As we are all emerging from the year of COVID, we look forward to re-engaging with our ILCSWMA community!

Please enjoy our latest newsletter and thank you for your patience.

Letter from the Board
Vice President Pete Adrian

Greetings from your VP! I’m excited that the ILCSWMA membership has indicated in a recent survey that many of our members are interested in attending our fall conference in person. The ILCSWMA Board has begun planning for the conference which will be October 21 & 22 at the incomparable Starved Rock State Park Lodge. If you have a topic or suggestion for a great presenter that you would like us to feature during the conference, please pass your suggestions along to me or any of the board members. We will be sending you periodic announcements leading up to the conference to keep you updated on what we’re planning for this year.

I consider myself fortunate to be celebrating my 20th anniversary with SWALCO this year and my overall 27th year of work in the public sectors recycling and
campus recycling program at NIU would keep me on the recycling path for so many years thereafter. I also consider myself fortunate to have you along with me on my journey.

I am amazed by the stories I have heard from many of you about what you have accomplished over these long months since we last met. In late October of 2019, at the conclusion our conference in Springfield, we parted in our usual ways, not fully realizing what we were to encounter just a few months following the new year. It’s unimaginable for me to fully understand how the pandemic has affected all of us, in so many ways.

I am proud to tell others outside of the ILCSWMA circle that I get to work with people that are immersed in managing essential service programs within county health departments and units of local government. People who have tirelessly taken on additional duties and worked extra hours since the beginning to help others in need. I also want to recognize our friends in the private sector that may have found themselves in a state of uncertainty as so many businesses around the country abruptly closed their doors. I hope and pray that they will persevere.

I know we all missed gathering as a group this last year, as we have for so many years before. The lost opportunity to learn, network and celebrate our accomplishments has been unfortunate. We also missed recognizing and celebrating with those that were moving on to other work or retiring. However, I am delighted to know that we will meet again in about six months and I’m certain that when we do, it will feel like October of 2019 was only yesterday.

Member Spotlight

Kendall County Government Complex Celebrates Solar Field Completion

The 7-acre vacant lot on the County Campus is now home for 5500 solar panels. In mid-April the County was able to plug into this environmentally friendly source of energy. The Kendall County Board approved this 25-year agreement in September 2018 with GRNE of Palatine. The project will save approximately $160,000 per year and accrue to over $4 million over the life of the agreement. This Solar Farm should supply 60% of the power required for the 3 county buildings on this campus.
With the technology of the system, critical metrics are continually monitored to track the amount of energy being generated and used on a real-time basis. Kendall County feels the project is not only environmentally sustainable but also fiscally responsible.

Are you a part of the ILCSWMA family? Don't miss out!
Click [here](#) to Join

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**In the NEWS....**

**2021 Annual Conference**

Save the date!
**October 21 & 22**
**at Starved Rock Lodge**
While we work behind the scenes on great topics, networking opportunities and social gatherings, we are also seeking Speakers and Sponsors!
We Need YOUR Input!
Please [CLICK](#) for a 2-minute Survey
Stay tuned ~ details to follow in the next few months!
Watch our website and your inbox

Check out these memories

2021 Board Election

This year, the Regional Representatives to the ILCSWMA Board of Directors are up for election. These positions are elected to two-year terms. The counties included in each region can be found here.

Currently, these positions are held by:

- Northern Regional Rep – Paul Cooney, Ogle County
- Central Regional Rep – Melissa Goetze, Tazewell County
- Southern Regional Rep – Kassidy Phoenix, Jackson County

All incumbents will be listed on the ballot. Voting will be done electronically in September by the designated contact person at each full member organization. Any employee of a full member organization would like to be listed on the ballot for consideration should send an email indicating such to Jennifer Jarland, ILCSWMA Secretary no later than August 14.

ILCSWMA Northern Regional Meeting
When: May 20, 2021; 10am-12pm
Where: Kane County Government Center, 719 S Batavia Ave., Geneva, IL 60134 - Building A, ground floor, Auditorium (and via zoom)

RSVP please for in person: We can host 25 people in the room at limited max capacity, so please RSVP by email. First come, first served!

Or attend online via zoom:
https://zoom.us/j/93080732103?pwd=K1N0aEVjVkJ2MCs4Njc5K09vWHZuUT09;
Meeting ID: 930 8073 2103; Passcode: 046081
Or call in: 312-626-6799  Meeting ID: 930 8073 2103; Passcode: 046081

Behind the Scenes

A Note of Thanks!

Every organization has invisible heros. Bart Hagston has been ILCSWMA’s administrative hero for many years. The solid waste community sends a great big THANK YOU to Bart for his dedication to keeping the back-of-the-house at ILCSWMA running smoothly!

Now, the time has come for Bart to focus on to other priorities at Jefferson County and he has passed the baton to Kat Gerdts. Kat is a resident of Lake Zurich and a passionate advocate of waste reduction and circular economy priorities. While not a member of the solid waste business community, she brings organizational skills and attention to detail that will continue Bart's legacy. Reach out with any admin questions you may have ilcswma@gmail.com

Welcome, Kat!

Members of the Board

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