



MNLICA

NEWS

Land Improvement Contractors of America • Minnesota Chapter

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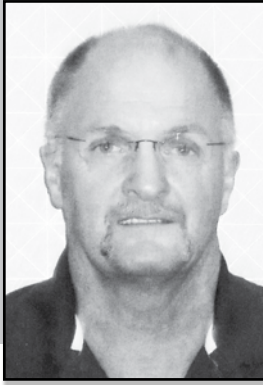
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MINNESOTA LICA MEETS WITH LEGISLATORS ON MNLICA ISSUES FOR YOU!

PAGES 8-9-10





GREETINGS From Your PRESIDENT

I hope the early spring season was a benefit to all of your construction projects . It was a very unusual and warm March this year . Many of our farmer customers were wondering what to do about the very warm and dry beginning . But as we all know , mother nature has a way of catching up on things . We now are looking at a cooler and much wetter weather pattern .


As we start getting into the end of spring and the beginning of summer , we all need to be aware of SAFETY . Just today , we crossed a pipeline on one of our projects and the pipeline rep was telling me about a pipeline hit by two contractors/farmers without a Gopher State One Call . No one was killed , but it could have been very bad . Submit a GSOC on ALL your projects – BE SAFE .

We had a very productive day in St. Paul at the Legislature on March 20 . Some new information was passed out about Farm Taps , and the concerns about safety . A link on the GSOC site brings up the private gas line (farm taps) issue and explains it very well . They still won't agree to locate them , but are being pro-active about looking for them . I think this was a result of our persistence on bringing it to their attention . We will still try to improve on this .

Finally , I would like to say thank you and good bye to a friend and MNLICA board member . Don Estrem passed away recently after a lengthy battle with cancer . He was a valuable asset to our board and his input and ideas will be missed . Thank you Don for all your hard work for all these years and everyone please keep Nordis in your thoughts and prayers .

Mark Morreim MNLICA President

**MNLICA Web-Site; www.mnlca.org
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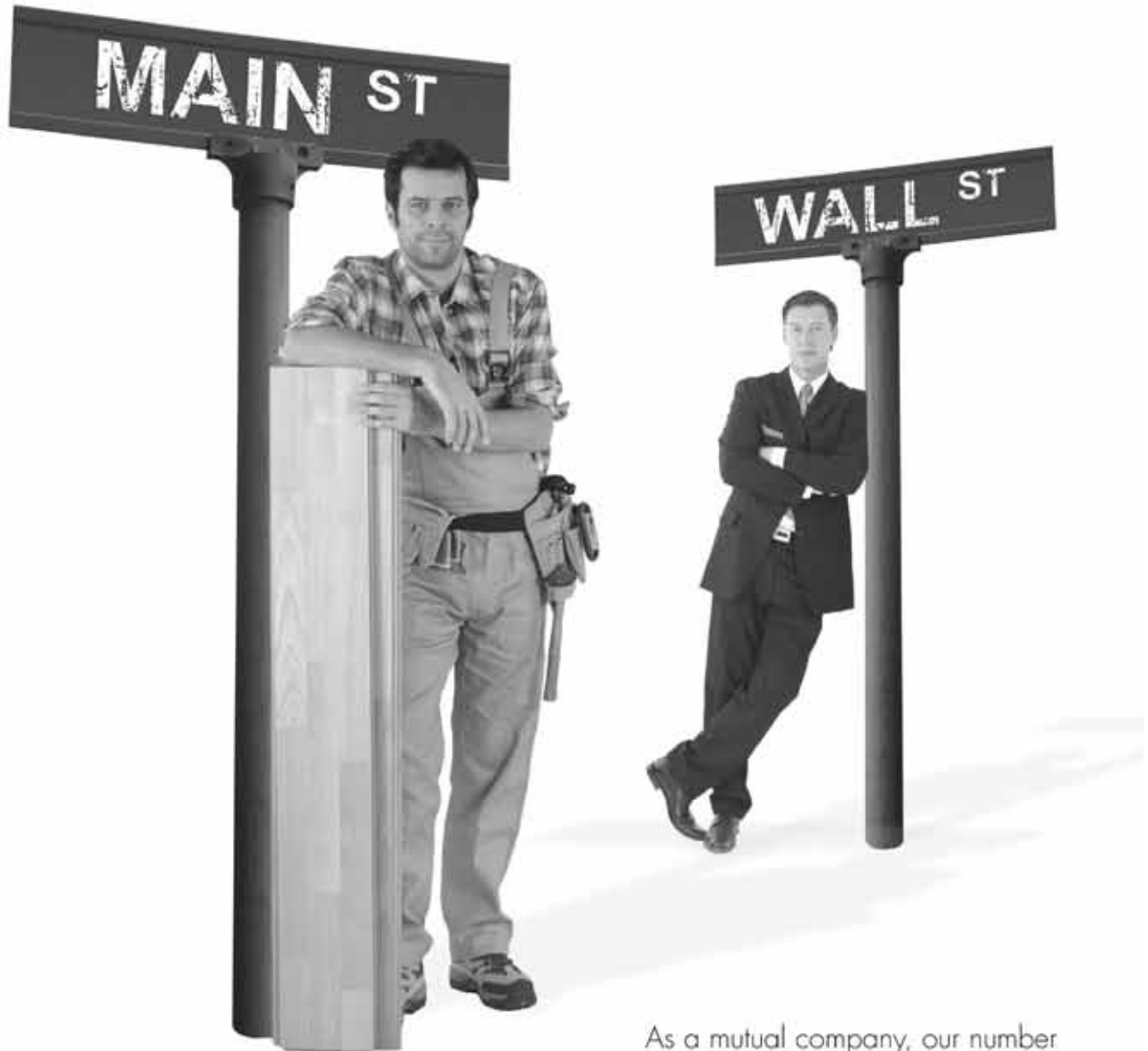
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ROAD CHECK 2012 IS JUNE 5-7

Over 70,000 inspections were conducted during last year's Road check event. Of the vehicles inspected, 18.3% were placed out of service for mechanical problems. The driver out-of-service rate was 4%.

That means nearly 13,000 vehicles and nearly 3,000 drivers were placed out of service.

Visit the Road check 2012 Info Page to learn more about this year's CVSA event and solutions to help you prepare, including log books, inspection reports, and vehicle inspection training.

BLT Macaroni Salad

2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni
5 green onions, chopped
1-1/2 cups grape tomatoes, cut in half
1-1/4 cups chopped celery
1-1/4 cups mayonnaise
5 teaspoons vinegar
1/4 teaspoon salt
Pepper to taste
1-lb. bacon, cooked and crumbled
Cook macaroni according to directions on package. Drain and rinse in cold water. In a large bowl combine macaroni, green onion, tomato and celery. In a small bowl combine mayonnaise, vinegar, salt and pepper.
Pour over macaroni mixture and toss to coat. Cover and chill at least two hours before serving. Just before serving add crumbled bacon and toss to coat.

CHILI BURGERS

1 egg slightly beaten
1/4 cup ketchup
1-1/2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon salt
1-2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
2 Tablespoons chopped onion
1-1/2 cups corn flakes, crushed to 1/2 cup

Deepest sympathy
Don Estrem family
3-30-2012
Estrem Excavating, Inc

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NEW LICA BENEFITS

Access one of the largest fuel networks in the country. Our fuel program offers rebates on fuel purchases from .5 to 6 cents per gallon. Pay at the pump or have your fuel delivered. Many of our members are taking advantage of our fuel consulting program that shows you how to purchase your fuel most cost effectively. Potential savings up to 15%.

Petrocon National Oil Program

Implement a national account oil program to buy the most efficiently and most economical way possible. All lubricants and greases are available to you in all bulk and package sizes. Typical savings is \$1 to \$2 per gallon.

Petrocon National Tire Program

Buy effectively through our national tire program. This program provides tires and tire services throughout the U.S. with national account pricing as a Petrocon member. Typical savings is 20%.

Requiring SSTS inspections for property transfers a local option**(no new statewide law in place)**

The MPCA has learned some homeowners have been told there is a new law that requires an inspection with a new soil borings at the time of a home sale anywhere in the state. This is not true. The option of requiring an SSTS compliance inspection when a home is sold is up to the local government; some have included this in their ordinances, others have not.

State law **does** require that the seller disclose to the buyer what they know of the system's status and include a map showing the location of current and abandoned SSTS components. This law does not include a requirement to conduct a full inspection. If you have any questions about this issue, please contact Gretchen Sabel in the MPCA St. Paul office; gretchen.sabel@state.mn.us or 651.757.2686.

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A HERO'S HERO

So Many Soldiers
Living On The Street
Their Spirits Broken, With Defeat.

What Must They Think
When They Look Around
Eyes Passing By,
Staring At The Ground?

Does Anger Fill Them
When We Turn Away,
From the Debts We Owe
That Should be Repaid?

What if at That Moment,
Just Once, Instead
We Saluted In Honor,
Right Hand to Head?

To Let Them Know
They are Not Ghosts,
Thanking Them
For Being Braver Than Most.

If Everyone Would
Show Them Grace
We Just Might Find
Their Pain Erased.

For All The Heroes
Still Fighting To Live
And For Heroes Like You,
Who Continue To Give.

If You See Someone
Who Is Really Lost

What Famous Mothers Might Have Said

Abraham Lincoln's mother: "Again with the stovepipe hat, Abe? Can't you just wear a baseball cap like the other kids?"
Mary's mother: "I'm not upset that your lamb followed you to school, Mary, but I would like to know how he got a better grade than you."

George Washington's mother: "The next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can kiss your allowance good-bye!"

Mona Lisa's mother: "After all that money your father and I spent on braces, Mona, that's the biggest smile you can give us?"

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ASK ONE PERSON TO JOIN DAY! GET JUST ONE!

**Help Keep Your Customers in Compliance
Rice County ,MN**


We are presently witnessing the increasing pressure to farm more land. Fence lines, groves, odd areas of brush and trees are being cleared. Tiling as well, is on the increase. With all this activity, there is bound to be compliance issues with USDA's sod and swampbuster provisions.

Help us protect your customers from non-compliance. You, as a contractor, can be a good reminder of sod/swampbuster requirements. Some things to discuss with your customer during the planning phase of the project:


- * Are you a USDA program participant?
 - * Have you signed a 1026 at the FSA office identifying your drainage or land clearing activities?
 - * Have you received a Certified Wetland Determination from NRCS?
- Many times a landowner will fill out a 1026 from at FSA and tell you he has done the necessary paperwork at the government office. Make him/her realize this is only the first step. FSA refers the 1026 to the NRCS. We then need to prepare a Certified Wetland Determination which is a map indicating whether or not wetlands are present. With limited staff and workload issues, this could take several months to complete. The key to a smooth job—PLAN AHEAD. During the project planning phase, have your customer start paperwork with USDA several months in advance.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!


**Mention Wetlands, Drainage or Permits
and Someone will Mention
Rinke Noonan.**



KURT DETER



JOHN KOLB



GARY LEISTICO

Landowners are becoming increasingly aware of the difficulties in dealing with wetlands, drainage and acquiring permits. The DNR, NRCS, Corps of Engineers, county and local governments all may have interests that must be addressed.

Our work involves wetlands, drainage, and other water related issues, permits — areas of law that are constantly changing and becoming more specialized.

If you're facing a challenge in any of these areas, or are wondering if you could benefit from legal help, call Kurt, John or Gary at (320) 251-6700.

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CAPITOL VISIT
By Mark Morreim

Members from the Minnesota Land Improvement Contractors (MNLICA) headed to our State Capitol in St. Paul the morning of March 20 , 2012 .

We met under the Rotunda at the Capitol building to organize our days meeting schedule . All together , eight MNLICA members were there and we met with 15 legislators and several aids to express our interest and concerns about five main areas .

- Farm Taps
- MSHA
- SSTS
- Prevailing Wage
- Tiling and Drainage

We all felt we were well received and our legislators listened and gave suggestions about our issues . We will need to be ever diligent to keep working on these items and we may need to visit again later this year . We would welcome anyone interested in going to let us know . We can always use more involvement from our members . Things of importance take time to change , but they don't change themselves .

THANK YOU MNLICA MEMBERS FOR YOUR HELP Don Loken, LeRoy Meier, Stu and Matt Frazier, Kevin Bakken, Mike Lehmann, Karlen Nelson and Mark Morreim.

MNLICA LEGISLATIVE TALKING POINTS 2012

Farm Taps - These are private gas transmission lines that transport natural gas from a large, high pressure gas transmission line to either a private home or farm. When an excavator submits a Gopher-State-One-Call for the area in construction, these gas lines are not being located. Because the gas meter is located at the pipeline, we are told by both the pipeline owner and GSOC that these are private gas lines and they are not responsible for locating them. This causes a **HUGE SAFETY CONCERN**. Many contractors have dug up and damaged these gas lines not knowing they were there. Natural gas is highly flammable and someone will be injured or killed if we don't do something. All we seem to get from everyone involved is finger pointing to someone else. MNLICA has been to Washington D.C. to see our legislators there and were told it is a state problem. These gas lines cross multiple states. We are asking for help in resolving this very important **SAFETY ISSUE**.

MSHA - Many LICA Contractors operate small quarry's and have experienced problems with Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA's) inconsistent interpretation of rules and regulations by MSHA inspectors, and have suffered retaliation when those inconsistent interpretations are challenged. We understand MSHA has successfully conducted a pilot program that would reinstate its pre-litigation conference system and allow quarry operators to meet at the local level and resolve differences over citations and orders before they are contested. LICA asks that MSHA fully implement this program nationwide.

SSTS - Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems. During the past year, we have had many changes and revisions to this code. Many times a year, the code may change or be modified for various reasons. Doing business this way is stressful and many times adds to the cost of our systems we are installing. The main concern to all of us is to eliminate pollution hazards. The state of Minnesota has vast differences in soils and climate, thus causing arguments between northern and southern code requirements. All the people involved in designing, inspecting and installing SSTS systems go through extensive training and certification. Minnesota is in the forefront in this field and has been for many years. With that being said, we need to stop changing codes so fast and take a breath and work with what we have for awhile. Too many agencies are bombarding this industry for constant changes. As you consider Bills concerning the MPCA and the SSTS code, we encourage you to consider what the final cost will be to follow the new code, and consider what is good for your constituents. Specifically, we encourage you to require the MPCA to treat 7081, 7082, and 7083 not as administrative code. We understand this is a very complex issue and encourage you to feel free to contact one of us with any questions.

Prevailing Wage Laws - Many of our LICA members work with State and Federal funded projects. When we do work on a Federal or State cost share project, we are required to pay Prevailing Wages. These projects consist of roads, bridges, certain buildings and utility projects. The wages we are forced to pay are nearly twice the normal rate we pay our employees. They do the same work for twice the pay. Because we factor this in when we bid these jobs, it is a huge added cost to the project. On this same note, Illinois conservation contractors are being forced to pay Prevailing Wages when working on State and Federal cost share NRCS Conservation work for Agriculture. This would be a disaster if Minnesota enforced this practice.

TILING - In recent years, with higher commodity and land prices, a great deal of tiling and drainage has taken place. Drainage is essential for crop development in Minnesota. Approximately 2/3 of the cropland in southern Minnesota is artificially drained. With the pressure to produce more on the land to feed a growing world demand, intense tiling is an essential component in production. But along with adding drainage, comes responsibility. LICA contractors are very aware of water management practices that will help reduce erosion, stop inflow of soil into ditches and streams and reduce nitrate discharges. Our organization along with many members, belong to an organization called the ADMC (Agriculture Drainage Water Management Coalition). We support education and project funding to improve water quality and preserve our environment. The State of Minnesota is getting ready to start to mandate retention ponds and/or controlled drainage to achieve not only nitrate reduction, but also to slow the rate that tile drainage waters get to the rivers (citing that drainage is THE culprit that is causing stream bank erosion). There is no sound science to fully support their claims, but they want to force blame on landowners regardless. Minnesota regulators convinced taxpayers to spend billions of dollars to retire a quarter million acres in the Minnesota River Watershed through CREP, WRP, RIM, etc, only to find out after 25 years it hasn't gotten better or cleaner. Get the science, then mandate .

Mn. State Capitol : March 20 , 2012 (Tuesday)

TIME	NAME	OFFICE #	DISTRICT	PARTY	TELEPHONE #	AID
CANCEL	Kathy Sheran (Senate)	127-SOB	23	DFL	651-296-6153	Amy
9:45	Al DeKruif (Senate)	G-24 - CAP	25	R	651-296-1279	
2:15	Kory Kath (House)	201-SOB	26A	DFL	651-296-5368	Kathy
2:30	Rich Murray (House)	439-SOB	27A	R	651-296-8216	Pete
3:00	Terry Morrow (House)	211-SOB	23A	DFL	651-296-8634	Tijuana
Stop in	Mike Parry (Senate)	309-CAP	26	R	651-296-9457	
3:00	Kathy Brynaert (House)	327-SOB	23B	DFL	651-296-3248	
9:45	Dan Sparks (Senate)	19-SOB	27	DFL	651-296-9248	Brian
10:00	Kelby Woodard (House)	539-SOB	25B	R	651-296-7065	Rebecca
	Andrew Falk (House)	239-SOB	20A	DFL	651-296-4228	
Stop in	Duane Quam (House)	571A-SOB	29A	R	651-296-9236	Mike
	Dave Senjem (Senate)	121-CAP	29	R	651-296-3903	
9:45	Jeanne Poppe (House)	291-SOB	27B	DFL	651-296-4193	Kath
10:00	Julie Rosen (Senate)	317-CAP	24	R	651-296-5713	Jana

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April 18, 2012

Nordis
MnLICA
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Nordis:

I was given a very warm welcome when I attended the Gopher State One Call Board meeting yesterday, April 18th. They recognize the fact that LICA has been in Washington DC and also at the MN State Capitol regarding the farm tap issue. I was impressed that Senate personnel have been talking to Gopher State One Call center trying to help figure out this problem.

GSOC has added 3 pages to the One Call handbook. Also this year they added a couple pages about just farm taps. Also when a One Call is made, this issue shows up when a ticket is made.

There have been times when I have about given up but someone will ask or help keep the ball rolling.

Bottom line --- to go any further, it will take legislative action to actually get these lines located. We must keep our legislator informed and help them in any way we can.

Thanks for your support.

Don Loken

**HAPPY (BELATED) MOTHER'S DAY
HAPPY FATHERS DAY**

THANK YOU FROM THE DON ESTREM FAMILY

Nordis, Dan, (Deb, Cole & Ethan), Dee Ann (Tim) Larson), Dawn (Steve) McClenney, Kayla, Bryant, Krysta, & Kaylyn Nygaard, would like to thank all our MnLICA friends for their all your calls, cards and flowers we received.

The memorial money will be used to purchase a sewing machine and at least one bolt of material for the widowed women of Kampala, Uganda. The women will be able to sew uniform for the orphans to attend school in and make a small amount of money to help support themselves doing this. This will be done through Deb Estrem and her non-profit called "Good Shepherd African Child Support Organization." Dan, Deb the boys and I will be going there next winter on missions after our MnLICA winter convention.

Training Regions—U of M

The state of Minnesota is divided into seven distinct soils regions that share similar soils characteristics. OSTP has provided training in each of the regions since 2008 and will visit each of the regions at least once during a given three-year period. Attend soils-specific seminars in the regions you work to get the most out of your soils training requirement.

Seven workshops are scheduled in 2012:

SOILS CE \$200 / \$365 with Munsell Color Book		
551 Soils CE Deadline: 5/24/2012	Rushford Village	06/07/2012
552 Soils CE Deadline: 5/31/2012	Detroit Lakes	06/14/2012
553 Soils CE Deadline: 6/13/2012	St. Cloud	06/24/2012
554 Soils CE Deadline: 7/24/2012	Willmar	08/07/2012
555 Soils CE Deadline: 7/27/2012	New Ulm	08/10/2012
556 Soils CE Deadline: 8/30/2012	Mountain Iron	09/13/2012
557 Soils CE Deadline: 9/18/2012	Red Wing	10/02/2012
Tentative 2013 Locations:	Bemidji, Blue Earth, Fari- bault, Marshall, St. Cloud, Two Harbors, Winona	June - October, 2013

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Tuesday, July 10: Tour Cat Works
 Oz Museum & Winery
Wednesday, July 11: Tour Case & Universal Lubricants
 Flint Hills Discovery Center & Kansas State University
Thursday, July 12: Educational Seminars & Associates night
 Tour: Landoll Corporation
Friday, July 13: Committee Meetings
 Dinner & Entertainment at Purplewave



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OUR FLAG

The Stars and Stripes originated as a result of a resolution adopted by the Marine Committee of the Second Continental Congress at Philadelphia on June 14, 1777.

The resolution read:

“Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation.”

The resolution gave no instruction as to how many points the stars should have, nor how the stars should be arranged on the blue union. Consequently, some flags had stars scattered on the blue field without any specific design, some arranged the stars in rows, and some in a circle. The first Navy Stars and Stripes had the stars arranged in staggered formation in alternate rows of threes and twos on a blue field. Other Stars and Stripes flags had stars arranged in alternate rows of four, five and four. Some stars had six points while others had eight.

Strong evidence indicates that Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was responsible for the stars in the U.S. flag. At the time that the flag resolution was adopted, Hopkinson was the Chairman of the Continental Navy’s Board’s Middle Department. Hopkinson also helped design other devices for the Government including the Great Seal of the United States. For his services, Hopkinson submitted a letter to the Continental Admiralty Board asking “whether a Quarter Cask of the public Wine will not be a proper & reasonable Reward for these Labours of Fancy and a suitable Encouragement to future Exertions of a like Nature.” His request was turned down since the Congress regarded him as a public servant.

What is changing with Online Aerial Archives / Smart Phones / GIS programs

For those who rely on aerial imagery for help locating existing tile lines, soil and plat map imagery, *Terraserver-USA/MSRMaps server is no longer available as of May 1st.*
Many of the newer sources have more / unlimited GIS layer options.

Other free Aerial Imagery / GIS resources.

Global Mapper v13 has “new USA Topo Maps source that offers basically the same data as the DRG source, which was really the only one of use anymore as NAIP color imagery replaced the others.”

They offer a free trial version and a paid full version. You can scale or rectify (tie together with GPS locations) existing tile maps and older aerial imagery.

Set aside time for yourself or your tech support to review the Global Mapper georectify and other tutorials offered free online from their site.

Google Earth still has the ‘TerraServer’ database imagery along with other more recent years.

They also offer Soil Layer http://casoilresource.lawr.ucdavis.edu/soil_web/kml/SoilWeb.kmz,

and Township-Range-Section layers <http://www.earthpoint.us/Townships.aspx> to help identify locations with a plat book.

GeoAgro CPlanner, (Available to TSPs – Technical Service Providers) a software application that allows users outside the USDA network to connect

to the USDA NRCS National Conservation Planning database, develop conservation planning activities, and report electronically to the NRCS.

ESRI / ArcView Light are commonly used GIS programs. Like most things, the more time spent learning them the better you get.

Farm Works – Surface module is the software that supports Trimble’s FMX GPS data. Check with your GPS vendor for the name of their recommended software.

Smart Phones

Android Smart Phone – Soils Mapping of current GPS location

<https://play.google.com/store/search?q=soilweb>

PLSS -TSR Locator USA -

http://www.androidzoom.com/android_applications/transportation/plss-locator-usa_cfnnf.html

Helps you find the Latitude / Longitude of a Township, Section & Range from your smartphone.

Other similar soils mapping by GPS location can be found in the ‘Market’ or ‘Google Play’ app search engine.

Many Android / Iphone apps are in various stages of development.

Check back occasionally for new titles and new updates

Minnesota’s Worst Air Disaster

Minnesota’s worst air disaster occurred today, when a Cessna 152, a small 2-seater plane, crashed into a Norwegian Lutheran Church cemetery near Dennison early this morning. Ole & Sven, working as a search and rescue team, have recovered 826 bodies so far and expect the number to climb as digging continues into the evening.

A dog breed that didn’t quite make it:

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EEC110723-S02-01

National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners rule is finally here

Plan to certify examiners won't be completely in place until early 2014 *Posted April 20, 2012*

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced an important new safety rule that requires healthcare professionals who perform medical examinations for interstate truck and bus drivers to be trained, tested, and certified on the specific physical qualifications that affect a driver's ability to safely operate the vehicle.

The final rule also creates a national online database of medical examiners that have completed the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) certification process.

FMCSA developed the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners final rule as part of the agency's commitment to enhancing the medical oversight of interstate drivers, and preventing commercial vehicle-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities. The rule addresses four National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommendations on comprehensive training for medical examiners and tracking of driver medical certificates.

In 30 days, FMCSA will post its uniform training and testing standards for medical examiners at <http://nrcme.fmcsa.dot.gov>. At that time, health care professionals, drivers, employers, law enforcement officers, and the public can review the training standards and sign up to receive updates on the implementation of the rule.


By May 21, 2014, all certified medical examiners must be on the National Registry database, and drivers must obtain a medical examination from a certified examiner. Medical examiners who fail to maintain federal standards will be removed from the registry.

To allow time for testing and training centers to prepare their curricula and receive FMCSA approval, healthcare professionals seeking to become certified examiners can begin registering on the National Registry website this summer.

Medical examiners perform approximately three million examinations on commercial truck and bus drivers each year. A Department of Transportation medical exam looks at a range of conditions to determine a driver's medical fitness, including cardiovascular disease, respiratory and muscular functions, vision, and hearing.

All commercial drivers must pass a Department of Transportation medical examination at least every two years in order to obtain a valid medical certificate, maintain their commercial driver's license and legally drive a commercial motor vehicle.

To learn more about the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners final rule, visit <http://nrcme.fmcsa.dot.gov>.



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DIRECTORS REPORT

WELCOME all the new MNLICA Members and Associates. We appreciate your membership and looking forward to meeting your company at a meeting or training in the future. If you want a special training in your area during this year or at the next January State Convention please call Nordis at 507-649-1771 or e-mail: nordisestrem@frontier.com. (note new e-mail address)

Please take time to go on the National LICA web-site at www.LICANational.org to check out the LICA Store. They have shirts, jackets and a hat. All are well made and reasonable in price.

Any member is welcome to attend the Board Meetings! See you there on June 16, at 11:00am at the Jeanie and Kevin Bakken residence. We will be going over our five year strategic plan, organizing the State Convention on January 13-15, 2013 at the Best Western Hotel in North Mankato. We hope you can attend and bring along ideas!

I appreciated all the support my family received on the loss of Don on March, 30,2012. Thank You!



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THE AMERICAN'S CREED

The Creed was written in 1918 by William Tyler Page of Friendship Heights, Maryland in the course of a nationwide contest on the subject. Page was a descendent of President Tyler, and representative John Page, who served in the Congress from 1789-97. William Tyler Page began his government career as a Congressional page in December of 1881. In 1919, he was elected Clerk of the House of Representatives, and held that position until December of 1931. A new post, Emeritus Minority Clerk, was then created for him which he occupied until his death on October 20, 1942.

I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE; WHOSE JUST POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED; A DEMOCRACY IN A REPUBLIC, A SOVEREIGN NATION OF MANY SOVEREIGN STATES; A PERFECT UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE; ESTABLISHED UPON THOSE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY FOR WHICH AMERICAN PARTIOTS SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AND FORTUNES.

I THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IS MY DUTY TO MY COUNTRY TO LOVE IT; TO SUPPORT ITS CONSTITUTION; TO OBEY ITS LAWS; TO RESPECT ITS FLAG; AND TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES.

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Smart and safe digging means knowing what is buried underground before you begin a project. Anyone digging or excavating has to be cautious, this means contractors, road maintenance crews, telephone pole installers, fence builders, landscapers and even homeowners.

Call Ahead

Every state has a "One Call" hotline, accessible by dialing 811. Each state has its own laws and enforcements regarding its call-before-you-dig program. However, the basic purpose is the same across state lines: to protect telephone service, underground power lines, sewer pipes, water pipes, energy pipelines and workers.

Know the Facts

There are several misconceptions about One Call. Many contractors, or other workers performing digging tasks, believe they can tell whether there is anything buried underground based on the conditions above. This belief often gives a false sense of security. In reality, many unsafe items are beneath the soil—including pipelines carrying dangerous substances like petroleum or natural gas—are not marked as precisely as workers believe.

One common myth is that workers can tell the precise location of a pipeline or other underground feature by drawing a straight line between right-of-way markers. However, right-of-way markers are often much wider than necessary, they usually are not placed precisely over the item and they do not indicate the depth.

Underground line often curve to avoid natural or manmade features between markers. Therefore, using the One Call system is the only way to truly know what is beneath the ground when you are digging.

Digging Safely

Use the following tips to ensure that while on the job, you are not endangering anyone's safety or property:

Only dig in the areas that have been designated and marked off using the One Call system.

Stop Working and inform your supervisor if One Call locator marks are no longer visible due to site activity.

Never begin digging before the time specified by One Call, which is 48 hours after phoning the service.

Even small jobs require a call, so never take on a project without One Call markings.

Remember, it is your life that's on the line!

Did you know? Of all digging and excavating accidents involving property damage or injury, about 40 percent were caused by those who did not call One Call before digging.

CURRENT SUBSURFACE DRAINAGE PERMITTING

From International Water institute

MINNESOTA

Watershed Districts, which cover most of the Red River Basin in Minnesota, have the authority to permit all surface and subsurface agricultural drainage activities through state statutes (Minnesota Statutes 103D, 2011). Watershed Districts in the Red River Basin have independently developed rules for permitting. One Watershed District requires a permit for all private field drainage activity and regulates subsurface and surface drainage activity using a variety of management tools including maximum permissible drainage coefficients (tile capacity determined by soil type, tile size, spacing, and depth; subsurface drainage capacity determined by applicable methods), culvert size, and operating plans (C. Anderson, personal communication). Some Watershed Districts require subsurface drainage permit applications, but no criteria or regulations are applied other than a request for information such as location and system design which is used to inform downstream landowners and/or the outlet ditch authority and determine if there are any concerns or opposition to the proposed project. Another Watershed District recently decided to limit the drainage coefficient for subsurface drainage permits to a 1/4 inch per day (D. Money, personal communication). Other Watershed Districts require no information or permit for any private activities (M. Jesme, personal communication).

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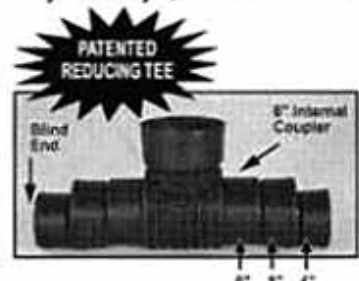
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2012 UPCOMING EVENTS

MNLICA Web-site:www.mnlca.org

2012		
June 16	Board Meeting 11:00am Strategic Planning Meeting	Kevin Bakken's
Summer	Field Day or Training	to be determined
Fall	Soils Day with U of M	to be determined
September	Annual Golf Scholarship Fundraiser	WHERE??
September	Board Meeting	to be determined



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the basis of factories,
the foundation of banks.*

*All that man builds is from the land.
We often take it for granted, or even abuse it,
and yet many unthinkingly and unknowingly pass the land by.
What man finally does with the land
will be the deciding factor in his survival.*