



"Best Products....Best Prices....Best Service"

Connor Co. has been family owned business since 1936, servicing and building relationships with companies in the Plumbing, HVAC, and Industrial PVF industries. Connor Co. has twenty-three locations that work together with vendors to provide the best products to our loyal customers. Our customers are the most valued asset to Connor Co. By staying committed to our motto "Best Products...Best Prices...Best Service" Connor Co. will continue to provide quality products and build customer relationships.





#### Navien

- **Peoria, IL. 61615** 1209 W. Pioneer Parkway PH: 309-693-7229
- **Macomb, IL 61455** 433 N. Campbell PH: 309-833-2148
- Kankakee, IL 60901 1600 Grinnell Road PH: 815-933-6688
- Urbana, IL 61801 1900 N. Lincoln Ave. PH: 217-367-7601
- **Peru, IL 61354** 3 Terminal Road PH: 815-224-1205
- Sugar Grove, IL 60554 694 Heartland Dr. PH: 630-466-3284
- **Moline, IL 61265** 4200 46th Ave. PH: 309-797-3715
- **Springfield, IL 62703** 1400 South 9th St. PH: 217-544-9612
- Mattoon, IL 61938 1421 Old State Road PH: 217-235-4328

- Bloomington, IL 413 E. Oakland Ave. PH: 309-828-000
- Galesburg, IL 61401 2315 Grand Ave. PH: 309-342-7000
- McHenry, IL 60051 3918 N. Richmond Road PH: 815-385-4404
- **Danville, IL 61832** 520 E. Fairchild PH: 217-446-1818
- Rockford, IL 61109 3537 Merchandise Dr. PH: 815-874-1515
- Terre Haute, IN 47802 2800 S. State Road 63 PH: 812-232-3333
- Lafayette, IN 47905 851 Farabee Court PH: 765-448-4553
- **Frankfort, IN 46041** 1599 McKinley Ave PH: 765-659-5780
- **Crawfordsville, IN 47933** 2300 Indianapolis Road PH: 765-362-0481

- Quincy, IL 62301 1328 Seminary Rd.

PH: 217-228-7898

- Collinsville, IL 62234 #3 Business Center Court PH: 618-344-9200
- **Decatur, IL 62526** 3130 N. Grand Prix Dr. PH: 217-875-5626
- Marion, IL 62959 801 Skyline Dr. PH: 618-993-1031
- Jacksonville, IL 62650 630 Brooklyn Ave. PH: 217-243-3411
- Freeport, IL 61032 1201 W. Galena Ave PH: 815-235-7789
- **St. Louis, MO 63146** 2374 Grissom Dr PH: 314-994-9799
- Comfort Supply Peoria, IL 61603 2800 NE Adams St. PH: 309-688-4407















## **ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER**

#### ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING CONTRACTORS



Volume 111, No. 6

8 YAAPES (SET COUNCIL) 4005

**JUNE 2025** 

#### **O**FFICERS

#### President

Kevin Kuhn Oswego

#### Vice President Tom Mahoney

Tom Mahoney Highland Park

## Treasurer

John Baethke

Chicago

#### Secretary

Anthony Brown Posen

#### **President Emeritus**

Terry McCarthy Countryside

## **Executive Director**Beverly Potts

Associate Director Shelly Lott

The Illinois Master Plumber published monthly, is the official publication of the Illinois Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association, only insofar as notices, bulletins, and reports are concerned.

Editorial and personalized news stories reflect the opinions of the writers, and not necessarily that of the Association. Neither the Association nor this magazine accepts responsibility for statements or claims made by advertisers for their products or services.

**POSTMASTER:** Please Forward Change of Address Notice on Form 3578 and Copies Returned Label Form 3579.

To: Illinois PHCC
821 South Grand Avenue West
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone (217) 522-7219
BEV@ILPHCC.COM
WWW.ILPHCC.COM

#### **EDITORIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

821 South Grand Avenue West Springfield, Illinois 62704 Telephone: (217) 522-7219 FAX: (217) 522-4315 1 (800) 795-PHCC

#### **CONTENTS**

President's Thoughts	4 & 5
Calendar of Events	6
2024-25 Illinois PHCC CEU Schedule.	6 & 7
Kevin Kuhn Installed as IL PHCC President	9
Illinois PHCC Officers & Directors Installed	10
Thank you to our Annual Meeting/Installation Dinner Sponsors	11
IL PHCC Past Presidents Attend Installation Dinner	12
IL PHCC Auxiliary 2025 Service Project	12
2025 Installation Dinner	14
Auxiliary Presents Check to Illinois PHCC	15
Scholarship Awarded	15
Legislative Update	16 & 17
IL PHCC Plumbing Code Book Order Form	19
IL PHCC Board Meets	20
IMSCA Holds Lobby Day	21
PHCC Contractors Make Major Impact During 2025 Legislative Conference .	22
Risk Management Corner	23
CDB's Project Management Training for Contractors	24
It's Your Life: Disability Insurance: Preparing for the Unexpected	25
IL PHCC Contractors Application for Membership	26
Advertisers	
Bradford White	5
Connor Company	nt Cover
Federated Insurance	8
H.R. Stewart	15
Herkowski Stickler & Associates	7 & 13
Hodes	4
Inland Sales Inside Ba	ck Cover
Metropolitan Industries, Inc	18
Test Gauge	ck Cover
Torvac	17



# President's Thoughts

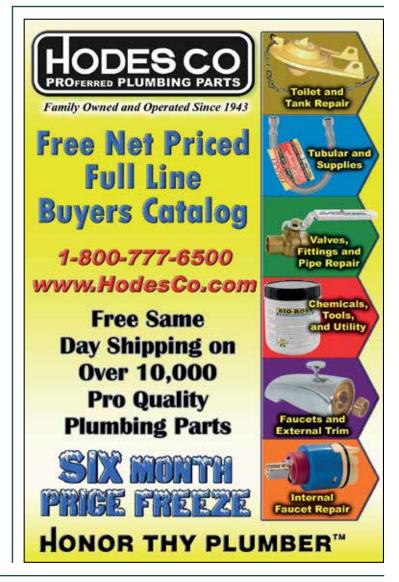
by Kevin Kuhn Illinois PHCC President

Greetings to all members of our Illinois State PHCC chapter, and please be assured it is my honor and privilege to serve as your incoming President.

By way of introduction, my career as a licensed plumber began when I was accepted as an apprentice and attained journeyman status in the UA Local 319 program, prior to the consolidations that led to the formation of Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 501. I had also earned an Associates' degree from Joliet Junior

College in Agricultural Production, which coincided with my original "plan" to take on farming as my occupation. As a second generation plumbing and HVAC contractor along with my brother and business partner Rick, I started full-time in 1988 with the company that our father Richard "Dick" Kuhn had founded: RJ Kuhn Plumbing & Heating. But my pursuit and love of farming continued for nearly three decades, and to this day I (and my family) raise beef cows and continue to grow hay as a primary crop. During my years in public school, along with sports, I enjoyed being in the Industrial Arts program especially Woodworking and Building Trades. I've always enjoyed working with my hands, and with equipment.

RJ Kuhn was taken over by Rick and I in 2012, when our dad retired. We both were grateful and benefited from the lessons taught to us under his direction, and we still seek his advice from time to time. I may never know if my apprenticeship years were actually "tougher" on me than my peers, but that's how I remember it – perhaps because the expectations were higher. But I believe my training was purposely more well-rounded and it allowed me to learn all aspects of our trade along with at least basic knowledge of other trades. Plus having an uncle who was a carpenter, Rick and



I also worked and learned with him some growing up. Dad always did a lot of remodeling as part of his business, so this work evolved naturally for us. I have always enjoyed doing more than just one type of trade aspect, to at least be able to know what needs to happen when, during each step of a project. It also helps to be more well rounded and keep life a little more interesting.

Our sister, Tracy, is a partner to Rick and I as well. Appropriately, Tracy manages our "sister" company: Remodeling Pros, LLC. We are grateful for our solid working relationship and the livelihood we share as siblings. This career has been a good fit for me...and for us.

The Associations have always played an important role for our company, first with the Aurora Contractor's Group, and eventually PAMCANI once Local 501 was formed. Our Dad was always active and would often take us to meetings. To this day, I find it remarkable that I can always learn something new or take away a useful idea through my conversations with fellow contractors. I find that we're frequently dealing with similar issues or have many of the same questions. Rick has taken a leadership role with the PCA and as a Trustee

on the Funds. Now my growing involvement in the IL PHCC has added to our track record of showing support for the contractor community. We all share ideas and work together under the PCA & PHCC "banners."

Outside of work, my wife Patty and I will celebrate our 29-year anniversary in June. We are the proud adoptive parents of AJ (Alexander -Joseph Allen, 25) who is employed at Award Custom Countertops in Oswego and Elly (Elizabeth-Anne June, 23) who just graduated with a degree in Business Management from the UW Oshkosh and is currently working as General Manager for Jersey Mike's in Germantown, WI. Patty is also a member of the Illinois PHCC's Auxiliary, and we both look forward to the exciting year during my term as President. We are very involved with our church, and a group affiliated with the Catholic Church. Our free time is spent with family and friends, because nothing is more important or cherishing for us.

I look forward to seeing my fellow members at the events and meetings coming up. Again, I appreciate your confidence as I embark on serving as your next state chapter President.

-Kevin







Scan here to learn about the tools and resources available to you through our mobile app!



©2025, Bradford White Corporation. All rights reserved. BWPHIL0625



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER 27-30, 2025 SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2025 CCA of PHCC Fall Meeting PHCC CONNECT 25 Chicago, IL Grand Rapids, Michigan **SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 NOVEMBER 14, 2025** IL PHCC Online CEU Class IL PHCC Online CEU Class MARCH 20, 2026 **OCTOBER 2, 2025** PHCC National Virtual IL PHCC Expo & Educational Day **Annual Meeting** Drury Lane Conference Center Oakbrook Terrace, IL **OCTOBER 3, 2025 MARCH 21, 2026** IL PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings IL PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings Bloomington, IL Hilton Suites Hotel Oakbrook Terrace, IL **OCTOBER 18, 2025** IL PHCC Online CEU Class

## 2025/26 Illinois PHCC CEU SCHEDULE

The Illinois PHCC schedule for online and in-person classes for the 2026 renewal year is listed below. These classes offer a minimum of 3 different speakers and topics in each class.

All Illinois PHCC classes will provide State hours for Certified Inspectors and Licensed Plumbers.

Below is our current schedule of continuing education classes for Illinois licensed plumbers. Please visit our website at www.ilphcc.com for the latest information and to register for a class. Registration links will be live at least 6 weeks prior to the class date.

## 2025-2026 Continuing Education Dates

Friday, September 26, 2025

12:00pm - 4:00 pm (Online)

Saturday, October 18, 2025

8:00 am - 12:00 pm (Online)

Friday, November 14, 2025

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm (**Online**)

Friday, January 9, 2026

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm (**Online**)

Saturday, February 21, 2026

8:00 am - 12:00 pm (Online)

Friday, March 20, 2026

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Drury Lane Conference Center

Oakbrook Terrace, IL (In person)

Friday, April 24, 2026

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm (**Online**)



# STYLE THAT DROPS IN!





Acorn-Sinks®, a new line of versatile stainless steel drop in and undermount sinks, features single and double bowl configurations, including for ADA purposes, with hole punch options and sound-deadening pads.

Ideal for commercial and institutional applications such as...

- Classrooms
- Office building break rooms
- Restaurant prep
- Healthcare patient rooms
- Lobby bars
- Assisted living units

Acorn-Sinks feature lasting durability and an appealing aesthetic that complements any countertop. Sinks can be customized with single or double basins, drop-in or undermount styles, and various sizes, faucet configurations, and basin depths.



in f ◎ % ♂ □

LEARN MORE BY CONTACTING HSA AND FOLLOWING US ON OUR SOCIAL PLATFORMS.

890 Supreme Drive Bensenville, IL 60106

630-458-8816

www.hsarep.com

quotes@hsarep.com



Commercial Insurance Property & Casualty | Life & Disability Income | Workers Compensation | Business Succession and Estate Planning | Bonding

The Federated Insurance Risk Management Academy<sup>SM</sup> is your one-stop-shop for creating a culture of risk management at your business. Learn to tackle industry challenges, connect with peers, and apply best practices with helpful takeaways.

The content of this publication is for general information purposes only and should not be considered legal advice or an offer of insurance. Coverage will be determined solely by the terms of your policy, if approved for issue. Consult with a qualified professional to discuss questions specific to your circumstances.

Federated Mutual Insurance Company and its subsidiaries\* | federatedinsurance.com

25.04 Ed. 10/24 \*Not licensed in all states. © 2024 Federated Mutual Insurance Company

## KEVIN KUHN INSTALLED AS IL PHCC PRESIDENT

On June 5th Kevin Kuhn was installed as Illinois PHCC President for the coming year. The oath of office was administered by his father Dick Kuhn who was a longtime, active PHCC member until his retirement. Other family members attended the dinner to support Kevin in his new position.





The Kuhn Family: Kevin's brother Rick, sister Tracy, wife Patty, and father Dick.



## Illinois PHCC Officers & Directors Installed

Kevin Kuhn, R.J. Kuhn Plumbing, Heating & Cooling, in Oswego, Illinois was elected President of the Illinois PHCC and installed on June 5th at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington. Other Illinois PHCC officers for the coming year are: Vice President, Tom Mahoney, Little Tommy's Plumbing Shop, Highland Park; Secretary, Anthony Brown, Werner-Nugent Plumbing, Posen; Treasurer, John Baethke, John Baethke & Son Plumbing, Chicago; and President Emeritus Terry McCarthy, Terry Plumbing, Countryside.

#### Directors serving for the coming year are:

Tammy Rich Stimson, Bloomington/Normal PHCC; Mark Ehret, Great Southwestern Association; Anthony Brown, Rebecca Mendel and Tom Mahoney, PCA of Greater Chicago; Dan Heise, Midwest IL Mechanical Contractors; Randy Grob, Egyptian Association, Brian Rich, Past Presidents; and Brian Yelton, Associate Members.

We would to thank our PHCC National Zone 3 Director Adam Meny for traveling from Indiana to conduct the installation.



#### Photo Caption:

L-R: Installing Officer Adam Meny, Anthony Brown, Terry McCarthy, Kevin Kuhn, Tammy Rich Stimson, Randy Grob, Tom Gent (standing in for Dan Heise), and Brian Yelton.





# Thank you to our Annual Meeting/Installation Dinner Sponsors

# Platinum Bloomington Normal PHCC Federated Insurance

**Gold Midwest Mechanical Contractors** 

<u>Silver</u> Terry Plumbing Co. Illinois PHCC Auxiliary

**Bronze Bornquist, Inc.** 

## ILLINOIS PHCC PAST PRESIDENTS ATTEND INSTALLATION DINNER



Several Illinois PHCC Past Presidents attended the IL PHCC Annual Meeting & Installation Dinner on June 5th in Bloomington.

*Pictured are (L-R): Terry McCarthy, Tom Gent,* Steve Stimson, Tammy Rich Stimson, Mike Ehret, and Jerry Rich.

## Illinois PHCC Auxiliary 2025 Service Project

Each year the Illinois Auxiliary has a service project to help others. The benefactor of this year's project is The Baby Fold in Normal, IL. They are a non-profit that has been providing critical services to children and families in need across 28 counties since 1902.

Those coming to the IL PHCC Annual Meeting & Installation Event on June 5th were asked to bring items to support their Foster Care program which provides temporary, loving, safe homes for children. Monetary donations were also received that were combined with a donation from the Auxiliary. On June 5th, a check from the Illinois PHCC Auxiliary for \$1,750 was presented to Sam Guillory from The Baby Fold following her presentation on the background and work of their organization.



The Illinois Auxiliary is able to fund donations such as this with the revenue generated from their Expo Program Book, t-shirt sales, silent auctions, and donations from very generous industry members. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause.

Illinois Auxiliary President Gail McWilliams presents a check to Sam Guillory of The Baby Fold in front of the items collected at the event.





## PLUMBING INDUSTRY EXPERTISE PERSONIFIED



STEVE STICKLER & JOE HERKOWSKI

At Herkowski Stickler and Associates, we foster strong relationships with our customers and manufacturers. Our seasoned sales and technical teams offer a seamless experience before, during, and after the sale.

HSA's enhanced capabilities support customers comprehensively by streamlining our product lines' sales and installation processes. Drawing on years of experience, HSA has evolved through market analysis and foresight, blending expertise with a diverse range of products and services to meet evolving needs.

## **MEET OUR TEAM**



LEARN MORE BY FOLLOWING HSA ON SOCIAL! in f @ X J D

## 2025 Installation Dinner



PHCC National Zone Director Adam Meny visits with attendees from the Egyptian PHCC. L-R: Adam Meny, Michael McKinnies, Jeri McKinnies, Lori Grob, and Randy Grob.



Gail McWilliams and Shelly Lott register guests and sell 50/50 tickets.



Terry McCarthy receives his past president's award from President Kuhn.



Service Project Donations



*Terry & Cathy McCarthy* celebrated their 54th Anniversary with a toast at dinner.



## Auxiliary Presents Check to Illinois PHCC



**Photo Caption:** Auxiliary President Gail McWilliams presents a check to IL PHCC President Terry McCarthy.

At the June 5th Illinois PHCC Installation Dinner, Auxiliary President Gail McWilliams announced that the Auxiliary is donating \$8,000 to the Illinois PHCC for technology upgrades and building maintenance. The Auxiliary raises funds for industry promotion/support, and scholarships through their Expo Program Book, Silent Auctions, and T-shirt sales.

The Association sincerely thanks the Auxiliary for their generous donation and continued support!

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

At the IL PHCC Installation Event Auxiliary Scholarship Chairman Gail McWilliams announced this year's **Illinois PHCC Auxiliary** scholarship winner.

**Lily Flader** of Libertyville, Illinois was the recipient of a \$1,500 scholarship. She will be a sophomore at Michigan State University majoring in nursing. Lily was sponsored by Auxiliary member Joan Flader who is also her grandmother.

Congratulations and best wishes to Lily on her future endeavors.



H.R. STEWART, INC.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## by Bev Potts

The Spring Session of the 104th Illinois General Assembly adjourned on May 31st after an agreement was reached on a State budget. Legislators will return to Springfield for 6 days next fall for the Veto Session. Following are some of the bills we were tracking this Session, and we had many more on our watch list. Unless bills are listed as passed in both chambers they are considered dead. Ones that passed both chambers must be sent to the Governor within 30 days. He then has 60 days to take action on them. If he takes no action, they automatically become law.

#### Plumbing/Piping/Trade Related Bills:

HB 1051 (D. VELLA) Amends the Illinois Water Well Construction Code. Provides that the minimum lateral setback distance between a closed-loop well and a storm sewer, sanitary sewer, combined sewer, or any other potential source of contamination is 5 feet. Re-referred to House Rules.

HB 1112 (J. DAVIS) Amends the School Code to allows METT Educator District Licenses for teaching a course in manufacturing, engineering, technology, or a trade (including plumbing) to be issued. Referred to House Rules.

HB 1370 (D. DIDECH) Amends the Environmental Protection Act to provide that after January 1, 2030, no person shall sell in the State a new washing machine for residential or commercial use unless the washing machine contains a microfiber filtration system. This can be an integral filter or an in-line filter. Four amendments were proposed to this bill but it did not progress and was re-referred to House Rules.

HB 3816 (K. DU BUCLET) Same as HB 1370. Referred to House Rules.

HB 1612 (K BUCKNER) Creates the Illinois Appliance Standards Act. Directs the Illinois EPA to adopt minimum efficiency standards for covered products. Provides for testing, certification, and labeling of covered products. These standards will apply to commercial and residential faucets, water coolers, water heaters, toilets, urinals, showers, irrigation controllers and more. Re-referred to House Rules.

**SB 1582 (L. FINE)** Same as HB 1612. Referred to Senate Assignments.

HB 1809 (K. STUART) Provides that the Capital Development Board shall establish uniform statewide minimum qualification requirements for code inspectors and shall maintain a statewide registry and certification program. Re-referred to House Rules.

HB 1849 (R. SPAIN) Amends the Energy Efficient Building Act to provide that the term "Code" means the 2021 edition of the ICC's International Energy Conservation Code (currently, the latest published edition). Referred to House Rules.

HB 2391 (T. MUHL) Would allow wastewater reuse for industrial use in addition to irrigation use that was passed last year. Passed in the House and the Senate.

HB 2710 (M. KELLY) Creates an income tax credit for taxpayers who have an approved NFPA 13D residential fire sprinkler system installed in a new or existing residential dwelling in the State during the taxable year. Re-referred to House Rules.

SB 1709 (R. MARTWICK) Same as HB 2710. Assigned to Senate Revenue Committee.

**HB 2952 (E. HERNANDEZ)** Amends the Equitable Restrooms Act with regards to baby changing stations. Increases the number of locations where they must be installed. This may affect fixture locations for IAC/ADA compliance. Passed the House and re-referred to the Senate Assignments.

HB 3141 (J. KEICHER) Amends the Environmental Protection Act to provide that, in the case of water main installation projects, all water main-related appurtenances, and specifically fire hydrants and valves, shall be included in the Agency's written approval of specified public water supply plans. Passed the House and Senate.

**SB 224 (D. DEWITTE)** Same as HB 3141. Passed in the Senate and the House.

**SB 1723 (P. FARACI & D. KOEHLER)** Prohibits any carbon sequestration activity within a sequestration facility that overlies, underlies, or passes through a sole-source aquifer. Other amendments. Passed in the Senate and in the House.

**SB 2307 (R. VENTURA)** Creates the Electrician Licensing Act, and also the Building Trades Licensing Task Force. Referred to Senate Assignments.

#### OTHER CONSTRUCTION/BUSINESS RELATED BILLS:

HB 1224 (W. DAVIS) Creates the State Agency Retainage Act. Provides that a percentage of the payment may be retained;

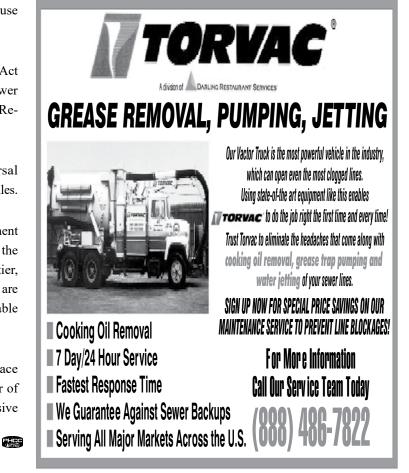
prohibits the amount of retainage from exceeding 10% until 50% complete; other provisions. Amended and passed in the House and the Senate.

HB 1247 (D. VELLA) Amends the Prevailing Wage Act to provide that the definition of "public works" includes sewer inspection projects that utilize a closed-circuit television. Rereferred to House Rules.

**HB 2614 (A. NEIMERG)** Creates the Universal Recognition of Occupational Licenses Act. Referred to House Rules.

HB 3185 (W. DAVIS) Amends the State Prompt Payment Act to provide that for construction contracts with the CDB, the contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier, regardless of tier, shall not offset, decrease, or diminish payment or payments that are due to its subcontractors or material suppliers without reasonable cause. Re-referred to House Rules.

**HB 3762 (E. GONZALEZ)** Creates the Workplace Extreme Temperature Safety Act. Provides that the Director of Labor shall adopt rules to establish excessive heat and excessive cold standards. Re-referred to House Rules.



# DON'T LET UNWANTED WATER INTO THEIR HOME



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FLOOD PROTECTION AT:

Metropolitan Industries, Inc.

**Emmons** Metro LLC

**ion** Technologies

(815) 886-9200 WWW.IONPROTECTS.COM



## **PLUMBING CODE BOOK**

## **O**RDER FORM

## PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY.

WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION	ON TO PROVIDE YOU WITH UPDATES ELECTRONICALLY.			
Name:				
Company:				
Street Address:				
City/State/Zip:				
Email:				
Phone:				
(includes tabs, Plumbin Plumbing Co	st \$60.95/Code Book ng License Law, Plumbers Licensing Code, ontractor Registration Code and Contractor & Lawn Sprinkler Code)			
# of code book(s) X \$60.95				
	Total amount enclosed \$			
Mail form with payment to:	Illinois PHCC 821 South Grand Avenue, West Springfield, IL 62704			
Make checks payable to the Illinois PHCC.				
There will be a \$40.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.				
Questions? Contact the Illinois PHCC at <a href="mailto:bev@ilphcc.com">bev@ilphcc.com</a> or <a href="mailto:shelly@ilphcc.com">shelly@ilphcc.com</a>				
	(217) 522-7219			

## ILLINOIS PHCC BOARD MEETS

The Illinois PHCC Board of Directors met on Friday, June 6th at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington.

The annual Federated Insurance update was given by Evan Powell of Federated. He discussed their Risk Management Academy and safety and risk management tools that are available to all PHCC members. Evan encouraged contractors to use their DriveSAFE Telematics app to help improve employees' driving habits. Packets of helpful information were provided to all attendees.

Reports were heard from the various committees as well as a report on the PHCC National Association from Zone 3 Director Adam Meny.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 3rd in Bloomington.



**Pictured L-R:** Tom Gent, Adam Meny, Randy Grob, Tammy Rich Stimson, Bev Potts, Kevin Kuhn, Shelly Lott, Mike Ehret, Anthony Brown, Terry McCarthy, Brian Yelton, and Evan Powell.

## IMSCA HOLDS LOBBY DAY



At IMSCA Lobby Day: (from left) Tammy Rich Stimson (GA Rich & Sons); Dan Allen & Jennifer Rice (CISCO); PCA First VP Rick Kuhn (RJ Kuhn); PCA President Kelly Castrogiovanni (TPC); and Ashton Stimson (GA Rich & Sons).

The state capitol was the destination on May 6th for the annual "Lobby Day" of the Illinois Mechanical & Specialty Contractors Association (IMSCA). Attending in Springfield on behalf of the PCA and PHCC were PCA President Kelly Castrogiovanni (TPC), PCA First VP Rick Kuhn (RJ Kuhn), member contractor and IMSCA Treasurer Tammy Rich Stimson (GA Rich & Sons) and daughter/co-worker Ashton, and Executive Director S.J. Peters along with CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen and Communications Director Jennifer Rice. The day opened with a meeting to discuss current legislative matters, a visit by special guest speaker David Sullivan, and the association's regular meeting to conduct its business. The PCA's delegation ventured to the state capitol and met with a number of elected representatives including State Senators Cunningham, Lightford and Hastings, among others. IMSCA is comprised of 30+ signatory construction-focused contractors' associations and it monitors and lobbies for legislation favorable to our members. PCA Executive Director S.J. Peters is IMSCA's immediate past president. For more information, visit www.imsca.org.

Photo and article courtesy of the Plumbing Contractors Association of Greater Chicago.

## PHCC CONTRACTORS MAKE MAJOR IMPACT During 2025 Legislative Conference

The Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association (PHCC) successfully concluded its 2025 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., on May 21, with a day of critical advocacy efforts that will benefit contractors across the country.

More than 100 PHCC members, chapter leaders, and industry stakeholders gathered in the nation's capital from May 20-21 to champion key issues affecting the plumbing, heating, and cooling industry. Attendees met with lawmakers to support federal workforce development programs, defend natural gas as a vital part of the U.S. energy mix, promote consumer choice, and advocate for pro-growth tax policies.

The conference opened with an executive policy forum, a newcomers' briefing for over 20 firsttime participants, and a comprehensive legislative update from PHCC's Government Relations Department. Lunchtime honors included a special recognition for long-time PHCC Member Butch McGonegal by PHCC of Virginia. Attendees also heard from former U.S. Congressman Tom Davis, who offered a strategic outlook on the current political landscape.

Industry collaboration was on full display at an evening Capitol Hill reception on May 20, where PHCC members networked with members from the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) and Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI). Despite inclement weather, PHCC contractors met face-to-face with lawmakers the following day to advocate for policies crucial to the industry.

The conference concluded with a reception that included a visit from Rep. Mark Messmer (R-IN), a second-generation PHCC contractor, who shared insights into ongoing legislative efforts.

## **Handling Hazard Communication At Your Business**



A key part of workplace safety involves <u>hazard communication</u> training to help your employees identify, use, and store any hazardous materials they may work with. This communication can help your workforce understand vital information on these materials. It can also inform on protective measures to avoid dangerous exposures.

#### Following the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS)

The <u>OSHA HCS</u> requires that information about hazardous chemicals should be <u>available and understandable to all</u> <u>employees</u>. If hazardous chemicals are used at your business, you must provide hazard classification, labels, Safety Data Sheets (SDS), and employee training.<sup>1</sup> Consider the following:

- **Establish a Hazard Communication Policy:** Consider developing a written policy detailing how your organization plans to manage hazard communication. Have this available for employees to access.
- **Identify Hazardous Substances:** Compile a detailed inventory of all hazardous materials and chemicals within your workplace. Store this information close to where materials are located for easy access. Ensure each one has an up-to-date SDS for employees to reference information on proper handling and storage.
- Label Containers Correctly: Every container holding hazardous chemicals should feature a clear, OSHA-compliant label. Make sure the label includes the product name, hazard classifications, signal words (e.g., "Danger" or "Warning"), and precautionary statements.
- Use Appropriate Pictograms and Warnings: Post visual indicators, such as OSHA-approved pictograms, to simplify hazard awareness at a glance. These cues can help employees quickly recognize potential risks.
- **Train Employees Thoroughly:** All staff should receive regular hazard communication training tailored to their job roles. Include how to read SDS, interpret labels, and take <u>precautionary actions</u>.
- **Conduct Regular Audits and Updates:** Review and update your <u>hazard communication program</u> regularly and replace missing or outdated SDS.

Looking to learn more about hazard communication or access helpful resources? Reach out to your local Federated Insurance® marketing representative today for more information.

1. Hazard Communication. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. https://www.osha.gov/hazcom. Accessed 3/24/25.



This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Some of the services referenced herein may be provided by third parties wholly independent of Federated. Federated provides access to these services with the understanding that neither Federated nor its employees provide legal or other expert advice. All products and services not available in all states. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances and applicable laws.



#### fullcoing a Better Illinois CDB's Project Management Training for Contractors

The Capital Development Board (CDB) is conducting workshops for contractors of CDB projects. The training format enables the participants to gain hands-on knowledge of CDB documents and procedures.

Learn about CDB procedures, project documentation and reporting. Learn practical principles to keep your project on time. These workshops are offered at no charge to attendees.

This workshop is required for all firms prequalifying with CDB. The Capital Development Board expects contractor representatives to participate in this training. This Webinar is also open to any firm that desires to learn more about CDB and our project procedures.

Agenda Items

- Overview of the Capitol Development Board
- Prequalification
- Bid Advertisements and Bidding Process
- Diversity Contracting Unit's Responsibilities of Contractor
- IL Works Apprenticeship Program
- Project Delivery Methods
- Blue Ribbon Tools
- Standard Documents of Construction Review
- Change Order Packages
- Substantial Completion, Final Acceptance, and 9-month Inspection
- Time & Materials
- Vendor Voucher Payment Search

#### **Contractor Training Schedule and Registration**

This Webinar Series consists of two, half-day training sessions. Tuesday, June 24th, 2025, beginning at 1:00 PM Thursday, June 26th, 2025, beginning at 1:00 PM

#### Register at

https://illinois.webex.com/webappng/sites/illinois/webinar/webinarSeries/regis ter/84dca73981544b8ebca6df3c46036026

For more information and/or questions, please contact Shea Votava at CDB.AEContTrn@illinois.gov

## IT'S YOUR LIFE

#### Disability Insurance: Preparing for the Unexpected

Have you thought about what would happen to your business if you weren't able to lead because of illness, injury, or unplanned events? Many owners may hope that their business can be managed in their absence. But without a plan in place, the reality could be a different story.

#### **Consider the Following Scenarios:**

Belief: Key team members can handle it all on their own.

**Reality:** Relying on others without a clear plan can lead to operational or financial strain. Team members might lack the authority, expertise, or resources to steer the business effectively.

**Belief:** I can sell my business if I have to.

**Reality:** Selling a business can take time, possibly months or years. During financial or personal hardships, you may not receive the full value of your business.

Belief: If something unexpected happens, I'll deal with it when the time comes.

**Reality:** Emergency decision-making often leads to rushed choices. Without preparation, you risk losing the stability you've worked hard to build.

When it comes to <u>planning for the future</u>, understanding what to prepare for could help keep things flowing smoothly for your business, employees, and family. A sound <u>business continuation plan</u> can create support so unexpected events are less likely to disrupt your operations or livelihood.

To learn more about the importance of <u>disability insurance</u>, talk to your <u>Federated Insurance® marketing</u> representative for a referral from Federated's network of independent business succession and estate planning attorneys.

This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered an offer of insurance or legal, financial, tax or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all fosses. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. This information is current as of its publication date and is subject to change. Some of the services referenced herein are provided by third parties wholly independent of Federated. Federated provides access to these services with the understanding that neither Federated nor its employees provide legal or other expert advice. All products and services not available in all states. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. All rights reserved.





## Illinois Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors **Application for Membership**

Please print or type

Business Name			
Contact Name			
Address_			
City	_County	StateZ	iip
Phone	_Fax	Email	
Illinois Plumbing Contractor	's Registration Number	(For those involved in Plumbing	g Contracting)
	☐Union Shop	□Open Shop	
Type of Business Activities (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)			
□ Plumbing □ HVAC □ Hydronics □ Process Piping □ Fire Sprinkler Systems □ Underground Utilities		□ Backflow Inspection Cert. # □ Refrigeration □ Commercial □ Industrial □ Residential □ Service/Repair□	_
Signed		Date	

The State Investment is \$245.00. The National Membership Investment is \$574.00. State and National are presented as a package for \$819.00 and may not be split. The Investment period is January 1 through December 31 and may be prorated on a monthly basis. Please make checks payable to Illinois PHCC, 821 South Grand Avenue, West, Springfield, IL 62704.

Please Note: Dues, contributions or gifts to PHCC are not deductible as charitable contributions. However they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

As per the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993, 5% of the Illinois PHCC and 5% of PHCC-NA dues are attributable to lobbying expense and are not deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense.

QUESTIONS....1.800.795.7422

# RS

# **ROCKFORD SEPARATORS**

From standard to custom Rockford has you covered.





ROCKFORD, IL













Hair & Lint









LOCAL



RKFDSEPARATORS.COM



Backflow Made Easy® @ SHOPBACKFLOW.COM

The Nation's Leading Source For:

**Backflow Assemblies Repair Parts Technical Assistance** 





Same Day Shipping to Anywhere in the U.S.

**Backflow Experts on Call / Licensed Plumbers on Staff** 

Friendly, Knowledgeable Backflow Experts

**Largest Backflow Inventory in the Nation with 10** 

Locations

**Interactive & Live Water Testing Lab** 

Midwest Instrument Authorized Service Center































Chicago: (866) 836-8692

Minneapolis: (612) 235-4927