great Perennials for Shady Gardens

Look beyond the hosta!

Dalmatian Peach Foxglove

The once-a-year perennial plant sale at our company's Vermont garden center is a huge event. Shoppers line up well before the 8 a.m. start time, eager to get first shot at the selection. My job is usually to roam the aisles, answering questions. One of the most common questions always goes something like this: "My yard gets lots of shade. What perennials can I plant other than hostas?"

Once I've cautioned the person that they'll be hard-pressed to find another plant as rugged and carefree as a hosta, I tell them about my top 10 easy-care, shade-tolerant perennials. Every one of them is a "good do-er" as my friend Sue would say.

If you have a shady area that could use a little visual excitement, I encourage you to give a couple of these plants a try. You'll surely find a few that will give those stalwart hostas a run for the money.

Heuchera (Coral bells). Heucheras make fine plants for shady sites. Plant breeders have had a field day with the genus heuchera. There seems to be no end to the variations in leaf color: silvery, burgundy, purple-black, chartreuse, salmon and rusty orange. With heuchera, it's the foliage that provides the visual excitement, though some varieties also have showy flowers on tall, slender stems. The variety in the photo is called Chocolate Ruffles.

Lamium maculatum (Dead nettle). A low, spreading plant with silvery foliage and purple, pink, red or white blooms in early summer. In shady locations, I find this plant spreads happily — not invasively. If you wind up with too much of it, just give it a tug, lift out a whole section and pass it on to a friend.

Tiarella cordifolia (Foamflower). Similar to heuchera in leaf and form, tiarella has matte rather than shiny leaves, which gives it a slightly more "natural" look. The bottle-brush flowers are white or pale pink and I find them showier than those of most heucheras. New varieties often feature burgundy-red leaf veins.

Pulmonaria (Lungwort). Another plant with beautiful silvery foliage. Leaves are typically long and narrow, and may be entirely silver, spotted with silver or randomly splashed with silver. Lungwort flowers in spring and its blossoms are quite showy, ranging in color from white through pink and blue — with different colors often appearing on the same plant.

Astilbe. Known best for their colorful flower plumes, many of the newer astilbe varieties also have showy foliage that may be bronze, pale green, blue green, dark green or wine red. If you choose varieties with different foliage colors, bloom times and heights, they can add lots of interesting color and texture throughout the season.

Digitalis (Foxglove). Most foxgloves are biennials, which means they spend their first year growing foliage, their second year flowering and then they die. This may sound troublesome,



Chocolate Ruffles Heuchera



Lamium



Tiarella



Pulmonaria



Astilbe



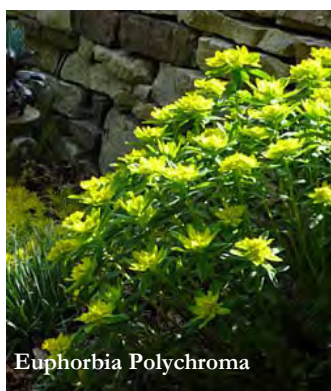
Foxglove



Japanese Forest Grass



Primula



Euphorbia Polychroma



Lady's Mantle

but the plants usually reseed and sort things out so you wind up having flowers every year. I find *Digitalis grandiflora* the easiest and most reliable of the bunch.

Hakonechloa (Japanese forest grass). Unlike most grasses, this one grows best and looks best in partial shade. It's short (12-15") and clump-forming, and the narrow leaves have a

cascading habit. Depending on the variety, its foliage is golden green, lime green or variegated. Some turn red, orange or purple in the fall.

Primula (Primrose). I always thought primroses were difficult to grow, but I've found them to be super easy as long as you provide shade and moist soil. There are 425 species of primula. They come in every color of the rainbow and range in size from little 3-inch dwarfs to 4-foot giants. The photo shows *Primula denticulata*, also known as the drumstick primula. Colors range from white through lilac, pink and deep red.

Euphorbia (Spurge). The beautiful, burgundy-leaved *Euphorbia dulcis* does self sow, but the seedlings can be easily removed (and given to appreciative visitors). I also like *Euphorbia polychroma* (shown at left), which is a dome of chrome yellow in late spring. In zones 5 and warmer, try *Euphorbia polychroma* 'Bonfire', which has three seasons of color. A variety named Jessie grows up to 4 feet tall.

Alchemilla (Lady's mantle). When water falls on this plant's pleated leaves, it beads up into dazzling little jewels. The flowers, which appear in early June, are yellow-green and make a fabulous filler for bouquets of almost any color. This is a very long-lived and trouble-free plant. The standard-size plant is *Alchemilla mollis*. For small spaces, look for *Alchemilla erythropha*, which only gets about 6 inches high.

Source: Reprinted with permission from Gardener's Supply Company. Author, Kathy LaLiberte: <https://www.gardeners.com/how-to/great-plants-for-shade/8201.html#2>



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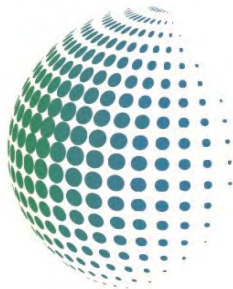
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FRIENDLY COMPETITION ABOUNDS IN MATTOON

For most ILICA members, the golf outings, trap shoots, and annual picnics hosted by Illinois LICA serve as a welcome reprieve from the office or field and a chance to enjoy the company of friends, family, and colleagues outdoors. For others, these events are cherished for the competition, bragging rights, and prize opportunities they present. It's very safe to say that both demographics were equally represented in the Mattoon, IL area on June 16th & 17th.

Whether they were signed up for a fun day or for first place recognition, those that attended the 12th Annual Area 6 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot and Birkey's Backhoe Rodeo & Picnic had their chance at both over the two days. Over a dozen trap shooters kicked off festivities on Friday with a "bang," pulverizing 700 clay targets at the Paul McKillip Farm located just down the road from the golf course. The top shot title was reclaimed by Levi Coons of Port Industries (2021 winner) by crushing 40/50 clays, taking himself home a pair of electronic shooting muffs. But even for the most competitive at the range, the event wasn't an utter defeat because all shooters took home door prizes thanks to the generous support of our sponsors.

Top Shot: Levi Coons

Later that same day, nearly 50 golfers swung into Meadowview Golf Course for lunch, 18 holes of golf in a scramble format, and a ribeye steak dinner buffet. With a chance at cash prizes for the longest drive (\$50), longest putt (\$50), closest to the pin (\$50), and lowest scoring team (\$100), you could feel and hear the friendly competition brewing out on the course; speaking of brewing, beverage cart sponsors were likely helpful in fueling some of this rivalry. In the end, though, all golfers had a great time with most receiving door prizes and one lucky individual winning the 50/50 raffle (\$180 take-home):

Longest Drive: Dalton Freiling

Closest to the Pin: Cully Day

Longest Putt: Cully Day

Lowest Scoring Team:

Austin Powley, Tyson Harris, Matt Kowalis, Tate Moses

Most Honest Team:

Clay Yantis, Rusty Yantis, Jack Epley, Armando Alanis

And for those that didn't get their fill of fun and competition on Friday, they had their chance to satisfy their appetite the following day at Lake Land College doing something likely much more familiar to them. Working with the college and ILICA Picnic Committee co-chair, Bill Dean, Birkey's Construction developed and hosted a backhoe rodeo competition with three different challenges that tested even the most experienced operators. After two rounds of competition and a final "money" round, Jon Seevers won a model Case backhoe for having the quickest overall round time and second best time during the final round. It was Tyler Seals, though, who took home the largest cash prize (\$120) for the best time during the final round. David Kennedy rounded out the top three overall, including the final round, earning him a little gas

money, too. After the backhoe rodeo, members enjoyed lunch and a quick meeting, wrapping up the last couple days of fun and competition with beautiful weather.

Backhoe Rodeo Overall: Jon Seevers

Backhoe Rodeo Money Round: Tyler Seals

Illinois LICA would like to thank everyone who sponsored and supported these events, as well as Paul McKillip, Meadowview Golf Course, and Lake Land College.

For a complete listing of sponsors and to view pictures from the events, check out our website: <https://www.illica.net/golf-outings> & <https://www.illica.net/member-picnics>





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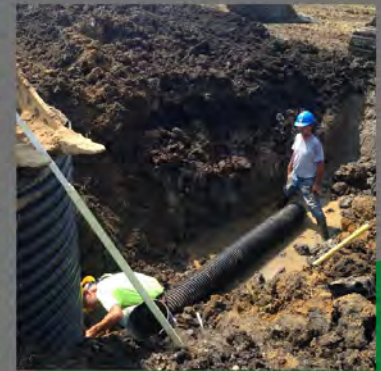
The 2016 Wetland Project was held in what town?



Be the first to submit the correct answer to michelle@ilica.net

One lucky winner will receive a prize!

May/June Answer: Craig & Vianne Carroll, Ken & Ruth Pleines, Dan & Meleda Day, Ardith & Al McCall



2023 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING DETAILS & AGENDA

July 11 -15 · Lincoln, Nebraska · The Graduate Hotel



LICA HOMECOMING 2023

TUESDAY, JULY 11

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration
8:15 am - 6:00 pm	Bakers Candies, Aerospace Museum, Safari Park, & Johnson Company Ice Cream Social

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration
8:00 am - 5:30 pm	Lincoln Industries, Speed Museum, Nebraska Tractor Test Lab
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Executive Committee

THURSDAY, JULY 13

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration
8:00 am - 1:00 pm	Seminars
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Executive Directors
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Associates' Night (exhibition) "LICA HOMECOMING"

FRIDAY, JULY 14

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration
8:00 am	Opening Breakfast
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Committee Meetings
12:00 pm	Lunch

SATURDAY, JULY 15

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Devotions
8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Board Meeting
12:00 pm	Lunch

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION?

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

SUMMER MEETING THEME

The theme of this years' Summer Meeting is "LICA Homecoming 2023." Attendees are encouraged (but not required) to dress in theme on Associates' Night. Members can dress for the big Homecoming Game or in formal wear for the Homecoming Dance. No matter how you dress, Associates' Night (exhibition) will be a great evening of networking and friends.

THE HAYMARKET DISTRICT

LICA will be staying right in the Historic Haymarket District. It boasts shops, galleries and a wide variety of restaurants and bars. The area is very walkable and consists of beautifully renovated 19th-century brick warehouses. Every Saturday there is a huge Farmers' Market- steps away from the hotel.

Speaking of hotels, the Graduate Hotel is distinctive and fun - not your average hotel! LICA members will notice upon arrival that the lobby is filled with retro decor. The fun does not stop in the lobby, each sleeping room has corn cob curtains, more retro furniture and the look is complete with a workstation straight out of an old dorm room!

SCAN CODE
For Hotel Reservations
& Summer Meeting
Registration.



2023 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING TOURS

July 11 -15 · Lincoln, Nebraska · The Graduate Hotel



LICA HOMECOMING 2023

TUESDAY, JULY 11TH

Bakers Candies - Greenwood, Nebraska

Start the day off right with chocolate! Join us for an exclusive factory tour and shop at their huge outlet mall.

Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum



After indulging on chocolates, members will take a guided tour through the Museum. Their focus is on aircraft and nuclear missiles of the U.S. Air Force during the Cold War as well as other historical aircraft.

Round the Bend Steakhouse

LICA members will enjoy a buffet lunch at this popular steakhouse. Although members won't be sampling that day, Round the Bend is home of the "Testicle Festival."

Wildlife Safari Park



At this drive-through park you will see a variety of North American wildlife: bears, wolves, elk, bison, pelicans and other waterfowl. The safari has 6 open area wildlife exhibits including: bison plains, lee and Helene Sapp family elk meadows, deer woods, Pelican wetlands, prairie dog town, and Harold & Marian Anderson Crane Meadow.

Ice Cream Social at The Johnson Company

(Non-dairy options will be available.)

Longtime LICA Associates, Randy & Carol Johnson are hosting members at "The Barn" for some delicious ice cream. Daring to be different, The Johnson Company makes its home for the last 30 years in a refurbished barn that sits on 40 wooded acres – a place of purpose – aptly named "Within the Wild." End the day with a sweet treat in a serene environment.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12TH

Lincoln Industries *Closed toed shoes/long pants*

Lincoln Industries is the largest privately-held metal finishing company in north America. They work with metal finishing, coatings, insulation, & tube fabrication in industries such as agriculture, automotive, appliances, motorsports, powersports, oil & gas, tools, & trucks.

Fireworks Restaurant

After Lincoln Industries, LICA members will dine at Fireworks, enjoying the atmosphere created by the wood-fired stoves.

Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed



This amazing museum showcases a stunning array of history-making cars, engines, parts, pedal cars, automotive toys and memorabilia. Racing displays range from dirt tracks to the Indy 500 and include the world's largest collection of

exotic and historic American racing engines from the early 1900's to the present day, featuring specialized Millers and Offenhausers.

Nebraska Tractor Test Laboratory



LICA Members get to visit the official designated tractor testing station for the United States. Take a guided tour through this facility and see what goes on behind the scenes.

TOUR INFORMATION

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. We "check-in" all our attendees to make sure we don't leave people behind, but please be sure to pay attention to arrival and departure times so there is no confusion.

2023 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING SEMINARS & FAMILY FUN

July 11 -15 · Lincoln, Nebraska · The Graduate Hotel



LICA HOMECOMING 2023

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS THURSDAY, JULY 13

The LICA Portal: Access Free Safety Materials Presented by: Bruce Mosier, Prins Insurance

The Zywave Portal is a free benefit to all our contractor members. Each LICA Contractor member has access to safety materials including everything OSHA through the Zywave Resource Library. Members can log-in to a personalized LICA Portal & search for any topic that relates to their business as well as view an up-to-the-minute news feed tailored to company's needs. In this seminar you will find out how to use this benefit to help your company be safe.

National LICA Leadership Panel

Presented by: National Past Presidents: Steve Anderson, IL; Mike Cook, MI; Steve Gerten, OH; and Don Loken, MN.

Have you ever thought about serving on your State Chapter Board or even on the National Board? Most members do not know how to get involved – or even what a position on the board entails. During this session you will hear from National Past Presidents about their experiences at the State and National level. Members can get their questions answered about leadership roles within LICA, from the people who have held them. Hear them tell their stories: why they joined, how and why they served in leadership roles, and why they benefited from serving LICA.

aQuiRe: A New Approach to Trades Training

Presented by: Carley J Hill, C.E.O.. & Founder, CAHill TECH, Inc.

While building and maintaining safe & efficient teams, many construction companies struggle with:

- Lack of properly trained employees
- The knowledge gap between generations
- Operationalizing lean teams

In this session, our CEO and founder will show you how she is helping 1000's of frontline workers and their employers. By combining innovation and authenticity, the aQuiRe™ Construction Academy is ensuring training and construction safety gets more efficient, more connected, and stays human.

FAMILY FUN

All of these attractions are budget-friendly and great for kids and adults alike. Visit: visitnebraska.com/things-to-do/family-fun for even more ideas!

Sunken Gardens *Free Admission*



The only Nebraska garden to be listed in the "300 Best Gardens to Visit in the United States and Canada" by National Geographic's "Guide to Public Gardens", this enchanting place is important to many.

Formerly a neighborhood dumpsite, this 1.5 acres was first developed in 1930, and was transformed into an iconic feature of Lincoln. The Sunken Gardens have been the backdrop to decades of memorable occasions.

University of Nebraska State Museum

Established in 1871, the University of Nebraska State Museum is the state's premier museum of natural history. Visitors to Morrill Hall will find interactive exhibits featuring Nebraska's past and present biological diversity, and its cultural heritage with a dedicated First Peoples of the Plains gallery. The four-level, 70,000 square foot museum is located on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus near the corner of 14th and Vine Streets in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Adults: \$9.50 Kids (3-18): \$5.50 (Under 3 FREE)

Lincoln Children's Zoo



Lincoln Children's Zoo is rated among the best zoos for children by Parent Magazine and is home to over 400 animals, including the world's smallest monkeys (pygmy marmosets), ring-tailed lemurs, dromedary camels, red pandas, meerkats, and more!

Adults: \$14.95 Kids (2-12): \$12.95 (1 & Under FREE)

Photo credits: Nebraska Tourism

2023 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING REGISTRATION

July 11 -15 · Lincoln, Nebraska · The Graduate Hotel



LICA HOMECOMING 2023

Name _____

Name _____

Company _____

Name _____

City _____ State _____

Name _____

Email _____

Name _____

EARLY BIRD RATE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 19, 2023

Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes:
Associates' Night, Friday Breakfast & Lunch, Saturday
Breakfast & Lunch

PRICE

\$300.00

ATTENDING

TOTAL

Youth: 13 Years & Under

FREE

REGISTRATION POSTMARKED AFTER JUNE 19, 2023

Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes:
Associates' Night, Friday Breakfast & Lunch, Saturday
Breakfast & Lunch

\$350.00

Youth: 13 Years & Under

FREE

TOUR REGISTRATION

July 11th - Bakers Candies, Aerospace Museum, Round the
Bend, Safari Park, & Johnson Company Ice Cream Social

\$120.00

Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)

\$50.00

July 12th - Lincoln Industries, Fireworks, Speed Museum,
Nebraska Tractor Test Lab.

\$120.00

Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)

\$50.00

SUMMER MEETING TOTAL (Registration plus Tours)

\$

Accommodations:

The Graduate Hotel
141 N. 9th St., Lincoln, NE 68508
Room Rate: \$139/night (plus taxes & fees)
Call: (844) 888-4723
Group: 2023 LICA Summer Meeting
Deadline: Monday, June 19, 2023

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CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS, MAXIMIZE YOUR ROI



The time is now to maximize your return on investment for your Illinois LICA membership. Mark your calendars for AUGUST 1-3 & 29-31 for your opportunity this summer to get hands-on construction experience that is guaranteed to have life-long impacts on you and your company!

As you've read countless times before in this publication, one of the easiest and most fun ways to engage with the Association and fellow members is by volunteering some of your time to Illinois LICA's field demonstrations. While these demonstrations physically put conservation practices on the landscape, they also provide the unique opportunity for ILICA members to gain hands-on experience with various conservation practices, to network with agency and non-governmental organization technicians, and to build life-long friendships with like-minded contractors.

The personal growth opportunities are endless at these field days. Are you wanting to operate new equipment and test new technologies? Interested in learning more about constructing certain conservation practices (new or old) to diversify your company's services and provide growth? Care to learn more efficient ways to execute projects? Looking for fellow contractors to bounce ideas off of and pick-up tips from? What about finding someone you could trust with the right equipment and expertise to allow you to bid that big job you'd like to secure but need a little help with? Ever wish you had the chance to ask field technicians why certain practices are designed a certain way or to verify your construction techniques are acceptable? Well, all you have to do is leverage your membership and volunteer for an ILICA field day to advance yourself and your company. It's really that easy!

On August 1-3, ILICA will be in East Peoria, IL on the campus of Illinois Central College (ICC) to demonstrate the installation of roughly 20 acres of drainage tile, 8 water control structures, and a water & sediment control basin (WASCB). The practices will be showcased over the three days for those on campus for the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement's (C2A3) national conference hosted on campus that week, as well as for Illinois Sustainable Ag Partnership's (ISAP) Ag & Conservation Family Night. Illinois LICA is also developing an excavation and trenching competent person certification training to be held over one of these days, complete with hands-on trench safety training in-field. With multiple trench and pit scenarios to view and identify, built around our active field demonstration, it should be the perfect, in-depth training for any and all employees that dig or enter trenches.

At the end of the month on August 29-31, ILICA will be back in Decatur, IL for the Farm Progress Show to demonstrate roughly another 30 acres of drainage tile installation. ILICA will also have a booth in the Partners in Conservation tent during the event. Similar to the demonstration at ICC, there will be opportunities to both share your experiences with the general public and learn new information from fellow contractors and technicians. Another perk of volunteering at the Farm Progress Show is that ILICA covers your entry fee to the event for the day you volunteer your time to the Association. ILICA is also working to secure "LICA Camp" again this year, which is our own reserved section just outside of the show grounds for members to bring travel trailers and RVs to camp!

Make the most of your membership and volunteer during the month of August for one or both of ILICA's field demonstrations. All you have to do to get involved is give the office a call (309.932.1230) and let us know which day you plan on being there or use our volunteer form online: <https://www.illica.net/volunteer-project-signup> We cannot wait to see you!

*"We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give."
– Winston Churchill*

PARTNERSHIP FIELD DAY TOURS

WOODCHIP BIOREACTOR & SATURATED BUFFER

Established in 2019, the Saturated Buffer Partnership, comprised of Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB), Illinois LICA (ILICA), Illinois Natural Resources Conservation Service (ILNRCS), and Southern Illinois University (SIU), seeks to install one or more saturated buffers per year across the state over a five year period; combining physical conservation drainage implementation with practice outreach, education, and research.

On June 8th, this partnership installed its second saturated buffer, due in part to COVID impacts over the last couple of years, as part of a combined field day on the Pickrell Farm near Buffalo, IL. Joining forces with the Woodchip Bioreactor Partnership (IFB, ILICA, ILNRCS, University of Illinois), which installed the largest NRCS designed woodchip bioreactor in the state of Illinois last fall near Lake Springfield, the partners hosted a field day where approximately 120 attendees were able to learn about both conservation drainage practices by touring these sites. Partners, industry professionals, and the landowners and tenants were on-hand to share all the specifics about each practice, site selection, and some of the decision making that goes into implementing conservation drainage.

Treating approximately 12 acres, the saturated buffer practice was a good fit for the Pickrell Farm. With an existing buffer over 30' wide already established, the practice will work in tandem with the new pattern tile system the landowner installed to manage nutrient losses. Running parallel to the ditch in the existing vegetated buffer, the saturated buffer lateral line totals just over 700' in length and crosses one

existing 12" tile outlet that was replaced with non-perforated pipe upstream and downstream for a specified distance to minimize negative impacts to the functionality of the practice (i.e. pathways for saturated buffer tile water to easily & quickly exit the soil profile before treatment occurs).

Illinois LICA would like to thank Jon Seevers and Seevers Farm Drainage for completing the saturated buffer installation on behalf of the Association, as well as all the partners and volunteers involved with both of these projects and the field day. Thank you also to Springfield Plastics and Agri Drain who supported the installation with donated and discounted materials. More information about the woodchip bioreactor installed last fall can be found in the January - February 2023 issue of the *ILICA News*, and additional information about both of these projects can also be found online at: <https://www.ilica.net/projects>.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

Illinois Central College
Field Demonstration

August 1 - 3, 2023

ICC Campus: East Peoria, IL

Requesting volunteers to assist with tile drainage,
WASCB installation, & tour sessions -
sign up via QR code on page 5

Illinois Sustainable Ag Partnership's
Ag & Conservation Family Night

August 2, 2023

6 - 8 pm

ICC Campus: East Peoria, IL

Requesting volunteers to assist with ILICA tile
drainage, WASCB, & equipment sessions -
sign up via QR code on page 5

Prairie Feather Farms Field Day
August 25, 2023

Prairie Feather Farms: Dwight, IL

Attend this field day to visit an ILICA constructed
wetland and to learn more about this effective
conservation drainage practice

Farm Progress Show Demonstration
August 29 - 31, 2023

Richland Community College - Decatur, IL

Requesting volunteers to assist with tile drainage
installation - sign up via QR code on page 5. Volunteers
receive free Farm Progress Show entry; limited ILICA
camping sites available.

National

2023 National LICA Summer Meeting
July 11-15, 2023

The Graduate Hotel: Lincoln, NE

Register via form on page 17 or via QR code on page 14.

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FEATURED ILICA BENEFIT: ATTORNEY PHONE CONSULTATION PROGRAM



Wessels Sherman offers Illinois ILICA members a unique option — a program for certain telephone legal advice at no charge.

Reason for Program: This telephone consultation program was instituted by firm founder Richard H. Wessels to encourage frequent counseling of the firm's clients and to assist our clients in adopting preventive programs and policies in their workplaces.

Easy Access to Firm's Attorneys: To help ILICA members utilize the program (\$75/mo value), Wessels Sherman provides cell phone numbers of all of its attorneys.

Scope of the Program's Telephone Consultation: Legal counseling by a Wessels Sherman attorney under the program covers the following kinds of activities:

- Opinions on how to handle personnel problems relating to labor and employment issues;
- Conferences as to whether or not a certain course of action regarding an employment decision could lead to significant legal difficulties;
- Discussions regarding union/labor issues from the company

These are just examples of possible phone calls that could come to Wessels Sherman under this program. It bears noting that the program obviously does not apply to telephone discussions of "ongoing/pending" litigation and non-litigation matters we are handling for a client. Examples of such "ongoing/pending" matters include Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), federal and state court cases and collective bargaining negotiations. Telephone discussions concerning "ongoing/pending" matters will be billed at our normal hourly rate as discussed below. In addition, the program is also **not** intended to be:

- A substitute for thorough legal research when needed; and/or
- A substitute for an in-depth strategy session.

Of course, if the attorney contacted under the program is required, by virtue of the telephone call, to follow up with legal research, drafting of letters and/or documents, drafting of employee handbooks, contacting governmental agencies and/or officials, etc., those activities would be billed to the client under the normal Wessels Sherman billing structure.

No Exact Science: ILICA members who have utilized the program feel that it is an exceedingly effective way of obtaining legal counseling and instituting preventative legal measures in their workplace. We agree.

In order to avoid any misunderstandings about what telephone services are encompassed within this program, in circumstances where the attorney must perform services beyond those covered by the program, our attorneys are instructed to alert you that a charge may be incurred for any extra services. You will be so advised in all such cases, except where Wessels Sherman is handling an ongoing/pending matter, prior to the rendering of the additional services.

However, if you are ever in doubt about whether a certain phone call falls under the ILICA telephone consultation program — or whether or not the legal problems are such that additional legal services would be required and, therefore, would be billed outside the program benefit — you should, of course, feel free to ask the appropriate attorney directly whether or not this legal problem would fall into the ILICA telephone consultation program.

Please feel free to contact any of our offices regarding a phone client question. Phone numbers are below:

FREE

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Minneapolis, MN – (952) 746-1700

Davenport, IA – (563) 333-9102
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SAFETY FEATURE: HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES



Overview

Heat and humidity can cause several different types of heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Knowing the signs and symptoms of each type of heat-related illness will help to keep you safe on the job. Normally, the body has ways of keeping itself cool by allowing heat to escape through the skin and evaporating sweat (perspiration).

However, if the body does not cool down properly or does not cool down enough, a person may suffer a heat-related illness. Anyone is susceptible to a heat-related illness, but the very young and elderly are at the greatest risk. Beyond that, heat-related illnesses can become serious or even deadly if unattended.

Types of Heat-related Emergencies

These are three types of heat-related emergencies:

- **Heat Cramps** are muscular pains and spasms caused by heavy exertion. This is generally the result of a loss of water and salt through sweating.
- **Heat Exhaustion** is caused by fluid loss and decreased blood flow to your vital organs. This condition can produce flu-like symptoms.
- **Heat Stroke** is the most serious heat-related emergency and occurs when the body's internal cooling system has failed. This is a life-threatening condition requiring immediate and aggressive action.

The Heat Index

The heat index is a method that combines air temperature and relative humidity to determine an apparent temperature. The human body normally cools itself through perspiration (or sweating), when the water in sweat evaporates and carries heat away from the body.

However, when the relative humidity is high, the evaporation rate of the water is reduced. This means heat is removed from the body at a lower rate, causing it to retain more heat than it would in dry air. The heat index is important to know when doing physical work outdoors, as higher combinations of heat and humidity can make the body more susceptible to heat-related illnesses.

Preventing Heat Related Emergencies

Know the signs and symptoms of the various types of heat-related illnesses. Take time to monitor yourself and be aware of your co-workers. If working outdoors, avoid long periods of direct sunlight. Use cooling fans to keep air circulating around your body. This helps aid your natural cooling process. Wear lightweight, light-colored and loose-fitting clothes when working in warm and humid environments. Drink primarily non-caffeinated fluids. Caffeine actually works against you because it is a diuretic and will cause you to lose more fluids than you are ingesting. Drinking water or other electrolyte products are best. Never wait until you feel thirsty to start hydrating – you are well on your way to becoming dehydrated when you feel thirsty. It is critical to your overall health to stay properly hydrated, especially when working in hot and humid environments.

Heat-related Emergency Guide

Signs & Symptoms

Heat Cramps	Heat Exhaustion	Heat Stroke
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leg cramps • Muscle spasms • Stiff abdomen • Weak, faint or dizzy • Stiff abdomen • Possible nausea • Normal mental status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin is cool and moist • Excessive perspiration • Pupils are dilated (large) • Body temp near normal • Headache • Weak, dizzy or faint • Disorientation • Dark and decreased urine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin is hot and dry • No sweating • Pupils are very small • Victim is confused or unable to think straight • Possible seizures • Body temperature is very high (can be as high as 105° F)

Treatment

Heat Cramps	Heat Exhaustion	Heat Stroke
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to a cooler location • Seek medical help if victim loses consciousness • Drink plenty of fluids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get medical attention • Move victim to a cool area • Lay victim on their back and elevate feet 8-10 inches • If conscious, give water every 15 minutes • Cool by fanning or spraying with cool water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 911 immediately • Move victim to a cool area • Loosen clothing • Douse body with water • Apply ice packs or wet clothes to neck, armpits and groin

General Guidelines & Reminders: Do not underestimate the seriousness of heat-related illnesses. Do not give medication to reduce fever and do not allow the victim to drink any caffeinated or alcoholic beverages. In heat-related emergencies, do not overlook other medical conditions that might be complicated by excessive heat. When in doubt, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

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