

IN THE TRENCHES

December 2013

"Drainage Doesn't Cost - IT PAYS!"

www.drainage.org

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From the President's Desk

Fellow Members:

I hope 2013 has been a good year for everyone. It was another busy year and with only a few weeks to go I'm sure everyone will still be busy.

We just went through one cold week with a lot of snowfall in some areas of the province and everyone having to learn to drive in the white stuff again. It also made working conditions a little better in some areas by getting out of the mud onto some frost. A little too much snow in others areas made it tough where it required plowing the snow to get to the fields. WEATHER!!

I went Christmas tree hunting this weekend with my wife, kids, their husbands and grandkids. It's always nice to have a little snow on the ground for this. The day ended with a snow ball fight, hot chocolate and four "perfect" Christmas trees, a very good day. These things are a sure sign that this year is coming to a close.

With the end of the year approaching, the LICO Convention is right around the corner. This year again we have a great line up of speakers and some new exhibitors. The night of the banquet has been changed to Wednesday in hopes that more people are able to attend.

In closing, on behalf of the LICO Executive and myself, I wish you all the best over the holidays and in the New Year.

See you all at the convention.
Joe Frankis

Keeping The Faith

I figured that at age seven it was inevitable for my son to begin having doubts about Santa Claus...

Sure enough, one day he said, "Mom, I know something about Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, and the Tooth Fairy..."

"Taking a deep breath, I asked him, "What is that?"

"They're all nocturnal!" he replied.

Climate Change – Facts and Management - Don Lobb

Recently I attended a meeting of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, Ontario Chapter, at which Dr. Trevor Dickenson of the University of Guelph was the guest speaker. In response to climate change concerns, he and cohorts have extensively examined Ontario weather data from over one hundred years.

The real numbers show that there has been no change in storm intensity or frequency. There is no change in summer high and low temperatures. There is no change in winter high temperatures. However, winter low temperatures are higher. Those low temperatures are now 2 degrees Celsius higher than they were 100 years ago.

What do Dr. Dickenson's findings mean in light of reports that we are now experiencing the worst and most frequent storms ever?

Let's consider what has changed. We have more hard surfaces – rooftops, parking lots and roads, and these are accompanied by straight, efficient drainage infrastructure. The result is that Toronto can experience the worst flooding ever as the result of a storm that historically is not the worst. The problem here is manmade.

What are the implications of Dr. Dickenson's findings for those of us who are land managers?

I would expect that in winter we have and will continue to have more and more severe winter snow melt and rain when the ground is frozen. The result is that the soil surface thaws but the water on this now unstable soil surface cannot enter the frozen ground below. The result is immediate runoff with topsoil and nutrient. The cost can be enormous in lost topsoil and damage to downstream water and waterways. Our response must be more aggressive surface water management and soil stabilization if we are to reduce soil erosion and protect water quality. The only effective practices are no-till in combination with check dams; i.e. WASCOS and cross slope field activity. Any single practice can actually make matters worse.

LICO contractors will have an important role to play in managing the evolving surface water challenges.

Top 10 Christmas Jokes

- #10 **What do sheep say to each other at Christmas time?** Merry Christmas to ewe!
- #9 **Why does Santa always go down the chimney?** Because it soots him!
- #8 **What's the favourite Christmas Carol of new parents?** Silent Night!
- #7 **How do you know Santa is a man?** No woman would wear the same outfit every year!
- #6 **What kind of money do Santa's elves use?** Jingle bills!
- #5 **Why does Santa have three gardens?** So he can ho ho ho!
- #4 **What's red, white and blue at Christmas time?** A sad candy cane!
- #3 **Why did Santa start sneezing in the chimney?** He caught a nasty flu!
- #2 **Why was Santa's little helper depressed?** Because he had low elf esteem.
- #1 **Why is Christmas just like a day at the office?** You do all the work and some fat guy in a suit gets all the credit.

OMAFRA Report – Sid Vander Veen

Drainage Licensing:

As winter sets in and machines are being shut down and cleaned up for the winter, it's time to start working on your tile drainage records for your 2013 work. Here's what we will accept:

- GPS files, as long as you include a Master List that provides a summary of your GPS files. We have this master list in an Excel spreadsheet format. Talk to us if you need it. You can email the records to us (valerie.j.anderson@ontario.ca) or save it to a CD or flash drive and send it to us.
- Create a "Tile Drainage Record" plan from our mapping website (www.ontario.ca/drainage). Print out a plan for each of your jobs, plot the tile drainage work on it and send them to us.
- Continue to use the green "Tile Drainage Record" forms (*least desirable alternative*). In fact, considering that the Tile Drainage Records printed from our website are so much more accurate, we will have staff at our booth at the LICO convention who will work with you. If you give them the location of your 2013 jobs, they will print out these plans for you.

Your current business license expires on March 31, 2014. Renewal application forms will be sent out in mid-February. Remember, we will not renew a business license unless we have the completed renewal form, the fee and the records of your 2013 work.

Drainage Courses: This winter, the following drainage courses are being offered:

<i>Course</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
Primary Drainage Course	Jan. 13 – 17 2014	Marden Public Library
Advanced Drainage Course	Feb. 3 – 13, 2014	Marden Public Library
Ag Erosion Control Structures Course	Feb. 24 – 28, 2014	Marden Public Library
Drainage Superintendents Course	March 3 – 7, 2014	1 Stone Rd. West, Guelph
Municipal Drainage Course	Feb. 11 – 12, 2014	1 Stone Rd West, Guelph
Municipal Drainage Course	March 18 – 19, 2014	Lamplighter Inn, London
Municipal Drainage Course	March 26 – 27, 2014	CJ's Banquet Hall, Brockville

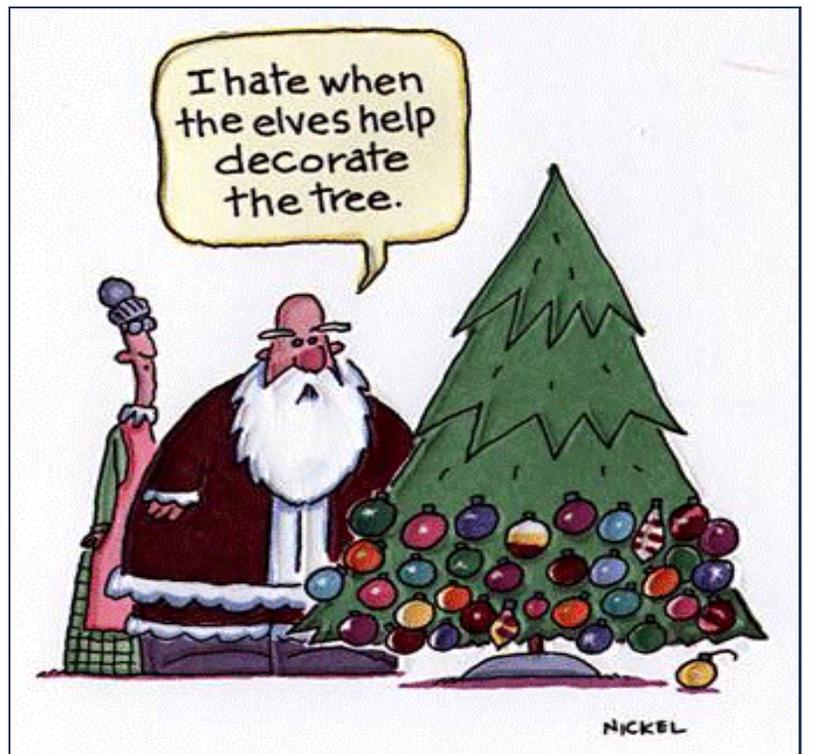
To register for any of these course, go to www.ridgetownc.com/ce

I want to wish all of you and your families a "Merry Christmas" and hope that you have a joyful and safe New Year's celebration. See you at the convention in January.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 22 & 23, 2014
LICO Conference
Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Rd.,
London, Ontario N6C 4R3



LICO would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family all the best for the holiday season and the year to come!

NEW PRODUCT RELEASE 350 Drainage Plow

BRON is pleased to announce their new product release BRON 350 Self Propelled Drainage Plow.

The new BRON 350 Drainage Plow features a fuel efficient Cummins QSM11 Tier-3 engine rated at 360 hp @ 2100 rpm (power rise to 385 hp @ 1800 rpm), which moves the 58,000 pound machine with ease. The 30 inch wide pads come standard with D6 undercarriage, and can be equipped with optional 32 and 34 inch pads. Utilizing an air ride seat in the ROPS/FOPS certified cab ensures operator safety and comfort for long hours. The new BRON 350 comes with 145 gallon fuel tank, oscillating tracks and tilt.

BRON's Tri-Core cooling package is designed to efficiently handle all the system heat exchange requirements with one variable speed and reversible fan.

As with all BRON machines they are all designed and built for maximum production time and long service. BRON Plows range from 150, 350, 450 and 550. For additional information on the BRON 350 Drainage Plow, contact BRON at 1-800-263-1060.

About BRON

RWF BRON also designs and manufactures quality Forestry Mulchers and Utility Plows with manufacturing facilities in Canada and United States. BRON products are sold world wide.