

ILICA



NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

July - August 2026

Past President

Eric Layden

President

Jon Seevers

Vice President

Tyler Seals

First Vice President

LaVerne Weber

Treasurer

Lee Bunting

Associate Director

Amber Bosma

Executive Director

Ryan Arch

Board of Directors

Area 1

Brian Brooks

LaVerne Weber

Area 2

Steve Anderson

Stuart Anderson

Area 3

Joe Streitmatter

Grant Curtis

Area 4

David Kennedy

Lee Bunting

Area 5

Rick Maguire

Earl Mast

Area 6

Bill Dean

Scott Day

Area 7

VACANT

Area 8

Tom Beyer

Tyler Seals



ILICA DRAINAGE WATER WORKSHOPS JULY 9 & AUG. 5

(page 16, 21)



AREA 6 GOLF OUTING & TRAP SHOOT: 15 YEARS STRONG

(page 14)



ANNUAL PICNIC & MEMBERS' MTG. JULY 18

(page 18)

Also Featured Inside:

- ▶ **USDA Announces Colton L. Buckley as Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service** *(page 6)*
- ▶ **Extension Connection: Spotting Tile Drainage Problems with Satellites** *(page 12)*
- ▶ **INLICA Tile Drainage Installation Field Day** *(page 19)*
- ▶ **NEW LICA Benefit: GM Fleet Discounts** *(page 24)*
- ▶ **Safety Feature: Take Precautions to Prevent Heat Illness** *(page 26)*



WE GET IT. DONE.

SPRINGFIELD PLASTICS, INC. works hard to ensure contractors have the highest-quality pipe and fittings on the market. What we do behind the scenes includes:

- *Expertly designed drainage systems*
- *Superior quality control to ensure your order is correct*
- *An amazing customer service team to handle questions*
- *Dispatch services to coordinate drainage tile delivery*

**Because Springfield Plastics gets it.
AND WE'LL MAKE SURE IT GETS DONE RIGHT.**



Springfield Plastics, inc.

spipipe.com • 800-252-3361

INSURANCE SOLUTIONS FOR LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS



Dimond Bros.
INSURANCE

DIMONDBROS.COM | 815.875.4044



Pete Mangold

Sales Executive - Partner
petemangold@dimondbros.com
Ext. 1808



Mitch Newell

Sales Executive - Partner
mitchnewell@dimondbros.com
Ext. 4320



Stephen Symons

Sales Executive
stephensymons@dimondbros.com
Ext. 3214



Caleb Dickens

Sales Executive
caleb.dickens@dimondbros.com
Ext. 1613



Dan McNeely

Executive VP of Sales - Partner
dan.mcneely@dimondbros.com
Ext. 3403



The ILICA News



Editor / Advertising Manager
Ryan Arch

Past President
Eric Layden, Hoopston

President
Jon Seevers, Argenta

Vice President
Tyler Seals, Mt. Carmel

1st Vice President
LaVerne Weber, Rock City

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

USDA Announces Colton L. Buckley as Chief of the NRCS	6
Area 6 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot: 15 Years Strong	14
Illinois LICA Drainage Water Workshop Series	16
Illinois LICA's Annual Picnic & Members' Meeting	18
INLICA Tile Drainage Installation Field Day	19
Illinois LICA Drainage Water Workshop Series	21

COLUMNS

President's Message	4
2026 Board & Members' Meeting Attendance	4
2026 Board & Members' Meeting Schedule	5
New Members	5
ILICA Ladies' Page: Water vs. Sports Drinks: What's Best for Our Bodies	8
Extension Connection: Spotting Tile Drainage Problems with Satellites ...	12
ILICA Trivia	22
Calendar of Events	23
Advertiser Index	23
Featured NEW LICA Benefit: GM Fleet Discounts	24
Safety Feature: Take Precautions to Prevent Heat Illness.	26

Northland Trenching Equipment, LLC

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

Trimble 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

NORTHLAND Trenching
Equipment, LLC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



At the end of April this year, I retired from our local Volunteer Fire Department after 42 years of service. Each member of the fire department is required to have a minimum of 24 hours of annual training. During those four decades, I learned about fire science, hazardous materials,

pipeline safety, grain entrapment, trench collapse rescue, automobile accident extrication, pump operations, ladder rescue, SCBA donning and doffing, First Responder training, CPR and AED certifications, and much, much more.

It was at least 20 years ago (but I can remember it like it was yesterday) that I was attending a Macon County Fire Association meeting at the Mt. Zion Fire Department where a retired Chicago Fire Chief was the keynote speaker. During his speech, he pointed towards the overhead doors and said, "Aside from medical emergencies or mechanical failures, those doors only go up because someone has done something STUPID!"

Whether it be on the road, in the workplace, or at home, most accidents are totally preventable. When we assess the root cause of accidents, they usually fall into one or more of the following categories: a failure to focus and/or a failure to assess and mitigate the risks involved.

A few months ago, I was fabricating a drill jig, to accurately mass produce a couple hundred concrete disc forms made from thin segments of dual wall plastic pipe for an upcoming project. I had used our table saw to rip an inch from a 3' long 2 x 4 board that I was then going to cut into three one-foot-long boards. The ripped one-inch portion of the board didn't fall free of the table saw, but instead, came to rest on the table saw's motor. While nonchalantly grabbing the "hung-up" piece of wood to discard it, I apparently moved it slightly enough for it to be grabbed by the spinning blade, causing it and my left index finger to go through the blade!

This was a STUPID move on my part. I had become complacent in using that table saw, the same one that I've used for over a half century. Yes, I should have used the push stick that was laying on the table saw to remove the board or at least turned off the saw before getting my hand close to it. I failed to focus and failed to assess and mitigate the risk.

I will hopefully make a mostly full recovery from this self-inflicted "accident," but the slightly shorter finger will serve as a reminder that safety should be an every-minute-of-everyday priority. The QR code above is a link to the photo I took while driving myself to the emergency room. Learn from my mistakes and be safe out there.



https://static.wixstatic.com/media/f15a8b_d413fe05d6174c79be920b32251ed920~mv2.jpg

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" - Benjamin Franklin

Jon Seevers

2026 BOARD / MEMBERS' MTG. ATTENDANCE						
A = absent	P = present			C = cancelled meeting		
Area / Director	Jan	March	May	July	Sep	Nov
Pres: Jon Seevers	P	P	P			
VP: Tyler Seals	P	P	A			
1st VP: LaVerne Weber	P	P	P			
Area 1 - Brian Brooks	P	P	P			
Area 1 - LaVerne Weber	P	P	P			
Area 2 - Steve Anderson	P	P	P			
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	P	A	P			
Area 3 - Grant Curtis	A	A	A			
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	P			
Area 4 - David Kennedy	P	A	A			
Area 4 - Lee Bunting	P	P	P			
Area 5 - Rick Maguire	P	P	P			
Area 5 - Earl Mast	-	-	P			
Area 6 - Scott Day	P	P	A			
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	A	P			
Area 8 - Tom Beyers	A	P	P			
Area 8 - Tyler Seals	P	P	A			
Associate Director: Amber Bosma	P	A	P			

NEW MEMBERS

Contractors

Soraida Mendoza

National Construction Rentals Inc.

3756 S Cicero Ave

Cicero, IL 60804

Ph: 773-376-8352

Email: smendoza@rentnational.com

Website: rentnational.com

Associates

West Side Tractor Sales Co.

Ron Svartoien

3110 Prairie Rd

Rockford, IL 61102

Ph: 815-961-3160

Email: rons@westsidetractorsales.com

Website: westsidetractorsales.com



REMINDER: FREE Classified Listings for Contractors!

Contact the ILICA Office for More Info: 309.932.1230



BERNS, CLANCY AND ASSOCIATES

ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS • PLANNERS

WEB: www.bernsclancy.com

405 EAST MAIN STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 755
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61803-0755
PHONE: 217 - 384 - 1144
FAX: 217 - 384 - 3355

101 THORNTON BUILDING
28 WEST NORTH STREET
DANVILLE, ILLINOIS 61832-5729
PHONE: 217 - 431 - 1144
FAX: 217 - 431 - 2929

BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

July 18, 2026 - Picnic & Members' Meeting:

Iron Works Historic Site, Joliet

Sept. 12, 2026 - Regular Meeting of the Board:

Virtual & IP - ILICA Office, Galva

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



REGION 4

Lunch & Learn

Webinar

Featuring:

SPENCER JOE

Certified Public Accountant



STAY AHEAD OF THE IRS CURVE

- Tax Basics
- Entity Structure
- Business Deductions & Depreciation
- OBBBA Changes

FREE

REGISTRATION
HERE



form.jotform.com/232894600540050

SEPT 2ND @ 12PM CT






USDA ANNOUNCES COLTON L. BUCKLEY AS CHIEF OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE



May 18, 2026 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the appointment of Colton L. Buckley as Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the nation's primary private lands conservation agency. Buckley, who currently serves as Associate Chief of NRCS, brings extensive leadership experience in conservation and agriculture policy to the role.

As Associate Chief, he has overseen the agency's financial and technical assistance programs, management and strategy, science and technology, soil science and resource assessment deputy areas, and partnerships division. Previously, he served as Chief of Staff for NRCS and as Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils.

Raised on his grandparents' cattle ranch outside Gatesville, Texas, Buckley has deep roots in production agriculture, and advocacy for practical, producer-led conservation solutions. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Services and Development from Tarleton State University and a Master of Arts in Communication from Liberty University. His career

includes roles at national and local conservation organizations, rural economic development entities, and service on multiple advisory boards—including the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, to which he was appointed by Governor Rick Perry.

"Colton has consistently demonstrated the ability to connect policy and field implementation in a way that delivers real outcomes," said FPAC Under Secretary Richard Fordyce. "He understands how to cut through bureaucracy and ensure programs work for producers. I am confident he will continue to lead NRCS with clarity, accountability, and a strong commitment to service."

Buckley stated, "I am deeply honored to step into the role of Chief of NRCS under the Farmer First leadership of President Trump, Secretary Rollins, and Under Secretary Fordyce. Our mission will be to empower America's farmers and ranchers with the tools, flexibility, and support they need to steward our natural resources while strengthening family farming operations, rural economies, and ensuring our nation's food security. We will focus on locally led, results-driven conservation that works hand-in-hand with producers—not against them. My top priority is keeping American working lands in American working hands."

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical and financial assistance to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners conserve natural resources. For more information about NRCS programs and initiatives, visit nrcs.usda.gov.

Source: USDA NRCS - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usda-announces-colton-l-buckley-as-chief-of-the-natural-resources-conservation>

Illinois LICA is

SEEKING HOSTS

Dinner • Education • Games • Tours • You Name It!

Illinois LICA is seeking members in each of our 8 areas to host a special event for members & prospects in your area. Your event can be as simple and casual as dinner in your shop with a bags tournament or dig deeper with an educational session, product demonstration, or a tour...The options are endless!

Plus, Illinois LICA will pick up the event tab and help with planning!

If you're up to the challenge and willing to help in your area, please call the office (309) 932-1230, or fill out the online form at form.jotform.com/240724809136053.

We are excited to hear your ideas!

100% ONLINE NO RESERVE EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS



STRAIGHT. SIMPLE.

SOLD!

purplewave.com


**purple
wave**
AUCTION

ILICA Ladies' Page

Water vs. Sports Drinks: What's Best for our Bodies



As temperatures heat up, many of us find ourselves reaching for a cool drink to stay hydrated. When is it appropriate to grab a sports or electrolyte drink, and when is it best to go with water? Andrew Nish, MD, UnityPoint Health, helps us understand what the best drinks are for hydration.

What's the Best Drink for Hydration?

Sports and electrolyte drinks may seem like the perfect way to quench your thirst when working out, but according to Dr. Nish, there's a very limited group of people who should drink them. The recommendation is for adults and children to only have sports drinks during extended and heavy exercise that lasts longer than an hour.

"Water, water and water should be the beverage of choice for hydration before, during and after physical activity or exercise routines lasting less than one hour," Dr. Nish says.

Nish says it's best to drink 16 ounces of water, not a sports drink, two hours before intense exercise.

After prolonged and strenuous activity, rehydration should be done with water, if the athlete was consuming sports drinks during the actual event. However, eight to 16 ounces of a sports drink isn't unreasonable following an intense and long workout.

Benefits of Sports and Electrolyte Drinks

- **Carbohydrates:** If you perform strenuous exercises for more than an hour, it's a good idea to add a carbohydrate source. Dr. Nish says fluid containing carbohydrates can be consumed at 30 - 60 grams per hour. Most sports drinks provide two to 19 grams of carbohydrate per eight ounces. Carbohydrates come in the form of sugars or polymerized glucose.
- **Sodium:** All sports drinks contain some sodium, usually between 35 - 200 mg per eight ounces. Sodium helps the body retain water.
- **Potassium:** Most sports drinks have 15 - 90 mg of potassium per eight ounces. Dr. Nish suggests choosing a drink higher in sodium, if you participate in prolonged endurance events or are heavily sweating.

- **Amino acids:** Some sports drinks also contain amino acids, which are said to enhance muscle recovery. Dr. Nish says most children and adults eating a well-balanced diet don't need this additive.

Are Sports Drinks Unhealthy?

Sports drinks were designed for people performing intense physical activity. In fact, the original sports drink, Gatorade, was developed to help replenish carbohydrates and electrolytes in high intensity athletes at the University of Florida in 1965. "These drinks were never intended to be consumed by the general public, but unfortunately, they've been marketed to the masses with the underlying message that if you drink these, you'll become a great athlete. Unfortunately, most people just gain weight," Dr. Nish says.

Many children and adolescents don't differentiate sports and energy drinks. Energy drinks contain a lot of sugar, but more importantly, they also have added stimulants, like caffeine. Dr. Nish says children should never consume energy drinks due to the threat of caffeine overdose.

Can you Replace Water with Sports Drinks?

Sports drinks, electrolyte drinks or any sugary drinks, like juice, lemonade, soda or Kool-Aid, shouldn't be consumed for meals or snacks and shouldn't replace water. These sugary drinks often lead to excessive caloric intake and substantially increase the risk of obesity in both children and adults.

Drinking too many sugary sports drinks also leads to tooth enamel erosion. Dr. Nish says that's because most sports drinks have a pH between three and four, which is associated with enamel demineralization.

Water should be the primary hydration source for children and adults, and sports drinks should only be used during high intensity and prolonged athletic events.

"Save your money and drink water," Dr. Nish says.

How to Hydrate Fast Without Sports Drinks

- **Infused water:** For the average person, these offer no advantages and contain lots of sugar. Some have up to eight teaspoons per serving. As far as the vitamins, Dr. Nish says people should get all they need from a diet rich in vegetables, fruits and nuts.
- **Sparkling (carbonated) water:** Sparkling water is just as hydrating as still water, which makes it a great option to hydrate fast. For some people, the carbonation makes sparkling water more appealing than still water.
- **Coconut water:** Coconut water has very low levels of carbohydrates, as well as small amounts of sodium and

potassium. It adds nothing over water during a workout.

- **Milk:** It's been touted as a good recovery drink, because it provides carbohydrates, protein, electrolytes and vitamin D. Dr. Nish says a few studies compare milk with sports drinks, and they show little difference in the two as far as athletic performance. However, he reiterates, this only applies to strenuous, prolonged exercise and not short duration, low-intensity activity.

How Much Water Do You Need?

The average person should drink eight to 12 ounces of water each hour during the heat of summer. If you're in the heat for several hours, Dr. Nish suggests consuming 12 - 16 ounces a couple hours before you step outside.

How to Know if Your Body is Dehydrated

"Look at the color of your urine for signs of proper hydration. Light yellow or clear urine means you're hydrated. Dark, concentrated urine means you don't have enough fluid on board," Dr. Nish says.

If you're thirsty, it's a sign you've waited too long to drink water. Signs of dehydration include dry mouth, cracked lips, decrease in urine output and dark urine, irritability, drowsiness, dry skin, low energy, headache and extreme thirst.

When to Talk to Your Doctor

Making the right hydration choices can significantly impact your health, energy levels, and overall well-being, especially during hot weather and physical activity. While sports drinks have their place for intense, prolonged exercise lasting over an hour, water remains the best choice for most daily hydration needs and shorter workouts.

Understanding when to choose water versus sports drinks helps you avoid unnecessary calories, sugar, and potential health risks while ensuring your body gets the hydration it needs. If you have specific questions about your hydration needs, concerns about dehydration symptoms or want personalized advice about the best beverages for your lifestyle and activity level, don't hesitate to discuss these topics with your healthcare provider. Schedule an appointment with your doctor to create a hydration plan that supports your individual health goals and keeps you feeling your best year-round.

Source: Reprinted with permission courtesy of UnityPoint Health, "Water vs. Sports Drinks" - <https://www.unitypoint.org/news-and-articles/water-vs-sports-drinks-what-s-best-for-our-bodies>



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



INTRODUCING

THE HICKENBOTTOM®

TOP HAT®



DEFEND YOUR TILE LINES FROM DEBRIS

made to the same quality you trust
and the durability you rely on

the NEW Hickenbottom®
Top Hat® is a featured
accessory in the
bright orange®
Hickenbottom® inlet
family



shown in 6IN XL

look for the bright orange® inlet
Hickenbottom®'s Trademark®



find pricing, sizes, distributors & more
visit www.hickenbottominlets.com

Farming accidents
involving pipelines and
utilities occur nearly
3 times every day.¹



¹ Common Ground Alliance Damage Information Reporting Tool



Marathon
Pipe Line LLC

Earning Your
TRUST

Bulk mulch available!

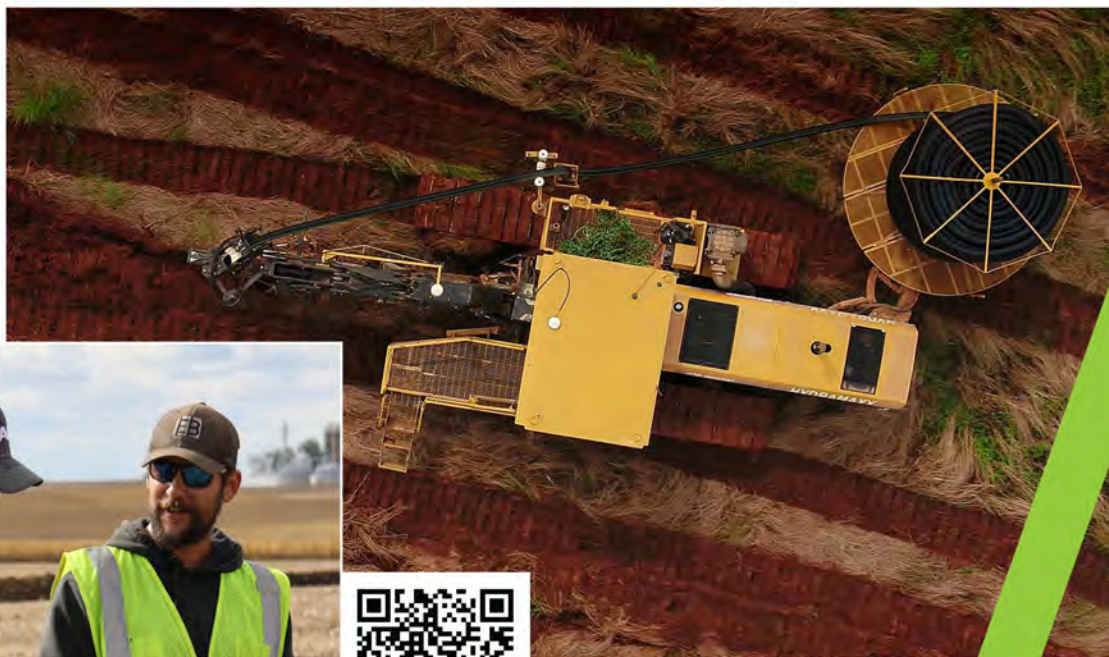
309-654-2261

www.xylemltd.com

Cordova, IL 61242

XYLEM LLP

Quality wood chips for bioreactors!



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.™

SPOTTING TILE DRAINAGE PROBLEMS WITH SATELLITES

By Sunoj Shajahan & Xiaoyu Zhang

Across the U.S. Midwest, subsurface tile drainage shapes how fields handle excess water, yet the infrastructure itself becomes invisible once installed beneath the surface. Existing tile drainage maps usually show only whether tile is likely present, not when it was installed, whether it is still functioning well, or how it affects crop performance over time.

A new research direction at the University of Illinois aims to change that by combining GeoAI, high-resolution satellite imagery, and agronomic context to make drainage systems more visible, measurable, and actionable.

The goal is to understand how drainage status affects ponding, soil drying characteristics, crop uniformity, and long-term field resilience under increasingly variable weather conditions.

This emerging work builds on a growing foundation in remote sensing, geospatial AI, and agricultural decision support. The research program uses time-series imagery from sources such as Planet CubeSats and other geospatial datasets to detect drainage signatures, identify persistent wet areas, and compare field conditions before and after drainage installation or repair.

One major focus is ephemeral ponding, those recurring wet spots that delay planting, reduce stand establishment, and create uneven crop growth. By pairing satellite observations with AI models, the research can track where ponding persists, how quickly fields recover after rainfall, and how those patterns shift when drainage infrastructure is improved. As shown in Figure 1, ponded areas after a storm highlight where drainage is not keeping up.

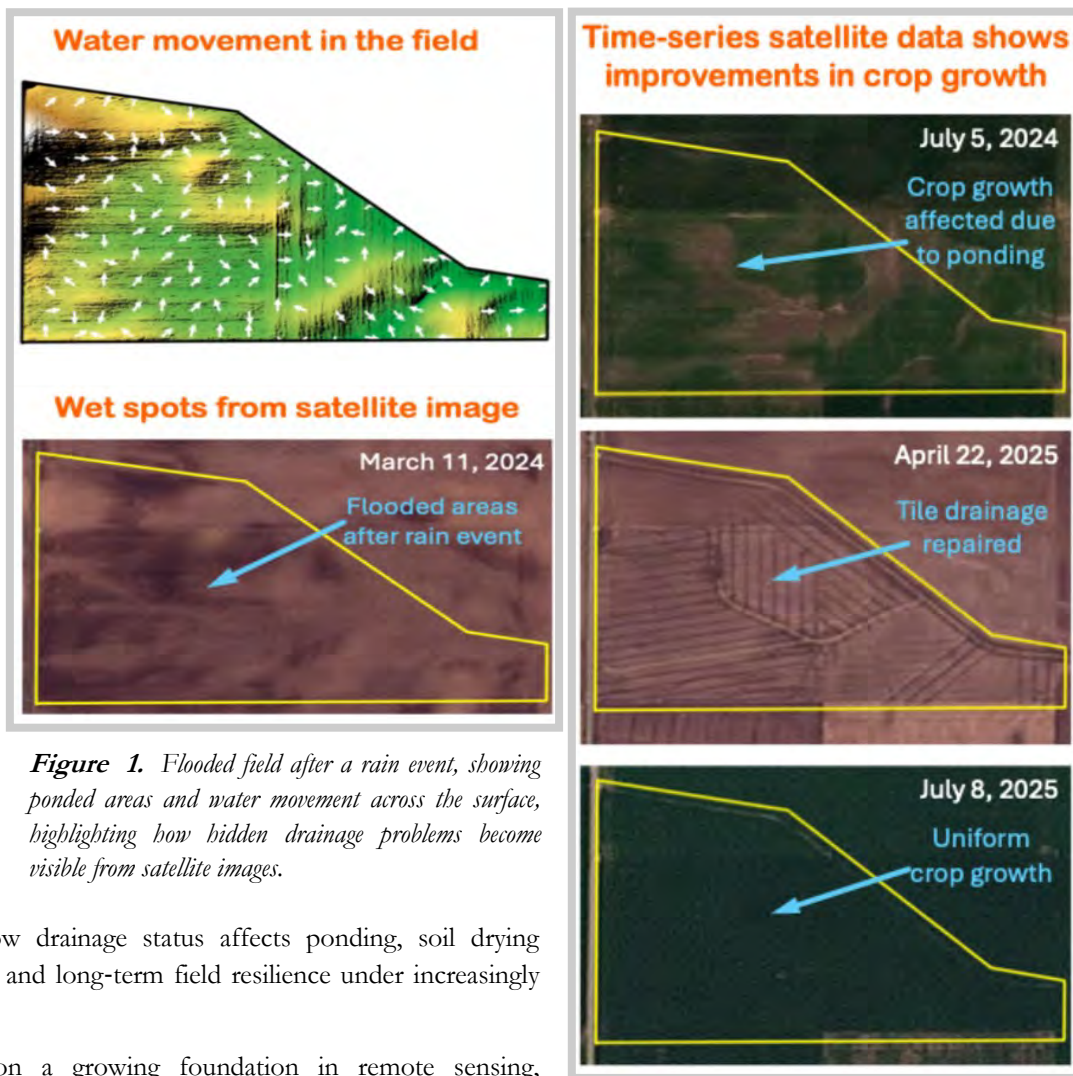
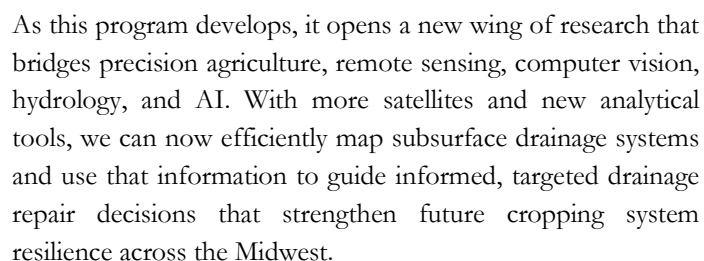


Figure 1. Flooded field after a rain event, showing ponded areas and water movement across the surface, highlighting how hidden drainage problems become visible from satellite images.

Figure 2. Time-series satellite views of a field from 2024 to 2025, showing crop stress before tile repair, the period of drainage installation, and the more uniform crop growth that follows.



AREA 6 GOLF OUTING & TRAP SHOOT: 15 YEARS STRONG

June 5th marked the 15th year that the Annual Area 6 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot has been hosted in Mattoon. As we all know, a lot can change in 15 years. While the event has seen a few changes since its inception (e.g. addition of trap shooting in 2019, cancellation during COVID, etc.), the outing remains a constant that members have come to appreciate for a reprieve from work, for a chance to catch up with fellow members & friends, and for guaranteed fun & friendly competition on an annual basis. Comfortable weather and strong attendance made this year's event extra enjoyable.

Over a dozen members arrived at Paul McKillip's Farm taking aim at 850 clay targets first thing in the morning, kicking off the event with trap shooting. With nearly half shooting above 75%, competition was impressive! In the end, it was Chris DeGroot from Roland Machinery Co. who earned the title of "Top Shot" for busting 47 out of 50 clays, winning him a pair of Swiss Tech electronic hearing protection earmuffs. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, most shooters were also able to take home shooting swag as door prizes.

Down the road at the beautiful Meadowview Golf Course in Mattoon, 55 golfers snagged a quick Jersey Mike's boxed lunch, sponsored by Wayne Litwiller Excavating, before playing 18 holes in a scramble format with a shotgun start. Without fail, the golfers had a wonderful time out on the course competing for hole prizes and bragging rights. Beverage cart sponsors, Birkey's & DPA Auctions, ensured players stayed hydrated on the course with their drink of choice, while dinner sponsors, Grey & Associates, Fratco, and Precision Intakes, insured no one left the event hungry by providing a ribeye steak dinner buffet at the end of the day.

Hole prize winners took home \$50 cash, compliments of sponsors Cook's AGPS, KC Summers, and Roland Machinery Co. The Lowest Scoring Team won \$100 cash from sponsor Port Industries. The Most Honest Team received a special prize altogether, and the 50/50 raffle take-home was \$220 cash!

Winners were as follows:

Longest Drive: Kade Wisley

Closest to the Pin: Kade Wisley

Longest Putt: Roger Watwood

Lowest Scoring Team: Harris Metals/KC Summers -
Tony Harris, Tyson Harris,
Austin Powley, Jeff Rieck

Most Honest Team: Steiner Farm Drainage -
Ethan Steiner, Troy Stevens,
Dale Ashby, Payton Frederick

The event was sponsored by Advanced Drainage Systems, Springfield Plastics, & Sullivan Auctioneers a BigIron Company, along with over 30 different hole sponsors, meal and beverage sponsors, and door prize sponsors.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the outing including sponsors, donors, volunteers, shooters, and golfers. A big thanks to Paul McKillip, Meadowview Golf Course, and the Golf Outing Committee for ensuring the success of the 15th Illinois LICA Area 6 Golf Outing and Trap Shoot!

For the complete listing of sponsors and to view pictures from the event, visit our website: <https://www.illica.net/golf-outings>





Illinois LICA

DRAINAGE WATER WORKSHOP SERIES


illica.net/events

July 9: Richland Community College, Shilling Center, 1 College Park, Decatur, IL 62521

Join us for an immersive, full-day learning experience designed to strengthen your understanding of conservation drainage and the practices shaping the future of Illinois agriculture! This workshop will bring together leading experts to break down edge-of-field practices, NLRS progress, wetlands considerations, nutrient loss research, and project examples. Whether you're a landowner, producer, contractor, or agency professional, you'll gain new insights and leave better equipped to support water quality, farm profitability, and conservation goals across the state.

8 am - 12 pm

- **NLRS & Tile Drainage Overview:** *Trevor Sample, IEPA*
- **Edge of Field Practices:** *Ryan Arch, ILICA; Keegan Kult, ADMC; Ben Reinhart, ESE; Caleb Bruhn, U of I Extension*
 - Denitrifying Woodchip Bioreactors
 - Saturated Buffers
 - Constructed Wetlands
 - Drainage Water Management
 - Drainage Water Recycling
 - Site Identification Online Tools
- **Benefits to Landowners:** *Isaac Ferrie, Crop-Tech Consulting*
- **EOF Practice Cost Share:** *Dylan Knisley, NRCS; Kate Schafer, ESE; Jennifer Gunter, City of Decatur; Trevor Sample, IEPA*

1 pm - 5 pm

- **Streams, Wetlands, & Aquatic Resources:**
 - WOTUS: *Kirsten Brown, US Army Corps of Engineers*
 - USDA: *Ron Collman, NRCS; Todd Granum, NRCS*
- **Nutrient Losses & Tile Drainage - What We Know and the Future:** *Andrew Margenot, U of IL*
- **Lateral Seepage During Drainage Water Management - What is it and What Does it Mean for Performance?** *Lowell Gentry, U of IL*
- **RCC Woodchip Bioreactor Tour**



Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Attendees: _____

attending: _____ x \$20 = _____ **Lunch included with registration**

Please remit by **June 25, 2026** to: Illinois LICA 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2, Galva, IL 61434



Precast Concrete



Custom Fabrication

WE DELIVER MORE THAN JUST PRODUCTS

CUSTOMER SERVICE THAT IS
SECOND TO NONE

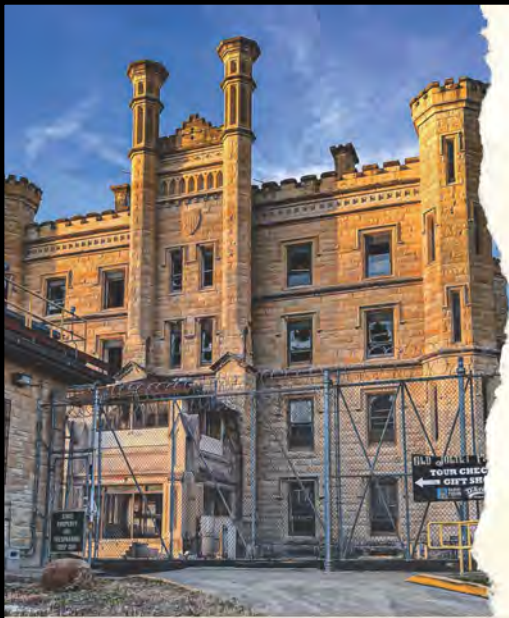
JCG Midwest supports agricultural, commercial, municipal and residential projects with the materials and responsiveness needed to keep work moving. With large in-stock inventory, multiple locations, manufacturing capabilities and on-site, on-time delivery, we simplify complex jobs and keep crews productive from start to finish.



jcgmidwest.com



Moweaqua | Monticello | Mt. Zion



Illinois LICA's

ANNUAL PICNIC

& Members' Meeting

Legendary Tours | Members' Meeting | Lunch

July 18, 2026 | Joliet, IL



Join us in Joliet!

You're invited to the Illinois LICA Annual Picnic & Members' Meeting in Joliet, IL. The day begins with a tour of the Historic Joliet Prison, followed by a catered lunch and a brief Members' Meeting at the Iron Works Historic Site pavilion. After the meeting, enjoy optional visits to the Joliet Area Historical Museum, Railroad Museum, Planinsek Meat Market and more. We look forward exploring historic Joliet with you!



Schedule

10:00 AM	Historic Joliet Prison Tour
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Members' Meeting
2:00 PM	Additional Tours (optional)



Registration due by June 16th.

Name/Company name: _____

I/we will attend the *self guided* Joliet Prison Tour # _____ x \$20 = _____

I/we will attend the *guided* Joliet Prison Tour # _____ x \$40 = _____

I/we will attend picnic lunch # _____ x \$20 = _____

Names of all attending: _____

Please remit to: Illinois LICA, 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2, Galva, IL 61434

REGISTER ONLINE



This notice is to inform all officers, directors, alternate directors, chairmen and members of standing committees, and all active members of the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc. that the next ILICA members' meeting will be held on July 18, 2026 @ 1:00 pm at the Iron Works Historic Site Pavilion, 31 Columbia St, Joliet, IL 60432. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.



TILE DRAINAGE INSTALLATION FIELD DAY



TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
JULY 21ST & 22ND

**AGRONOMY CENTER
FOR RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION (ACRE)**

4540 US Hwy 52 W
West Lafayette, IN 47906

8AM-4PM



Agronomy Center for
Research and Education



**For more information,
contact:**

Nanci Gutwein 219-204-1722
or indianalica@gmail.com

Please note: This free event is weather dependent. Rain dates will be July 23rd & 24th. Register to be included on the email list for event updates.



Indiana LICA



219-204-1722



Indiana_LICA

BRON
POWER TO PERFORM

BRON is a registered trademark of RWF Industries,
a division of Roberts Welding & Fabricating Ltd.



FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

519.421.0036 | 1.800.263.1060
www.RWFBRON.com

BRON 585 SELF-PROPELLED DRAINAGE PLOW

Innovative Water MANAGEMENT

The power to control water
is in your hands.

From wet springs to dry summers,
keep your fields at the perfect moisture
level automatically with Agri Drain's Smart
Drainage System®.

- ✓ Increase Yields
- ✓ Precision Water Level Control
- ✓ Conserve and Improve Soil & Water



AD
AGRI DRAIN



641-742-5211

info@agridrain.com

POWER YOU CAN COUNT ON

**ROLAND
MACHINERY CO.**

KOMATSU

WIRTGEN KLEEMANN

HAMM VÖGELE

Epiroc MONTABERT Bobcat

LEEBOY GRADALL

TANA Rosco FUCHS



ILLINOIS LOCATIONS

Springfield
217-789-7711

Bolingbrook
630-739-7474

Carterville
618-985-3399

East Peoria
309-694-3764

Marengo
815-923-4966

rolandmachinery.com

Illinois LICA

DRAINAGE WATER WORKSHOP SERIES


illica.net/events

August 5: The Terry L Bruce West Richland Center, 320 East North Ave, Noble, IL 62868

Join us for an immersive, full-day learning experience designed to strengthen your understanding of conservation drainage and the practices shaping the future of Illinois agriculture! This workshop will bring together leading experts to break down edge-of-field practices, NLRS progress, wetlands considerations, nutrient loss research, and project examples. Whether you're a landowner, producer, contractor, or agency professional, you'll gain new insights and leave better equipped to support water quality, farm profitability, and conservation goals across the state.

8 am - 12 pm

- **NLRS Overview:** *Andrea Kuehner, PCM; Kate Baker, PCM*
- **Edge of Field Practices:** *Ryan Arch, ILICA; Keegan Kult, ADMC; Richard Cooke, U of I Extension*
 - Denitrifying Woodchip Bioreactors
 - Saturated Buffers
 - Constructed Wetlands
 - Drainage Water Management
 - Drainage Water Recycling
 - Site Identification Online Tools
- **Benefits to Landowners:**
Isaac Ferrie, Crop-Tech Consulting
- **EOF Practice Cost Share:**
Gary Zwilling, NRCS; Ryan Arch, ILICA

1 pm - 4 pm

- **Streams, Wetlands, & Aquatic Resources:**
 - WOTUS: *Tyson Zobrist, US Army Corps of Engineers; Kamren Metzger, US Army Corps of Engineers*
 - USDA: *Ron Collman, NRCS; Kevin Webb, NRCS*
- **Nutrient Losses & Tile Drainage: What We Know and the Future:** *Andrew Margenot, U of IL*
- **Lateral Seepage During Drainage Water Management: What it is and What Does It Mean for Performance?** *Lowell Gentry, U of IL*



Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Attendees: _____

attending: _____ x \$20 = _____ **Lunch included with registration**

Please remit by **July 22, 2026** to: Illinois LICA 112 Exchange St., Ste. 2, Galva, IL 61434

ILICA 's Area 3
TRAP SHOOT & GOLF OUTING

ILLINOIS
 CHAPTER
LICA
 September 18
 Kewanee, IL

Join us for a full day of fun at the ILICA Area 3 Golf Outing & Trap Shoot on September 18th! Your **\$110 all-inclusive pass** covers 50 clays, 18 holes with cart, lunch, 2 drink tickets, dinner, and prizes. Prefer to do just part of the day? Reduced rates available. Grab your crew and make a day of it.

REGISTER NOW

50 CLAYS 18 HOLES
LUNCH PRIZES
DRINKS STEAK DINNER

Want extra exposure?
 Grab a sponsorship and get your name out on the course! Various options available.

illica.net/golf-outings

Virtual SEPTIC TRAINING

CTS
 Contractor Training Store

ILLINOIS
 CHAPTER
LICA

Contractor Training Store and Illinois LICA will host a Virtual Septic Training Series offering 3 CEU's required for the renewal of Illinois Septic Licenses (Installer, Pumper, and Sanitation Technician)!

Limited to the first 100 registrants No refunds | No partial credits

 **SEPT 24, 2026**
 8:00 - 11:30 AM

ILICA.NET/EVENTS

1 License Training: \$85
 2 License Training: \$115
 3 License Training: \$145
 4% convenience fee applies

ILICA Members: Use your member ID or contact the office for your \$30 member discount code!

ILICA TRIVIA

Name this Associate Member that attended the 2023 LICA National Summer Meeting.



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

One lucky winner will receive a prize!

May/Jun Answer: Kent Mitchell



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

ILICA Drainage Water Workshop

July 9, 2026

Richland Community College: Decatur, IL

8 am - 5 pm

Register via QR code on page 16:

<https://pci.jotform.com/form/260825256093156>

ILICA Picnic & Members' Mtg.

July 18, 2026

Iron Works Historic Site Pavilion: Joliet, IL

Historic Joliet Prison Tour: 10 am

Lunch: 12 pm

Members' Mtg.: 1 pm

Optional Tours: 2 pm

Register via QR code on page 18:

<https://form.jotform.com/202335509785157>

ILICA Drainage Water Workshop

August 5, 2026

Terry L. Bruce West Richland Center: Noble, IL

8 am - 4 pm

Register via QR code on page 21:

<https://pci.jotform.com/form/260825256093156>

Region IV LICA: Lunch & Learn Webinar

Sept. 2, 2026

12 - 1 pm

Register via QR code on page 5:

<https://form.jotform.com/232894600540050>

Board of Directors Meeting (hybrid)

September 12, 2026

Galva, IL

Area 3 Trap Shoot & Golf Outing

September 18, 2026

Kewanee, IL

National

LICA Virtual Board Meeting

July 20, 2026

ADVERTISER INDEX

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	11
Agri Drain Corp	20
Berns, Clancy & Associates	5
BRON	20
Cook's AGPS, LLC	27
Dimond Bros. Insurance., LLC	2
Envision Insurance Group, LLC	28
Fratco, Inc	25
Hickenbottom, Inc.	9
JCG Midwest Drainage Products	17
Marathon Pipe Line	10
Martin Equipment of Illinois, Inc	28
Metal Culverts, Inc	27
Northland Trenching Equipment, LLC	3
Precision Intakes, Ltd	27
Prins Insurance, Inc	28
Prinsco, Inc	28
Purple Wave Auction	7
Roland Machinery Co.	20
Schlatter's, Inc.	9
Springfield Plastics, Inc.	2
Vermeer Midwest, Inc.	27
Xylem, LTD.	10

FEATURED NEW LICA BENEFIT: GM DISCOUNTS



DON'T PAY FULL PRICE FOR YOUR NEXT GM TRUCK

The GM Fleet program gives eligible LICA members access to exclusive pricing on qualifying new GM vehicles.

- Save up to \$7,500 on eligible new GM vehicles
- Eligible across qualifying Chevrolet, GMC, Buick & Cadillac vehicle lines
- Eligible models may include Silverado, Sierra, Colorado & Canyon
- Select models include a 5-year/100,000-mile limited powertrain warranty

HOW TO ACCESS THE PROGRAM

1. Contact benefits@licanational.org
2. Receive your LICA Membership Certificate
3. Present certificate BEFORE purchase



Program Requirements & Eligibility: Must be a current LICA member in good standing. Available on qualifying new GM vehicles only. Vehicle eligibility and incentive amounts vary by model. Participating dealer required. Business and membership documentation may be required by the dealer or GM for verification purposes. Incentives cannot be applied retroactively after purchase. Commercial/fleet delivery requirements may apply. Titles and registrations must be in the legal business name of the LICA member. Program subject to GM Fleet eligibility guidelines and availability.

FREE VISUAL GUIDES FOR SMARTER WATER MANAGEMENT

Get **six** downloadable infographics that cover some of today's most effective conservation practices, from engineered infrastructure to nature-based practices.



Fratco is proud to support solutions that protect *land, water,* and the *future*. Because in the end, we're all downstream.

FRATCO



SAFETY FEATURE: TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT HEAT ILLNESS

Working outside, you know that the weather can have an impact on your day. Hot weather, especially when combined with strenuous physical labor, can cause your body temperature to rise to unsafe levels. Normally, your body cools itself through sweating, but in hot and humid weather, sweating is not enough and the result can be a dangerous heat illness.

Staying Cool

Follow the suggestions below to stay cool when working in hot weather:

- Wear loose, light-colored clothing when possible, along with a hard hat.
- Take short breaks to rest in the shade. If wearing outer protective gear, remove during your break.
- Gradually build up to heavier work.
- Avoid overexerting yourself during peak temperature periods (midday).
- Drink liquids frequently, even if you don't feel thirsty. Aim for drinking at least eight ounces every 20 to 30 minutes. Choose water, fruit juice or sports drinks and stay away from liquids containing caffeine, which can dehydrate you.

Recognizing the Symptoms

There are three forms of heat illness, each with the following distinct symptoms:

- **Heat cramps**—Symptoms include severe muscle spasms in the back, stomach, arms and legs, which are attributed to the loss of body salt and water during periods of heavy perspiration.
- **Heat exhaustion**—Symptoms include heavy sweating, cool or pale skin, nausea, headache, weakness, vomiting and fast pulse.
- **Heat stroke**—Symptoms include high body temperature, red and often dry skin, rapid breathing and pulse, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, confusion or unconsciousness.

Providing Treatment

It is essential to treat heat illness as soon as possible. If you are feeling any of the above symptoms, inform a co-worker and ask for help. If you suspect that a fellow worker has any of these conditions, follow these first-aid tips:

- **Heat cramps**—Move the victim to a cooler area and allow them to drink approximately six ounces of water every 15 minutes. Follow up with a medical examination.

- **Heat exhaustion**—Move the victim to a cooler area and keep them lying down with their legs slightly elevated. Cool their body by fanning and applying cool, wet towels. If conscious, allow the victim to drink approximately six ounces of water every 15 minutes. Follow up with a medical examination.
- **Heat stroke**—You or a bystander should immediately call an ambulance. Meanwhile, move the victim to a cooler area, remove any outer clothing, immerse them in cool water or apply cool, wet towels or cloths to the body. Don't give the victim liquids. If medical help is delayed, call the hospital for further instructions while waiting. Heat stroke is life-threatening, so it's important to move quickly.

Safety Reminder

The risk of heat illness increases with age, poor diet, being overweight, insufficient liquid intake, poor physical condition and/or when taking medication (e.g., salt tablets). As such, be sure to discuss your unique risks with your doctor.

In addition, be aware of expected weather conditions each day so that you can be prepared with appropriate clothing and beverages. If you are working and start to feel any adverse symptoms due to heat, inform your supervisor and take a break.

For more safety tips, talk to your supervisor.

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants

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



Quality Products...Unequalled Service

Over 65 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

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

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



ASK ABOUT OUR NEW LOW-COST
RTK SURVEY/ GUIDANCE TABLETS

Contact Nate at 989-402-4779 or nate@cookswms.com

Visit our website at www.cooksagps.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

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

417 W Jefferson St.
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 263-2400

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

1150 E. Pershing Rd
Decatur, IL 62526
(217) 422-5000

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

LEGENDARY SUPPORT, RELENTLESS DEDICATION.



As a proud member of the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association with nine locations across the Midwest, we're honored to provide exceptional support and legendary service to keep fleets running at full speed.

Learn more at MartinEquipment.com

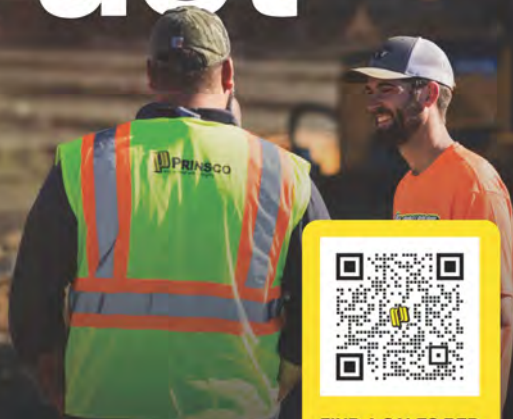


JOHN DEERE

MARTIN
EQUIPMENT

certified
WBENC
WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

People you can
trust



FIND A SALES REP
prinsco.com/agsales
800.992.1725

PRINSCO
WATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS



PRINS
INSURANCE

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS

✉ prins@prinsins.com
☎ 1-800-831-8545

Serving the Land Improvement Contractor for 30+ years