

ILICA NEWS



Land Improvement Contractors Of America • Illinois Chapter

July - August 2007

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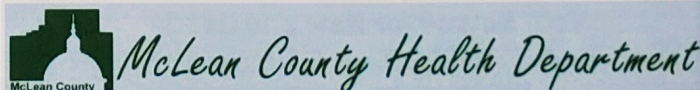
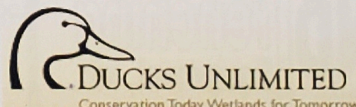
CONSERVATION EXPO 2007



United States Department of Agriculture



McLean County Soil and Water
Conservation District



AUGUST 21 - 23, 2007

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Featured Inside

Summer LICA Conference-Omaha, Nebraska
ILICA's '11th Street' Project at Progress City USA
Farm Progress Show - Partners in Conservation Tent

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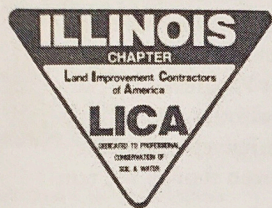
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The ILICA News is the official publication of Illinois Land Improvement Contractors of America, 118 E. Knoxville St., Brimfield, IL 61517. (309) 446-3700.

Subscription price is \$1.00 per year, issued bi-monthly: January-February; March-April; May-June; July-August; September-October; November-December.



Those who would give up
essential liberty
to purchase a little
temporary safety
deserve neither liberty
nor safety.

Benjamin Franklin,
*Historical Review of
Pennsylvania, 1759*

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The LICA Creed

Land, the foundation of the Nation
The basis of all wealth
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The thrifty and prudent
The poor man's joy and comfort
The producer of food, fiber and fuel
The basis of factories
The foundation of banks

All that man builds is from the land.
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abuse it; And yet many, unthinkingly
and unknowingly pass the land by.
What man does with the land will be
the deciding factor of his survival.

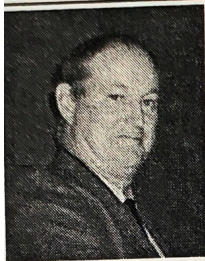
Meeting Notice

ILICA September Board Meeting
Saturday, September 8, 2007
2:00 pm

Illinois LICA Office - Brimfield, Illinois

Committee Meetings
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Illinois LICA Office - Brimfield, Illinois



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Again,

How is everyone? Today is June 26th and all is well. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we have been and still are busy as an association this summer. Last week we installed several feet of storm drain, manholes, inlets, and 150 ton of pea gravel in a two day period for the 11th St project at Progress City. That may seem impossible to do in that time period, however, it would not have happened without the help, donation of equipment, & devoted time of several of our members to see this project to completion. A few compliments from RRC personnel about how nice the finished project looked made our efforts very worthwhile, even though the temperatures were in the 90's both days.

So much on that subject... we must move on. Janet is now moved in and has settled into her new office and I hope everyone gets a chance to stop by sometime. Again, that new office number is 309-446-3700. You might want to call her and tell her "hi," or if nothing else, make sure I gave you the correct number.

Weather her has been very hot for some time. However, I feel the crops in this area look about as good as they have any other year at this time. Despite several weeks of dry weather, the corn here weathered very well. In fact I think in the dry weather during the maturing of the plant caused much deeper rooting, which will help the plant survive better in the end. We did have a "million dollar rain" as the farmers call it, last weekend with totals from 2.5" up to 4" that was very widespread. It didn't help crop prices but I think that is only temporary. I hope everyone's work load is adequate this summer; Ours has been. I think most businesses related to the farm community will prosper this year due to good crops this fall (keep your fingers crossed since anything could happen between now and then.) And hopefully good prices from last years as well as this years crop will help farmers considerably.

By the time you read this I imagine the picnic will be over, but if not, July 7 is the date for this as well as the board meeting. Please by all means, if you cannot attend call your alternates, fellow members, or hell, call your neighbor to fill in for you.

August will be another busy month. Colfax will be the show site for our upcoming Con-Expo with Richard & Bob Lasser as our host as they were three years ago. Please make every effort to attend and help out or just come to have a good time on August 21, 22, & 23rd. If you have any questions please call Janet at the above phone # and I'm sure she can answer them.

Looks like its time for me to go now so everyone take care and we will see you soon.

Bill Dean, President



Welcome! New Members

Active Members

Greg Eitzenhefer
H & M Backhoe Service, Inc. - Belleville

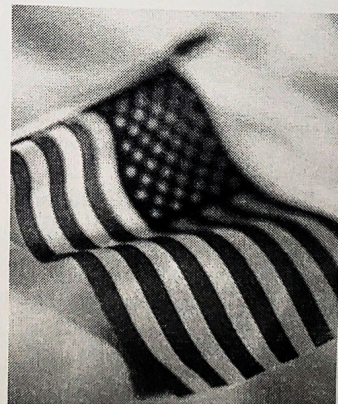
Nancy Koltzenburg
K & N Excavating - Hamilton

Rich Schmitz
Tri-State Trenching & Drilling - Delavan

Thank You

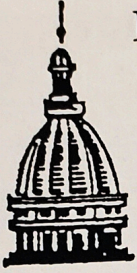
Patriotism is not short, frenzied
outbursts of emotion,
but the tranquil and steady dedication
of a lifetime.

Adlai E. Stevenson



Freedom consists not in doing
what we like, but in having the right
to do what we ought.

Pope John Paul II



FARM BILL MARK-UP POSTPONED

The House Agriculture Committee has postponed review of the entire 2007 Farm Bill proposal, originally scheduled for next week. NACD now expects that the full committee will review the bill after the Fourth of July Recess. In light of the schedule and expectations that the committee will deal with many amendments on all issues, NACD formally submitted a letter to the committee today. The letter addresses the need to continue locally-led conservation program delivery and maintain NRCS administration of conservation programs. The letter is available online at:

<http://www.nacdnet.org/govtaff/07FarmBill/Sims%20letter%20House%20Ag.pdf> and follows below.

June 19, 2007

Chairman Collin Peterson
U.S. House of Representatives, Agriculture Committee
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As the House Agriculture Committee moves forward with consideration of the 2007 Farm Bill, the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) would like to express our views on several issues that we expect the committee will be discussing at mark-up or in the near future.

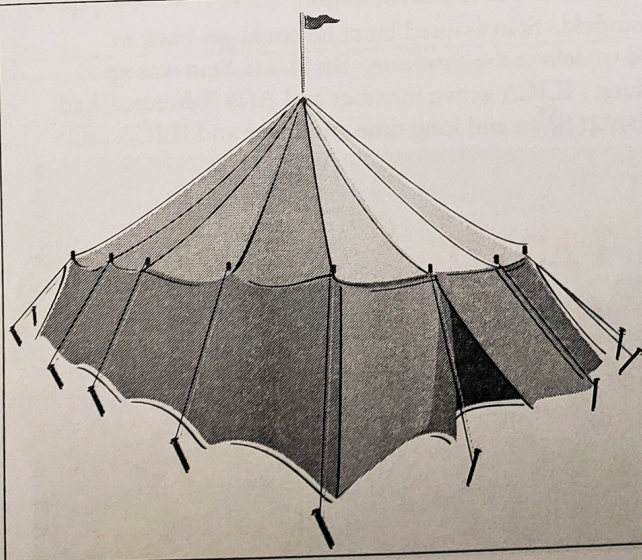
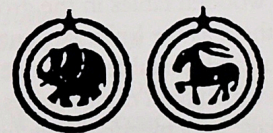
NACD is committed to locally-led conservation. Local conservation districts across the country are instrumental in facilitating the delivery of programs in the Conservation Title. We hope that the 2007 Farm Bill retains this commitment to locally-led conservation. Specifically, the role of districts is to convene Local Work Groups to solicit input of local landowners and others in the community. Due to regulations of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the actions of those outside organizations/individuals in the Local Work Groups are limited. While producers and other landowners provide valuable input, they cannot be involved in the decision making process. NACD asks that you clarify this role of the landowner by officially including them in the Local Work Group. We suggest that this be done by creating the Local Work Group, convened by a local conservation district, as a subcommittee of the State Technical Committee. As an element of the State Technical Committee, the Local Work Group could function with greater transparency, include non-governmental entities, and be exempt from FACA. We appreciate the work that has been done by the Conservation Subcommittee to expand the participation on the State Technical Committee and hope the expanded participation in the Local Work Group can be achieved in the final committee bill.

We expect questions may arise regarding the administration of conservation programs under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NACD is opposed to the change of administration of conservation programs from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to the Farm Service Agency.

We do understand your committee will consider this issue along with other re-organizational matters once action is concluded on the Farm Bill. We fully expect to be a part of those discussions and look forward to working with you to make sure the most efficient and effective delivery of conservation programs is in place. NACD believes that issues of program administration should be thoroughly reviewed prior to any action and believe that there has not been sufficient discussion to take action during the Farm Bill.

If you have questions regarding our position on this matter or any other, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Olin Sims
NACD President

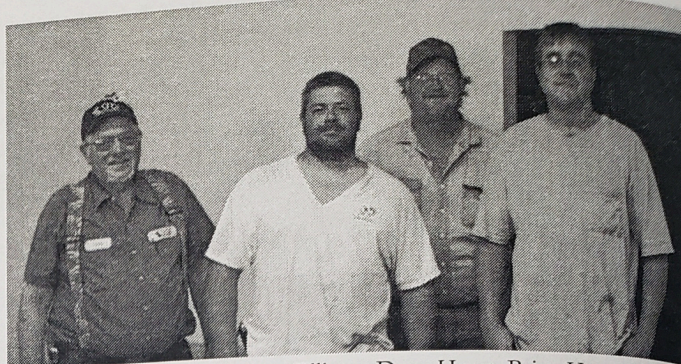


**Come and see the ILICA
exhibit in the
Partners In Conservation
tent at the
Farm Progress Show
August 28 - 30, 2007**

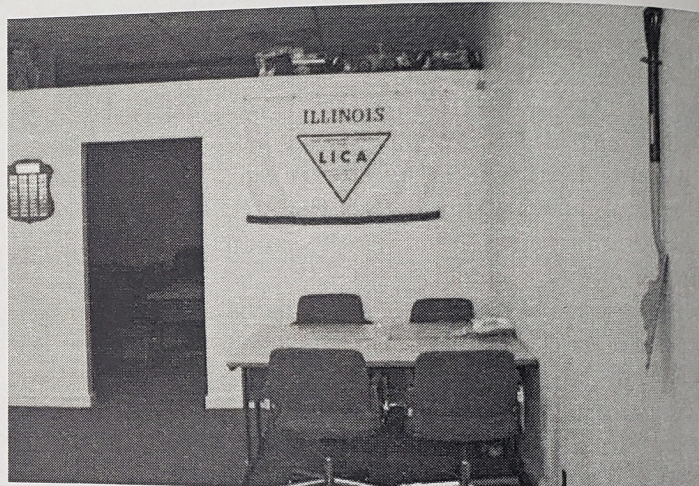
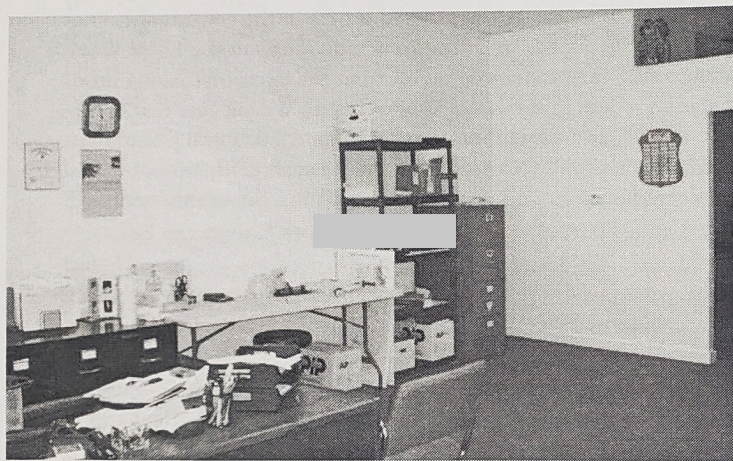
ILLINOIS LICA RECEIVES OFFICE FURNITURE

It wasn't long after the May-June issue of *ILICA News* was mailed, that active retired ILICA member Stan Seevers called the ILICA office and inquired about exactly what kind of furniture was needed. After a short discussion, he invited Janet Doubet, ILICA ED, to one of the Illinois State material auctions in Springfield Illinois the following day. With the projects ILICA is currently involved in, she was a little hesitant to spend the day and the associations money on travel and furniture, but Stan assured Janet that "it won't cost ILICA a dime." Well, with that kind of generous offer on the table, Janet was off for her first experience at a state auction.

It quickly became apparent that this wasn't Stan's first state auction. As he lead Janet around the isles and rows of computers, copiers, fax machines, chairs, file cabinets, tables and unidentifiable objects, she easily found tables and chairs that would work for the new office space in Brimfield. Now, all they had to do was wait for the auctioneer that was traveling around the warehouse on the back of a fork truck to pull up to their 'row' of selections. As the bidding began, Janet stepped aside to let Stan work the auctioneer and was surprised to see Stan standing there with his arms folded over his chest, not saying a word. "Wait! This is our



(L to R) Stan Seevers, Steve Elliott, Dave Hurst, Brian Hurst

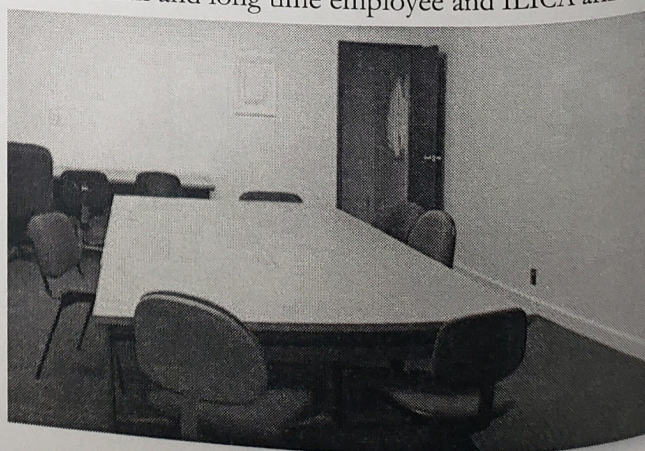


stuff", she thought as the bidding went up to \$40 per piece, but Stan never moved. However, that gentleman was only interested in two wooden tables in the group, and again the bidding began. "Oh goody, we still have a chance," Janet thought, but, Stan just stood there as the bidding went up to \$30 per piece and once again, it went to another gentleman; but this fellow only wanted a fax machine and the table it sat on. Then, the auctioneer turns to the remaining bidders and says, "What will you give for the rest of it?", to which Stan calmly raises his bidder number and says, "\$30." Seconds later, ILICA was the proud owner of 9 tables that now make up a meeting table in the front office, and a conference table and 15 feet of storage base in the back room. Needless to say, the 14 additional chairs secured for the ILICA office were even more economical due to Stan's auction "savvy".

The next step was to transport the purchases from Springfield to Brimfield. Stan assured Janet he could get back to Springfield the following day and would gladly make the drive up to Brimfield to deliver the furniture. By 11 am, Stan was agreed to meet Stan around lunch time at the office to help unload. Dave Hurst, ILICA active member and Area 7 director, had ate member, Steve Elliott were right on time and made short work of unloading the heavy built tables and wrestling them into the office.

With a little clean up, the furniture has made the ILICA office look and function like a true professional environment and Janet couldn't be happier. The workspaces allow room for multiple projects at one time, which has been a good thing this summer with our very active show and membership committees. There's still a lot of work to be done before the office will look "finished", but it is well on the way, thanks to the generosity of our ILICA members.

Thanks go out as well, to everyone that called or stopped by to see how they could help. There are now more than enough chairs for you to stop in and tell Janet "Hi" if you're ever in the area.



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Remember the Date
July 7, 2007

ILICA Picnic & Golf Outing

The annual picnic and golf outing date is listed as June 16, 2007 in the 2007 directory but has been moved to July 7, 2007.

(sorry)





GABBIN' WITH THE GALS..

Do you remember the little verse we sang years ago - "Here we go gathering nuts in May, etc." Well, just wondering what we should be gathering in June? June brides don't exactly gather, farmers gather to check with one another as to how the crop is and if it is planted, how far along it is, etc. Picnics are starting and reunions - this gal is attending one the day after this is written and looking forward to it. They call it the "Day Reunion" and usually some of the Days show up. Families that married into the Day group usually make up the bulk of the attendees. Summers seem so full of too many things to do, it is difficult to find some that can attend. Our group has the lunch catered (which makes it easier) and then the Schwan's man comes later in the afternoon with the finishing touch of ice cream - yum! We are welcome to bring desserts if possible, and that goes well with the ice cream. (Nothing like piling the calories on!) So hope your households have the same pleasure sometime during the summer.



If you listen to the news at all, you are bound to know about Paris Hilton. You can say one thing for her, it cuts down on the reporting of all the candidates for president, which also gets stale after a while. What amazes this gal is the number of those who have a desire to be president. The main perk is the prestige of the office - more money can be made elsewhere, especially after you have been a president, right? (Wonder if there are many perks for a former columnist?...Hmm.)

After days of being confined to the house some time ago, all of a sudden I was consulting the date book to see what was going on the next day. Been pretty busy, what with a wedding shower, graduation parties, church meetings, lunch parties, and on and on. Now you wouldn't think this gal could forget a meeting would you? Sorry, but it's true. All of a sudden I remembered that a meeting I had agreed to was not in my date book, and upon looking at the date book, had to eat my hat as the meeting had been the night before. That is one of the perks about growing old - they understand when the brain has failed to function. If I miss my own funeral, it won't be my fault because I will definitely be available.



The battle of the puns was in our paper recently. Some are really funny and some are ho-hum. Here is one - you decide: a woman had twins and gave them up for adoption. One of them went to a family in Egypt and is named Ahmal. The other one goes to a family in Spain and is named Juan. Years later Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. She tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband said, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan you've seen Ahmal."

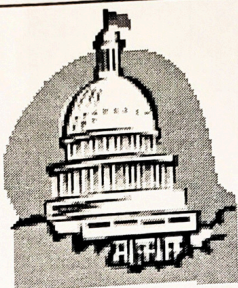


With new people at the helm of our organization, they have accepted a big challenge. No one knows which is best, to not have many members or to have a lot of members but only 4 or 5 show up to a meeting. Well, there probably is no answer to that, but a lot of surmising. I have always surmised that whether or not members attend meetings they can always be depended on to help with whatever is going on at any time. There are people who don't mind attending meetings and by the same token, there are some who dislike meetings, period. They are a necessity to keep the threads together and be sure communication is living and well. We thought if cell phones were in use, you were sure to be able to contact the person you wanted. Not necessarily true. Sometimes they are turned off, sometimes can't be found, sometimes ignored. For quite some time after I returned to work there would be a notice of a telephone call during my absence. Of course, most were telemarketers and 90 percent will not leave a message. When I am at home and they call, the receiver is gently put down with no conversation. Apparently that was successful, because when I am home in the daytime now, their calls have suddenly disappeared. Most successful thing this gal has ever tried!

Friends, a letter was received recently stating that a liberal judge is trying to get ruled out of schools that they no longer say the Pledge of Allegiance. Also this judge is trying to get "In God We Trust" taken off our coins. People, we have to wake up and do something about these things before we wake up one morning and it is a done deal. Why anyone would want to do these things makes no sense because that is what our country was founded on - the right to worship God in whatever form we choose. These two things are a tribute to those who fought so hard so that we might be free from restraints; so why not honor them? Please write to your D.C. legislators and make know that you are against this form of another freedom gone down the drain. Restrictions are becoming more and more popular and we need to express our beliefs to those who are in charge of them, so that they know about it. If we don't, well, there won't be any "land of the free and home of the brave" as we now have it.



The word for this issue is "SPEAK". Let those in charge know how you feel and they will have to take us into consideration. If we don't SPEAK out, no one will know how we feel, and frankly, it is difficult to think of the consequences. Those of you who are "computerized" could send E-mails if you wish - probably would get there quicker. Hope all you mothers and fathers had a nice day on your day. Remember to give thanks. See you all; sooner or later...



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

EPA, ARMY CORPS ISSUE JOINT GUIDANCE TO SUSTAIN WETLANDS PROTECTION UNDER SUPREME COURT DECISION

Release date: 06/05/2007 - (Washington, D.C. - June 5, 2007)

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued joint guidance for their field offices to ensure America's wetlands and other water bodies are protected under the Clean Water Act (CWA). This action reinforces the Bush Administration's commitment to protect and enhance the quality of our nation's wetlands and water bodies.

"The Bush Administration is committed to protecting wetlands and streams under the Clean Water Act and Supreme Court decisions," said Benjamin H. Grumbles, EPA's assistant administrator for Water. "Today's action sends a clear signal we'll use our regulatory tools to meet the president's ambitious wetlands goals."

"We are committed to protecting America's aquatic resources under the Clean Water Act and in accordance with the recent Supreme Court decision," said John Paul Woodley Jr., assistant secretary of the Army (Civil Works). "This interagency guidance will enable the agencies to make clear, consistent, and predictable jurisdictional determinations. The results, once posted on agency Web sites, will document how the scope of the Clean Water Act jurisdiction is being determined."

EPA and Corps staff will also use the guidance when taking enforcement actions under the CWA. The guidance clarifies those circumstances where a person may need to obtain a CWA Section 404 permit before conducting activities in wetlands, tributaries, and other waters. Individual tribal, state and local laws, regulations, or policies may further protect aquatic water resources.

The guidance is consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in the consolidated cases *Rapanos v. United States* and *Carabell v. United States* regarding the scope of the agencies' jurisdiction under the CWA. Specifically, this guidance discusses the agencies' protection of three classes of waters through the following actions:

1. Continuing to regulate "traditionally navigable waters," including all rivers and other waters that are large enough to be used by boats that transport commerce and any wetlands adjacent to such waters;
2. Continuing to regulate "non-navigable tributaries that are relatively permanent and wetlands that are physically connected to these tributaries"; and
3. Continuing to regulate based on case-by-case determinations for other tributaries and adjacent wetlands that have certain characteristics that significantly affect traditionally navigable waters.

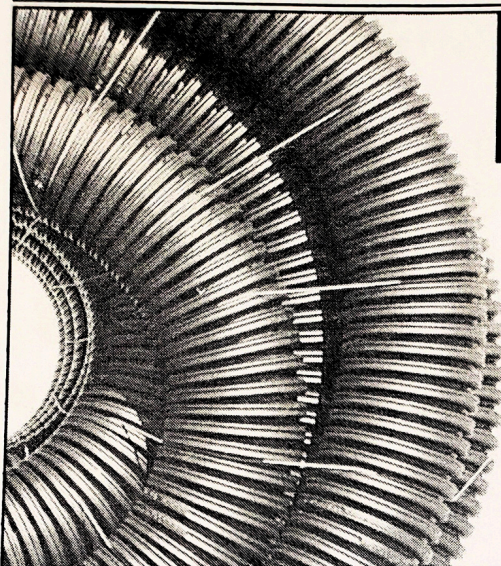
The guidance supports a strong regulatory program that ensures no net loss of wetlands, which is one of three key elements to the Bush Administration wetlands policy. The other two elements include an active management program that will result in the restoration, enhancement and protection of three million acres of wetlands by 2009 and a commitment to conserve isolated wetlands such as prairie pot-holes.

During the first six months implementing the guidance, the agencies are inviting public comments on case studies and experiences applying the guidance. Upon publication of the notice of availability in the Federal Register, comments can be submitted to docket EPA-HQ-OW-2007-0282 through www.regulations.gov. The agencies will more broadly consider jurisdictional issues, including additional clarification and definition of key terminology, through rulemaking or other appropriate policy practice.

Contact Information: EPA, Jessica Emond, (202) 564-4355 / emond.jessica@epa.gov; Army Corps, David Hewitt, (202) 761-1807 / david.w.hewitt@usace.army.mil

More information:
epa.gov/owow/wetlands/guidance/CWAwaters.html

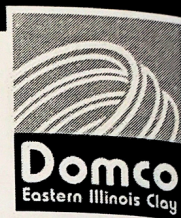




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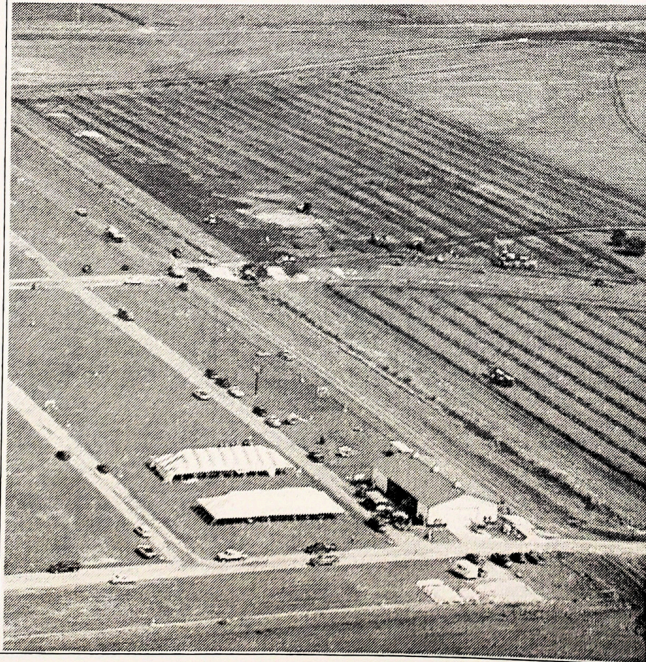
PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION ILICA TO EXHIBIT AT 2007 FARM PROGRESS SHOW AUGUST 28 - 30, 2007



Each year, several conservation agencies set up exhibits at the Illinois Farm Progress Show, knowing that "conservation" is not the first thing most attendees are there to see or learn about. It's a challenge to invent new and exciting ways to display these important practices and to convince the busy passerby's to stop and consider the impact soil erosion and water pollution have on each of them. These agencies return each year however, dedicated to the same goal; taking the volumes of data and statistics borne

of years of research and monitoring and turning them into informative and easily digested brochures, newsletters or booklets that can actually effect a change in how people treat their own land and water sources.

Illinois ILICA joins this outstanding group at the 2007 Farm Progress Show in Decatur Illinois, August 28 - 30, 2007. It's a natural fit since ILICA partnered with several of these agencies to hold the 2006 Conservation Expo at Progress City USA. The practices that were installed last year have been doing their job since last August; the hydroseeding plots took off immediately and are now firmly holding banks in place;



the parking areas where drainage tile systems were installed can quickly remove surface moisture, making it possible for Progress City events to go on as scheduled, regardless of recent rainfall; Dr. Richard Cooke's bioreactors sit beneath the surface with only the access tubing marking their location, removing nitrates from field drainage water before it reaches Lake Decatur; and a gabion mattress firmly holds the soil in place where the surface flow enters the storm drainage ditch from a higher elevation.

These practices will be highlighted during the 2007 Farm Progress Show as the Partners In Conservation have developed a self guided walking tour brochure with signs at the various practices describing their benefits. Many of these practices will also be creatively displayed in the center of the Partners In Conservation tent and every partner has a wealth of information, individual displays and giveaways at their own exhibits. ILICA will highlight last year's expo in our exhibit with large format 'before' and 'after' comparison pictures, information on the 11th Street project completed in June at Progress City and lots more.

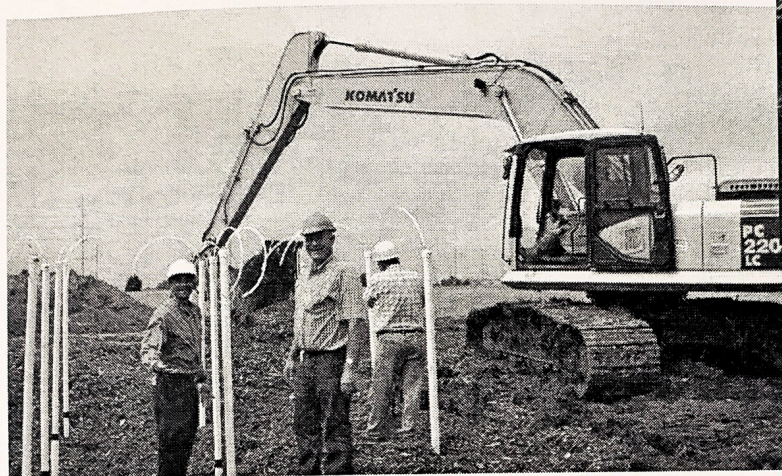
This is an opportunity for ILICA to discuss the importance of soil conservation with landowners and business people from all over the state. Once again, ILICA will need your help in staffing the exhibit during the



PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION (CONT.)

highly attended three day show. We have a few hotel rooms reserved nearby, which was no small feat, and will be able to direct our more distant volunteers to a bed and shower at the end of a long, hot day. There is a sign up schedule at the office to make sure all time slots are covered, so please contact the ILICA office at (309) 446-3700 if you would be available to help out at any time.

All of this adds up to an exciting opportunity for ILICA to

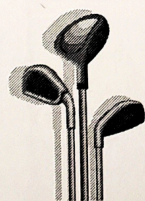


(L to R) Dr. Richard Cooke - U of I, Norm Rosendaal and Dave Haag - ILICA



shine along side our outstanding partners in conservation. Even though we decided not to demonstrate a practice during this years' Farm Progress Show, ILICA's participation in the event will benefit both Farm Progress Companies and ILICA. The Prairie Farmer magazine contacted the ILICA office in early June for information on a story they were doing on the improvements installed in 2006. The additional coverage in the August Farm Progress Show program will undoubtedly generate additional interest in our exhibit and in the practices on site.

Please help us represent our great organization at the 2007 Farm Progress Show.



Thank You

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CONSERVATION EXPO 2007

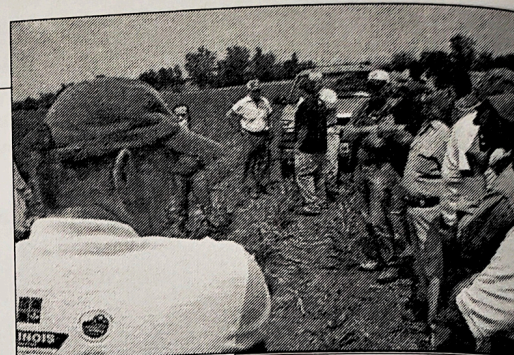
AUGUST 21 - 23, 2007

It must be summer. Illinois LICA is holding another Conservation Expo, and we're back in McLean County with Richard & Robert Lasser. We've been meeting over the last few months, considering dam placement and the 100 year flood, but with the help of Evans Consulting, the Lassers have agreed on a design that gives them exactly what they want: A beautiful pond and multiple wetlands to attract ducks and geese and a stabilized farm property that provides buffers between tilled ground and the local watershed. With a little assistance from the NRCS, farmers can have the best of both worlds with productive farm ground and erosion control practices that protect both soil and water.

This expo boasts an incredible list of partners, shown to the right, who bring an elite and diverse expertise to this year's practices and tours. 2.5 hours of Continuing Education Credits in Soil & Water Management for Certified Crop Advisers has already been approved. Throughout the 3-day event, tours will be conducted to showcase the following eight conservation practices: Pond Construction, Wetland Restoration, Field Borders/Wildlife Food Plots, Filter Strips, Grassed Waterways, Stream Monitoring/Water Quality, Soils Demonstration and New Septic System Installations. Tour guides will be at each of the sites throughout the show to discuss installation techniques, cost of construction, and benefits to the landowner and the watershed.

Once again, our contractors will build a dam, grade and finish an emergency spillway moving between 10,000 and 14,000 cubic yards of earth, and create three wetlands with water diverted into one from a water control structure. The Nature Conservancy has had a water monitoring structure at the site for several years and is excited about the prospect of having comparison data following the improvements. Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever have been active in the area in Wetland Restoration and Field Borders and are both looking forward to another opportunity to educate the public on their efforts.

This year has been a challenge for many state agencies that have been operating without a budget, but everyone is willing to do what they can within their



Planning meeting at Lasser farm

Cooperators

Richard & Robert Lasser
 Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association
 McLean Co. Soil and Water Conservation District
 McLean Co. Farm Bureau
 McLean Co. Health Department
 Illinois Department of Agriculture
 Illinois Department of Natural Resources
 Illinois Department of Public Health
 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
 Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
 Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 Ducks Unlimited
 Heartland of Illinois RC&D Council
 Mackinaw River Partners
 Pheasants Forever
 The Nature Conservancy
 Trees Forever
 University of Illinois Extension
 USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
 USDA-Farm Service Agency

limits, to assist the project.

University of Illinois Extension advisor Bob Frazee, has been relentless in getting the word out on this year's Expo. He has already secured publication in several farm magazines as well as radio and TV interviews closer to the date, received approval for Certified Crop Advisors CEC's in Soil & Water Management, and continues to keep our event brochure and flyer up to date.

(...continued on page 14)

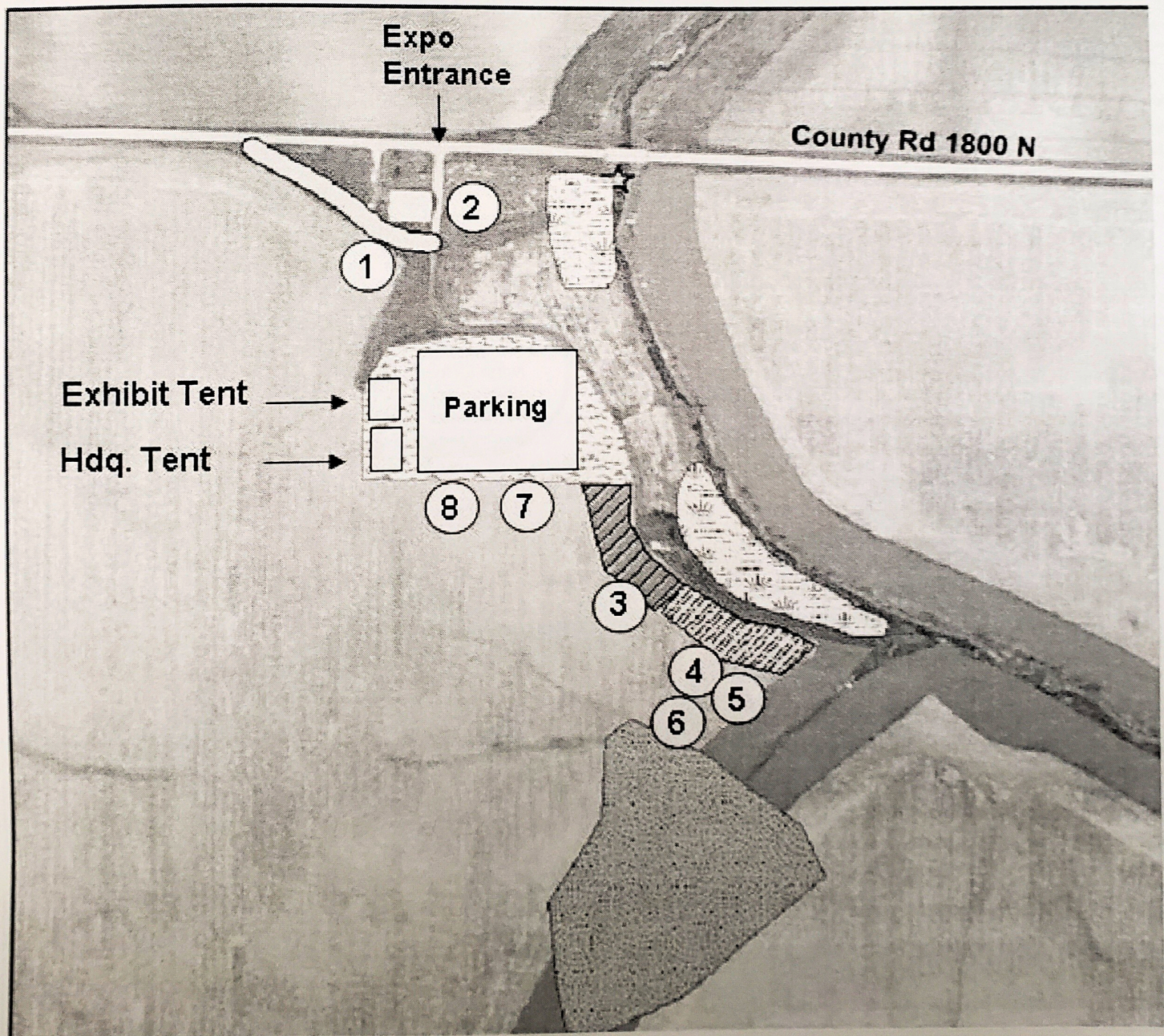
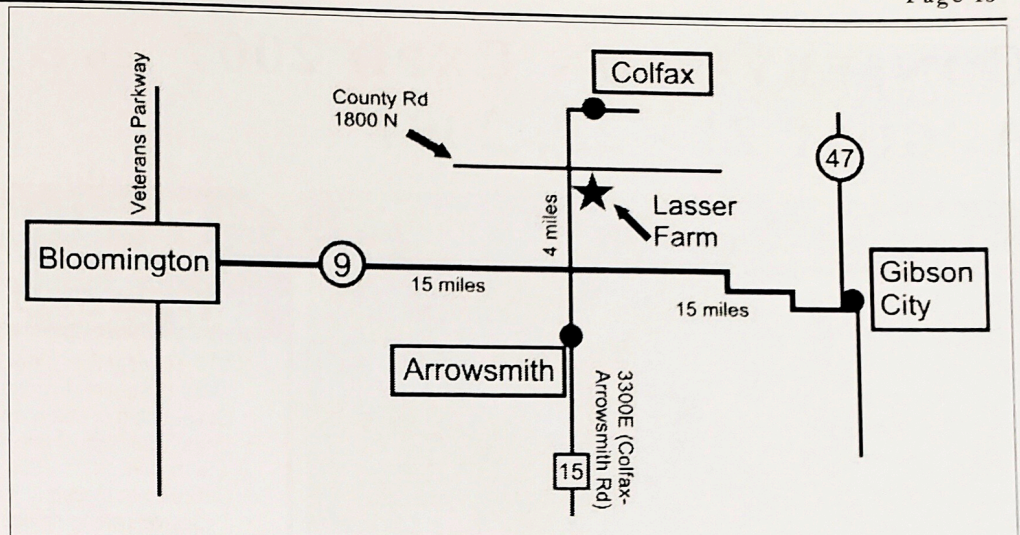


<u>Tour</u>	<u>Practice</u>
Site 1	Grassed Waterway
Site 2	Stream Monitoring/Water Quality
Site 3	Field Border/Wildlife Food Plot
Site 4	Wetland Restoration
Site 5	Filter Strips
Site 6	Pond Construction
Site 7	Soils Demonstration
Site 8	Septic System Installation

Tour Guide/Agency
 NRCS/SWCD
 The Nature Conservancy
 IL Dept. of Natural Resources, Pheasants Forever
 NRCS/SWCD, Ducks Unlimited
 University of Illinois Extension
 NRCS/SWCD
 Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
 IL Dept. of Public Health, McLean Co. Health Dept.

Directions to Expo Site:

The Conservation Expo 2007 Show Site is located approximately 2 miles south of Colfax, IL, in McLean County, in central Illinois. It is located just off of IL Route 9, about 15 miles east of Bloomington, or about 15 miles west of Gibson City. Coming from either direction proceed to County Highway 15 or Road 3300E, also known as the Colfax -Arrowsmith Road. Turn north towards Colfax and travel 4 miles to County Road 1800N. Turn right and go east one fourth mile. The show site will be on your right (follow the signs).



CONSERVATION EXPO 2007 (CONT)

AUGUST 21 - 23, 2007

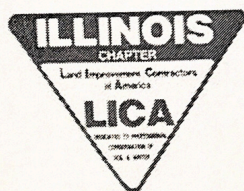


(L to R) Darryl Coates, IDNR; Jim Evans, Evans Consulting (standing), David Kennedy, (behind the plan); Bill Doubet, Bill Dean, all of ILICA, Bob Frazee U of I Extension, Dave Bishop, NRCS; Kent Bohnhoff, NRCS; Brian Lambert, U of I Extension

Kent Bohnhoff, District Conservationist for the Normal NRCS Field office, has been involved from the very beginning of the project, working with SWCD on developing the conservation plan for the Lasser farm, followed by more recent coordination with Evans Consulting on the pond and dam design and layout. NRCS remains instrumental in our expo strategy and Kent has worked closely with Bob Frazee on the tour stop map and design as well.

Illinois EPA, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, USDA, Illinois Dept. of Agriculture and all the other agencies and organizations involved in this year's expo are giving up time in their busy schedules to attend the regular planning meetings and secure experts for our tour stops. These dedicated professionals will show up very early each morning of the expo, rain or shine, and face the discomforts of working outdoors in Illinois, in August, for the opportunity to share their knowledge, compassion and experience about the world in which they live.

Please Join Us at Conservation Expo 2007.



Look for your
Expo materials in
the mail the first
week of July.

Please contact Janet at the ILICA office if you are able to help out with this year's Conservation Expo.

There will be a sign up sheet at the July Board meeting and picnic but you can always call the office at (309) 446-3700.

Office Hours are:

8:30 am - Noon

1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

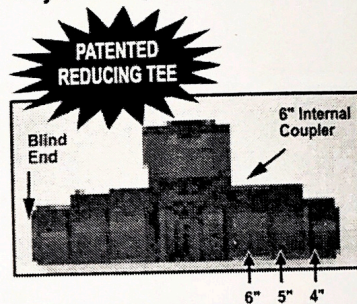
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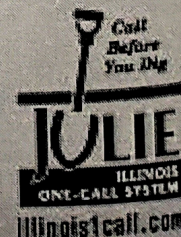
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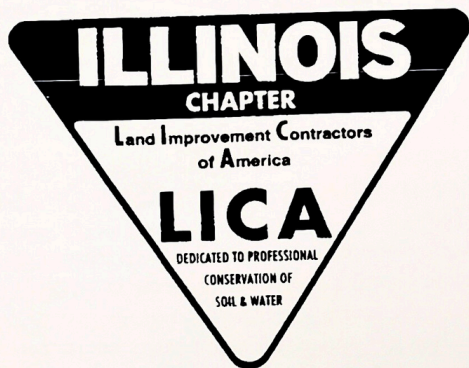
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10 am . . . Shop Tours
12 pm Lunch
1:30 pm . . Field Demo

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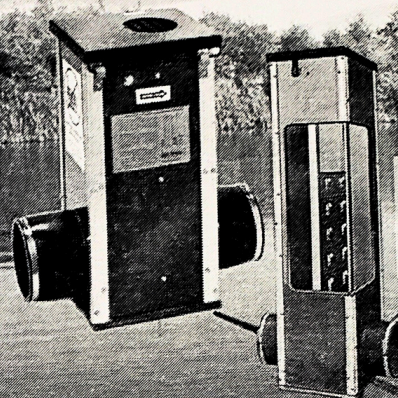
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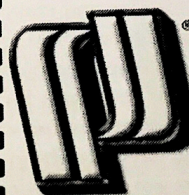
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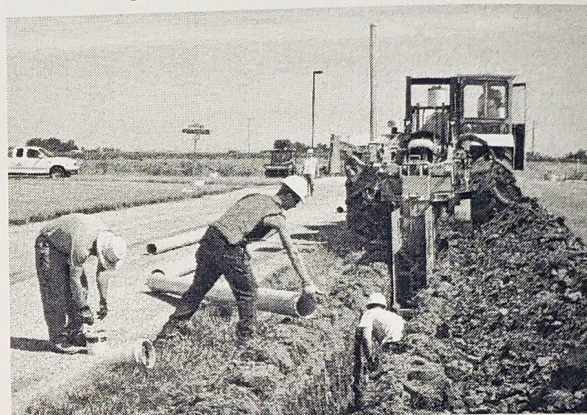
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ILICA INSTALLS STORM SEWER FOR PROGRESS CITY USA'S NEW 11TH STREET



Last November at Richland College, several members of the ILICA show committee met with Cindy Laegeler, COO of Progress City USA and Matt Jungmann, Show Manager of Farm Progress Companies, to discuss ways ILICA could participate in the 2007 Farm Progress Show. Several ideas were discussed and everyone came away with the feeling that the lines of communication were wide open in this mutually beneficial relationship. As the meeting concluded, Matt began talking about the updates planned for the North end of Progress City USA and the addition of 11th Street along with the paving project scheduled for the existing streets. The updates will be a huge benefit for the Farm Progress Show, especially if there is wet weather (what are the chances...right??) but will also keep the dust down in dry weather. Being ILICA contractors, more discussion ensued regarding the proper way to handle the increased water runoff from paved streets and the like, and Matt asked if ILICA would be interested in helping with the project, even though it would be completed prior to the August 28th start of the Farm Progress Show.



ILICA Show committee members discussed the project at their May meeting and after reviewing the engineering plans, determined the value of doing this project. They met with Matt on May 30th at Progress City USA, walked the grounds and then sat down to negotiate the value ILICA brought to the project. Everyone agreed on Farm Progress Companies donation to ILICA consisting in part, of four

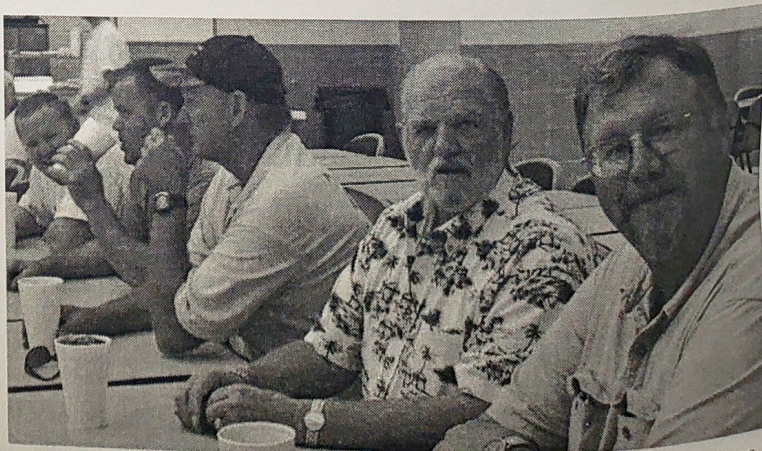


(4) 1/4 page ads in the very popular Prairie Farmer magazine that reaches 40,000+ Illinois farmers each month. Those ads will be used to promote upcoming ILICA workshops being developed by our Education committee and can be used anytime before June 2008.

Matt planned to leave for Australia for Farm Expos, then back to Iowa for Hay Expos, but knew that when he returned to the Illinois Farm Progress Show site, ILICA's part of the 11th Street project would be completed. That would allow time for the road and utility crews to finish their part of the project before the crowds show up for the Illinois Farm Progress Show, August 28 - 30, 2007.

On June 20th, work commenced as scheduled on phase 1 of the 11th Street Project. Associate members were used whenever possible to supply the materials required for the storm sewer portion of the project, which Farm Progress Companies had left under ILICA management with Dunn

Companies acting as the general contractor in Matt's absence. Contractors that live within a 2 1/2 mile radius of Decatur were contacted for this job, knowing that everyone's help will be needed at the ILICA Conservation Expo scheduled for August 21st - 23rd. ILICA contractors Forrest Davis, Bill Dean, Bill Doubet, Dave Hurst, Jeff Litwiller, Jon Seevers, and Jason Winings volunteered their time and/or employees, knowledge and equipment to install 11 type A pre-cast inlets and a total of 1100 feet of PVC tubing to tie the new 11th Street into the existing storm sewer system. The job was done according to Illinois DOT standards, went as expected with minimal interruptions and concluded in 2 days; Not that they weren't 2 long days, but the generous response of local ILICA contractors got the job done right and on time. Bob Grothaus of Springfield Plastics even stopped by on Wednesday and bought lunch for the workers at MJ's Café at Richland Community College. It was a short but nice break before getting back out in the sun to run more tile lines.



(L to R) Clay Yantis and Jason Winings - Winings Backhoe, Bill Dean - Dean Drainage, Bob Grothaus - Springfield Plastics and Dave Hurst - Hurst Farm Improvements

DRAINAGE WATER MANAGEMENT PLANS WORKSHOP

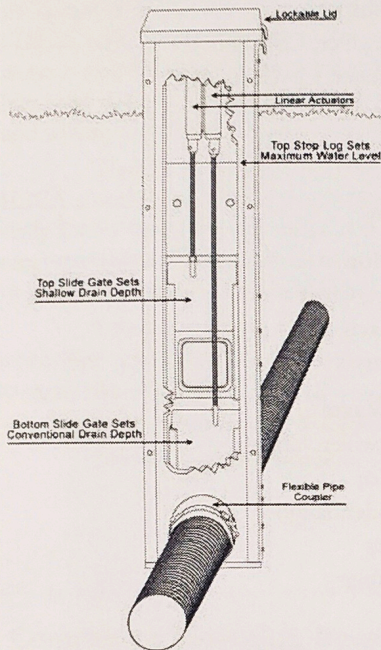
Dr. Richard Cooke, University of Illinois College of ACES, Don Pitts, Illinois NRCS, the Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition (ADMC), and Illinois LICA are holding a

workshop for contractors or landowners interested in an in depth class on drainage water management plans. It is tentatively scheduled for August 30, 2007 9:00 am - Noon at the Illinois NRCS office in Champaign.

Dr. Cooke and Don Pitts have developed a template that will be presented at this workshop which will help landowners and contractors understand these plans.

This is not an introductory level workshop, but is intended for contractors with a working understanding of drainage

principals. More information will be available soon on our web-site, ilica.net. Illinois LICA will send registration forms to all members as soon as the session details are available. Keep checking the web-site for the most up to date information or call the ILICA office at (309) 446-3700 with any questions.



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ILICA INSTALLS STORM SEWER (CONT.)

Cindy Laegeler told ILICA ED Janet Doubet, that she and Dave Holtfreter, RCC Director of Operations and Technical Services, inspected the work site the following morning and commented how impressed Dave was with the meticulous job ILICA did cleaning up the site. Cindy said it looked "beautiful."

Friday morning, everyone was back to their own businesses and current projects and ILICA had solidified our relationship with another important Illinois partner, the Farm Progress Companies. Our work here will be mentioned on the permanent signage created following last years' expo at the Progress City USA site. You will find a small article on the proposed sign on page 23 of this newsletter.



Phase 2 of this project will be coring the new 11th Street, laying down geo-textile fabric and sub-base rock in preparation for the permanent surface. The existing streets in Progress City will be asphalted before this years Farm Progress Show, and if possible, so will the new 11th Street.

ILICA appreciates the opportunity to work with an outstanding partner like Farm Progress Companies on this high visibility project for the Illinois Farm Progress Shows.

The Illinois LICA exhibit in the Partners in Conservation tent will include pictures of this project along side the practices installed last year during the 2006

Conservation Expo at this same site. Please stop by and see us and our conservation partners at this years' Farm Progress Show.



2007 Illinois LICA Committees

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Corey Getz/ADS
Eugene Glueck/ Martin Equipment
Chad Nickelson/Eastern IL Clay

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"THANK YOU" TO ILICA 11TH STREET VOLUNTEERS

TO: Everyone involved with the Storm Sewer project at Progress City USA.
FROM: Bill Doubet, Show Committee Co-Chair

I would like to thank those involved with the planning and execution the 11th Street project at Progress City USA in Decatur, Illinois. This project included storm sewer and utility installation, and construction of the new 11th Street on the North end of Progress City USA, home of the Illinois Farm Progress Show. Illinois LICA was approached about performing the storm sewer portion of the project, the scope of which included the installation of 11 Type A inlets, 802 feet of 8" SDR26, 305 feet of 6" SDR26, with 4 inlets having under drain to eliminate excess water from building up around them. ILICA went to associate members to provide the materials for this project, even though Farm Progress Companies were directly responsible for those purchases. The planning of a project like this is made easier when there is an army of folks ready and willing to process, deliver and then implement the task.



Thank you as well, to those that supplied machinery and a very effective work force. The outstanding response from local ILICA contractors made it possible to complete this project in two (2) days with virtually no major problems to overcome. I would especially like to thank Matt Jungmann for giving ILICA the opportunity to participate in this expansion project. After the May 31st planning meeting at the site, Matt seemed comfortable about having us do the work and I felt comfortable about negotiating for Illinois LICA to get the end result...a job well done!

Thanks to Cindy Laegeler, COO of Progress City USA, and Dave Holtfreter of RCC for coordinating the material unloading when they arrived on site. Thanks to Bob Grothaus from Springfield Plastics for providing lunch on Wednesday. Last, but certainly not least, thanks to all the folks and companies that hauled or spread rock, fueled machinery and made the project progress in a timely manner. Everyone contributed to making this job run smoothly.

Thanks again to everyone, and I hope to see you in McLean County at our Conservation Expo 2007, August 21st, 22nd, 23rd.

ILICA Show Committee Co-Chair
Bill Doubet

Committee Function, Responsibility and Authority

The committee system is the best system yet devised in a democracy to capture and develop ideas into a workable program. The **FUNCTION** of each committee is to gather ideas from every source that relates to its area of concern. Those ideas should be advanced in the form of a proposal. Each member of the committee has a personal **RESPONSIBILITY** to become knowledgeable in that area of the committee's concern. Each committee has the **AUTHORITY** to investigate, research, meet submit reports and develop proposals, to the extent of its budget. Committees are authorized by the By-Laws as an instrument of the Board as a means to secure ideas and suggestion from the membership. Committees which do not gather and refine ideas for presentation to the Board are missing the opportunity to serve the Association. Committees can be no stronger than the individual members who serve the Association.

The committee structure of Illinois LICA is an integral part of every function, goal and service we provide. Committees are the driving force behind every convention, workshop, expo or membership drive and one of the reasons we are celebrating 50 years of success at the January 2007 Convention. If you are interested in becoming involved in one of the committees listed on page 14, please let your Area Director or any member of the Executive Committee know.

Help US Build!

JUST ONE

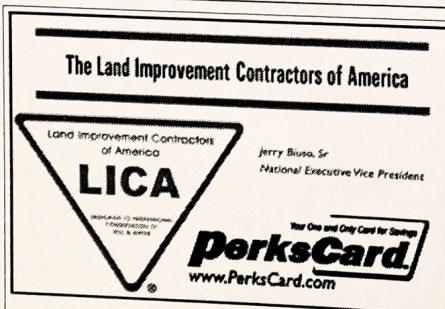
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Another
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You should have recently received a LICA PerksCard in the mail. Take a quick minute to go to the web-site, www.PerksCard.com and register your card. There are dozens of national vendors listed on the site where you can buy gift cards or receive discounts on purchases: Dell Computers; Home Depot; Expedia.com; Bennigans, Bonanza; Days Inn; The Gap, just to name a few.

Check it out!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Illinois

2007 ILICA Summer Picnic & Golf Outing
July Board of Directors Meeting
Wolf Creek Golf Course - Pontiac, Illinois
 Saturday, July 7, 2007

2007 ILICA Conservation Expo
 Rich Lasser Farm South of Colfax, Illinois
 August 21 - 23, 2007
 (see page 12)

ILICA - Partners in Conservation at
Illinois Farm Progress Show—Decatur Illinois
 August 28—30, 2007

September Board of Directors Meeting
Illinois LICA office - Brimfield Illinois
 September 8, 2007 - 2:00 pm

Illinois LICA 2008 Annual Meeting & Convention
Stoney Creek Inn - Moline, Illinois
 January 17 - 19, 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National

Port Industries Field Days
 July 17—18, 2007

LICA Summer Meeting—Omaha Nebraska
 July 18—21, 2007

Iowa LICA Field Day
 August 2 & 3, 2007
 Melbourne, IA

Minnesota LICA St. Joseph Loader-Backhoe Rodeo
 August 11, 2007
 Shakopee, MN

ICUEE Exposition - Louisville, KY
 October 16 - 18, 2007
 Kentucky Exposition Center

2008 Winter LICA Meeting—Las Vegas, Nevada
 March 9—10, 2008
 (Sunday—Monday, prior to Con Expo 2008)
 Con Expo—March 11—15, 2008

SAFETY FEATURE - HEAT RELATED FIRST AIDE

Heat exhaustion:

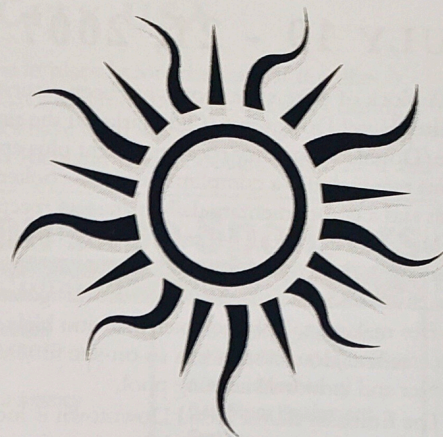
Heat exhaustion is one of the heat-related syndromes, which range in severity from mild heat cramps to heat exhaustion to potentially life-threatening heatstroke. Signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion often begin suddenly, sometimes after excessive exercise, heavy perspiration and inadequate fluid intake.

Signs and symptoms resemble those of shock and may include:

- Feeling faint
- Nausea
- Heavy sweating
- Ashen appearance
- Rapid, weak heartbeat
- Low blood pressure
- Cool, moist skin
- Low-grade fever

If you suspect heat exhaustion:

- Get the person out of the sun and into a shady or air-conditioned location.
- Lay the person down and elevate the legs and feet slightly.
- Loosen or remove the person's clothing.
- Have the person drink cool water, not iced, or a sports drink containing electrolytes.
- Cool the person by spraying or sponging him or her with cool water and fanning.



Monitor the person carefully. Heat exhaustion can quickly become heatstroke. If fever is greater than 102 F, fainting, confusion or seizures occur, dial 911 or call for emergency medical assistance.

Heatstroke:

Heatstroke is similar to heat cramps and heat exhaustion. It's one of the heat-related problems that often result from heavy work in hot environments, usually accompanied by inadequate fluid intake. Older adults, people who are obese and people born with an impaired ability to sweat are at high risk of heatstroke. Other risk factors include dehydration, alcohol use, cardiovascular disease and certain medications.

What makes heatstroke much more severe and potentially life-threatening is that the body's normal mechanisms for dealing with heat stress, such as sweating and temperature control, are lost. The main sign of heatstroke is a markedly elevated body temperature - generally greater than 104 F - with changes in mental status ranging from personality changes to confusion and coma. Skin may be hot and dry, although in heatstroke caused by exertion, the skin is usually moist.

Other signs and symptoms may include:

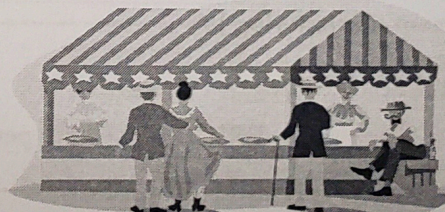
- Rapid heartbeat
- Rapid and shallow breathing
- Elevated or lowered blood pressure
- Cessation of sweating
- Irritability, confusion or unconsciousness
- Fainting, which may be the first sign in older adults

If you suspect heatstroke:

- Move the person out of the sun and into a shady or air-conditioned space.
- Dial 911 or call for emergency medical assistance.
- Cool the person by covering him or her with damp sheets or by spraying with cool water. Direct air onto the person with a fan or newspaper.



ILICA to Join *Partners in Conservation* at 2007 Illinois Farm Progress Show



Illinois LICA has been invited to participate in the Partners in Conservation tent at the August 28—30, 2007 Illinois Farm Progress Show in Decatur Illinois. We'll have exhibit space inside the tent, lots of information about last year's Conservation Expo on the adjacent property along with several other displays explaining the newest water and soil conservation practices being used today.

Plan to stop by our exhibit while visiting this year's Illinois Farm Progress Show.

SUMMER LICA MEETING - OMAHA NEBRASKA

JULY 19 - 21, 2007

A block of suite-style rooms has been reserved at the Embassy Suites Hotel Downtown/Old Market at the rate of \$119 Single/Double occupancy room per night plus applicable taxes. This rate includes a complimentary full cooked-to-order breakfast and a complimentary daily managers reception from 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M. for all overnight guests. Complimentary self parking and airport shuttle transportation are also included. Each two room suite offers in-room refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers, telephone voice mail and high speed Internet access. The Hotel also offers an on-site fitness center, business center and indoor swimming pool.

The Embassy Suites Hotel Downtown is located at 555 So. 10th St. in Omaha, NE. which is a short five minute drive from Omaha's Eppley Airfield and easily accessible from Interstate 480.

The Hotel offers a myriad of dining, shopping and entertainment options in the historic Old Market District. Several attractions located within walking distance, or a short, drive include: The Holland Performing Arts Center, Joslyn Museum, the Western Heritage Museum and the world renowned Henry Doorly Zoo.

Reservation cut-off date is June 16, 2007. To make reservations call (800) 362-2779 or (402) 346-9000 and request the National LICA Meeting Block. Register online at www.omaha.embassysuites.com using the group code NLM. The block is found in the reservation system as: Nat'l.LICA Mtg.

Tours

Wednesday, July 18th - Tour One:

Valmont Industries
Mead Cattle Company
CLAAS Caterpillar Combine Plant
Heavy Equipment Earthmoving Job

Weather permitting

Lunch: Round The Bend Restaurant

PRICE: \$50.00 per person

Wednesday, July 18th - Tour Two:

Lauritzen Gardens
Historic General Dodge House
DeSoto Nat'l Wildlife Refuge/The Steamboat Bertrand
Lunch: Rick's Boatyard Café

PRICE: \$50.00 per person

Thursday, July 19th - Tour Three:

Memorial Stadium
Strategic Air & Space Museum
Father Flanagan's Boys Town
Lunch: Mahoney State Park - Peter Kiewit Lodge

PRICE: \$50.00 per person



Downtown Omaha Park

Convention Agenda

Thursday - July 19, 2007

8:00 a.m. Tours

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

Friday - July 20, 2007

6:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Nebraska Welcome

9:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Committees

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Committees

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Dinner (On your own)

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social

Saturday - July 21, 2007

7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Committees

9:00 a.m. Executive Directors Meeting

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Hotel Hospitality Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL—Omaha Old Market

Room Rate \$119 plus tax

Reservation number:

(800) 362-2779; (402) 346-9000

Request: National LICA Meeting Block

Registration Policy: Only individuals registered and wearing badges may attend Summer Meeting events. All must register to attend convention, programs or functions. No registration will be processed without payment. Registration fee deadlines will be strictly enforced.

Refund Policy: For cancellations received prior to June 20, 2007 a \$30.00 charge will be deducted from the original amount paid. No registration payments will be refunded after June 20, 2007 unless an emergency has been experienced.

PERMANENT SIGNAGE FOR PARTICIPANTS OF 2006 CONSERVATION EXPO AT PROGRESS CITY USA

The permanent signage for last year's conservation expo has been designed and will be in place before the start of the Illinois Farm Progress Show this August 28 - 30, 2007 in Decatur Illinois. Needless to say, there's been a lot going on since our work during those rainy days last August, and Progress City, Richland College and Farm Progress Companies have been working hard to prepare for the big event this year. Cindy Laegeler, COO of Progress City USA, has been working with the Richland College design department and ILICA ED, Janet

Doubet to design an appropriate sign to show their appreciation for the conservation work done on the property adjacent to Progress City.

Since ILICA has now completed their part of the 11th Street project for Farm Progress Companies, they've decided to mention that on our sign as well.

2006 Illinois LICA Conservation Expo Sponsors

ILICA Associates	ILICA Partners	Also Thanks To	
- Advanced Drainage Systems - Agri-Drain - Alto rfer - Birkeys - Clark County Supply - Consolidated - Eastern Illinois Clay - Hickenbottom Inc. - J.U.L.I.E. - Martin Equipment	- Midwest Auger-Aerator - Northern Pipe Products - Northland Trenching - Port Industries - Precision Intakes - Prinsco - Roland Machinery - Schlatter's Inc. - Springfield Plastics - Vermeer Midwest	- Archer Daniels Midland - Brush College LLC/RCC - City of Decatur - USDA Farm Service Agency - Illinois EPA - Macon Co Soil & Water Conservation Service - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Soil & Water Conservation Society - Trees Forever - U of I Extension	- A.S.P. Enterprises, Inc - Central Fiber Corporation - Clinton Machinery - Don Moor Equipment - Frasco - Evergreen FS Inc. - Hogan Equipment & Grain - Loxley Inc - Nextel - Woare Builder Supply

The Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association would like to thank all of our Associate members, partners and other area businesses that donated equipment, material or funding for this project which improved the storm water handling at Progress City USA and reduced sedimentation entering Lake Decatur.



The Farm Progress Show thanks the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association for their assistance with the 11th Street Project.



2007 NATIONAL LICA SUMMER MEETING REGISTRATION

Registrations: Includes: Opening Reception Thursday evening, Friday lunch and Ice Cream Social, Saturday lunch and dinner

Company Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Registration after June 5, 2007

Members, Spouses, Associates, Government Employees, Consultants \$ 150.00 each \$ _____

Youth - 15 years of age and under \$ 85.00 each \$ _____

Children 3 years of age and under - Free-

PRINT NAMES FOR NAME BADGES Child Age COSTS: TOUR 1 TOUR 2 TOUR 3 TOTAL

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

ADD TOUR REGISTRATION: Please put total tour cost amount here \$ _____

TOTAL: MEETING REGISTRATION FEES PLUS TOURS \$ _____

For further information call: (402) 289-2489

Please return this form with payment to:

NEBRASKA LICA SUMMER MEETING—109 Platte View Drive—Phillips, NE 68865

HELPFUL TIPS FROM U OF I EXTENSION



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
EXTENSION

"Your Doorway to the University"

Look for lots of helpful information, suggestions and ideas on Agriculture, Natural Resources & the Environment and much more on the University of Illinois Extension web-site...<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/state/>

POISON IVY CONTROL

Poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) can be a nightmare, said a University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator. "It can cause skin irritation if the plant resins--urushiols--come in contact with the skin," said Barbara Bates. "The rash and accompanying itching is an allergic reaction. "Not all persons are allergic, but most are and some will develop the allergy over time. To those who are sensitive, even the leafless winter and early-spring stems should be avoided." Despite its name, poison ivy is not a true ivy like English ivy, she noted. It is a woody vine in the same family as sumac, cashews, and magnolias. Native to North America, it often grows as an under-story shrub or vine. "Poison ivy is very shade tolerant, but it is very adaptable and can be found in almost any habitat--sun or shade, wet or dry," Bates explained. "It is easily spread by birds who feed on the fruits. The fruits are whitish-gray berries that grow in clusters and ripen in the fall. The clusters of fragrant white flowers appear late in the spring."

While it is a vine, poison ivy may grow as a groundcover, spreading by underground roots. It may also grow as a vine, clinging by aerial roots, vertically up tree trunks or on structures such as fences or utility poles. "Once it establishes itself in a vertical growth habit, lateral branches reach out horizontally several feet and blend with tree or shrub branches at upper body level," she said. "Recognition of the leaves and observation of hairy vines on tree trunks can help avoid contact. "The rhyme 'leaves of three, not for me,' is a good thing to remember, but know that there are many plants with leaves bearing three leaflets."

Poison ivy has compound leaves with three leaflets connected at a central point, all of relatively equal size. The leaflets are longer than wide but size varies based on growing conditions. New leaves emerge with a red tinge, turn dark green in summer, and change to a rich, red color in the fall. Leaflets have few to no teeth on the margins and are arranged alternately on the stem. Stems have wiry hairs and are brown to gray. Stems can become quite large in diameter--up to several inches--and densely hairy.

"Poison ivy can be confused with several other woody species, including box elder, some brambles, fragrant sumac, and Virginia creeper," said Bates. "To differentiate, look for green to red stems arranged opposite to each other on box elder. Brambles (*Rubus*) have red to purplish mature stems armed with thorns and leaves with regularly toothed margins. Fragrant sumac has three glossy green leaflets of unequal size, with regularly-spaced rounded teeth on the leaf margins. The stems are softly hairy, but do not cling or climb. "Virginia creeper has five to seven leaflets emanating from a central point."

The three methods recommended for controlling poison ivy are digging or grubbing; severing the vine and then treating the re-growth with a herbicide; or applying a herbicide to individual leaflets. "Always wear protective clothing when working around poison ivy," Bates noted. "If your hands become infected, you can spread the irritant to other parts of your body. Contact with clothes or pets that have picked up the sap can cause a reaction. "Smoke from burning leaves pens." Bates said that when pulling the poison ivy plant, be sure to remove the entire root so the plant will not re-sprout.

"If the vines are growing vertically, sever them at the base and carefully pull them down using a rake and dispose of them," she said. "Glyphosate, a non-selective systemic herbicide, should be applied to new sprouts that arise. "Glyphosate should only be applied to actively growing foliage. Several repeat applications may be necessary. Always read and follow the instructions on the label."

Source: Barbara Bates (630) 584-6166 Contact: Bob Sampson Extension Communications Specialist Phone (217) 244-0225; rsampson@uiuc.edu



HELPFUL TIPS FROM U OF I EXTENSION (CONT.)

TIPS FOR DISPOSING OF COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS



Many households are switching from traditional light bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs, or CFLs. These bulbs use significantly less electricity. According to Energy Star, if every American home replaced just one light bulb with a CFL, we would save enough energy to light more than 2.5 million homes for a year and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of nearly 800,000 cars.

Most compact fluorescents contain 4 to 5 milligrams mercury, which is an essential component for these types of lamps. Mercury vapor in the lamp is used in conjunction with phosphor to produce visible light. "Any product containing mercury should be handled with care because chronic exposure to mercury poses health risks," says Duane Friend, University of Illinois Extension natural resources educator. "Normal operation of CFLs does not pose a health or environmental risk but improper disposal does. When these lamps break, they release mercury—and that's what happens when CFLs are thrown in with the regular household trash."

If a compact fluorescent bulb is broken in the home, there are things you can do to decrease your risk of mercury exposure. "Glass pieces should be swept up, not vacuumed," says Friend. "Carefully place the broken glass pieces in a plastic bag that can be sealed. If possible, ventilate the room by opening the windows."

For CFLs that no longer work, place the bulbs in a sealed plastic bag and dispose through a Household Hazardous Waste collection site. To find out when a collection is taking place, check the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency schedule at

www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste/hhwc-schedule.html.

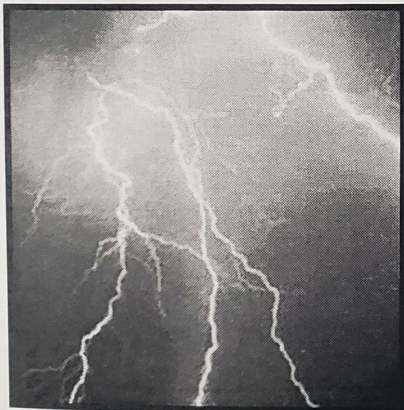
For more information, visit the following websites:

www.epa.state.il.us/land/fluorescent-lamps/

<http://lamprecycle.org/> or www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls



LIGHTENING KILLS



With hot summer temperatures comes the increased risk of thunderstorms. Lightning reportedly kills an average of 67 people each year in the United States.

Duane Friend, University of Illinois Extension natural resources educator, offers these tips to protect yourself and your family from a lightning strike.

- When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles and is dangerous. Seek shelter immediately.
- Do not stand under or next to a tree. If you cannot get to an indoor location, crouch in the open, keeping twice as far from a tree as it is tall.
- If you are with a group of people outdoors, keep several yards distance from each other.

Unless well grounded, open pavilions or other small shelters will not provide adequate protection.

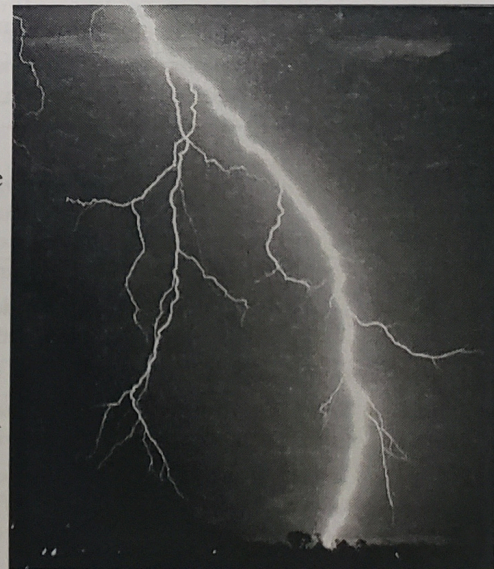
• Lightning can enter a building through a direct strike, through wires or pipes that extend outside the structure, or through electrical, phone, plumbing and radio/television antennas. If you are indoors, avoid contact with corded phones and electrical equipment. Also avoid contact with plumbing, and do not lie or lean on concrete floors and walls. Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.

- Typical surge protectors will not protect equipment from a lightning strike. During a storm, appliances and electronic equipment, including antenna connections, should be unplugged to the extent possible.

If someone is struck by lightning, call 911 or other emergency services. Check the victim's breathing and pulse, and begin CPR if necessary and if you are trained to do so. The victim may have burns where lightning entered and left the body, broken bones, loss of hearing or eyesight, and other nervous system damage.

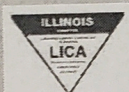
For more information on lightning safety, visit

www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm. Source: Duane Friend, Extension Educator, Natural Resources Management, friend@uiuc.edu

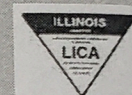




SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER TODAY!



Application for ACTIVE Membership Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



P.O. Box 474 • Brimfield, IL 61517 • Phone (309) 446-3700 • Fax: (309) 446-3744 • janet@illica.net

_____ hereby makes application for Active Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Two Hundred eighty-five Dollars (\$285) as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "ILICA News", a bi-monthly newsletter, for one year.

Dues are \$285*

One hundred sixty dollars (\$160) for Illinois Membership plus

One hundred twenty five dollars (\$125) for National Membership

New members only (years 1—2 of membership.) All existing members remain at \$400 annually.

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

Individual Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Spouse: _____ Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

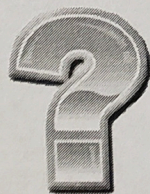
County: _____ ILICA Area Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Sponsor: _____

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☐ SWU—Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities ☐ PD—Ponds or Dams ☐ LS—Landscaping ☐ SEP—Septic Systems
☐ SP—Site Preparation ☐ SA—Dealer/Service Co./Government Agency/Consultant/Insurance Agency ☐ LL—Land Leveling
☐ TW—Terraces or Waterways ☐ WM—Water Management ☐ GR—Gravel/Rock Production ☐ DB—Directional Boring
☐ CUI—Cable/Utility Line Installation ☐ RBD—Road Boring/Drainage



Why Join ILICA?

If you're wondering what you'll say if someone asks you that question, look for the new 'Illinois LICA Membership Benefits' brochure coming out soon. In the meantime however, look below for a brief description of the many benefits of joining our organization.

Education and Certification—Our partnerships with U of I, NRCS, SWCD and others give us the opportunity to book the best resources in the business at our convention and workshop educational sessions.

Partnerships—Those same partnerships keep us up to date on new and changing programs, practices and funding sources.

Legislative Representation—Illinois LICA has its own relationships with many agencies and our voice is combined with other state chapters at our Nation's capitol for meetings with many committee members, Representatives and Senators.

Continental Western Group/LICA Insurance Program—Continental Western and LICA have joined forces to provide a simple contractors policy at a very competitive rate, offers a series of safety meetings throughout the year and has a year end dividend potential. Over \$10,000 in dividends were paid out to Illinois LICA members in 2006.



Application for ASSOCIATE Membership

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



P.O. Box 474 • Brimfield, IL 61517 • Phone (309) 446-3700 • Fax: (309) 446-3744 • janet@illica.net

_____ hereby makes application for Associate Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "ILICA News", a bi-monthly newsletter, for one year.

Associate members shall consist of and be limited to persons, firms, corporations, associations or organizations that manufacture or sell equipment, material or services to land improvement contractors.

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

Individual Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ ILICA Area Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____



Application for AFFILIATE Membership

Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association



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_____ hereby makes application for Affiliate Membership in the ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC., (ILICA) and enclose Eighty-Five Dollars (\$85) as my annual membership dues for the year _____. One dollar (\$1.00) of this amount is for a subscription to the "ILICA News", a bi-monthly newsletter, for one year.

Affiliate members shall consist of and be limited to individuals employed by the ILICA, persons employed by an active member in the business that makes the active member eligible for membership, individuals engaged in professional soil, water and natural resource conservation work and persons, firms, corporations, associations and organizations engaged in the business of publishing magazines and newspapers, part or all of which are devoted to disseminating information on soil, water and natural resource conservation and any person, firm, corporation, association or organization that has demonstrated a special interest in soil, water and natural resource conservation.

Send completed application with dues (make check payable to ILICA) to any ILICA member or to the corporate address above.

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Firm Name: _____

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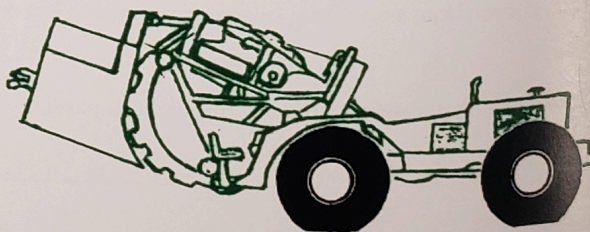
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