



# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

## Upcoming Events:

38th Annual Meeting      March 2013

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Winter-February 2013

## Message from the President

It has been my privilege to serve as president this past year. Having served in this position has revealed just how many people take on various duties and commitments to make ISCA a functioning organization. I would like to thank all those who have involved themselves with ISCA in both official and "unofficial" capacities; your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

This past year was a good year for growth in ISCA. We had 3 applicants for student membership, 2 applications for full membership, and a couple of inquiries in our mentoring program. There were 8 applications for certification.

Let's keep up the good work in making ourselves visible to the public.

Being involved in ISCA has been rewarding, and is a great way to interact and collaborate with other soil scientists around the state. As I step down and pass the gavel to Doug Gaines, I know that ISCA will be in good hands. Please help me welcome Doug at the annual meeting next month in Champaign. Jesse Kurylo and the public relations committee always put together a fine program. In closing I would encourage everyone to be involved in ISCA.

Frank Heisner  
President ISCA  
815-499-4681  
[President@illinoissoils.org](mailto:President@illinoissoils.org)

## Charter Member Interviews

### Charter Member Charles J. Frazee

#### 1. What is your educational background?

M. S. – University of Illinois – Thesis – Hydraulic conductivity and moisture regimes in solonetzic and associated soils in south central Illinois

Ph.D – University of Illinois – Thesis – Distribution of loess from a source

#### 2. What states have you worked in during your career?

Illinois – I mapped in six counties

South Dakota – Participated in a NASA grant using imagery for soil survey. I had access to imagery from the first ERT'S satellite. Soil association maps were produced for use in tax appraisal in Western South Dakota and irrigation suitability.

#### 3. What factor(s) led you to choose a career in Soil Science?

At graduation time from WIU, a letter from Dr. R. T. Odell was posted about an assistantship. Dr. McVicker at WIU was a contemporary of the UI soil survey staff. I had no idea what I was getting into, but once there I realized this was a good idea.

#### 4. As a charter member of ISCA, what significant change(s) have you observed within Soil Science over the past 30+ years?

Use of imagery other than aerial photographs in producing soil maps.

Digital soil surveys.

Use of computers to create databases for soils information.

Use of soils information for determining suitability for septic systems and tax appraisal.

#### 5. What significant change(s) have you observed within the ISCA over that same period?

Certification program.

Excellent meetings and field trips.

Recognition of soil classifiers in state septic code.

## Welcome New Member - Alicia Metzger



My name is Alicia Metzger. I am currently a soil scientist in the Wetlands Division with V3 Companies in Woodridge, Illinois. I graduated from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois in December 2010 with my Master's degree in Geography. My Master's research was conducted in Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada, where Dr. Mike Konen and I described the soils in the deciduous and boreal forests within the park. While in school, I participated in three regional soil judging competitions and one national soil judging competition. I was also a coach on the NIU Soil Judging Team for 2 years. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my husband and two dogs, gardening, cooking, and reading.

The following article was prepared by Andy Stumpf, Geologist, Illinois State Geological Survey, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois for inclusion the ISCA newsletter:

### **Wisconsin Glaciation's Influence on the Illinois River Valley**

With the assistance of ISCA members Jim Hornickel, Roger Windhorn, and Bob Tegeler; geoscientists Hong Wang, Andrew Stumpf, and Miao Xiaodong from the Illinois State Geological Survey, and Tom Lowell from the University of Cincinnati uncovered a continuous record of glaciofluvial and aeolian deposition spanning the time period from the last (Wisconsin) glaciation to the present in central Illinois along the Illinois River valley. From the sediments exposed within sand pits located in Mason, Cass, and Morgan Counties they were able to reconstruct this chronology of events dating back to ~19,000 years ago (fig. 1).

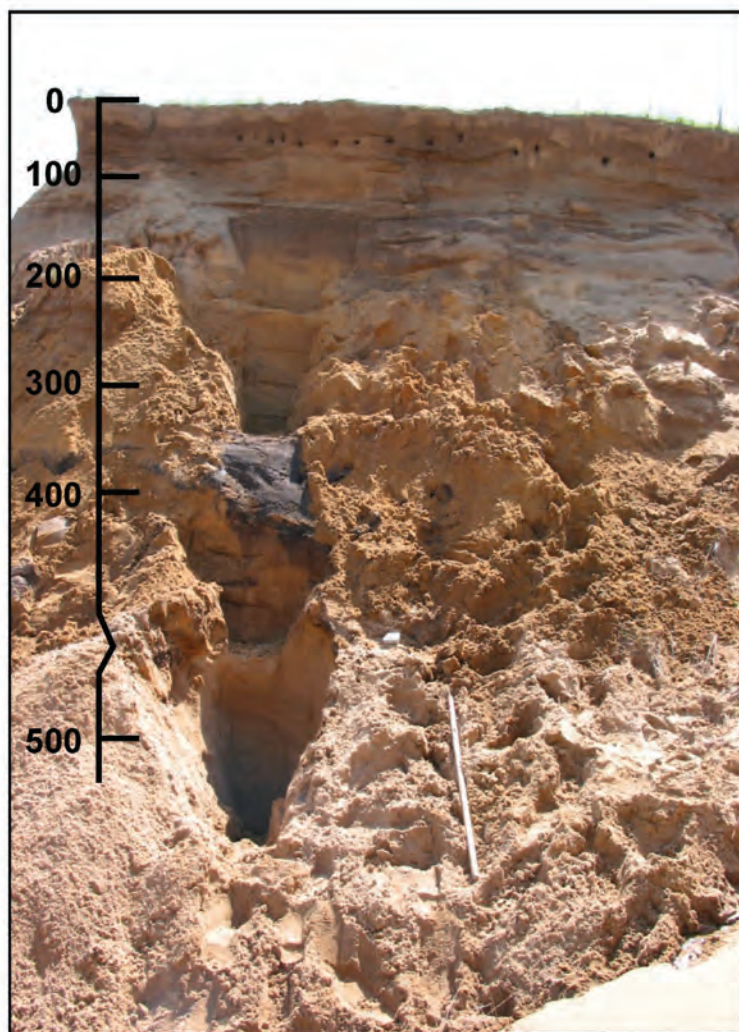
Basically, the sediments constitute a record that suggests the regional climate fluctuated significantly several times throughout the period. Initially, deposition occurred under glacial conditions, by meltwater that flowed down the Illinois River valley. As the margin of the Laurentide Ice Sheet retreated north of Illinois, climatic conditions changed to cold and dry and deposition of dune sand prevailed. Beginning ~16,500 years ago during the Heinrich event 1 (H1a phase), the climate began to warm, and is marked by a paleosol in the sediment record. These climatic conditions persisted until ~12,500 years ago when cold and dry conditions returned during the Younger Dryas stadial. This dune sand is overlain by sand deposited during post-glacial (Holocene) times.

An intriguing deposit found in the area, comprised of dark brown to black organic-rich sand with silt and clay identified at Manito and Arenzville sites, formed during the warmer Bolling/Allerød (B/A) interstadials and coincides with the timing of paleofloods from Lake Agassiz that drained down the Mississippi River into the Gulf of Mexico. [Wang et al.](#) speculates that these floods blocked drainage along the Illinois River causing a slackwater lake to form up valley. The organic-rich sediment was deposited in or at the margin of the lake.

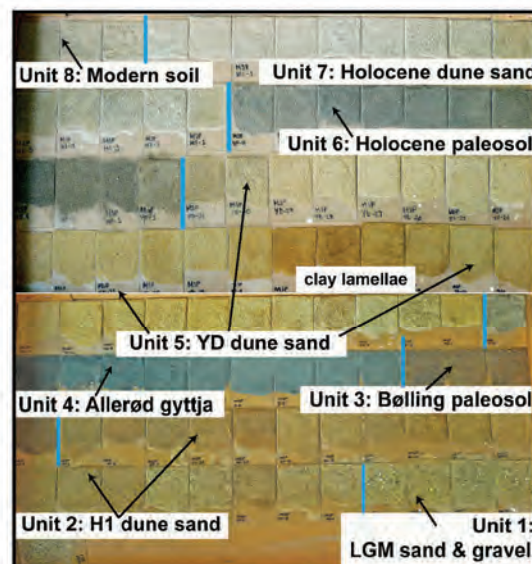
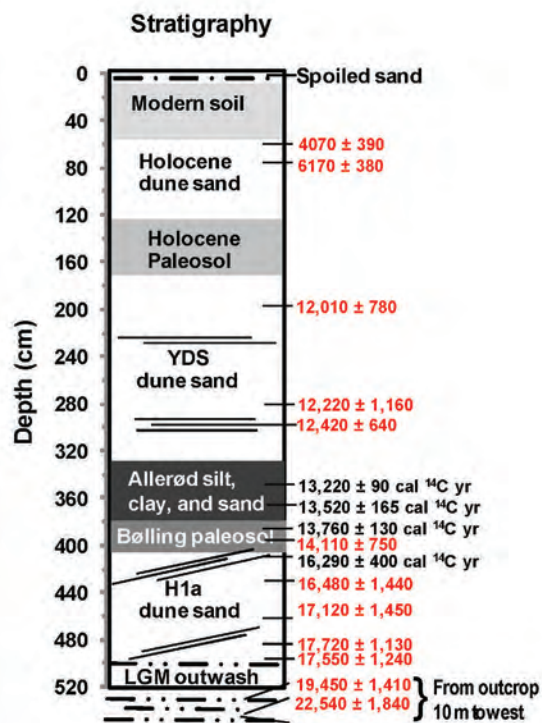
These findings are important to improve understanding global climate changes during the last 20,000 years, and may provide more information on the timing of floods and lowering of sea-surface temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico that led to later climate cooling in the Northern Hemisphere. Future research will be focused on the Illinois River valley and its tributaries south of the City of Havana to locate sites with similar deposits of organic-rich sediment. They welcome the collaboration and assistance from ISCA members in finding additional sites. Additional studies are also planned to map deposits of silt, clay, and sand present at lower elevations previously interpreted as slackwater lake deposits.

Hong Wang, Andrew J. Stumpf, Xiaodong Miao, and Thomas V. Lowell. 2012. Atmospheric changes in North America during the last deglaciation from dune-wetland records in the Midwestern United States. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, v. 58: p. 124–134 (December 14, 2012). URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2012.10.018>





**Fig. 1:** The glacial to post-glacial stratigraphy at the Manito Sand Pit. The carbon-14 ages date the paleosol and organic-rich sediment to the Bølling/Allerød (B/A) interstadials. The dates acquired from optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) analysis (in red) indicate that dune sand below and above B/A sediments were deposited during Heinrich event 1 (H1a phase) and Younger Dryas (YDS) stadial, respectively. The YDS sand is overlain by an early Holocene soil and middle to late Holocene eolian deposits. To the right, color slides of sediment collected every 5 cm are shown. Distinct changes in color and texture of the sediments were measured, and are used to define the lithostratigraphic units (delineated in the photograph by blue vertical bars).





## Dig It! The Secrets of Soil at Bell Museum of Natural History

The Soil Science Society of America's exciting exhibit, Dig It! The Secrets of the Soil is now on display at the Bell Museum of Natural History on the campus of the University of Minnesota. The exhibit, which opened in November, will remain at the museum until July, 2013.

The website of Bell Museum is <http://www.bellmuseum.umn.edu/ForAdults/Exhibits/DigIt/index.htm>.

-submitted by Bog Tegeler.

The screenshot shows the website for the 'Dig It! The Secrets of Soil' exhibit at the Bell Museum of Natural History. The header features the University of Minnesota logo and the tagline 'Driven to Discover'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main navigation menu on the left includes links for Home, Calendar of Events, ExploraDome, For Adults (with sub-links for Cafe Scientifique, Thursday Nights, Field Trips, Exhibits, Tours, and Resident Artist Research Project), For Families, For Schools, For Groups, Traveling Exhibits, Research and Teaching, Get Involved, and General Information. The main content area displays the exhibit title 'DIG IT! The Secrets of Soil' with a background image of a garden. A banner reads 'OPENING NOVEMBER 10!'. Below the banner, a 'Did you know...' section states: 'there are more living organisms in a shovel full of soil than human beings on Earth?'. Further text explains that soil is a complex mixture of minerals, air, water, decaying items, and countless living organisms. A quote from the exhibit says: 'Dig It! The Secrets of Soil takes visitors of all ages into the world of soil, answering questions about what it is and why it is so important to life on Earth.' At the bottom, it says: 'Soils are **alive**. They are **born**, they **breathe**, they **age**. Soils are **everywhere**. See for yourself - starting November 10!'. On the right side, there is a 'Dig It! toured by' section with the Soil Science Society of America logo. Below that is a 'Soil Resources' section with links to the University of Minnesota Dept. of Soil, Water and Climate, Soil Testing Laboratory, and Soil Horizons Publication. A 'Supporters' section lists: 3 M Company and 3M Foundation, CHS Inc., Thomson Reuters, Action Moving Services, AgStar Financial Services, ACA, Barr Engineering Company, The Mulch Store, and Rahr Foundation.

## 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Champaign, IL

Where: Forbes Natural History Building, Champaign, IL

Registration: 11:00

Opening Remarks: 11:50

Lunch: 12:00

Guest Speaker: 12:45

Business Meeting: 1:45

Ethics Talk/Discussion: 3:00

The 38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Forbes Natural History Building, University of Illinois, same place as the last two years. The Forbes Natural History Building is located at 1816 South Oak St., Champaign, IL. This is within the Research Park southwest of the Assembly Hall. Parking is free.

Please use the registration form below to make a reservation before March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The cost of the meal and registration is \$25.00. Please, make checks payable to ISCA or pay online. Same day registrants cannot be guaranteed lunch.



This year's guest speaker will be Dom Durbin of Durbin Geothermal in Beecher City, Illinois. He is going to talk to us about thermal conductivity of soils and how that affects geothermal systems.



Photos from the geothermal install at Jesse Kurylo's house in Urbana, IL.

The ethics talk/discussion will be facilitated by Dr. Eric Freyfogle from the University of Illinois Law School. Read more about him at <http://www.law.illinois.edu/faculty/profile/ericfreyfogle>.

I encourage all the membership to attend the talk and participate in the discussion not just those members needing the ethics CEU for their certifications. Dr. Freyfogle has provided readings to help make the discussion more interesting, though they are not mandatory. I would strongly suggest reading one or two of the articles. The readings are posted on our [website](#) under announcements.

As an added bonus, if you were on the fence about attending the annual meeting this year, Naturally Illinois, Engineering Expo, and Explore ACES will also be going on that Friday and Saturday here on campus. Yes, this was by design. I would encourage those with families to bring them along to check out any or all of these really awesome events. Awesome as in robot battles at engineering open house, putting your hand in a cow's rumen at Explore ACES, and the kid's fossil dig at Naturally Illinois.

<http://eoh.ec.illinois.edu/>    <http://www.prairie.illinois.edu/expo/>    <http://exploraces.org/>

Driving Directions: Find maps and directions on the Illinois Natural History Website at <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/organization/maps>

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Clip and Send by March 5, 2013 ...Clip and Send by March 5, 2013...Clip and Send by March 5, 2013

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ISCA 2013 Annual Spring Meeting Reservation  
March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, IL

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ (\$25/person)  
Total Payment \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out above information and mail with a check (payable to ISCA) to the following address:

Chuck Frazee  
65 Gaffney Road  
Divernon, IL 62530

If you can make it, we'd like to hear  
from you by March 5th, 2013.  
Thanks!

**You can also pay online using the PayPal link on our website.**

<http://www.illinoissoils.org/PayPalPage.htm>



## Ballot for 2013 ISCA Elections

Voting rights are for Full Members only.

Please vote for one for each office by placing an X next to the name.

See the biographies on the next page for more information about the candidates.

Write-in candidates must have agreed prior to the election to run for that office.

### President-Elect

Brad Cate

Bruce Putnam

(write-in candidate for President-Elect) \_\_\_\_\_

### Vice President

Scott Wiesbrook

(write-in candidate for Vice President) \_\_\_\_\_

### Treasurer

Charles Frazee

(write-in candidate for Treasurer) \_\_\_\_\_

Submit your ballot:

You may bring your ballot to the 2013 Annual Meeting or you may vote prior to the Annual Meeting by mailing your ballot to Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530. Please seal your ballot in a separate envelope and mark it with "Ballot" on the outside of that envelope. Mailed ballots must be received by the Friday before the Annual Meeting in order to be counted.

## 2013 Bent Auger Award - Call for Nominations

It is once again time to select a new winner of the prestigious Bent Auger Award. As its name suggests, this award is given each year to an individual or group of individuals who displays "excellence" in the field. Qualifying events/situations are numerous and unrestricted. Stories do not have to be true, but are preferably based on partial truth. If you know anyone who is deserving of this award for 2013, **please bring his/her nomination to the annual meeting** in Champaign on March 9.

Competition can be fierce, so make sure your story is well prepared and fully exaggerated. This award has been held by many of the leaders and founders of the ISCA. It is a great honor and looks good on any resume.





## 2013 Candidate Biographies

The Nomination Committee presents the following slate of officers for nomination:

President-Elect – Brad Cate and Bruce Putnam; Vice President – Scott Wiesbrook; Treasurer – Charles Frazee.

Please see their biographies below and use the ballot on the previous page to cast your vote.

### President-Elect

#### **Bruce Putman**

Bruce is the owner of a private consulting business that performs on-site evaluations and other related soil classification consulting work. His business has been active in Northern Illinois since 1988. He began his career with the NRCS as a soil scientist in 1980 in Western Illinois and worked in both Northern and Central Illinois during his employment with the NRCS. Bruce earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agronomy with a soil science emphasis from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a Certified Professional Soil Classifier with both ARCPACS and ISCA. Bruce is actively involved with ISCA and has served on numerous ISCA committees and as President. He resides in Woodstock, Illinois with his wife Susan.

#### **Brad Cate**

Brad received his BS & MS degrees in Plant and Soil Science from Southern Illinois University in '78 and '81. In addition to a short stint as a soil conservationist, he has worked on the Brown, Putnam, and Whiteside County soil surveys in Illinois as well as a soil survey of the Quatif area of Saudi Arabia for Harza Engineering. In 1987 he briefly worked as a soil scientist with the Delaware Dept. of Natural resources overseeing the soil investigation program for septic systems in Delaware before starting his own environmental consulting business. Since then, he has worked primarily in Delaware until 2006 when he and his wife Kay moved back "home" to Savanna, Illinois. Brad continues to practice in Delaware while developing a presence in Northwest IL and the adjacent portions of Iowa and Wisconsin.

### Vice President

#### **Scott Wiesbrook**

Scott Wiesbrook received a B.S. in Agricultural Science with an emphasis on Soils in 1996 from the University of Illinois. He spent two more years at UI working on a M.S. under Dr. Robert Darmody before accepting a position at the Illinois Natural History Survey as a soil/wetland scientist. Since 1998 Scott has conducted wetland delineations, assessed potential sites for wetland mitigation, and monitored created/restored wetlands for INHS. He is currently the Assistant Project Leader for Soils in the Wetland Science Program, which involves some database maintenance, supervisory responsibilities, and report reviewing; in addition to actually getting to map soils and wetlands. He has helped Bob Darmody coach the U of I soil judging team since 1996, and has also coached Black Hawk College, East Campus to 5 NACTA Soil Judging National Championships (2 year division) since 2000. He joined ISCA in 2008, and has served on the finance committee since the autumn of that year.

### Treasurer

#### **Charles J. Frazee**

Charter member of ISCA, Treasurer since 1993. MS and Ph.D. University of Illinois.

Mapped in 6 different counties in IL. Assistant Professor – South Dakota State University-1969-1975.

Research in remote sensing using soil maps for taxation and teaching soil genesis, classification, and morphology. Returned to family farm in 1975. Professional Soil Classifier Certificate #10.

Consulting in Sangamon and surrounding counties since 1996.

## ISCA on Facebook

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for "Illinois Soil Classifiers Association" and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership. If you don't have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Unfortunately, the Facebook site is restricted on some government computers, so many of you will need to do this at home. Contact [webmaster@illinoissoils.org](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



### TRADING POST

This spot is reserved for members who would like to buy, sell, trade, or announce an item, event, or activity in our newsletter. Please limit your classified ad to 25 words or less. Email your ad to the newsletter at [newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

**FOR SALE:** used Giddings rig, Briggs-Stratton eng., mounted on trailer made from 1950 Chevy 3/4 T pickup bed. Needs turret seal replaced. Contact Don Johnson, 217-356-7437 land; 390-4839 cell: [djohns@illinois.edu](mailto:djohns@illinois.edu)

Thanks, Don Johnson

#### Key to this edition's "Days Gone By" picture:

SCS summer picnic at Miller Park in Bloomington, IL in the late 1970's

left to right: Chuck Frazee, Burt Ray, Jim Steinkamp, Ray Herman (I believe the baby is Mike Kiefer's), Steve Zwicker, Earl Voss, Henry Mount, Mike Kiefer

-Thanks to Wiley Scott for submitting this edition's "Days Gone By" picture.

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

ISCA Newsletter Staff  
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[Newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:Newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

### Submissions

This is **YOUR** newsletter. If you wish to submit material, here are some preferences.

- Send information by the last week of the month before the newsletter is scheduled to be published.
- Digital copy in Microsoft Word
- Use as little formatting (indents, bullets, charts) as possible. This increases the work to get it into Publisher.

### Publication Schedule

- Winter (February)
- Spring (May)
- Summer (August)
- Fall (November)



The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is an organization promoting the wise use of the soil resource. ISCA is made up of professional soil classifiers in public service, private industry, and education and includes students and others interested in preserving soil. A soil classifier maps, describes and interprets soils according to a national system of soil classification. ISCA was established in 1975 and is affiliated with the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils.

## Days Gone By



Can you identify the soil scientists in this picture from the late 1970's?  
Key to this edition "Days Gone By" is on page 10.



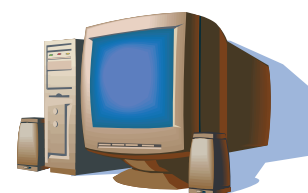
### ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

New, exciting links have been added to the "announcements" page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues.

Better yet... make it your home page!





ISCA Newsletter  
148 E. Pleasant Hill Road  
Suite 105, Box #2  
Carbondale, IL 62903

**Visit the ISCA website to see the color version of this newsletter**

**[www.illinoissoils.org/news](http://www.illinoissoils.org/news)**

.....Cut.....Cut.....

### Change of Address Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Mail to: Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530



# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring-May 2013

## Message from the President

As I ponder this letter, it is just past the first part of May. The weather in this part of the country is very different from 2012. The change from last year has us about a month to 6 weeks later than last year; which was about 3 weeks ahead of normal for the growing season. Last year there was corn up and the honeybees had started gathering nectar as the trees were flowering already by early April. This year I know of just a few fields with corn up and the trees are almost all leaved out in May. Next spring, what will it bring? For now, we will contend with what we have to work with. This brings me to our ever-changing surroundings. Our weather may change quickly and dramatically, but our soils don't go through the quick and dramatic yearly "change" as the weather; at least by our time standards. This gives us more time to study the soils and the cause and effect of the weathering process. As an organization, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association also faces some changes (if you will) each year. We gain and lose members, we change leadership, and we have different opportunities for learning about and promoting soils. At this point in time we have the Farm Progress Show coming up in September (a good teaching tool). Roger Windhorn is our go-to guy for this. This October (15-17) we will be hosting the Central States Forest Soils Workshop in the Galena region. This will be a good opportunity to teach and learn both from other soil scientists as well as foresters. Frank Heisner and Brad Cate are the point men for this. Our Fall Meeting is planned during the workshop, so put it on your calendars. We have a group that is in the process of planning a statewide "travelling soils workshop" to look at and learn from the state's soils and geologic processes across the entire state. This "tour" will hopefully be ready in 2014. Also, (don't hold your breath) the new sewage code is expected to be passed and implemented this year. This would be a huge opportunity to those in the consulting arena in the state. All of these opportunities can and will be used to promote the knowledge and use of soils as well as learn from; which are the main reasons our organization was developed in the first place. Have a good spring and we'll see what new changes are around the corner.

Doug Gaines  
ISCA President

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## 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

A new president was installed, new chairs for committees were accepted, and new committees were formed. March 9th, 2013 was dreary outside but inside the Forbes Building on the University of Illinois Campus there was good food, good conversations, and two wonderful speakers. The 38th Annual Spring Meeting was another great get-together for the 27 who attended, too bad so many of you missed out on this one.

This year's first guest speaker was Dom Durbin of Durbin Geothermal in Beecher City, Illinois. He talked about thermal conductivity of soils, how that affects geothermal systems, and system selection for a site. This informative talk resulted in a lively Q and A.

Our second speaker was Dr. Eric Freyfogle from the University of Illinois Law School. He spoke and led a discussion about land ethic. This second talk was well attended and seemed very well received given it was later in the afternoon. It also appeared that many of the attendees had read the additional readings to participate more fully in the following discussion. The idea of having an ethics speaker was facilitated by the members who needed to fulfill CEUs for both state and national certifications. The PR&E committee was glad our first venture into helping the membership in this way was a success.

The only trouble for the whole of the meeting this year was the lack of submissions for the Bent Auger Award. What is the Bent Auger Award you ask? Well, it does not require an actual bent auger, but if that happened that would be fine also. The award is given for the best or funniest field mishap of the year. No need to offer yourself up, but please feel free to offer up good field stories of your colleagues for the delight of others. Submissions can be anonymous.

If anyone has an idea for a speaker or a topic for the spring meetings please pass that along to the PR&E committee. We are always grateful for suggestions. Also, fall tour/meeting ideas and locations are also very welcome. The 2013 Fall Tour will coincide with the Forest Soils Conference in Northwest Illinois.

Submitted by Jessica Kurylo and Roger Windhorn





## 2013 Central States Forest Soils Workshop

### 2013 Central States Forest Workshop

**Where: Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa**



444 Eagle Ridge Drive  
Galena, Illinois 61036  
(815) 777-5000

Reservations may be made at a rate of \$77.00 night. Be sure to indicate that you are with the Central States Forest Workshop to obtain the \$77 room rate. More information regarding the resort may be found at: <http://www.eagleridge.com/>

If you plan to stay at Eagle Ridge, please note their cancellation policy: The guarantee fees (last night's lodging, tax and resort amenity fee) will be forfeited if accommodations are cancelled less than 7 days prior to arrival. . The guarantee fees (last night's lodging. You will have from now until 7 days prior to arrival to cancel with a \$35 cancellation fee) placed on your credit card at the time of reservation will be forfeited if accommodations are canceled less than 7 days prior to arrival.

Alternative lodging in the Galena area may be found at: <http://galena.org/where-to-stay/>

**When: October 15-17, 2013**

Registration details and finalized agenda will be forthcoming.



#### Potential Sites:

Jerry Misek Tree Farm  
Mississippi Palisades State Park

Apple River Canyon State Park  
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation property



# Onsite Low Pressure Pipe Installation

UNIQUE CONCRETE · JERSEYVILLE, ILLINOIS

## Onsite LPP Installation



### Onsite Low Pressure Pipe Installation

This event will meet the 3 CEU requirement for Local Health Professionals

**June 12, 2013**

**9-9:30AM Registration**

**9:30-10AM Chad Moorman**  
Illinois Department of Health

**10-Lunch Visit jobsite to see installation of above system**

**Lunch provided at Unique Concrete**

**1-2PM Gerald Berning**  
Soils evaluation

#### Sponsored by:

- OWPI
- Connor Company
- T.G. Rankin Co.
- Tuf-tite
- Jerseyville Winnelson Co.
- Jersey County Health Department
- Conseal

**Reserve your space today. RSVP by June 10th**

**Unique Concrete**  
26860 State Route 16 Jerseyville, IL 62052  
Tel: 618-498-1018

Curtis Cluckey, Infiltrator Systems Sales Representative  
ccluckey@infiltratorsystems.net

## Passing of ISCA Member Don Johnson



CHAMPAIGN – Donald Lee Johnson passed on Friday (May 10, 2013). He was born March 8, 1934, in Long Beach, Calif., the son of Lila and Kenneth Johnson.

Diana Johnson was his life's partner for 53 years and wife for 49 of them. Don was a professor of geography at the University of Illinois from 1970 to 2003 and emeritus professor from 2003. Though retired, he never stopped his research and writing.

Don was an explorer and an adventurer. Ever curious, Don and Diana traveled the world seeking answers to the question: How does the Earth really work? Many of the answers are in their publications.

Don shared his enthusiasm for his research with his students, taking them on field trips every semester, asking them to learn by looking. He was one of the few individuals whose career was his hobby and he never tired of his work.

Don was a thoughtful and generous soul, always taking the time to be kind and gracious to everyone he met, forging many strong friendships over the years. He was a true inspiration to his children and grandchildren. He loved them so much. He also loved working in the garden, playing racquetball and writing poems.

Don is survived by his beloved wife; his adored children, Elizabeth Beaver and her husband, Rick Beaver, of White Heath, Jennifer Stine and her husband, Bart Stine, of Monticello, and Katie Stephenson and her husband, Ryan Stephenson, of Madison, Wis. Don was the "best ever" grandfather to, and survived by, Courtney and Carly Adams of White Heath, Kyle Beaver of Danville, Kristin, Nick and Kellie Stine of Monticello, and Polly and Tucker Stephenson of Madison, Wis. His sister, Bette, and brother-in-law, Norman Wahl, many nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws also survive him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Dick Johnson; and granddaughter, Emily Stine.

His family, friends and colleagues will miss him dearly. He will live on forever in our hearts and minds.

A celebration of Don's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at the University of Illinois, third floor, Levis Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois St., Urbana. Visitation follows. In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, the family requests donations be made to the Eastern Illinois Food Bank, 2405 North Shore Drive, Urbana, IL 61802. "If we want the mind to grow, we've got to start with nutrition. Children can't learn if they are hungry." - D.L. Johnson

**Source URL:** <http://www.news-gazette.com/obituaries/2013-05-15/donald-johnson.html>



# NRCS Soil Health Initiative

## Soil Health

### Unlock the Secrets in the Soil

Soil is a living and life-giving substance, without which we would perish.

As world population and food production demands rise, keeping our soil healthy and productive is of paramount importance. So much so that we believe improving the health of our Nation's soil is one of the most important endeavors of our time.

By focusing more attention on soil health and by educating our customers and the public about the positive impact healthy soils can have on productivity and conservation, we can help our Nation's farmers and ranchers feed the world more profitably and sustainably – now and for generations to come.

The resources on this soil health section of our site are designed to help visitors understand the basics and benefits of soil health – and to learn about Soil Health Management Systems from farmers who are using those systems.

So whether you're a farmer, a researcher, a conservationist or an interested citizen, the information on this site will help you "Unlock the Secrets in the Soil."



### Speaking for the Living Soils



Meet our Soil Health Spokespersons, which include 7 dedicated soil experts with more than 175 years of combined experience with NRCS.

### Soil Health Fact Sheets



Learn what you can do to improve your soil's health. Check out our brief but informative fact sheets that explain how to unlock your farm's potential. *En Espanol.*

### Soil Health Support from 20 Groups



Twenty farm and conservation groups recently signed a letter supporting NRCS' Soil Health effort.

### Healthy, Productive Soils Checklist



See our healthy, productive soil health checklist for growers and learn what might be a part of your soil health management system. (PDF, 4.4 MB)



## NRCS Soil Health Initiative



# healthy, productive soils checklist for growers



**Managing for soil health is one of the easiest and most effective ways for farmers to increase crop productivity and profitability while improving the environment.**

Results are often realized immediately, and last well into the future. Using these four basic principles is the key to improving the health of your soil.

1. Keep the soil covered as much as possible
2. Disturb the soil as little as possible
3. Keep plants growing throughout the year to feed the soil
4. Diversify as much as possible using crop rotation and cover crops

Use the checklist on the back of this page to determine if you're using some or all of the core Soil Health Management System farming practices.

It is important to note that not all practices are applicable to all crops. Some operations will benefit from just one soil health practice while others may require additional practices for maximum benefit. But these core practices form the basis of a Soil Health Management System that can help you optimize your inputs, protect against drought, and increase production.



[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)













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# NRCS Soil Health Initiative

## Soil Health Management Systems Include:

What is it?	What does it do?	How does it help?
 <p><b>Conservation Crop Rotation</b></p> <p>Growing a diverse number of crops in a planned sequence in order to increase soil organic matter and biodiversity in the soil.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases nutrient cycling</li> <li>• Manages plant pest (weeds, insects, and diseases)</li> <li>• Reduces sheet, rill, and wind erosion</li> <li>• Holds soil moisture</li> <li>• Adds diversity so soil microbes can thrive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves nutrient use efficiency</li> <li>• Decreases use of pesticides</li> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Conserves water</li> <li>• Improves plant production</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Cover Crop</b></p> <p>An un-harvested crop grown as part of planned rotation to provide conservation benefits to the soil.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases soil organic matter</li> <li>• Prevents soil erosion</li> <li>• Conserves soil moisture</li> <li>• Increases nutrient cycling</li> <li>• Provides nitrogen for plant use</li> <li>• Suppresses weeds</li> <li>• Reduces compaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves crop production</li> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Conserves water</li> <li>• Improves nutrient use efficiency</li> <li>• Decreases use of pesticides</li> <li>• Improves water efficiency to crops</li> </ul>
 <p><b>No Till</b></p> <p>A way of growing crops without disturbing the soil through tillage.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water holding capacity of soils</li> <li>• Increases organic matter</li> <li>• Reduces soil erosion</li> <li>• Reduces energy use</li> <li>• Decreases compaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water efficiency</li> <li>• Conserves water</li> <li>• Improves crop production</li> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Saves renewable resources</li> <li>• Improves air quality</li> <li>• Increases productivity</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Mulch Tillage</b></p> <p>Using tillage methods where the soil surface is disturbed but maintains a high level of crop residue on the surface.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces soil erosion from wind and rain</li> <li>• Increases soil moisture for plants</li> <li>• Reduces energy use</li> <li>• Increases soil organic matter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Conserves water</li> <li>• Saves renewable resources</li> <li>• Improves air quality</li> <li>• Improves crop production</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Mulching</b></p> <p>Applying plant residues or other suitable materials to the soil surface to compensate for loss of residue due to excessive tillage.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces erosion from wind and rain</li> <li>• Moderates soil temperatures</li> <li>• Increases soil organic matter</li> <li>• Controls weeds</li> <li>• Conserves soil moisture</li> <li>• Reduces dust</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Improves plant productivity</li> <li>• Increases crop production</li> <li>• Reduces pesticide usage</li> <li>• Conserves water</li> <li>• Improves air quality</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Nutrient Management</b></p> <p>Managing soil nutrients to meet crop needs while minimizing the impact on the environment and the soil.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases plant nutrient uptake</li> <li>• Improves the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soil</li> <li>• Budgets, supplies, and conserves nutrients for plant production</li> <li>• Reduces odors and nitrogen emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Improves plant production</li> <li>• Improves air quality</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Pest Management</b></p> <p>Managing pests by following an ecological approach that promotes the growth of healthy plants with strong defenses, while increasing stress on pests and enhancing the habitat for beneficial organisms.</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces pesticide risks to water quality</li> <li>• Reduces threat of chemicals entering the air</li> <li>• Decreases pesticide risk to pollinators and other beneficial organisms</li> <li>• Increases soil organic matter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improves water quality</li> <li>• Improves air quality</li> <li>• Increases plant pollination</li> <li>• Increases plant productivity</li> </ul>



## ISCA on Facebook

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership. If you don't have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Unfortunately, the Facebook site is restricted on some government computers, so many of you will need to do this at home. Contact [webmaster@illinoissoils.org](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



## TRADING POST

This spot is reserved for members who would like to buy, sell, trade, or announce an item, event, or activity in our newsletter. Please limit your classified ad to 25 words or less. Email your ad to the newsletter at [newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

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### Submissions

This is **YOUR** newsletter. If you wish to submit material, here are some preferences.

- Send information by the last week of the month before the newsletter is scheduled to be published.
- Digital copy in Microsoft Word
- Use as little formatting (indents, bullets, charts) as possible. This increases the work to get it into Publisher. It can be done, but increases work load for the committee.

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to make edits/ corrections deemed appropriate

### Publication Schedule

- Winter (February)
- Spring (May)
- Summer (August)
- Fall (November)



The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is an organization promoting the wise use of the soil resource. ISCA is made up of professional soil classifiers in public service, private industry, and education and includes students and others interested in preserving soil. A soil classifier maps, describes and interprets soils according to a national system of soil classification. ISCA was established in 1975 and is affiliated with the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils.

## Days Gone By



Can you identify the ISCA members in this photograph  
Answers to this edition of "Days Gone By" will be in the next newsletter



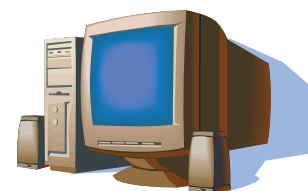
### ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

New, exciting links have been added to the "announcements" page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues.

Better yet... make it your home page!



ISCA Newsletter  
148 E. Pleasant Hill Road  
Suite 105, Box #2  
Carbondale, IL 62903

**Visit the ISCA website to see the color version of this newsletter**

**[www.illinoissoils.org/news](http://www.illinoissoils.org/news)**

.....Cut.....Cut.....

### Change of Address Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Mail to: Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530





# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Summer-August 2013

## Message from the President

### Inside this issue:

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I hope all are having a good summer. As I look at the weather, we have had higher than average rainfall and lower than average temperatures so far in this part of the country. I'm not really sure what this has to do with ISCA and soil science, but it has made for a more bearable summer of sorts. Anyhow.....

Since we are striving to promote the value and knowledge of soils I see there have been, and are, many opportunities for ISCA members to become involved in our communities around the state this year. So far this year we have had several ISCA members participate in a septic installation field day in Jersey County in June, with another slated for Macoupin County in September. There may be a representative of EPA show up for this one. In August, we have the Farm Progress Show in Decatur and of course the 2013 Central States Forest Soils Workshop (October) in Galena, Illinois planned and open for registration. There are also high schools with soil judging in the fall as well as an occasional grade school looking for a soils "expert". Members also have the opportunity to volunteer their expertise at the Field Museum Underground Exhibit in Chicago (see Mark Bramstedt). In the winter there will be the usual contractor and health department septic workshops around the state as well. I have always estimated (guesstimated) myself that there is only about 1-2% of the population that have an idea what we (soil scientists) know and do; so any opportunity you have to show the importance of soils will increase that portion of society that sees the value of soils and the value that soil scientists and classifiers have.

Doug Gaines  
ISCA President

## Farm Progress Show Pit Demonstration

The Farm Progress Show is again approaching and the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be sponsoring along with NRCS the very popular soil pit! The show will be held August 27, 28, and 29 at its now permanent site in Decatur, Illinois. We will need some volunteers to assist with explaining the soil, visiting with all the participants, sharing our soils information with those not familiar with Illinois soils, and of course having a great time being “in the soil!”

Sessions will be very simple, 8:00 am to 12:00 noon, and then 12:00 noon till 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Thursday. We need two people to volunteer for each session for a total of 12 slots to be filled. If you can find the time in your schedule and would be willing to assist, please let Roger Windhorn know. 217-353-6634 office, 217-433-5293 cell, or contact email at NRCS office.

We are planning on having tickets for everyone to get into the show free of course.

If you have questions, please let Roger know. If you are willing to work but don't have a special preference on time, I can assign you one. Also, if you would like to help but have only one day or time that works, please let me know that too and I will try to make sure you get that session!

**DISCLAIMER STATEMENT: If you are an NRCS employee, you must receive permission from your supervisor to help with the pit!**

Thanks a lot! See (some) of you there!

Roger





# 2013 Central States Forest Soils Workshop

**Where:** The Driftless Area near Historic Galena, Illinois

**When:** October 15-17, 2013

Come experience the Driftless Area of Illinois near the beautiful and historic town of Galena for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop. The focus will be on sustainable practices relating to conservation, preservation and restoration for private and local forest tracts with an appreciation for soil-landscape relationships. Sites include the Jerry Misek Tree Farm (Illinois 2011 Tree Farmer of the Year), Mississippi Palisades State Park, land held in trust by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, and Duck's Misery, a conservation plan focused on wildlife management near the Pecatonica River.



## **Lodging:** Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa

444 Eagle Ridge Drive

Galena, Illinois 61036

(815) 777-5000 or (800) 892-2269



Accommodations and Workshop Central will be at the Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa, near the 220 acre Lake Galena. The main lodge has guest rooms with 2 queens or a king-sized bed. Villas/Townhomes with 1, 2, or 3 bedrooms are available for larger groups wishing to stay together. All individuals will receive the federal government per diem rate of \$77.00 per individual per night. Be sure to indicate that you are with the Central States Forest Soils Workshop to obtain the special rate. The resort takes advantage of their surroundings to provide a variety of recreational opportunities such as: hiking, biking, horseback riding, hot air balloon rides, boating, and fishing. Other amenities include: heated



indoor pool, dry sauna, steam room, fitness center and spa. **If you plan to stay at Eagle Ridge, please note their very specific cancellation policy.** More information regarding the resort may be found at: <http://www.eagleridge.com/>.

Eagle Ridge has agreed to provide optional, \$10.00 breakfast vouchers for registrants. If registrants desire to have breakfast at Eagle Ridge, the voucher will be added to their hotel bill. Otherwise feel free to explore Galena for other breakfast options. Lunch and dinner on the 16<sup>th</sup> will be provided to the registrants by the **Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.**

Alternative lodging in the Galena area may be found at: <http://galena.org/where-to-stay/>  
Camping information can be found at: <http://galena.org/camping/>

### Area Attractions:

Golf Courses, Wineries, Shopping, Outdoor Recreation, Spas, History and Architecture are all available in and around Galena and Jo Davies County. More information can be found at: <http://galena.org/what-to-do/>.



### Agenda:

October 15<sup>th</sup>

4:30 to 7:00 pm – Registration

7:00 to 9:40 pm – Evening Program

Speakers include:

Dr. Dave Grimley, Quaternary Geologist, Illinois State Geological Survey

Bob Tegeler, Soil Scientist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, Illinois Natural History Survey

Dennis McDougall, State and Private Forestry, US Forest Service

Dr. David Hammer, Professor of Soil Genesis, University of Missouri

9:40 pm – Social time

October 16<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Jerry Misek Tree Farm

Mississippi Palisades State Park

Handel Family Forest

6:30 pm

Banquet at Eagle Ridge Resort

8:15 pm

CSFSW Business Meeting

October 17<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am to 12:00 pm

Duck's Misery Lowland Forest

Lunch and Banquet on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> will be provided to all registrants. Banquet for non-registered guests: \$25.00. Vegetarians need to make their request known for lunches





**Sponsors and Cooperators:**

- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Forestry Association
- Illinois Natural History Survey
- Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
- Illinois State Geological Survey
- Illinois Tree Farm Association
- Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwest Illinois Forestry Association
- Society of American Foresters
- University of Missouri
- USDA Forest Service
- USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service



**Registration:**

- Registration \$80.00
- Student Registration \$40.00
- Registration will be non-refundable after September 15<sup>th</sup>
- Banquet for non-registered guests: \$25.00
- Lunch and Banquet on Oct. 16th will be provided to all registrants
- Vegetarians need to make their request known for lunches

Register on-line and pay by credit card or Pay Pal at: [www.illinoissoils.org/forestsoils.htm](http://www.illinoissoils.org/forestsoils.htm) **OR** register and pay by regular mail with the form below.

**2013 Central States Forest Soils Workshop Registration**

Send check payable to **Illinois Soil Classifiers Association** and the registration form below by regular mail to:

**Central States Forest Soils Workshop**  
**c/o Frank Heisner**  
**207 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.**  
**Prophetstown, IL 61277**

	Per Person/Student \$80.00/\$40.00
Name(s) _____	_____
Name(s) _____	_____
Name(s) _____	_____
Name(s) _____	_____
School or University _____ (if student)	_____
Banquet Only (Non-registered Guest) (Banquet on Oct. 16th is included with registration)	\$25.00/Guest _____
Grand Total	_____

## Agenda - 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

### Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa, Galena, IL

Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

7:00 pm – Welcoming Remarks

Doug Gaines, President, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association  
Tessa Chadwick, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS  
Mike Mason, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Housekeeping

7:10 – 7:30

**Geology of Northwest Illinois**

Dr. Dave Grimley, Quaternary Geologist, Illinois State Geological Survey

7:35– 7:50

**Soils of Northwest Illinois**

Bob Tegeler, MLRA Soil Survey Project Leader, USDA-NRCS

7:55 – 8:20

**Forest Ecology and Communities**

Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, Illinois Natural History Survey

8:25 – 8:50

**Private Land Forest Management in Relationship to the Landscape**

Dennis MacDougall, State and Private Forestry, USFS

8:55 – 9:15

**Soil/Landscape Relationships**

Dr. David Hammer, Professor of Soil Genesis, Civil Engineering Department,  
University of Missouri

9:20 – 9:40

**Soil Magnetic Susceptibility - Soil Drainage – Vegetation Relationships**

Dr. Dave Grimley, Quaternary Geologist, Illinois State Geological Survey

Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013

7:30 am

Bus departs from Eagle Ridge

8:00 am

Jerry Misek Tree Farm 2011 Illinois Tree Farm of the Year

Site 1 – Welcome, farm history, forest management goals, obstacles  
Jerry Misek, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist (retired)

**Fayette soil series**

Mark Bramstedt, Area Resource Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS

Site 2 – Red oak management

Kevin Oetken, Consulting Forester, Woodland Forestry Consulting

**Lamoille soil series**

Roger Windhorn, State Geologist, USDA-NRCS

Site 3 – Ridge top communities

**Newglarus soil series**

Steve Elmer, A&E Soil Consulting (and retired USDA-NRCS MLRA Soil Scientist)

Site 4 – Forest/Soil Health

Dr. David Hammer, Professor of Soil Genesis, Univ. of Missouri

**Rozetta soil series**

Frank Heisner, USDA-NRCS MLRA Soil Scientist



## Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> - continued

- 10:45 am Depart Misk Tree Farm
- 11:15 am Mississippi Palisades State Park
- Site 1 – Sentinel Trail Nature Preserve (“Old growth” red oak)  
Ed Anderson, Biologist (retired), Illinois DNR Natural Heritage Division
- 12:00 pm Lunch at Sentinel Shelter
- 1:00 pm Site 2 – Louis Point – East aspect (red oak)  
Steve Felt, District Forester, Illinois Dept. Natural Resources
- Seaton soil series (sandy substratum)  
Brad Cate, Private Soil Consultant, Eastern Shore Soil Services
- 1:30 pm Site 3 – Louis Point – West aspect (white oak-hickory)  
Steve Felt, District Forester, Illinois Dept. Natural Resources
- Timula soil series  
Frank Heisner, MLRA Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS
- 2:00 pm Site 4 – Louis Point – Prairie Remnants, Mississippi floodplain mgt.  
Ed Anderson, Biologist (retired), Illinois DNR Natural Heritage Division
- Bold soil series  
Frank Heisner, MLRA Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS
- 2:45 pm Handel family property
- Site 1: Forest restoration with fire  
Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, Illinois Natural History Survey
- Seaton soil series  
Brad Cate, Private Soil Consultant, Eastern Shore Soil Services
- Site 2: Forest restoration  
Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, Illinois Natural History Survey
- Loess/Bedrock Contacts  
Roger Windhorn, State Geologist, USDA-NRCS
- 4:00 pm Depart Handel property
- 4:30 pm arrive at Eagle Ridge
- 6:30 pm Banquet at Eagle Ridge
- 8:15 pm CSFSW Business Meeting

## Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013

7:30 am Depart Eagle Ridge

8:30 am Arrive at Duck's Misery, Freeport, IL

Site 1 – Property History, Management goals, Forest Plan  
Jim Ritterbusch, District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS  
Kevin Oetken, Forester, Woodland Forestry Consulting

Mollic intergrades, bisequal soils  
Mark Bramstedt, Area Resource Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS

Site 2 – Forest succession, management prescriptions  
Kevin Oetken, Forester, Woodland Forestry Consulting  
Scott Schaeffer, Biologist, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Dubuque and Woodbine series  
Mark Bramstedt, Area Resource Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS  
Steve Elmer, A&E Soil Consulting (and retired USDA-NRCS MLRA Soil Scientist)

Site 3 – Unique forest communities  
Kevin Oetken, Woodland Forestry Consulting  
Scott Schaeffer, Biologist, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Camden series  
Jen Wollenweber, MLRA Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS

Site 4 – Floodplain/landscape management and function  
Scott Schaeffer, Biologist, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Jim Ritterbusch, District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

Sawmill series  
Jen Wollenweber, MLRA Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS

11:00 am Depart Duck's Misery

12:00 pm Arrive at Eagle Ridge; Departures

## ISCA Fall Meeting

This year's Fall Meeting of the ISCA will be the Central States Forest Soils Workshop. As you can see by the agenda above, it promises to be an excellent workshop with many soils pits and soils related topics. It is put together by many of our fine members.

Please take advantage of this excellent opportunity to gather with fellow ISCA members as well as soil scientists, soil classifiers, and foresters from surrounding states.

A registration form can be found on page 5 of this newsletter. You can also register online, through our [ISCA website](#).

## ISCA on Facebook

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership. If you don’t have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Unfortunately, the Facebook site is restricted on some government computers, so many of you will need to do this at home. Contact [webmaster@illinoissoils.org](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



## TRADING POST

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Answer to the Spring 2013 “Days Gone By”:

From left to right: ISCA members Jennifer Wollenweber, Mark Bramstedt, Bruce Putman, and Bill Kreznor



**ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it’s members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.** Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.



[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

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### Publication Schedule

- Winter (February)
- Spring (May)
- Summer (August)
- Fall (November)



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## Days Gone By



Can you identify the ISCA members in this photograph from a 1980 Soil Scientists Workshop?

### Left to Right

1st Row - Kneeling: Richard Berg, Earl Voss, Bruce Currie, Mike Kiefer

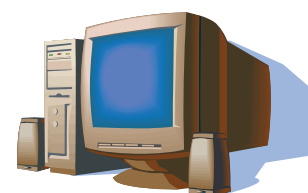
2nd Row - Seated: Mike Stout, Warren Fitzgerald, Don McCormack, Steve Higgins, Sam Indorante, Cliff Miles

3rd Row - Standing: Larry Sabata, Leon Follmer, Bob Schoeppel, Bruce Putman, John Doll, Bob Tegeler, Charles Love, Jerry Berning, Henry Mount, Dennis Frey, Steve Zwicker, Carl Wacker, Steve Elmer, Bill Teater, Dean Spindler

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

New, exciting links have been added to the "announcements" page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues.

Better yet... make it your home page!



ISCA Newsletter  
148 E. Pleasant Hill Road  
Suite 105, Box #2  
Carbondale, IL 62903

**Visit the ISCA website to see the color version of this newsletter**

**[www.illinoissoils.org/news](http://www.illinoissoils.org/news)**

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\*Mail to: Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530



# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall-November 2013

## Message from the President

From the President

**We are into November and it's still dry down south. Those sampling by hand may need to move up to a larger hammer; I know I'm considering it. Even the mounted probes let you know how dry & hard the ground is. I'm not used to carrying water with me this time of year to wet my samples. A couple of mornings the thermos had ice in it; anyhow, happy sampling. We had a nice turnout at the 33 Central States Forest Soils Workshop considering the furlough. There were about 40 in attendance. Unfortunately, Frank Heisner (the brains behind the workshop) was not allowed to attend until the last morning due the furlough. "Thank you Frank for what you did." We "cobbled" through the workshop without you; but it would have been much better had you been there. We've had good reviews; so apparently you set it up well for us.**

It looks like the new sewage code is official for Illinois. From what I am hearing it will be implemented in most counties in January 2014. As of writing this I am **not aware that the EPA's NPDES permit rules have been finalized yet, so I'm not sure where that stands.** The new sewage code is supposed to parallel this ruling. We are looking at a probable new work arena for soil classifiers when the EPA finalizes their ruling. An evaluation (or call) will be necessary on **"Waters of the US" to determine whether or not an NPDES permit is necessary.** This said; who better to make this call than soil classifiers (especially as they are on site already for the soil evaluation)? A plan is in effect to have a **workshop (or two) to give us the tools we need and make sure we're all on the same page when it comes to making the "Waters of the US" call.** In the mean-time I hope all have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Doug Gaines,  
President

### Upcoming Events:

Happy Holidays

### Inside this issue:

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## 2013 FARM PROGRESS SHOW

### ISCA SOIL PIT

We had great help at the soil pit all three days! The weather was hot and dry but we visited with literally hundreds of folks about soil, geology, crops, farming systems, etc.! Great way to share and learn! We had visitors from Germany, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Europe, New Zealand, Australia, China, Ontario, Mexico and dozens of surrounding states!

Those helping at the Show were Mark Bramstedt, Lester Bushue, Ron Collman, Troy Fehrenbacher, Galen Litweiller, Bob McLeese, Dave Rahe, Wiley Scott, Earl Voss, Scott Wiesbrook, and Roger Windhorn. Thanks very much!

We handed out our Soils of Illinois ISCA pamphlet as well as our ISCA Membership pamphlet. NRCS provided us with posters, maps and Spanish-speaking pamphlets on Web Soil Survey. We also had a few selection of Spanish Soil Health handouts.

Overall, I believe these opportunities are a great way to spread the word of Soil but also make the public aware of who we are and what services we can provide to them!!

The pit was filled in, compacted as best we could, fertilized, and seeded with grass on Friday, August 30. I wrote a letter thanking the Farm Progress folks and also Richland Community College, as landowners, for letting us have the pit display and for being able to show one of the most productive soils in the state and the predominant soil at the Farm Progress Show site.

Final cost to ISCA has yet to be determined, but will be similar to last show in 2011. If there are any suggestions for future shows (next here will be 2015), please let me know! Thanks again!

Roger Windhorn

## 2013 Farm Progress Show Soil Exhibit



# 2013 Farm Progress Show

## ISCA Soil Pit





## 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop was held at Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa near Galena Illinois from October 15<sup>th</sup>-17, 2013. The workshop focused on sustainable practices relating to conservation, preservation and restoration for private and local forest tracts with an appreciation for



Driftless Area – View from Misek Tree Farm

soil-landscape relationships. LIDAR maps and several generations of earlier vintage maps for each site were included in the workshop field books.

Hosted by the Illinois Soils Classifiers Association, this year's workshop was additionally sponsored by Jerry and Marge Misek, Owners of Acorn Acres; Bill Handel and Vicki Stretton, who shared their private property and experience in restoration; Duck's Misery- water fowl refuge; IDNR-Mississippi

Palisades State Park; Northern Illinois University, Department of Geography; Woodland Forestry Consulting; and the University of Missouri – Columbia, Department of Civil Engineering.

Those on the workshop planning committee were Frank Heisner, Chairman, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association; Brad Cate, Co-Chair, Eastern Shore Soil Services, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association; Mark Bramstedt, Illinois Soil classifiers Association; Wade Conn, Illinois Forestry Association; Jeff Harris, Illinois DNR Division of Forestry, Illinois Forestry Association; Roger Windhorn, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association; and Jennifer Wollenweber, Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. The federal government shutdown required many significant changes to the agenda Tuesday night through Wednesday night, which were handled by non-federal participants who stepped up to the plate to see that the "show went on". All workshop participants are to be commended for their understanding and tremendous flexibility, evidenced by the way everyone pulled together to bring about discussion and make things "happen" all along the way.

An introductory session on **Tuesday night** included presentations on the Soils and Geology of Northwest Illinois by Doug Gaines and Mark Konen, who stepped in for Dr. Dave Grimley, Quaternary Geologist, Illinois State Survey, after Dave was unable to participate. The next speaker, Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, Illinois Natural History Survey, described the forest ecology and the plant communities that were to be observed over the next couple of days. Finally, Dr. David Hammer, Professor of Soil Genesis, University of Missouri-Columbia, finished out our evening with a very informative discussion of subdivision planning using an environmental matrix in Wildwood, Missouri.

After the opening night orientation, the workshop was entirely in the field. On **Wednesday** morning our bus departed at 8:00 A.M. for the Misek tree farm, where we were welcomed Jerry Misek, owner of Acorn Acres, followed by speaker Kevin Oetken, Woodland Forestry Consulting. We were briefed on farm history, forestry goals and challenges in forest management. Next, a transect through the forest with stops at 4 soil pits led by Steve Elmer and Steve Zwicker NRCS Soil Scientists (retired) set the stage for the discussion of soil properties influencing tree growth and open discussion of forestry with many perspectives regarding options for



Kevin Oetken discussing Red Oak management – Misek Tree Farm





Newglarus soil pit – LTR: Jenwei Tsai, INHS, Scott Weisbrook, INHS, Doug Gains, President, ISCA  
Loess over residuum on limestone at 20-40 inches

management, including insects and diseases. The soils were Fayette, Lamoille, Newglarus and Rozetta. Soils descriptions and lab data accompanied each site. Soil features and land forms were introduced, then, Kevin Oetken, consulting forester, and Bill Handel, ecologist, led discussion on forestry management on these soils.



Newglarus Soil pit  
Foreground – Iowa State University undergrads  
LTR: Catherine DeLong and Mary Tiedeman  
\_ Northern Illinois University grad students  
Jacob Kruse and John Reynolds



Dr. David Hammer, Soil Genesis, University of Missouri-Columbia, leads discussion on soil health At the Rozetta soil pit.  
LTR: Bill Handel, INHS, Jerry Misek, Acorn Acres, Dr. Hammer, MU, Dr. Mike Konen, NIU, Dr. Charles Frazee, ISCA

By late morning, the bus headed for Sentinel Trail Nature Preserve to observe “old growth” red oak stands by discussion leader, Ed Anderson, Biologist (retired), IDNR Heritage Division, and Seaton soils were examined from soil cores with Brad

Cate, Private Soil Consultant, Eastern Shore Soil Services leading soil discussions.

A catered lunch was enjoyed by all in the Sentinel Nature Preserve shelter, before busing to Louis Point on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River floodplain. Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, INHS, led discussion on prairie remnant- forest ecology. Steve Felt, District Forester, IDNR, led a red oak aspect discussion and Brad Cate, Private Soil consultant, Eastern Shore Soil Services, discussed Timula Soils.

The lock system on the Mississippi River has made a tremendous impact on the tree species that now grow on the floodplain. Most of the nut producing tree species were lost years ago because of the increase in water levels behind dams. The low water and high water elevations are much higher than historical levels when trees established under natural floodplain hydrology.





Mississippi Palisades State Park – Louis Point  
Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, INHS, discusses plant ecology and Mississippi floodplain management



Palisades State Park – giant puff ball  
Iowa State University Students  
LTR: Jenny Richter, Catherine DeLong, Mary Tiedeman, and Ethan Dahlhauser

The remaining time on Wednesday was spent at the Handel family private property near the Palisades State Park, observing forest restoration on sites with and without prescribed burns. Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist, provided historical perspectives on how forest communities have changed over time in the understory as well as the tree stratum.



Bill Handel, Plant Ecologist- discusses forest restoration on the Handel property.

The Wednesday evening banquet at Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa was a great time to socialize and enjoy sumptuous food from the resort's kitchens. After the meal, Richard Mattas, Galena-Jo Daviess Historical Society presented highlights of the area's rich history.

Thursday morning's session took place at Duck's Misery, a private waterfowl refuge near Freeport. It was a continuation of discussions on forest management and soil properties influencing tree growth. Kevin Oetken, Forester, Woodland Forestry Consulting, led discussions on forest

succession and prescriptions for management. Scott Schaeffer, Biologist, IDNR and Dave Harrison, Resource Technician, Whiteside County SWCD, discussed oxbow plant communities, water regulation, floodplain management and wetland functions. With the announcement that the government shutdown was over Wednesday night, Frank Heisner, Forest Soils Workshop Chairman, USDA-NRCS, Soil Scientist, was on deck to take charge of soils stops, Dubuque, woodbine, and Sawmill soils. A light rain all morning long failed to dampen the spirits of participants, who came dressed accordingly.

The long hours of planning and preparation by the workshop committee, led by chairman, Frank Heisner, were greatly appreciated by all.

Steven E. Zwicker  
Certified Professional Soil Classifier  
Illinois Soil Classifiers Association  
Historian



## Members Move On

### Jesse Kurylo heads to the Land Down Under

After several years as a soil classifier and wetland specialist with the Illinois Natural History Survey, Jesse Kurylo has taken on a new adventure in Melbourne, Australia. She is working on her PhD in Urban Ecology at the Burnley campus at the University of Melbourne. Jesse has been an active member of ISCA, serving on different committees. For the last few years, she has been the organizer for programs, fall meetings and our Annual Meeting s. Jesse, originally a New Jersey girl, came to Illinois after her time as a Hokie at Virginia Tech. While in Illinois, Jesse completed her Master's degree at the University of Illinois. When she joined ISCA in 2002, the ISCA Newsletter reported "Jesse gets so excited about the soil that she sometimes wears it as 'warpaint' or makeup and feels that a clean field soil scientist is almost a disgrace!" We will miss Jesse's enthusiasm and exuberance as well as the fresh-baked goods that she would bring to ISCA events. Good luck Jesse! Let us know what a Vegemite Sandwich is all about when you taste the local fare.



Jesse usually has something to say



Jesse loves to serve

## Members Move On

### Jennifer Wollenweber Heads to the Land of Many Waters

Say farewell to Jennifer Wollenweber as she heads to Minnesota in November for a Resource Soil Scientist position with NRCS. Jennifer will be located in the Fergus Falls, MN office and will have responsibility for providing soil information to the NRCS offices in the west-central part of the state (Area 2). Because of other vacancies and possible administrative re-organization of NRCS in MN, her territory will also overlap into other NRCS Areas, extending her coverage area to the east. Jennifer has been a very active member of ISCA having served as President, committee chair, and committee member. She is certified with ISCA and is currently Chair of the Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee. Jennifer was also part of the planning cadre for the first ISCA Hydric Soils course in 2005 and served as an instructor for the ISCA courses in 2009 and 2011. Jennifer has been part of the NRCS Soil Survey office in Aurora since 2010 and helped to complete the 'once-over' soil survey of Chicago and Cook County. Prior to NRCS, she had experience as a soil classifier in the private sector working in several states, with most of her workload in Illinois and Indiana. We will miss her dedication to ISCA, her realistic outlook and her hard-work ethic. We wish her all the best in her new position.



Jen loves soils!



Jennifer mapping in Cook County



Ken Gotsch and Jennifer, 2010 NRCS Hydric Soils Instructors



## KEY CHANGES TO THE REVISED ILLINOIS PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE, effective August 28, 2013.

(control and mouse click for links)

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/07700905sections.html>

1. Under the definition of Soil Classifiers, Certified Professional Soil Scientists with SSSA (ARCPACS) are **not** included as previously proposed. Only CPSC's with ISCA or SSSA are in the definition. Wording remains to include ISCA full members and associate members supervised by Certified Soil Classifiers (Section 905.10 Definitions).

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077009050000100R.html>

2. Separation distances from the seasonal water table and other limiting layers listed **are required** and are no longer only a recommendation (2 feet for many soils.) See wording in Section 905.60(a)(7) and Section 905.190(b)(3). This will have an impact in counties that did not require separation distances and includes a requirement for the sewage contractor or homeowner to submit information with the plan approval application that a limiting layer does not exist within the (separation distance.)

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077009050000600R.html>

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077009050001900R.html>

3. After Jan 1, 2014 percolation tests **will no longer be accepted** (Section 905.55.) "...when designing a subsurface system, the absorption capacity shall be determined by subsection (a) [soil investigations].... subsection (b) [percolation tests] shall not be used..."

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077009050000550R.html>

4. **Appendix A, Illustration M, Exhibit B- Key for Determining Sewage Loading Rates has a number of typographic errors** in the headings and a pair of loading rate numbers are transposed. These corrections have been provided to IDPH and will eventually be incorporated. A correct version of the loading rate table is available on the ISCA website under Soil Information (technical and educational). **This revised loading rate table should be used immediately.**



## KEY CHANGES TO THE REVISED ILLINOIS PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE, effective August 28, 2013. (cont.)

In a related area, **surface discharges of wastewater** from homes or businesses not connected to a municipal sewer system **will require an application** (notice of intent NOI) **for an NPDES** (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) **permit from USEPA Region 5**. The draft permit- **Illinois Surface Discharge Permit (ILG62)** requires the submission of a written determination that concludes that all soil based systems (this includes mound systems referred to as "Illinois Raised Filter Beds" in the Private Sewage Disposal Code) are technically infeasible and/or economically infeasible (the economic infeasibility does not apply to businesses.) The technical feasibility part requires a soils investigation be performed by a CPSCs or CPSSs with SSSA. This inconsistency with the IL Private Sewage Disposal Code is being addressed by ISCA (Jerry Berning is leading this effort.) Also there is a requirement for a "Site Evaluator" for Technical Feasibility to provide additional information beyond the soil investigation including a determination that the proposed surface discharge system will discharge to the Waters of the United States or conveyances to the Waters of the U.S. This requires the "Site Evaluator" to identify/ delineate Waters of the U.S. and conveyances to Waters of the U.S. Presently the proposed definition of "Site Evaluator" does not include Soil Classifiers, but does include IL Licensed Environmental Health Practitioners and Engineers. The ISCA Council feels that we should be included in this definition as we provide the Soil Investigation and many of our members are very knowledgeable about the Waters of the U.S., wetlands, prior converted cropland, etc. We are pursuing the inclusion of Soil Classifiers in the definition of "Site Evaluators." ISCA is already in the initial planning stages to provide training to our members.

## ISCA on Facebook

Ans

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, **join our group on Facebook.** Search Facebook for “**Illinois Soil Classifiers Association**” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe **something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership.** If you don't have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Unfortunately, the Facebook site is restricted on some government computers, so many of you will need to do this at home. Contact [webmaster@illinoissoils.org](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



## Trading Post

This spot is reserved for members who would like to buy, sell, trade, or announce an item, event, or activity in our newsletter. Please limit your classified ad to 25 words or less. Email your ad to the newsletter at [newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

## Days Gone By



Can you identify the soil scientists taken in this 1980 Soil Survey Workshop  
Answer on Page 13

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### Submissions

This is YOUR newsletter. If you wish to submit material, here are some preferences.

- Send information by the last week of the month before the newsletter is scheduled to be published.
- Digital copy in Microsoft Word
- Use as little formatting (indents, bullets, charts) as possible. This increases the work to get it into Publisher. It can be done, but increases work load for the committee.

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### Answer to the “Days Gone By” photograph on page 12

SOIL SCIENTISTS WORKSHOP  
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS  
MARCH 10-13, 1980

#### PICTURE #1

#### Left to Right

1st Row - Kneeling: Randy Moore, Fred Await, Steve Fischer, Dan Fielding, Earl Voss

2nd Row - Seated: Mike Stout, Warren Fitzgerald, Bruce Houghtby, Laurie Bonnewell, Roger Windhorn, Don McCormack

3rd Row - Standing: Don Fehrenbacher, Wiley Scott, Jim Steinkamp, Chris Cochran, Mark Bramstedt, Mike Lilly, Scott Martin, Leonard Lewis, Steve Suhl, Mike Walker, Irene Watterson, Monty Martin, Bill Krezner, Dana Grantham, Dale Calsyn, Lester Bushue, John Pearse, Jack Paschke, Richard Sims

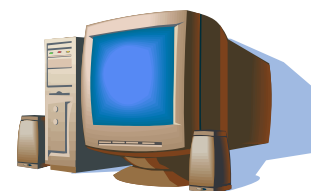


ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters. Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

New, exciting links have been added to the “announcements” page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues.

**Better yet... make it your home page!**





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