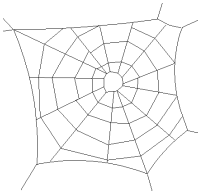




Missouri LICA

NEWS


May/June, 2002





We're On The Web!


Missouri LICA has established a web page for our members and prospective members! The address for the site is: www.mlica.org.


The site includes a variety of information relating to membership in Missouri LICA., including:


 **Who Are We?** - A brief description of the types of work our members perform.


 **Applications** - a profile of the types of memberships offered, along with applications for Contactor, Associate, and Supporting Memberships.


 **History** - a brief description of how Missouri LICA was formed and where we are now.

 **Events** - upcoming events will be posted here. Currently, the MLICA Summer Meeting and Picnic are posted. *[Note To District Presidents: Please send your meeting times and places to the MLICA state office so we can post these on the web for you!]*

 **Our Associates** - this lists our Associate members, along with a contact name and phone number.

 **Contractor Benefits** - this lists the benefits that come with a Contractor Membership

 **Links** - a list of linked web sites are provided for other LICA Chapters, our Associate members, and industry related sites

 **Member Forum** - this page is still under construction. When completed, it will be restricted to MLICA members only and will include legislative updates, industry updates, and a discussion area for members to post their problems and discover solutions.

We invite you to take a look at the site; invite prospective members to look, provide information that will help improve the site, and generally enjoy!

Any comments and/or suggestions you have will be gratefully appreciated. Please send them to info@MLICA.org or call the MLICA office at 573-634-3001.

This site will continue to be updated and will be our member's fastest and most accurate source of information relating to their business and membership!

2002 Farm Bill Signed!

After many months of hard negotiations, the US Congress has passed and President Bush has signed the 2002 Farm Bill. This bill is likely to have some dramatic impacts on our members' businesses. This is the first time that we have had a significant amount of money provided for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP is funded for Fiscal Years (FY) 2002 through 2007 at the following levels:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| • FY 2002 | \$400 million |
| • FY 2003 | \$700 million |
| • FY 2004 | \$1 billion |
| • FY 2005 & 2006 | \$1.2 billion |
| • FY 2007 | \$1.3 billion |

Included in these funds is the provision for Third Party Vendors (TPV). TPVs will be used to supplement the Natural Resources Conservation Services' (NRCS) technical staff. It is the mission of the National LICA and Missouri LICA to position LICA contractors as providers of TPV services. To that end, Fuzz Haile, National LICA's President, has asked Bud Lashley (NE) and Dave Schmidt (MN) to head up an effort to determine how LICA members can maximize this opportunity. If you would like to present your comments on this issue to either Bud or Dave, please feel free to contact Bud at: Bud Lashley; Route 1 Box 44; Curtis, NE 69025; email: bsb@curtis-ne.com or Dave Schmidt at email: datiler@willmar.com.

In Missouri, the MLICA Governmental Relations Committee has been actively representing our members in meetings with the NRCS. We have provided responses to questions posed concerning TPVs, as well as attending NRCS State Technical Committee meetings.

Since Missouri is the only state to have state cost-share fund, in addition to the federal EQIP funds, the MLICA Governmental Relations Committee has also attended the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Soil and Water Program Commission meetings to learn how these new funds will impact current state programs.

The 2002 Farm Bill (H.R. 2646 ENR) is an extremely complicated and lengthy piece of legislation. If you are interested in finding the full text of the bill, you can find it on the web at: www.congress.com. This newsletter also contains another article on the Farm Bill. The implications of the Farm Bill are changing almost daily as it begins to be implemented. We will do our best to keep you posted! (Check MLICA's Website for more information!)



It's a Boy!

Congratulations to Andrew and Kristy Earhart on the arrival of their first child, a son, born May 6th at 7:00am. Trent Nixon Earhart weighed in at 7lbs, 2 ½ ounces and was 19" long.

He is also the first great-grand child of Nick and Elsie Shelley. If you would like to share your congratulations with Andy and Kristy: 17998 Buckholtz Rd.; Farmington, MO 63640

Mark Your Calendars!

June

- 11 **Miami Creek/Drexel Lake 319 Field Day Tour
Soil & Water Conservation Society**
Contact: 816-884-3391

July

- 13-17 **Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)
2002 Annual Meeting**
For program details:
www.swcs.org/t_what2002confnfrontpage.htm
Contact: Pat Mulligan at patm@swcs.org,
(515)289-2331, ext. 17
- 17-20 **National LICA Summer Meeting & Trade Show**
Sponsored by Region IV LICA Chapters
(Missouri, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, & Wisconsin)
The Mark Conference Center
Members have received program and
registration information, but if you have
questions, contact: MLICA at 573-634-3001
- 30 **The North Fork Project - 3rd Annual Regional
Watershed Conference**
Contact: Northeast Missouri Resource
Conservation & Development: R.R. #1,
Box 73G; Memphis, MO 63555;
Ph: 660-465-8551, Ext. 4

August

- 2 **Missouri NRCS State Technical Meeting**
Contact: MLICA Office @ 573-634-3001
- 10 **MLICA Summer Picnic and Membership Meeting**
Osage Bluff Lodge & Club House; Warsaw, MO

With Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with Roger and Connie Hansen. Roger's father passed away in late May. If you would like to send your condolences, the address is: Roger & Connie Hansen; 2701 Bluff Creek Drive; Columbia, MO 65201



June

- 05 Jeff Blankenship
10 Don Keener
12 Wayne Scott
Russell McAlister
22 Charlie Boyer
26 Donald Laut
28 Paul Logan
29 Aubrey VanMeter
Dick Rupp
30 Eldon Brinton

July

- 04 Bernie Sohn
07 Wally Sloan
09 Gary Riekhof
10 Eddie Gilmore
Buddy Hostetter
17 Don Pfof
26 Larry Koenigsfeld
29 Glen Hill
30 Hollis Boyer
31 Milburn Davis

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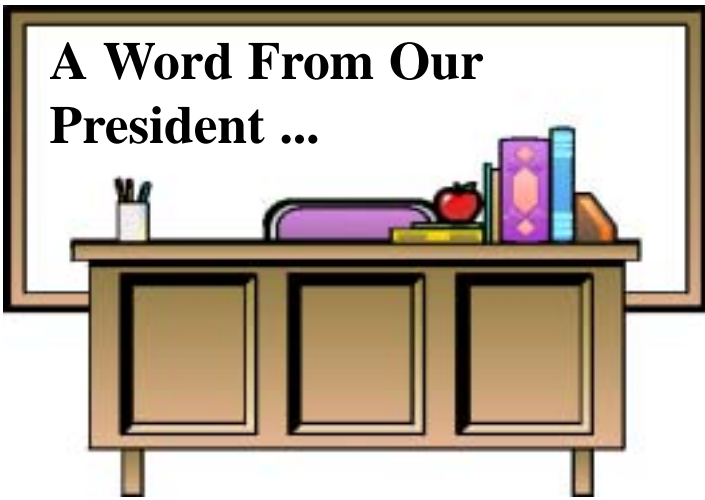
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A Word From Our President ...



Although it's been kind of a wet spring for some of us, things are really busy now! Missouri LICA has also been busy working on a variety of projects for our members.

As you know, the 2002 Farm Bill has been signed. With that one signature, our businesses could be impacted dramatically for at least the next five years. The potential for more work is great, if we can take the time now to ensure that MLICA contractors have a place in its implementation. This newsletter contains some articles relating to the Farm Bill and we'll be posting updates, as they become available, on our new web site.

The new MLICA Web Site has been another new development since the last newsletter. Our membership purchased the domain name a couple of years ago, but it's only been recently that we've been able to post our first web page! This new technology will make it possible for us to address the issues facing our industry in a much more timely manner than the bi-monthly publication of the *MLICA News*. For those of you who have internet access, I invite you to go look at the site. The address is www.mlica.org.

If you have any information you'd like to see included on the site, please don't hesitate to contact the MLICA state office with your suggestions. This site will only be as good as you help make it. You can contact the state office at 573-634-3001 or info@mlica.org. We are also hoping that each District President will let us know when their District meetings are scheduled so we can post those for you, as well.

The "Member Forum" section is still under construction, but will eventually be a password protected area for only our members. We will be including industry updates, legislative updates, as well as providing a bulletin board service where our members will be able to post any problems they are having and get other members to help them find solutions.

For those members who are not quite up to speed with the internet or computers, our Convention/Education Committee is planning on holding a class on the basics of computers at our Winter Convention. Watch your mail for details!

Our Summer Picnic and Membership Meeting is just around the corner. Members have received information about what's planned, hotel availability, camp sites, and registration information. I encourage you to make your reservations early because the Osage Bluff Lodge and the camp sites sell out early! Although our membership meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th, we are inviting our MLICA members to come early stay for the weekend. Several of us will be going down on Friday night and staying through Sunday. So, start making your plans now to bring your family and share some stories and relaxation with your MLICA friends!

Missouri LICA has also been working on the National Summer Meeting which is being held July 17-20 in Moline, Illinois. This meeting is being hosted by the National LICA Region IV state chapters (Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin). There is a lot planned, including our first summer Trade Show! Registration information has been sent to our members. Since Missouri LICA is a hosting chapter and Moline is so close, I am hoping that lots of our members will take this opportunity to meet some other LICA contractors from across the country!

I hope to see you at the National LICA Summer meeting and our own state Summer Picnic and Membership Meeting.

Jeff Lance, MLICA President



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Missouri LICA Summer Picnic and Membership Meeting August 10th

Osage Bluff Lodge and Club House
Truman Lake - Warsaw, MO

What's Planned?

We will be holding our Summer Picnic and Membership Meeting on Saturday, August 10th. However, all members are invited to come early and stay late in order to take advantage of the chance to relax, vacation, and share some stories with their MLICA friends and families!

Saturday, August 10

9:30 a.m. - We will tour the Lost Valley Fish Hatchery which includes, for the first 20 people who register, a private tour of the production room. For the rest, there is a Visitors' Center complete with a 12,700 gallon fish tank! If you bring your kids, children 15 and under are welcome to test their skills at the "Kid's Fishing Pond." The Hatchery has poles and bait or you may bring your own.

And, for the adventurous, you are welcome to tour the Hatchery grounds either on foot or on your bike (but you'll have to bring your own bike)!

4:00 p.m. - We will meet at the Osage Bluff Lodge for our General Membership Meeting and picnic. The ladies Auxiliary has graciously agreed to provide the meat (probably hamburgers and hotdogs), plates, silverware, and glasses. All you need to bring is a side dish, your beverage of choice, and your appetite. We will be ordering food based on who has registered - so, if you want to eat ... register!

The Rest of the Time

We will be relaxing with our MLICA friends! There is fishing, boating, swimming, camping, etc. available. Just bring your imagination!

**Come Share Some Memories ... Make New Friends ...
Renew Old Friendships ... Recharge Your Personal Battery!!**

What You Need To Know

CAMPING



There is a nearby campground operated by the Corps of Army Engineers. The cost ranges from \$10-16 per night, depending on whether or not you want electric, shade, part-shade, etc. To make reservations, call 877-444-6777 or go on line at www.ReserveUSA.com. It is recommended that you make reservations as soon as possible because these campgrounds sell out!

HOTEL

We have a block of hotel rooms and kitchenettes reserved for MLICA members until **JUNE 15**. The per night rate is \$ 49.90 for the hotel rooms and \$ 59.14 for the kitchenettes (plus tax). You will need to reserve the room/kitchenette for at least Friday and Saturday night. To make reservations, call **800-748-8440** or email them at osageblf@iland.net and tell them you're with Missouri LICA!



FOOD



Although the rest of the weekend meals are on your own ... for the MLICA Membership Meeting and Picnic, bring your own covered dish and beverage. The Ladies Auxiliary will be providing the meat, bread, plates, silverware, ice, and condiments.

FISHING

If you like to fish, you'll be in heaven! Truman Lake is a wonderful place to practice your fishing skills ... or story-telling! However, if you want to fish, you'll have to bring a license with you. They are not sold at the Lake!



BOATING



If you want to bring your boat, you can make arrangements for a slip by calling the Marina at 660-438-2939. The cost is \$9 per night. Or, if you'd rather, you can trailer your boat and/or recharge the battery at the Osage Bluff Lodge for free!

Register NOW!

REGISTRATION FORM

Names of those attending:

(For name tags - please print first and last name):

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Yes, we'd like ____ reservations (including kids) to attend the Lost Valley Hatchery production room tour. (Remember, the production room will only be available to the first 20 people who register!)

Cost:

_____ Adults (14 and older) @ \$10 each = \$ _____
_____ Children (6-13 years old) @ \$5 each = \$ _____
_____ Children (5 and under) FREE!

Please send your registration with payment by August 1st to:

MLICA ♦ 1101 West High Street ♦ Jefferson City, MO 65109



DIRECTIONS TO OSAGE BLUFF LODGE & CLUB HOUSE

Take the White Branch Exit off Highway 65 to 83 South. Go approximately 4 miles and turn right at the Osage Bluff Use Area sign. Go to the sign at the dead end, turn left to Lodge.

QUESTIONS:

Call Debbie at the MLICA State Office: 573-634-3001
or Email: MLICA@aol.com



2002 Farm Bill Questions

The 2002 Farm Bill will bring an increase in funds to Missouri, including a substantial increase in funds for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

The MLICA Governmental Relations Committee has met with the Natural Resources Conservation Program's (NRCS) State Technical Committee to discuss the possibilities. Now, we are asking what you think.

The NRCS State Technical Committee has identified (with input from representatives from MLICA) the following broad areas of funding. They are asking for our input on prioritizing these areas.

This is YOUR chance to influence how these funds will be distributed. Please mark, in order of priority from 1 to 9 (with 9 being the lowest priority), the following areas:

- Animal Waste Management
- Nutrient and Pest
- Grazing Land health
- Soil Quality
- Wildlife
- Forestry
- Water Conservation
- Soil Erosion
- Streambank Protection

Please send this article with your rankings to:

MLICA
1101 West High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Fax: 573-761-0375

We will be sending a letter to NRCS summarizing what our members responses reflect. Time is of the essence! So, please send this in right away!

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Calling All Pictures!

National LICA and Missouri LICA are asking for your help in finding some pictures of our members' work.

National LICA will be selecting a picture for the front of its Annual Directory (Their cut-off date for entries is **June 30**). And, Missouri LiCA will be using the pictures to "spice up" our web site.

So, dig through those old photos and send them in TODAY! (Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, if you would like the picture returned.)

Attention Associates!

If you have a web site address you would like included on our web page as a link, please get in touch with Debbie at 573-34-3001 or email her at: info@mlica.org.

We have some of our Associate's web sites listed, so please check under "Links" to see if we have yours and ... most importantly ... if we have it listed correctly!

Indiana Bat Habitat Requirements In Missouri

By Kelly Srigley-Werner (USFW) and Chris Hamilton (NRCS)

The Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) is a federal and state listed endangered species and habitat for this species must be protected. From late fall through winter, Indiana bats in Missouri hibernate in caves in the Ozark Region. During the spring and summer, solitary females or small clusters of females, called maternity colonies, bear their offspring in hollow trees or under loose bark of living or dead trees throughout Missouri.

The bats utilize living, injured (e.g. split trunks and broken limbs from lightning strikes or wind), dead or dying trees for roosting. Indiana bat roost trees tend to be greater than 9 inches in diameter at breast height (dbh) with loose or exfoliating bark. Large trees (greater than 20 inches dbh) are preferred. Most important are the structural characteristics that provide adequate space for bats to roost. This use of trees by maternity colonies requires any tree clearing/cutting activity must be done in a manner that does not destroy or injure the animals.

These habitat requirements apply to all activities such as construction of farm ponds, water and sediment control basins, grass waterways, or flood control structures, etc., where suitable habitat trees are located and will be cleared as part of the project. These guidelines apply statewide as recent information shows the bat disperses statewide in its search for maternity colonies. Suitable trees/habitat have the potential of being used statewide.

Habitat Requirements - The no cut period is April 1 to September 30.

This applies to all habitat suitable roost trees that are over 9 inches DBH. Habitat suitable trees include any species that have cracks/crevices, broken tops/branches and have plates or slabs of loose bark on the trunks or branches. These tree injuries may be the result of wind throws, lightning strikes, or diseases/insects.

Potential roost trees can be cut during October 1 to March 30. Trees not meeting suitable roost habitat can be cut/cleared at any time.

These guidelines were developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for the conservation of the Indiana Bat. These guidelines must be followed as the Indiana bat is protected under the Endangered Species Act.

However, for the construction season of 2002 (present date through March 31, 2003) the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be allowed to continue construction projects as in the past if there is no alternative to tree removal. If the construction plans allow, every effort should be made to save roost trees this year. Clients with proposed construction projects should have trees ready to cut during the upcoming fall/winter season.

Editor's Note:

In general, these regulations apply to all construction projects. Any projects involving federal funds (i.e. cost-share projects), will be particularly targeted. The NRCS will be training its employees to recognize potential bat habitat and to consider this when developing plans for these projects.

The Indiana Bat is relatively rare in Missouri. As indicated above, its habitat is damaged trees, a renewable source. However, it is important that this habitat be protected while the females are raising their young - April 1 through September 30.

At this time, we believe that with a little planning, these regulations should not cause our members too much concern. It is important for our members to be aware of the regulations, familiarize themselves with the definition of potential bat habitat, and to make every attempt to comply with them.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is the ultimate authority on this issue. However, if you have any questions concerning these regulations, please contact the Missouri LICA office (573-634-3001).