

ILLINOIS LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC. (ILICA)

YOUR CONSERVATION PARTNER RESOURCE

OBJECTIVES

- About Illinois LICA (ILICA)
- Current partnerships
- Resources for conservation partners



ABOUT US

#71...

"I LIKE A"...WHO?

Not-for-profit, trade association for contractors

Mission: To promote, perpetuate, and improve the proper use of our natural resources for the benefit of all

- One of 17 official state chapters nationwide (presence in 26 states)
 - 200 Contractor Members
 - 80 Associate Members





CONTRACTORS' SERVICES

- Cable/Utility Installation
- Directional Boring
- Drainage/Irrigation/Drainage Water Management
- Erosion Control
- Earthmoving/Land Clearing
- Excavating/Grading
- Gravel/ Rock Production
- Land Leveling
- Landscaping

- Open Ditch Leveling
- On Site Waste Treatment
- Ponds/Dams
- Road Boring/Drainage
- Reclamation
- Site Prep
- Sewer/Water/Underground Utilities
- Trucking / Hauling
- Terraces / Waterways



ILLINOIS LICA STRUCTURE

- 20 Member Board of Directors
- 25 Committees
- 2 Staff







ILLINOIS LICA OBJECTIVES

- Encourage high standards of workmanship in resource management & land improvement
- Provide business resources & tools for contractors to enable company growth, sustainability, and adequate income

Land Improvement Contractors of America

> CONSERVATION OF SOIL & WRITER





HOW DO WE DO IT?

1. Education

 Industry technology, practice standards, safety, business management, certifications



LAND IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS OF America LICCA MERCITES TO PROFESSIONAL CONSERVATION OF SOLE VISITE

HOW DO WE DO IT?

2. Benefits

- Discounts: trainings, parts, equipment, rentals, supplies, hotels, etc.
- Services: buy-sell equipment, credit card processing, loans, website, insurance, personal/business protection, successional planning



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HOW DO WE DO IT?

- **3.** Legislative voice
 - Washington, DC: Nick Yaksich, Director of Government Relations
 - Springfield, IL: Legislative Committee



CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS

Welcome to Our Woodchip **Bioreactor** Field Day

agricultural partners.

IILLINOIS



PARTNERS OVER THE YEARS

- University of IL & University of IL Extension
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- The Wetlands Initiative
- II Corn Growers
- IL Farm Bureau
- The Nature Conservancy
- IL Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Southern IL University
- IL Sustainable Ag Partnership



PROJECTS/PRACTICES OVER THE YEARS

- WASCOBs
- Terraces
- Waterways
- Ponds
- Tile Drainage
- Buffers
- Grade Stabilization Structures

- Permeable Pavers
- Constructed Wetlands
- Control Structures
- Bioreactors
- Saturated Buffers







- 14+ year partnership: FPS, RCC, ILICA
- Goal: increase conservation awareness & implementation via field day demonstration/installation (1 every other year)







- Practices:
 - Grade Stabilization Structures
 - Stormwater Detention & Retention
 - Subsurface Drainage
 - Edge of Field Practices





• Aug. 29 - Aug. 31, 2023









CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS PARTNERSHIP



THE WETLANDS INITIATIVE

- 6+ year partnership: TWI, ILICA
- Goal: increase practice awareness, implementation, & research via field day demonstration/installation (1 every other year)







THE WETLANDS INITIATIVE

- 2015 (Bureau Co.): 1 acre TA + 1 acre buffer
- 2016 (Bureau Co.): 1 acre TA + 3 acres buffer
- 2018 (Livingston Co.): 1 acre TA + 3 acres buffer
- 2019 (Tazewell Co.): 1 acre TA
- Aug. 22-26, 2022 (Livingston Co.): 2 ac. TA + 4 ac. buffer













ACES College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

- **5-year partnership**: IFB, NRCS, U of I ACES, ILICA
- Goal: increase practice adoption by showcasing installations (1-2/year) & research via field day demonstrations





- 2017 (Henry Co.): 6' x 32' bioreactor (~7 ac. DA)
- 2018 (Bureau Co.): 12' x 50' bioreactor (~17 ac. DA)
- 2020 (Henry Co.): 11' x 44' bioreactor (~18 ac. DA)
- **2021 (McDonough Co.):** 15' x 60' bioreactor (~46 ac. DA)
- Sept. 2022 (Sangamon Co.): 20' x 95' bioreactor (~100 ac. DA)







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SATURATED BUFFER PARTNERSHIP





Southern Illinois University CARBONDALE

SATURATED BUFFER PARTNERSHIP

- **5-year partnership**: IFB, NRCS, SIU, ILICA
- Goal: increase practice adoption by showcasing installations (1-2/year) & research via field day demonstrations







SATURATED BUFFER PARTNERSHIP

- 2019 (Moultrie Co.): 490 ft saturated buffer
 (6.4 DA) + 1560 ft "pitchfork" saturated buffer
 (19.3 DA)
- 2024 (Sangamon Co.): ~700 ft saturated buffer (~6 DA)





ILLINOIS SUSTAINABLE AG PARTNERSHIP (ISAP) ACDT



ADVANCED CONSERVATION DRAINAGE TRAINING (ACDT)

- **3 year partnership**: AFT, TWI, Zea Mays Foundation, TNC, PCM, IL Corn, ICC, ILICA, AISWCD, ILPFQF, U of I, ADMC, ISA, Midwest Dairy, CCA
- Goal: drive implementation of conservation drainage by training practitioners (conservation professionals, landowners, contractors, managers) via expert-led presentations & in-field demonstrations



ADVANCED CONSERVATION DRAINAGE TRAINING (ACDT)

- 2018 (McLean Co.): SB 2000'
- 2019 (Tazewell Co.): CW 1 acre TA
- 2019 (Champaign Co.): SB 1200'





OTHER PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENTS



PRECISION CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT





RESOURCES

LET

Directory

- Contractors
- Material & Equipment Manufacturers
- Consultants
- Partners
- Legislators
- Government Agencies





Illinois LICA Website

- "FIND A CONTRACTOR" Interactive Google Map
- Events
 - Workshops
 - Demonstrations
 - Conferences
- Project Galleries
 - Videos
 - Photos
- Industry News



www.illica.net

Construction & Event Support

- In-kind donation
- NGO cost share
- Email & social media promotion
- Conservation education



ISAP

- Training
 - Advanced Conservation Drainage Training (ACDT)
 - Risk Management Conference (RMC)
 - Advanced Soil Health Training (ASHT)
- Rainfall Simulator
- Digital Newsletter (The Aggregate)
- Specialist/Practitioner Listings
- Conservation Story Map
- Conservation Resources Clearinghouse



https://ilsustainableag.org/





- August 16 18: U of I Extension Drainage Workshop (Decatur)
- August 22 26: TWI Constructed Wetland Demonstration (Dwight)
- September 9: Area 3 Trap Shoot & Golf Outing (Kewanee)
- September 15: Streambank Restoration Workshop (Illinois City)
- September TBD: Woodchip Bioreactor Partnership (Springfield)
- January 19 21, 2023: ILICA Annual Convention/Members' Mtg. (Bettendorf, IA)















CONTACT

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