



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-February 2015

Upcoming Events:

40th Annual Meeting March 14

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Message from the President

The ISCA Annual meeting has been scheduled for March 14th in Champaign Illinois and this year's meeting is definitely worth attending. Our guest speaker is Dr. A. Robert Rubin, Emeritus Professor of biological and Agricultural Engineering at North Carolina University. Dr. Rubin will be speaking about soils and sewage loading rates. He is a nationally recognized expert on waste treatment systems including the NSF 350 membrane type waste disposal system. The soil loading rates for the NSF 350 type units should be different from conventionally treated sewage due to the very low amounts of solids and nutrients. Dr. Rubin will shed some light on this subject and we are fortunate to have him as our speaker. Please review the newsletter for additional information and the Constitutional changes that are to be called for a vote. I encourage everyone to register early for this meeting and I look forward to seeing you on March 14th.

Regards,

Bruce Putman, President ISCA
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Speaker for the Annual Meeting

Dr. A. Robert Rubin, Emeritus Professor of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at North Carolina State University, will be our Annual Meeting Speaker. He has had a life long interest in the chemistry and biology of soil, nutrient recycling and sewage treatment. Dr. Rubin has conducted one of the most dynamic and far reaching programs in wastewater management and biosolids recovery/disposal in the United States with a focus on innovative technology transfer, aimed at training operational personnel, regulators, and government officials. He served as a visiting scientist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water Management from 1999 to 2005, where he assisted in the development of guidelines for wastewater management.

His national leadership in this critically important area is so widely known that he was asked to give the keynote speech at the 2007 International Water Congress in Spain. This conference was focused on sanitation for small communities and was a prelude to the 2008 International Year of Sanitation. In 2003, Dr. Rubin was awarded the "Bronze Medal for Commendable Service" by the U.S.E.P.A.

Dr. Rubin presently serves as the chairperson of the NSF International Non-potable Water Reuse Task Group (NSF-350 standard). He also continues consulting work and contributes to the mission of the NCSU Bio & Ag Engineering Department as an emeritus faculty member.



Dr. Rubin (from UNC-TV)

Proposed Amendment to Article VIII of the Constitution of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association as published in the March, 2012 Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Membership Handbook

It is proposed that Article VIII – Nomination and Election of Officers be amended to require that the Executive Council approve nominations for Executive Council offices. The proposed amendment will become Section 2 of Article VIII, with the existing Section 2 of Article VIII becoming Section 3. The proposed amendment will read as follows:

Section 2. The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall present proposed nominations for elective offices to the Executive Council for review and approval. Approval of the nominations presented shall be indicated by a majority vote of the Executive Council.

Officer Nomination Biographies

President Elect

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.

David Rahe

Dave graduated from the University of Illinois in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy with emphasis on Soils. He started his career as a county soil scientist in Madison County. He worked for Soil Conservation Service as a soil scientist on Lee, Bureau, and Putnam County soil surveys and also dabbled in resource soil scientist duties around Northwestern Illinois at that time. He has also worked for NRCS as a soil conservationist, district conservationist, and resource conservationist in various locations in Illinois and Missouri. He spent almost 3 years doing wetland delineations in investigating possible violations of the clean water act with the Corps of Engineers in St. Louis. Dave is currently an associate of Soil-Right Consulting Services, Inc. as a consulting soil scientist specializing in soil classifying, soil fertility and management, and natural resources. He has been an ISCA certified soil classifier for 30 years and has served ISCA as Vice-President, chair of the certification committee and chair of the constitution and bylaws committee and served on various other committees. He is also a certified professional soil scientist under ARCPACS and a CPESC.

Officer Nominations Biographies

Vice President

Steve Elmer

Retired NRCS Soil Scientist, Survey Leader and MLRA Project Leader after 37 years in WI-CT-IL (1968-2006), the last 30 years in Northwest Illinois. Served as past ISCA Secretary, Chair of recent ISCA NPDES Committee, and member on other previous ISCA committees, and assisted with numerous high school and college soil judging contests over the years. Currently co-owner of A&E Soil Consultants, providing soil information and assistance to homeowners, installers, and local Health Departments.

Jenwei Tsai

Jenwei received her B.S. and M.S. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences with an emphasis in soils from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2008 and 2011. She is currently working as a Wetland Soil Scientist in the Wetland Science Program at the Illinois Natural History Survey. Jenwei has been involved in soil judging since 2006 both as a judge and as an assistant coach and is currently serving as the faculty advisor for the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Society Student Chapter. She has been a member with ISCA since her undergraduate years and is looking forward to become more involved and giving back in the future to this organization.

Secretary

Scott Wiesbrook

Scott Wiesbrook received a B.S. in Agricultural Science with an emphasis in 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 7 NACTA Soil Judging National Championships (2 year division) since 2000. He joined ISCA in 2008, and has served as vice president, 3 terms on the finance committee, and one term on the ethics, certification and membership committee.

Kristine Ryan

I received my B.S. in Plant and Soil Science with an emphasis on soils from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2003. I accepted a soil scientist position with the Illinois NRCS in 2004. I have worked on soil survey update projects in Northeastern Illinois, Order 1 soil survey mapping projects for the Lake County Forest Preserve District, and I was also on the crew that completed the Cook County initial urban soil survey. I also detailed to Georgia in 2009 and Wyoming in 2012 to help in their completion of their initial soil surveys. Currently our office is working on the Soil Data Join Re-correlation initiative (SDJR), the Ashkum Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity project, and we hope to work on some identified MLRA field projects this summer. I received my Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois, in 2010. I focused my studies on community gardens and soil contamination. I have become increasingly interested in these topics since I began my career. I have been a shareholder of a Naperville Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) for many years. I hope that in the future I can merge my love of soils and natural resources and my MPH and become more involved in community gardening and the local food movement.

40th ISCA Annual Meeting

Scheduled for March 14th in Champaign Illinois

Register On-line at the ISCA Website by March 7th 2015

Submitting CEU's

By David Rahe – Certification Board

The Certification Board has been reviewing CEU's submitted since the first notice went out. Our Secretary, Bill Keznor, receives the CEU's and submits them to the rest of the board for review. Those submitting CEU's do a great job of submitting appropriate activities, but sometimes they are not in the most appropriate category. In those cases, we make an adjustment and the CEU's get recorded as they should. We often get multiple years of CEU's to evaluate. While there is nothing in the by-laws that says you can't submit multiple years of CEU's, the board would like to encourage everyone to submit their education units annually. Getting the event in the correct category is easier when we evaluate the same events for everyone in the same year. In addition, your record keeping should be much easier if submission is annual. One of the things I worry a little bit about is that I might submit something near the end that is not accepted. If you wait five years to submit, that could be a problem.

According to Secretary Bill Keznor, 30 CPSCs (of the total of 48) had their 5-year re-certification period begin 1/1/2011 and needed to re-certify by 12/31/2015.

12 have done so.

Of the remaining 18 CPSCs, only 4 have submitted some CEUs for review.

14 CPSCs have not submitted any CEUs during their 5-year re-certification period which began 1/1/2011.

We encourage you to submit all activities whether you think you are over in that category or not. Our database keeps track of categories and upper limits to make sure you are properly credited. Why even have categories? The original requirements were set up to make sure that we all have ample opportunity to collect CEU's, but we also wanted our certified members to have broad experience in order to remain competent in many aspects of our science.

Submit CEU's early and submit everything.

Tips to maximize your ISCA web experience

The ISCA web page is updated often with articles, announcements, and features. Some members have mentioned that they have not been able to access certain features (such as on-line payment or registration) or see the current articles on the ISCA web page. This may be a result of the settings that are used for the web browser (such as Internet Explorer). Some settings send the web browser to a cached or stored version of the web page. In order to make sure your browser is accessing the current page, here are some suggestions to change the settings for Internet Explorer (IE). If you use a browser other than IE, they probably have similar settings that you can change and adjust. The following instructions are for IE 11, but previous versions of IE will have similar choices.

To check or change your settings for IE, click or open the “Tools” menu on the toolbar at the top of the IE window and choose “Internet Options”. You can also access “Internet Properties” by going to the “Start Menu”, choosing “Control Panel”, then choose “Network and Internet” and finally “Internet Options”. Both ways will bring you to the same choices.

Once you have either “Internet Options” or “Internet Properties” open, you will notice a series of tabs at the top of the small window. Under the “General” tab there is a section for “Browsing history” and a button marked “Delete ...”. Click on that button (it will not delete anything until you choose what to delete). In order for your computer to look for the current version of the ISCA web page (and the current version of any other page, for that matter) you will need to remove old versions of the web page that your computer has stored. To do that, check the box “Temporary Internet files and website files”. Review the other boxes to make sure you agree with the settings and then click the “Delete” button at the bottom of the window. You may also need to delete the “Cookies and website data”, but you can do that later, if needed.

Once you have deleted the stored or cached versions of the web page, you will be returned to the “Internet Options” or “Internet Properties” window. Go back to “Browsing history” and choose “Settings”. When you choose “Settings” another window will open with the tab “Temporary Internet Files”. Under “Check for newer versions of stored pages:” click on the button “Every time I visit the webpage”. Making these changes should allow you to access the current ISCA web page every time you visit.

Submitted by:

Mark Bramstedt

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

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.

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 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 if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



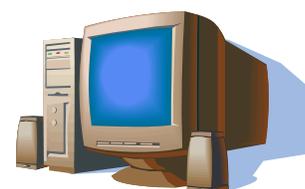
ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

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

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
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Carbondale, IL 62903

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

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