

# ILICA



# NEWS

## Land Improvement Contractors Of America · Illinois Chapter

### July - August 2025

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- UFG & Prins Donate to ILICA Education (page 6)
- Extension Connection: Illinois Drainage Guide - Depth/Spacing Recommendations Tool (page 12)
- Area 6 Trap Shoot & Golf Outing: Don't Trust The Weatherman (page 20)

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Sales Executive  
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**Dan McNeely**

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[dan.mcneely@dimondbros.com](mailto:dan.mcneely@dimondbros.com)  
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# The ILICA News



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Time: continued from the May/June newsletter.

My name is Jon, and I'm a workaholic. I will admit it. I would rather stay busy completing projects than go on a vacation.

Most of our family vacations over the past 30 years have been related to attending the Summer and Winter National LICA Conventions. Though this may sound boring, we've been to Baltimore MD, Charleston SC, Cleveland OH, Colorado Springs CO, Dayton OH, Denver CO, Grand Rapids MI, Houston TX, Indianapolis IN, Jacksonville FL, Kansas City KS, Las Vegas NV, Lincoln NE, Little Rock AR, Manhattan KS, Moline IL, Myrtle Beach SC, Nashville TN, Niagara Falls NY, Newark NJ, Oklahoma City OK, Omaha NE, Orlando FL, Phoenix AZ, Peoria IL, Pittsburgh PA, Rapid City SD, San Antonio TX, San Diego CA, St. Louis MO, Savannah GA, Tampa FL, Tucson AZ, Vancouver WA, and Virginia Beach VA. We would have never stepped foot in many of these cities had it not been for our involvement in LICA. Every one of the convention/vacation destinations had their own unique offerings that made them worthwhile. While our children didn't fully appreciate some of the locations at the time, especially when their friends were taking family vacations somewhere with a beach and sunshine, years later they did appreciate the diverse experience that came with visiting much of this great country.

In addition to experiencing all those great destinations, there was the opportunity to meet hundreds of great fellow LICA contractors, many of which have become lifelong friends, some of whom have visited our home, and some of which we have visited at their homes during our travels. We have met fellow drainage contractors from Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Ohio, all of which were fun to talk to about how and why they do things the way they do with drainage in their states. We also met a college professor from California, a paving contractor from Florida, a large highway contractor from Kansas, a demolition contractor from Iowa, a bridge builder from Missouri, a landscaper from Minnesota, a home builder from New Jersey, concrete recyclers from Iowa and New Jersey, gravel pit owners from Minnesota and New York, septic contractors from Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

LICA offers many benefits to its members; product discounts, educational opportunities, safety workshops, business webinars, and many more, but it is the contractor networking and lifelong friendships made that is the best benefit of all. LICA is like most things in life, the more you put into it, the more you will get out of it. If you're not currently involved, please consider becoming more engaged by serving as a director or officer, logging into a "Lunch and Learn" webinar, participating in a trap shoot, golf outing, or summer picnic with an off-road adventure, or attending our annual convention with educational seminars and awards banquet... all of which is TIME well spent!

Jon Seevers

## BOARD & MEMBERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

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

**July 26, 2025** - Picnic & Members' Meeting:

Badlands Off-Road Park, Attica, IN

**Sept. 13, 2025** - 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.*

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## 2025 BOARD / MEMBERS' MTG. ATTENDANCE

A = absent      P = present      C = cancelled meeting

Area / Director	Jan	March	May	July	Sep	Nov
<b>Pres:</b> Jon Seevers	P	P	P			
<b>VP:</b> Tyler Seals	P	A	P			
<b>1st VP:</b> LaVerne Weber	P	P	P			
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Area 1 - LaVerne Weber	P	P	P			
Area 2 - Steve Anderson	P	P	P			
Area 2 - Stuart Anderson	P	P	P			
Area 3 - Grant Curtis	A	A	A			
Area 3 - Joe Streitmatter	P	P	P			
Area 4 - David Kennedy	A	P	P			
Area 4 - Lee Bunting	P	P	P			
Area 5 - Rick Maguire	P	P	A			
Area 5 - Earl Mast	P	A	P			
Area 6 - Scott Day	P	P	P			
Area 6 - Bill Dean	P	A	A			
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## RECONCILIATION PACKAGE FACES STRONG PUSH BACK IN SENATE

The House reconciliation bill, now officially called “One Big Beautiful Bill,” passed by a vote of 215-214 prior to the Memorial Day recess. It is intended to implement President Trump’s domestic agenda by extending expiring tax cuts; removing taxes on tips and overtime pay; increasing funding for border security, including continued construction of a border wall, and enhanced military funding, including a golden dome satellite defense system. In addition, the bill cuts spending on Medicaid, food aid, higher education and clean energy investments to pay for these new initiatives and to reduce overall federal expenditures. According to Congressional Budget Office estimates, however, the bill is expected to increase budget deficits by \$3.3 trillion by 2034, compared with doing nothing, though a final official estimate is not yet available. Also included in the bill is a \$4 billion increase in the debt ceiling over the next two years.

Now the legislation moves on to the Senate where GOP senators are calling for a rewrite of the bill to address concerns ranging from Medicaid reforms and the phaseout of clean energy incentives to the sale of government-owned spectrum bands and the bill’s projected impact on the federal debt. The biggest obstacle may be the threatened opposition from Senate

conservatives who say the bill doesn’t do nearly enough to cut future deficits. Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul (R) immediately announced his opposition to the House-passed bill, vowing to vote against it unless Senate Republican leaders remove the provision to raise the federal debt limit.

A group of Senate Republicans concerned about Medicaid reforms pose another major obstacle to the bill. This group includes Sens. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Jerry Moran (R-Kan.). In addition, a provision in the bill to increase the cap on deducting state and local taxes (SALT) from \$10,000 to \$40,000 does not sit well with another group of Republican senators.



Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) has urged the Senate to not tinker with the House bill as it was a finely tuned compromise among the various Republican factions. However, Majority Leader Thune (R-SD) says Senate Republicans fully intend to have Senate committees of jurisdiction write their parts of the bill regardless of what’s in the House bill.

*Source: LICA Legislative Landscape, 5/30/2025, <https://www.licanational.com/us-dot-agrees-dbe-program-implementation-unconstitutional/>*

## UFG & PRINS DONATE TO ILICA EDUCATION

Since 2017, UFG Insurance and Prins Insurance have proudly supported the state LICA chapters within the UFG State LICA Insurance Program through an annual Educational and Safety Initiative. In 2025, the initiative provided \$108,482.54 to these state chapters to help grow educational and safety efforts that align with risk management practices; an investment that ultimately strengthens the overall success of the State LICA Insurance Program.

For Illinois LICA, the \$7,816.20 donation from UFG and Prins Insurance will be utilized for our education endeavors and activities in a manner consistent with risk management and safety promotion. Recent uses of these funds

over the years have included the purchase of safety equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) for volunteers to use during our in-field demonstrations and the funding of many workshops such as in-field trench safety trainings.



ILICA is extremely thankful for these additional funds in 2025 and looks forward to continuing to utilize them in a way that creates and expands new education opportunities for our Association.

Thank you to UFG and Prins Insurance for your continued partnership and for your donation to our education fund!





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# ILICA Ladies' Page



## ESSENTIAL OIL BUG REPELLENT Recipe

Have you ever met someone who seems to attract every mosquito within a 1-mile radius? Well, I am that person! While my friends and family members can be sitting outside enjoying a nice summer BBQ, I've been known to douse myself in chemicals and still end the night eaten alive. It's awful.

During my first pregnancy, I became more aware of the risks of chemicals and sought to find natural alternatives. I

think I tried every natural bug spray on the market that year! Some smelled horrible. Others turned out to just contain lesser-known toxins. Some were not effective at all as natural repellents.

The good news is that, after significant research, I have found a recipe for natural bug repellent. This homemade bug repellent is effective, uses an essential oil blend as the active ingredient, doesn't cause skin irritation, and is safe for keeping a variety of pesky bugs away from both young children and pregnant people as well! This recipe is also easy to mix up and includes just a few easy-to-find ingredients. Nowadays, even essential oils can often be found locally.

Our family is currently writing up our summer bucket list as I write this. Living in a location where we have snow on the ground 7-8 months out of the year, we really look forward to this time of year! So far we have a camping trip, floating down the river, swimming at the lake, and a lot of family hikes on the list. As soon as our cold weather turns warm, I will be whipping up a batch of this spray so that our family adventures are not ruined by itchy mosquito bites or other insect bites that can cause allergic reactions or illness.

### Ingredients you'll need for this recipe:

- 4 oz. glass spray bottle
- 30-40 drops of essential oils (adjust according to your desired scent)
- 2 oz. witch hazel
- ½ tsp. vegetable glycerin

My favorite essential oils for use as a natural mosquito repellent that also deters ticks:

- \* 20 drops oil of lemon eucalyptus (not recommended for directly applying to children under 3)
- \* 5 drops thyme essential oil
- \* 5 drops citronella essential oil
- \* 5 drops lemongrass essential oil
- \* 2 drops geranium oil

### What brand is best for essential oils?

The most popular essential oil companies are MLMs such as Young Living and Doterra. However, many people, including

myself, would rather not purchase from an MLM. There are many other high-quality brands on the market. I personally suggest buying organic essential oils from Plant Therapy. They are high quality, certified organic, and affordable!

### Do I really need to use bug spray? Why are bug bites dangerous?

Aside from the fact that itchy bug bites are annoying and uncomfortable, insects can also carry many serious diseases. Mosquitoes carry West Nile virus, Malaria, among others. Ticks can carry Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and many other diseases that can have life-altering consequences. In countries outside of the US, there are diseases such as yellow fever and Zika virus that can be carried by mosquitos and lead to death.

### How to Make Homemade Bug Spray Repellent

- 1) To a 4 oz. bottle, add 2 oz. of witch hazel (I just estimate about halfway up the bottle).
- 2) Add ½ tsp. vegetable glycerin.
- 3) Add the essential oils of your choice.
- 4) Fill the rest of the bottle with distilled water, leaving enough space at the top to shake the mixture.
- 5) Screw the top on tightly and give it a good shake.
- 6) Shake before using. Spray onto clothing, near doorways and windows, and where mosquitoes and ticks may access the skin.

### What other essential oils repel bugs?

While I love the combination of oils in my signature recipe, you can also mix them up to your personal preferences or the particular bugs you are looking to repel. Here are some other oils that you can use to create your perfect bug-repellent recipes.

Best essential oils for repelling mosquitoes:

- lemon eucalyptus oil
- citronella oil
- peppermint oil
- eucalyptus oil
- basil oil
- clove bud oil
- thyme oil
- geranium oil
- lavender oil
- lemongrass oil
- tea tree oil

Best essential oils for repelling ticks and other insects:

- rose geranium oil
- juniper oil
- rosewood oil
- thyme oil
- oregano oil
- grapefruit oil
- cedarwood oil
- citronella oil
- clove bud oil

### Why it Works

The essential oils used in this bug spray recipe are all known for their insect-repelling properties. Citronella and lemongrass, in particular, are commonly used in commercial bug sprays.



Peppermint and lavender also have insect-repelling properties and can help soothe bug bites. Witch hazel is a natural astringent that can help to soothe and cool the skin. Distilled water is used in this recipe to dilute the ingredients and make the spray safe for use on the skin.

### **Tips**

- Shake the bug spray bottle well before each use to ensure that the ingredients are evenly distributed.
- Store the bug spray in a cool, dark place when not in use.
- Re-apply every 2-3 hours.

Note: This spray is not intended to be used directly on the skin, but if you choose to use it this way on children, make sure to only use kid-safe oils. Also, it is recommended that you test it on your skin in a small area first to make sure there are no adverse reactions. Avoid spraying the bug spray directly on your face or near your eyes.

Making your own bug spray is such an easy and effective way to keep pesky insects at bay without exposing yourself to harsh chemicals. By using natural ingredients like essential oils, witch hazel, and distilled water, you can create a bug spray that is safe for you and the environment. So, the next time you head outside, be sure to bring along your homemade bug spray and enjoy the great outdoors without any unwanted visitors!

### **FAQs: What are the risks associated with chemical-based insect repellents?**

Most commercial bug sprays contain several ingredients including DEET and permethrin. Deet is considered “safe and effective” by the CDC and EPA (environmental protection agency), but it is important to understand that it is a chemical pesticide that at full strength will melt plastic! This chemical is absorbed into the skin and bloodstream. Given DEET’s known effects on the central nervous system, this should be cause for concern. DEET is also absorbed into the gut. When we think about the fact that is a pesticide, it’s clear that this could wreak havoc on the gut microbiome.

Permethrin, another commonly used chemical in bug repellents, is also not without risks. This chemical is often used in other applications as a treatment for head lice and scabies. This chemical is also effective in killing bed bugs. Unfortunately, it is also a known endocrine disrupter and is listed by the EPA as a known carcinogen. Some have also reported dizziness, toxic reactions, and behavior problems in children.

### **Does natural spray actually work?**

Yes! I have found this recipe to be very effective. The only downfall is that it must be applied more often. Keep the bottle of spray handy and reapply every 2-3 hours.

With that said, there are some locations where the risks of mosquito bites definitely outweigh the risks of using DEET. If you are in a location where serious diseases cause frequent illness, I would recommend a DEET-based spray that does not contain permethrin. First, cover as much of your skin with clothing that cannot be penetrated by mosquitoes. Then, spray around all openings including arm cuffs, neckline, and pant legs.

### **Does homemade bug spray have a strong odor?**

I personally think it has a great smell, but it definitely is strong. You can certainly add fewer drops of essential oil but for best results, you should make it at full strength.

### **Is this bug spray safe for pets?**

While there has never been an animal study done using this recipe, there are many essential oils that are not safe for pets. Please ask your vet before using this spray on or near your furry friends.

### **Is this homemade spray safe for sensitive skin?**

I don’t necessarily recommend spraying any bug repellent directly on your skin. It is best to spray the mixture along the cuffs of your shirt and pants line. If you need to spray it directly on your skin, test a small patch first.

### **What should I do if the spray gives me skin rash?**

I’ve never seen this spray causes skin rashes, but an alternative way to use it would be to spray it on a cotton ball and place them in shirt and pant pockets.

### **Should I add a carrier oil to my homemade bug spray?**

Some recipes call for carrier oils such as coconut oil or jojoba oil. While these do have properties that are soothing to the skin and can certainly be added, they are not mandatory for making a safe or effective homemade bug spray. If you choose to add this ingredient, 2 teaspoons should be the right amount. Other carrier oils that can be used include avocado oil and olive oil. This can be added before adding the distilled water. Make sure to shake the mixture well before each use, as the oils and water will separate.

### **Are there natural solutions at my local grocery store?**

Thankfully, there are more and more commercial insect repellents that are free of chemicals like DEET and Permethrin. Many of them even use essential oils! Just make sure to check the ingredients carefully. If you don’t know what one of the ingredients is, take the time to do some research before spraying it on or around your loved ones.

My favorite store-bought natural bug spray is a lemon eucalyptus oil-based mixture made by Repel. It does contain some organic chemical compounds, so for a completely natural option, your best bet is to find a homemade product on Etsy.

### **What is neem oil? Should I add it to my homemade bug spray?**

There are mixed thoughts on whether neem oil should be used in homemade bug sprays. I personally didn’t add it because of the risk of irritation if it touches the skin. Neem oil is a great natural bug repellent in the garden, however, and it carries other potential benefits such as its anti-inflammatory properties. If you choose to add it to your recipe, add 1 tablespoon to the given mixture before adding distilled water.

Source: Adapted & reprinted with permission from The From Scratch Farmhouse author, Staci Drondahl - <https://www.thefromscratchfarmhouse.com/homemade-essential-oil-bug-spray-repellent-recipe/>

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# ILLINOIS DRAINAGE GUIDE: DEPTH/SPACING RECOMMENDATIONS TOOL

By Richard Cooke

The depth and spacing of drains influence the groundwater level between drains after a rain event. A good drainage system is designed to lower the water table from the surface to at least 12 inches below the ground surface in the first 24 hours after a rain event, and to at least 21 inches below the ground surface in the first 48 hours after a rain event. Incorrect spacing and depth could result in water remaining in the fields after 24 to 48 hours, significantly affecting crops.

The spacing and depth required to lower the water table to the desired level are influenced by the permeability of the soil, depth to an impermeable layer, the amount and frequency of rainfall, capillary movement, and topography. Spacing and depth also influence each other. In general, for a specified rate of removal, the design lateral spacing increases with drain depth.

Spacing and depth recommendations can be specified at different levels of complexity. At the most basic level, recommendations are based on soil textural class, and at the most complex level, it is based on soil properties, historical or projected rainfall and temperature at a specific location, and

return on investment based on crop prices and system installation costs. In this article, a revised Illinois Drainage Guide tool based on soil permeability and landscape position, is presented

([https://publish.illinois.edu/illinoisdrainageguide/files/2025/06/Drain\\_Spacing.zip](https://publish.illinois.edu/illinoisdrainageguide/files/2025/06/Drain_Spacing.zip)).

## Loading the Routine

The routine is accessible under the “Drainage Guidelines” heading on the main page of the Illinois Drainage Guide (Figure 2).

## Attributes of the Routine

The numbers below refer to the numbered callouts on Figure 1.

### 1. Soil Selection

The routine has a dropdown box from which any of 237 soils in Illinois that require drainage may be selected. Once a soil is selected the tool is populated with properties of that soil, such as profile depth, hydraulic conductivity and drainable porosity.

### 2. Official Soil Series Description

This button allows navigation to the NRCS Official Soil Series Description webpage. This page has information about the textural class and thickness of the various soil layers,

The screenshot shows the user interface of the Depth/Spacing Recommendations Routine. It features a form with several input fields and buttons. Numbered callouts point to specific elements:

- 1:** Points to the 'Soil Name' dropdown menu, which currently displays 'Drummer'.
- 2:** Points to the 'Navigate to Official Soil Series Description' button.
- 3:** Points to the 'Calculate Drain Spacing' button.
- 4:** Points to the 'View General Recommendation' button.
- 5:** Points to the 'Remarks' section, which contains text about surface inlets to subsurface drains.
- 6:** Points to the 'Adjust Profile Depth' button.
- 7:** Points to the 'View Drainage Groups' button.
- 8:** Points to the 'Mean Soil Profile Depth (ft)' input field, which currently shows '5.00'.

The form also displays the following information:

- Soil Number:** 152
- Drainage Group:** 2A1
- Representative Soil:** Drummer
- DRAINAGE GROUP 2A (moderately permeable, poor or very poorly drained):**
  - Subsurface drainage:** 3 feet deep, 80 to 100 feet apart, or 4 feet deep, 100 to 120 feet apart.
  - Shallow surface drainage:** Random surface ditches from depressions may be needed to supplement subsurface drains.
  - Remarks:** Surface inlets to subsurface drains will be beneficial in depressions if surface drainage is not practical.

Figure 1. Interface for the Depth/Spacing Recommendations Routine





**Figure 2.** Location of Revised Depth/Spacing Recommendations Routine on the Main Page of the Illinois Drainage Guide.

Drainage Group	Poorly drained soils divided into drainage groups and subgroups							
	Soils in <b>bold</b> font are benchmark soils sampled by the NRCS. <i><b>Bold and italicized</b></i> soils were sampled for this research or a study by Drablos et al (1989). Soil inputs of <u>underlined</u> soils were derived from a combination of sources.							
1A	Houghton peat	<b><i>Houghton muck</i></b>	Aurelius muck	Adrian muck				
	Palms muck	Lena muck	Muskego muck					
	Maumee	<u>Gilford</u>	Granby					
2A	Harpster	Patton	Hartsburg	Reddick	<b>Sable</b>	<b>Drummer</b>		
	Harvel	Clyde	<b>Selma</b>	<b>Pella</b>				
	Orio	Will	Fieldon	Westland	Canisteo	Marshan		
	Joliet	Romeo	Selma (bedrock substratum)	Faxon				
	<u>Beaucoup</u>	Otter	Millington	Sawmill	Walkkill	Washtenaw		
	Ambraw	Calco	Colo	Blackoar	Comfrey			
2B	Papineau	Watseka	Wesley	Ridgeville	Hoopeston	Roby	Homer	
	Matherton	Kane	Binghampton	Bonfield	Morocco	Lawler	Lawndale	
	Hayfield							
	<b>Muscatine</b>	<b>Ipava</b>	Lisbon	Atterberry	Herbert	Littleton	LaHoque	Virgil
	Starks	Brenton	<b>Flanagan</b>	Beardstown	Troxel	Elburn	Millbrook	
	Sunbury	Sabina	Kendall	Joy	Stronghurst	Andres	Toronto	Aptakisic
	Mundelein	Iva	Raub	Harco	Odell	Fincastle	Nachusa	Wauconda
	Reesville	Darroch						

**Figure 3.** Partial list of the drainage groups and subgroups into which poorly drained soils in Illinois are divided.

geographically associated soils, drainage and permeability classes, and other information.

### 3. General Recommendations Based on Soil Texture

This button brings up a table with general recommendations based on soil texture. The recommendations for this basic level of complexity are not recommended for design, but just for getting a general sense of required depth/spacing combinations.

### 4. Drainage Groups

This checkbox toggles a list of Illinois soils, organized into seven drainage groups and 23 subgroups (Figure 3), on and off. Soils are grouped based on drainage and permeability classifications. The list also indicates soils for which the NRCS or Illinois Extension have detailed soil profile information. There is at least one such soil in each group. The 24 soils indicated account for approximately 75% of the drained area in Illinois.

### 5. Drainage Group Recommendations

Recommendations are given for both subsurface and shallow surface drainage. There is also information particular to each subgroup, related to landscape position, or special requirements for specific soils.

### 6. Profile Depth Adjustment

The same soil series may have different depths to impermeable layer across the state. In general, profile depth increases moving from east to west across the state. The default depth is the profile depth at which the soil was typed. The user has the option of adjusting the profile depth based on local conditions.

### 7. Drain Spacing Calculations

This button can be used to access a form that can be used to calculate drain spacing for different scenarios, steady state drainage, transient drainage and subirrigation (Figure 4). The form is populated with data for the representative soil for the

**Figure 4.** Interface for calculating spacing for Illinois soils for steady state and transient drainage, and subirrigation.



selected soil (Callout #8). The representative soil is the soil from the 24 soils with detailed profile information, that has properties that are closest to the selected soil. The user has the option of changing the soil properties if more detailed information is known about a specific site.

For steady state (rainfall-based) drainage design, the depth and spacing of the drains are selected so that the water table will remain in a fixed position, usually a foot below the soil surface, during a steady rain. Since the water table is not fluctuating, the rate at which water leaves the drains is the same as the rainfall rate. This drainage rate, formally known as the drainage coefficient, is now termed the drainage intensity. For typical row crops (corn, soybeans, etc.) a drainage intensity of  $3/8 - 0.75$  inches per day is typical.

For transient (soil-based) drainage design, the depth and

spacing of the drains are selected so that the water table will be drawn down from the soil surface to one foot below the soil surface in one day, or from the surface to 21 inches below the soil surface in 2 days. The drain flow rate decreases over time as the water table falls and the head decreases. The depth of water removed per foot of water table fall, known as drainable porosity, is dependent on the soil type. For typical Illinois soils the drainable porosity is approximately  $3/8$  inch per foot.

Subirrigation is the process of supplying water (irrigating) through tile lines to raise the water table into or near the plant root zone, so water, and dissolved nutrients, flow upward into the root zone by capillary action and is absorbed by the growing crop. In subirrigation the water table is highest over the drain, and lowest midway between drains. For drainage, these heights are reversed.

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Email: brianangieb@yahoo.com





## PROSE & RIDGELY RECEIVE NATIONAL LICA SCHOLARSHIPS

Every year, National LICA awards scholarships to support students in their pursuit of higher education and to encourage students to fulfill their dreams of entering into the career of their choice. Eligible to active LICA contractors and their relatives (i.e. spouse, child, grandchild), two individuals from Illinois were awarded National LICA scholarships, out of 5 total recipients, for 2025.



Karleigh Prose, granddaughter of member Bob & Rebecca Prose (Girard) and daughter of Jake Prose & Erika Fenton (Girard), was recently named as a National LICA scholarship winner.

Karleigh is a freshman at the University of Illinois, studying Agricultural and Consumer Economics. With a career goal of becoming a successful woman in the agricultural industry, she has always been passionate about agriculture and its impact on both local and global economies. Her involvement with the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) and the Illinois Farm Bureau Association has already connected her with like-minded individuals and expanded her knowledge in this field.

A high honor roll student graduating in the top 15 in her class, Karleigh was a member of the FCA, FFA, and student council in high school. She played softball, golf, and basketball and served as a leader on and off the field/court for her teammates. A fierce competitor and one who is dedicated to her craft, she also volunteered in helping coach a youth girls basketball league on weekdays and weekends. Serving as Director of Fundraising at the Delta Gamma Fraternity, Karleigh brings her leadership to U of I's campus raising money for the visually impaired, deepening her understanding of the importance of service and advocacy.



Addison Ridgely, granddaughter of member Allen & Patricia Yonaka (Parkersburg) and daughter of Austin & Suzanna Ridgely (Parkersburg), was also named as a National LICA scholarship winner for 2025.

A senior at Richland County High School, Addison is enrolled in dual credit courses while maintaining a 5.0 GPA. With an interest in medicine at a young age, Addison is enraptured with the idea of making something to help others and loves the process of creating something new. Hence, her decision and plans to pursue biomedical engineering as a major at Rose-Hulman in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Addison is very active in her school's music program where she plays the saxophone in the honors wind ensemble, marching band, and symphonic band. She is treasurer of the Tri M music fraternity, a member of Student Senate, and on the Scholastic Bowl and ACES (Academic Challenge for Engineering and Science) teams. Addison received College Board's National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA) and was named an Illinois State Scholar. An inherently curious individual, Addison is an avid lover of reading and loves to digest new information, which includes completing classes on her own time (foreign languages, various instrumental music, martial arts, etc.) and printing 3D objects she has designed.

Please join us in congratulating Karleigh, Addison, and both their families for their recent accomplishments. We wish both scholarship recipients the best of luck in their future endeavors!

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## 2025 National LICA Summer Meeting

### Agenda & Meeting Information

July 8 - 12 - Radisson Duluth Harborview

Duluth, Minnesota

#### **Tuesday, July 8**

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Soudan Mine Tour

#### **Wednesday, July 9**

9:45 am - 12:30 pm Grand Sightseeing Tour

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Executive Committee

#### **Thursday, July 10**

8:00 am Opening Breakfast

9:00 am - 5:30 pm Committees

12:30 pm Ladies' Luncheon

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Associates' Night

#### **Friday, July 11**

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Educational Seminars

1:00 pm Lunch

2:00 pm Executive Directors' Meeting

#### **Saturday, July 12**

8:00 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 10:00 am National Board Meeting

### **What Does Summer Meeting Registration Include?**

Summer Meeting registration includes all meal functions, Associates' Night, Educational Seminars, Committee Meetings, and the Board Meeting. All registered members will receive, 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](http://LICANational.org).

### **Attention LICA Families: We've Got You Covered!**

The National Ladies' Committee is pleased to announce that it will cover the expenses for children's activities during the Summer Meeting. If you and your children go to an attraction during the Summer Meeting, simply present a receipt to the National Staff.

### **LICA Ladies' Luncheon**

The LICA Ladies' Committee is hosting a lunch on Thursday, July 10, for the women participating in the National Summer Meeting. Join the women of LICA for delightful food and engaging conversation.

### **Radisson Duluth Harborview**

Located just minutes away from Canal Park and the DECC/Amsoil Arena, the Radisson Duluth-Harborview is uniquely designed as a circular hotel. You can easily access shops, restaurants, and museums along the waterfront via the connected Skywalk. Treat yourself to a delightful evening at Harbor 360, the rotating restaurant that offers breathtaking views of the harbor.



**Scan code  
for Summer  
Meeting details.**





## 2025 National LICA Summer Meeting

### Optional Tours

July 8 - 12 - Radisson Duluth Harborview  
Duluth, Minnesota

### Soudan Underground Mine Tour Tuesday, July 8th

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$80 per person

Descend 2,341 feet down the shaft to the 27th level of the Soudan Underground Mine and embark on one of the most extraordinary tours not only in Minnesota but across the entire nation. You will travel into the mine using authentic, meticulously maintained hoisting equipment, followed by an underground train ride that spans nearly a mile to the Montana stope, the mine's last operational area.

**\* PLEASE NOTE \***

*Mine is 51° F- wear jacket and closed toe shoes.*

*The three-minute cage ride down is a confined space.*

*No purses, bags, backpacks or strollers in the mine.*

### Grand Sightseeing Tour Wednesday, July 9th

9:45 am - 12:30 pm

\$30 per person

Enjoy the most comprehensive narrated tour aboard the Vista Star, which will immerse passengers in the region's breathtaking scenery. Members will see the bustling harbor while hearing fascinating insights about its operations, science, and ecology—past and present. LICA Members will have the opportunity to see and learn about various significant sites, including the Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge, the Blatnik High Bridge, the CN/Mesabi Taconite loading docks, Midwest Energy (the largest and most comprehensive terminal on the Great Lakes), and the St. Louis River.

*\*Attendees will be walking from the Radisson to board the boat.*

*\*Concessions available for purchase on board. There is no lunch provided.*







## 2025 National LICA Summer Meeting Educational Seminars

July 8 - 12 - Radisson Duluth Harborview  
Duluth, Minnesota

### **Educational Seminars** **Friday, July 11**

#### **3 Steps to Help Prevent Suicide: Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)**

*Presented by:*

*National Alliance on Mental Illness*

Learn the three steps anyone can take to help prevent suicide. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis, and it can save lives. QPR is the most widely taught gatekeeper training program in the United States, and more than one million adults have been trained in classroom settings in 48 states. This class is for members who want to learn best practices in suicide prevention. Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying "Yes" to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor.

#### **Audit Committee Summary**

*Presented by: Paul Demuth, OH*

The audit of a National LICA has taken place, led by volunteer members who conducted a thorough evaluation of the organization's financial practices for the past two fiscal years. In this session a summary of the findings will be discussed.

### **Preserving Families and Perpetuating Your Business**

*Presented by: Greg Grecco, Principal, Greco & Associates Financial Services*

Business transition planning may seem optional if you're comfortable with the government's default plan or trust your children to manage the transition. However, consider these five questions:

1. Are you okay with the government's plan for your business?
2. Do you trust your children to manage the transition without harming family ties?
3. Is it important for the business to remain in the family rather than being sold?
4. Are you confident your lender will finance the next generation?
5. Would you accept your kids selling the business to cover your future care costs?

If any of these concerns you, it's time to plan. This workshop can help secure your business and family legacy.

### **Designing and Building Resilient Septic Systems**

*Presented by:*

*Dr. Sara Heger, University of Minnesota*

Since 1974, the University of Minnesota has been providing education and conducting research regarding septic systems. The wastewater generated in homes and businesses has changed over the last 50 years. Residential properties generally use less water with increased medications, cleaners, and personal care products. In addition, challenges like floods and water tables need to be accounted for to ensure septic system performance. Dr. Sara Heger will discuss how Minnesota deals with these challenges.





## 2025 National LICA Summer Meeting Registration Form

July 8 - 12 - Radisson Duluth Harborview  
Duluth, Minnesota

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b>EARLY Bird Rate Postmarked by June 6, 2025</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b># Attending</b>	<b>Total</b>
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Friday Breakfast & Lunch, Saturday Breakfast.	\$340.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
<b>Registration postmarked After June 6, 2025</b>			
Contractor Member, Spouse or Associate Member. Includes: Thursday Breakfast, Associates' Night, Friday Breakfast & Lunch, Saturday Breakfast.	\$395.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under	FREE		
<b>Tour Registration</b>			
July 8th - Soudan Underground Mine & Lunch	\$80.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$40.00		
July 9th - Grand Sightseeing Tour	\$30.00		
Youth: 13 Years & Under (2 & Under FREE)	\$15.00		
<b>Summer Meeting Total (Registration plus Tours)</b>	\$		

**Radisson Duluth Harborview**  
**505 West Superior St, Duluth, MN, 55802**  
**Room Rate: \$139/night (plus taxes & fees)**  
**Call: 800 - 333 -3333**  
**Group: LICA**  
**Deadline: Friday, June 6th**

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

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## AREA 6 TRAP SHOOT & GOLF OUTING: DON'T TRUST THE WEATHERMAN

The dedicated trap shooters and golfers that regularly attend the Annual Area 6 Trap Shoot & Golf Outing will tell you that over the event's 14 year history there are typically only two types of weather occurrences: heat and rain (or some combination of both). Days before the event, the weatherman was calling for significant rain with chances slowly dwindling each day as the outing neared. When June 6th arrived, the morning forecast reflected minimal rain chances but as the day progressed forecasts flip flopped nearly hourly with threats of a washed-out event by afternoon. However, aside from a few brief showers, members were able to avoid the rain (and high temps) to shoot clays and hit golf balls without restraint; relieved they didn't trust the weatherman and were able to enjoy the event as planned!

About a dozen trap shooters started the outing off at Paul McKillip's Farm to take aim at nearly 600 clay targets first thing that morning. The title of "Top Shot" was taken home by Wes Lehman, Springfield Plastics, for busting 41 out of 50 clays which earned him a logoed gear bag. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, most shooters were also able to take home some shooting affiliated swag as door prizes.

Down the road at the beautiful Meadowview Golf Course in Mattoon, 40 golfers enjoyed a quick boxed lunch, sponsored by Wayne Litwiller Excavating, before playing 18 holes in a scramble format with a shotgun start. Port Industries ensured players stayed hydrated on the course with their drink of choice by sponsoring the beverage cart. At the end of the day, golfers had a great time out on the course competing for a chance at hole prizes and bragging rights, and most were thankful for the weatherman's miscalculations which meant they were able to enjoy their ribeye steak dinner buffet and prize announcements in the same, dry clothes they arrived in for the day.

Hole prize winners took home \$50 cash compliments of sponsors Cook's AGPS and Precision Intakes. The Lowest Scoring Team won \$100 cash, the Most Honest Team received a special prize altogether, and the 50/50 raffle take-home was \$158 cash! Winners were as follows:

**Longest Drive:** Kade Wisley

**Closest to the Pin:** Nick Minnis

**Longest Putt:** Cory Magsamen

**Lowest Scoring Team:** Harris Metals & Recycling - Tony Harris, Tyson Harris, Austin Powley, Matt Kowalis

**Most Honest Team:** Steiner Farm Drainage - Joe Steiner, Troy Stevens, Ethan Steiner, Tyler Seals

The event was sponsored by Advanced Drainage Systems, Springfield Plastics, Prinsco, Sullivan Auctioneers a BigIron Company, and Fratco, 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 14th Illinois LICA Area 6 Golf Outing and Trap Shoot!

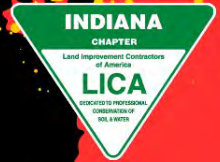
For the complete listing of sponsors and to view pictures from the event, check our website: <https://www.illica.net/golf-outings>











L I C A ' S

# OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE

## DINNER & MEMBERS' MEETING

**BADLANDS**  
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**ATTICA, IN**

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**JULY 26, 2025**

**5PM** EST **Members' Meeting**  
Located at the Clubhouse

Park opens at 9 am EST

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[WWW.BADLANDSOFFROAD.COM](http://WWW.BADLANDSOFFROAD.COM)

**LICA RIDERS: Upper Parking Lot (look for signs)**

### Park Requirements:

Daily Ride Wristbands | Waivers for Minors | No Alcohol | SUV's, Jeeps, SxS, ATV's Welcome | Flags Required 2' Above Tallest Point of Rigs and Rider Height | Helmets for Dirt Bikes, ATV's and 18 & under SxS riders | Flags & Mounts Available for Purchase Onsite





Join us for LICA's Off Road Adventure, Dinner & Illinois LICA's Members' Meeting at Badlands Off-Road Park in Attica, IN! Spend the day exploring over 1400 acres of sand dunes, trails, mud, rocks, and MX tracks and then meet up later at the clubhouse for a catered dinner and the ILICA members' meeting. And be sure to check out [badlandsoffroad.com](http://badlandsoffroad.com) for side by side rentals, camping & lodging options. We can't wait to see you there!

<b>EST</b>	9 am	Park Opens
		\$25 Daily ride wristbands purchased at the Pro Shop
	11 am - 3 pm	Food Shack Hours
	5 pm	Dinner & IL LICA Members' Meeting
		Located at the clubhouse: 3962 N Xavier Rd, Attica, IN

#### Park Requirements:

Daily Ride Wristbands | Waivers for Minors | No Alcohol | SUV's, Jeeps, SxS, ATV's Welcome | Flags Required 2' Above Tallest Point of Rigs and Rider Height | Helmets for Dirt Bikes, ATV's and 18 & under SxS riders | Flags & Mounts Available for Purchase Onsite



Please return form by July 11, 2025

Name/Company name: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I/we will attend dinner # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

Names of all attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** ☐ Sponsor the ILICA Dinner & Members' Meeting for \$500!

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ or ☐ Bill me

Please Remit by July 11th to: Illinois LICA

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

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 26, 2025 @ 6:00 pm EST at Badlands Off-Road Park, 3962 N. Xavier RD, Attica, IN 47918. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Register  
**HERE**





# FUTURE PROOF YOUR BUSINESS

Webinar Series

June 10

## INSURANCE POLICIES: WHERE DO YOU STAND?

INDUSTRY UPDATES | PREMIUM REDUCTION TIPS | RISK MANAGEMENT

Bruce Mosier, Prins Insurance

July 2

## EMPLOYEE HANDBOOKS & COMPANY POLICY: ARE YOU SAFEGUARDED?

PAID TIME OFF | HARASSMENT | LEGAL & ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

John Simmons, Wessels Sherman

August 13

## QUICKBOOKS ACCOUNTING: UNDERSTANDING THE OPTIONS

QUICKBOOKS DESKTOP VS ONLINE | ACCOUNTING BASICS | PAYROLL

Kaylee Collinson, Courson & Associates



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| Carmi, IL<br>(618) 382-5851     | St. Elmo, IL<br>(618) 829-3240    | Bridgeport, IL<br>(618) 945-2611 | Clay City, IL<br>(618) 676-1166   |
| Sterling, IL<br>(815) 625-0937  | Decatur, IL<br>(217) 429-9216     | Grayville, IL<br>(618) 375-4441  | New Harmony, IN<br>(812) 682-3250 |
| Henderson, KY<br>(270) 827-1142 | Gaylord, MI<br>(989) 731-9996     | Powell, WY<br>(307) 754-5767     | Riverton, WY<br>(307) 856-1355    |

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May/June Answer: Eileen Norin





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Illinois

### Future Proof Your Business Webinar - “Employee Handbooks & Company Policy: Are You Safeguarded?”

July 2, 2025

12 - 1 pm

Register via QR code on page 24:

<https://www.jotform.com/251314509645052>

### LICA’s Off-Road Adventure ILICA Dinner & Members’ Mtg.

July 26, 2025

Attica, IN

Badlands Off-Road Park Opens: 9 am EST

Dinner & Members’ Mtg.: 5 pm EST

Register via QR code on page 23:

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

### Future Proof Your Business Webinar - “Quickbooks Accounting: Understanding the Options”

August 13, 2025

12 - 1 pm

Register via QR code on page 24:

<https://www.jotform.com/251314509645052>

## National

### 2025 National LICA Summer Meeting July 8-12, 2025

Radisson Duluth Harborview

505 W Superior St, Duluth, MN 55802

Register via form on page 19:

<https://www.licanational.com/2025-summer-meeting-registration-form/>

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

### Treatment

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

**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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