

June 2025 /
July 2025

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MINNESOTA LICA NEWS

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GREETINGS From Your PRESIDENT

Poof! Just like that it is June.

Where did the spring go?

As some of us are finishing up our spring tiling and various other projects, summer is soon to begin.

I want to wish all seniors that are graduating from college or high school the very best in their new endeavors.

Looking into summer, the National LICA meeting is in Duluth in July. Duluth in Minnesota in July, should be a good time. I hope to see some familiar faces there.

I'm looking forward to a little summer get away with the family. I've been to Duluth but never in the summer and never for site seeing. Should be interesting.

Until next time, hope everyone has an awesome start to the summer and have the opportunity to get out to your community get togethers.

Dallas Loken
MN LICA President



MN LICA BOARD MEETING

JUNE 19, 2025 6:00 PM

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Timewell Drainage Products, email contact: akoch@timewellpipe.com

Website: timewellpipe.com/Matt's phone: 507-430-4530

Address: 196 1075 N. Ave, Timewell, IL 62375

Barnett Bros, Inc: Contact: Daniel Barnett

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**DAD
JOKES**

What does a cloud
wear under its
raincoat?

Thunderwear!



2025 National LICA Summer Meeting

Duluth, MN • July 8 - 12th
Radisson Duluth Harborview



Minnesota LICA is excited to host this years' Summer Meeting!

Duluth offers beauty, charm and plenty of activities for everyone. LICA members will be captivated by the stunning scenery of Minnesota and Lake Superior.

Attendees will enjoy accommodations at the Radisson Duluth Harborview, just a short walk to the lakefront. This historic hotel offers spectacular views from the Harbor 360 rotating restaurant, situated on the 16th floor.

Now is your chance to attend a National LICA event in your own back yard! All the information, registration and agenda can be found on the National LICA website: licanational.com Just click on the Event tab and click on the Summer 2025 Meeting, Duluth, MN.

We would really like to see you there!
MN LICA Board of Directors



Know the signs of heat-related illness

The summer months are the warmest of the year in the U.S. with temperatures often rising above 90 degrees, increasing the risk of heat-related illness (HRI) for workers. To ensure you are prepared from a safety standpoint, take time to review the symptoms of heat illnesses, as well as treatment tips.

HEAT ILLNESS	SYMPTOMS	TREATMENT TIPS*
Heat exhaustion	<p>Heat exhaustion is the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt, usually through sweating. Heat exhaustion can cause death or permanent disability if not treated promptly. Take immediate action if the following symptoms are noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Heavy sweating ■ Rapid heartbeat ■ Blurred vision ■ Headaches ■ Dizziness ■ Confusion ■ Irritability ■ Moist, cool skin and a weak pulse <p><i>Additionally, the judgement of a heat exhaustion victim may become clouded and they may insist they are OK.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Medical attention must be sought immediately. Contact a supervisor or call 911. ■ Move the victim to a cool, shaded area. ■ Cool the victim by soaking with water or sponging with a cool, wet cloth. ■ About 8 ounces of water should be consumed by the victim every 15 minutes.
Heat stroke	<p>Heat stroke is a condition that occurs when the body's internal cooling system has shut down and cannot control its temperature. Heat stroke can kill or permanently disable. Take immediate action if the following symptoms are noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High body temperature ■ Hot, dry skin or profuse sweating ■ Confusion ■ Loss of coordination ■ Throbbing headache ■ Seizures or coma <p><i>Additionally, a heat stroke victim may become delirious or go into convulsions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Medical attention must be sought immediately. Contact a supervisor or call 911. ■ Start first aid immediately. Remove outer clothing and cool the victim's entire body by spraying or sponging with a cool, wet cloth. ■ Apply ice packs to the neck, groin and armpits if possible. This helps cool the blood, which cools the body. ■ Fan air over the victim to help create air flow until help arrives.

HEAT ILLNESS	SYMPTOMS	TREATMENT TIPS*
Heat rash	Perspiration stays on the skin too long and the sweat glands are clogged, which produces a hot, prickly sensation and small blisters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Allow the rash area to air dry. ■ Clean with a mild soap, rinse and pat dry. ■ Avoid irritating the skin.
Heat cramps	Heavy sweating, with extended period of heat exposure. The cramps result from loss of water, salt and other minerals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water alone will not replenish the salt and minerals needed to prevent the heat cramps. ■ Consume sports drinks when working in hot environments for extended periods.

*The foregoing treatment tips are provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) at: [osha.gov/heat-exposure/illness-first-aid](https://www.osha.gov/heat-exposure/illness-first-aid).

Be proactive to decrease your risk

Supervisors should continually monitor conditions on their jobsites to prevent and protect against HRI.

Here are some suggestions for you and your employees:

- Monitor your own and others' physical condition for signs and symptoms of HRI.
- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting, breathable clothing such as cotton.
 - Avoid non-breathable synthetic clothing.
- Gradually build up to heavy work and schedule it during the coolest parts of day.
- Take more breaks when doing heavier work and in high heat and humidity.
 - Find a cool or shady area to take breaks.
- Drink water frequently — enough that you are never thirsty.
- Take necessary steps to provide first aid when HRI symptoms are identified.
- Request immediate assistance if heat stroke symptoms are identified.

Learn more about UFG Risk Control at ufginsurance.com/riskcontrol.

UFG Insurance and Prins Insurance donate to LICA education

UFG Insurance and Prins Insurance are proud to support the state LICA chapters through our annual Educational and Safety Initiative. In 2025, the initiative provided \$108,482.54 to help grow educational and safety efforts that align with risk management practices — an investment that strengthens the success of the state LICA insurance program.

About UFG Insurance

UFG currently offers insurance to chapter members in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The State LICA Insurance Program is administered by Prins Insurance Inc. of Sanborn, Iowa.

About Prins Insurance

Prins has partnered with LICA contractors for 25 years to provide an insurance product that allows the opportunity to work with your independent agent while taking advantage of a comprehensive insurance program that focuses on the unique needs of your industry. If you have questions about The State LICA Insurance Program, contact Prins at 800-831-8545.

UFG Insurance is the marketing name used to refer to United Fire & Casualty Company and its property and casualty subsidiaries and affiliates. The information contained herein was obtained from reliable sources. However, UFG Insurance accepts no legal liability or responsibility for the correctness or completeness of this information and encourages consultation of additional safety information and resources.

This is for informational purposes only and is accurate as of the publication date. It may not reflect subsequent revisions and is intended for use only by UFG Insurance, UFG Insurance agents and their customers, and/or UFG Service Center employees. UFG Insurance does not undertake any obligation to update the information herein between publications.

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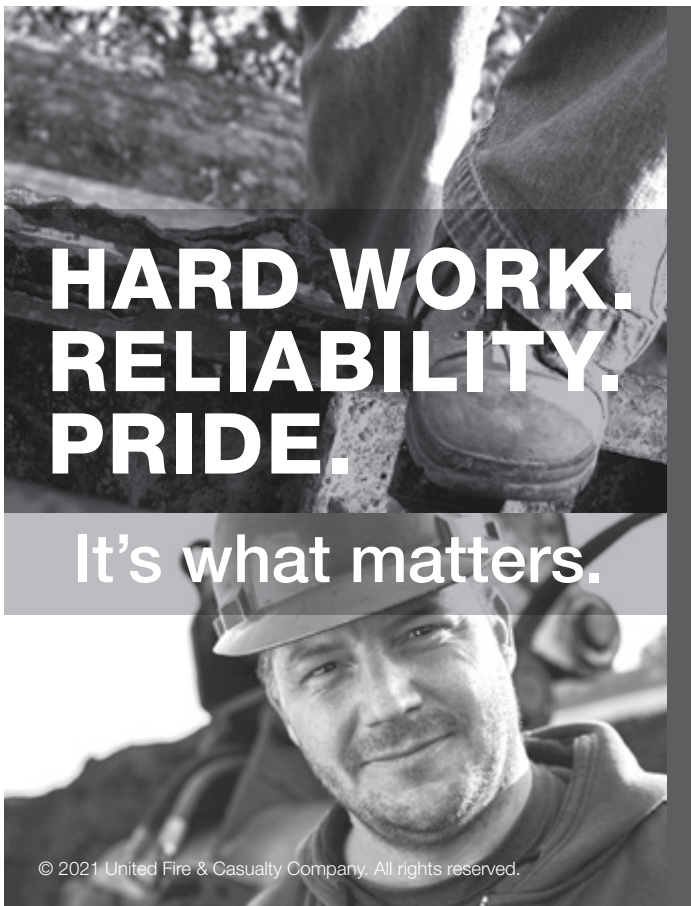


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Executive Director's Report

Well, summer seems to be here. The busiest time of the year for everyone. Remember to never be too busy to "REMEMBER SAFETY FIRST".

If you haven't heard by now, the National LICA Summer Meeting is coming to MINNESOTA. It would be really great to see a large number of MN LICA members there! All details and registration information is posted on the Nation LICA Website: licanational.com As someone who has attended many of these National Conventions both before and now as Executive Director, I know you will have a great experience. Meeting other Contractors from many other states is always informational. Even if you haven't attended one before, you will fit right in the minutes you walk through the door.

Beside getting ready for the summer meeting, the board and I have been busy planning events for 2025. The Scholarship Fundraiser will be September 12th. The location hasn't been booked yet, but we are looking at the Le Seuer area. We have also started planning much of the Convention for 2026. Plans are to have a safety/OSHA class on Wednesday this year, Trade Show on Thursday and we are working on the rest of the seminars/trainings for Thursday and Friday. As always, I invite you to share your ideas and suggestions for the Convention.

As you can see by the front cover, we gave away three \$1,000 scholarships. These three are exceptional young women. We wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Jennifer Breberg, Executive Director

ADMC

Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition

ADMC and USDA-NRCS Formalize Partnership to Advance Conservation Drainage Practices

Posted on *April 28, 2025*

Washington, D.C. — The Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition (ADMC) and the United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) have formally renewed their strategic relationship through a newly signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), solidifying a shared commitment to improving agronomic efficiency, water quality, and environmental performance across America’s drained agricultural landscapes.

This five-year agreement strengthens the longstanding collaboration between ADMC and NRCS to promote the adoption and management of science-based conservation drainage practices. These efforts are aimed at enhancing crop production, minimizing production risks, and achieving sustainable agricultural outcomes through innovative public-private partnerships.

“Water management is a critical component of agriculture,” said Chuck Brandel, President of ADMC. “This MOU ensures we continue working alongside NRCS to drive innovation, deliver practical solutions for farmers, and support resilient agricultural communities.”

Under the agreement, NRCS will designate its Northeast and Central Regional Conservationists as senior-level co-leaders responsible for fostering public-private partnership efforts to accelerate and expand the adoption of conservation drainage practices and systems.

The agency also recognizes these practices as essential for achieving both conservation and economic outcomes on drained landscapes—including improved crop production, enhanced water quality, greater drought resilience, and downstream flood reduction. Additionally, NRCS will work to optimize the role of certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs) to help meet the increasing demand for conservation drainage planning and implementation. “Our ultimate goal is to put farmers first,” said NRCS Chief Aubrey Bettencourt. “Through this partnership, we’re working with ADMC to improve our conservation practices so they work better for producers and leverage the latest and most efficient technologies.”

As part of its responsibilities, ADMC will:

- Facilitate producer adoption of conservation drainage practices,
- Provide NRCS with current, localized cost data for system components,
- Identify emerging technologies and recommend program enhancements,
- Identify data and assessment needs that can advance the understanding on the impacts of conservation drainage practices at the farm, watershed, and landscape scales.

The MOU reinforces a mutual goal to explore and implement innovative strategies that expand the reach and effectiveness of conservation drainage systems, particularly in areas with significant opportunity for environmental and agronomic benefit.

“This collaboration reflects the best of what public and private partnerships can accomplish,” added Brandel. “Together, we’re laying the foundation for the next generation agricultural productivity and environmental stewardship.”

About ADMC

Founded in 2004, the Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition is an industry-led nonprofit organization committed to enhancing crop production and improving water quality through the adoption of effective drainage water management practices. ADMC unites industry leaders, researchers, and policymakers to deliver real-world solutions for American agriculture.

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Preventing damage to vehicle windshields

A vehicle's windshield is one of its most crucial safety features, yet regular care and maintenance are often overlooked. Adverse conditions like direct sunlight, frost, ice or nighttime glare from oncoming traffic can become even more hazardous with a dirty or damaged windshield.

Here are some basic measures to help prevent compromising your vehicle's windshield:

- If possible, plan your route to avoid construction zones during peak traffic times.
 - Drive at a reduced speed on roads with loose gravel, fresh asphalt or construction debris. If debris hits your car, slow down and increase the following distance from the vehicle ahead.
 - Heavy trucks or vehicles with large tires are more likely to pick up and throw larger, heavier debris.
 - Debris can also be thrown by vehicles traveling in the opposite direction.
- Exercise caution, reduce your speed and increase your following distance when driving in winter weather. Ice and snow can be dislodged from trucks and other vehicles or fall from bridges, signs and power lines.
- Regularly clean and inspect your windshield and wipers. Perform this simple task each time you stop to fuel your vehicle.
- Repair chips immediately. Temperature fluctuations can cause chips to expand into cracks, significantly impairing visibility and potentially compromising the windshield's integrity. Chip repairs are usually more cost-effective than replacing the entire windshield.
- Use a soft brush or plastic scraper to remove ice and snow. Avoid pouring water on the windshield to remove ice, as the extreme temperature change may cause the windshield to crack or shatter.

Learn more about UFG Risk Control at ufginsurance.com/riskcontrol.

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2025 National LICA Summer Meeting

Duluth, MN • July 8 - 12th
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OPTIONAL TOURS TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

Soudan Underground Mine Tour Tuesday, July 8th

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$80 per person

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

** PLEASE NOTE **

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

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

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

Grand Sightseeing Tour Wednesday, July 9th

9:45 am - 12:30 pm

\$30 per person

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

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

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





2025 National LICA Summer Meeting

**Duluth, MN • July 8 - 12th
Radisson Duluth Harborview**

Educational Seminars - Friday, July 11th

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

Presented by: National Alliance on Mental Illness

Learn the three steps anyone can take to help prevent suicide. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis, and it can save lives. QPR is the most widely taught gatekeeper training program in the United States, and more than one million adults have been trained in classroom settings in 48 states.

This class is for members who want to learn best practices in suicide prevention. Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying “Yes” to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor.

Preserving Families and Perpetuating Your Business

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

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

Are you okay with the government's plan for your business?

Do you trust your children to manage the transition without harming family ties?

Is it important for the business to remain in the family rather than being sold?

Are you confident your lender will finance the next generation?

Would you accept your kids selling the business to cover your future care costs?

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

Designing and Building Resilient Septic Systems

Presented by: Dr. Sara Heger, University of Minnesota

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

Audit Committee Summary

Presented by: Paul Demuth, OH

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

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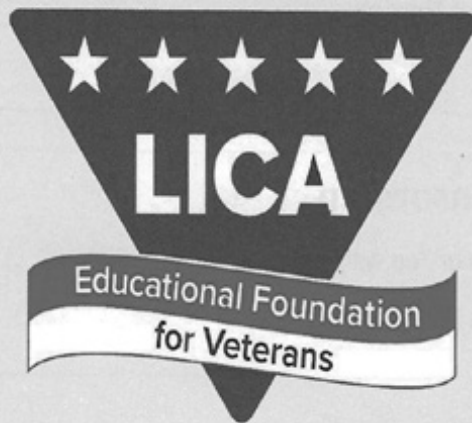


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REASONS TO JOIN LICA

- > Contractor members, their children and employees are eligible to participate in the Minnesota LICA Scholarship
- > Increase your ability to shape legislative and regulatory rules.
- > Become more knowledgeable of the changes in the construction industry.
- > Increase your company's profitability.
- > Workshops and seminars to learn ways to become more competitive.
- > Eligible to take advantage of a long list of benefits exclusive to LICA.
- > Be listed in the MN LICA Directory and the National LICA Directory.
- > Networking with other Contractors.



OUR MISSION

To train military veterans to become highly-skilled heavy equipment operators and assist them in finding employment opportunities throughout the U.S.

2025 Board Member Meeting Attendance

A = Absent P = Present C = Cancelled
Board Member **Jan** **Mar** **June** **Aug**

Pres Dallas Loken	P	A		
VP Jesse James	P	P		
Tres Mark Olsen	P	P		
Chrmn Stu Frazeur	P	P		
Mark Morreim	P	P		
Karlen Nelson	P	P		
Everett Garlisch	P	P		
Brad Herickhoff	P	A		
Mike Lehmann	P	P		
Doug Breberg	P	A		
Dee Ann Larson	P	P		
Debra Olsen	P	P		
Don Loken	P	P		
Assoc. Mike Kluck	A	A		
Ex Dir Jenny Breberg	P	P		

OFFICERS**PRESIDENT****Dallas Loken**

Loken Excavating & Drainage
3695 Hoffman Dr. NW
Owatonna, MN 55060

VICE PRESIDENT**Jesse James**

Steve James Excavating
3835 Park Dr. NW
Owatonna, MN 55060

TREASURER**Mark Olsen**

Big Woods Excavating LLC
12825 190th Street East
Nerstrand, MN 55053

CHAIRMAN of the Board**Stuart Frazeur**

Stu Frazeur Tiling
Canby, MN 56220

MNLICA Executive Director**Jennifer Breberg**

2570 130th Str
Dawson, MN 56232
mnlica2@gmail.com
Phone: 320-226-6398

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Albert Lea, MN

Everett Garlisch

Eiden Farm Drainage
35127 746th Avenue
St. James, MN

DeeAnn Larson

Landscape Gal LLC
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Northfield, MN 55057

Doug Breberg

Larson Tiling, Inc
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Dawson, MN 56232

Retired:

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Owatonna, MN 55060

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Nicollet, MN 56074

Brad Herickhoff

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Sauk Center, MN 56378

Michael Lehmann

Air-Row Surveying LLC.
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Mankato, MN 56001

Deb Olsen

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Nerstrand, MN 55053

Associates

Mike Kluck - USI

NATIONAL LICA

3080 Ogden Avenue
Suite 300
Lisle, IL. 60532
Phone: 630-548-1984

2025-2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

Web-site: www.mnlica.org

June 19, 2025, 6:00 PM, MN LICA Board Meeting, New Ulm, MN

**July 8th - 12th, 2025, National Summer Meeting
Duluth, MN**

August 14, 2025, MN LICA Board Meeting, New Ulm, MN

September 12, 2025, Annual Sporting Clays & Golf Day, TBD

November 20, 2025, MN LICA Board Meeting, New Ulm, MN

January 14-16, 2026, MN LICA Winter Convention, New Ulm, MN

**February 28 - March 2, 2026, National LICA Winter Convention
and CON/EXPO, Las Vegas, NV**



MNLICA

2570 130th Street
Dawson, MN 56232

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THE LICA CREED

*Land, the foundation of the nation,
the basis of all wealth,
the heritage of the wise, the thrifty and prudent,
the poor man's joy and comfort,
the silent partner of man,
the producer of food, fiber and fuel,
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.*