

IOWA NURSERY &
LANDSCAPE
ASSOCIATION

NEWS

Dodd Joins the INLA Board of Directors

INLA President Shawna Moss and the entire Board of Directors would like to welcome Autumn Dodd as our newest member of the board.

We are excited to have Autumn serving on our board and helping our industry grow.



Autumn works for Wapsie Pines in Cedar Falls, Iowa as a Landscape Designer. She graduated from South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota with a degree in Landscape Architecture and started with Wapsie Pines in May of 2014.

Please join us in giving her a warm welcome. We look forward to a great 2019 year for our members!

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INLA Annual Day of Service



Annually the association picks an Iowa location to beautify for the "Day of Service". Locations are selected by the INLA Day of Service Planning Committee, and have completed six locations in Iowa to be selected since its inception in 2012.

you to all of our volunteers and students that made our 2018 INLA Day of Service such a success! **We'd like to ask you to place the week of September 11 on your calendar - the exact date and location will be announced soon, stay tuned!**

The INLA board of directors and the planning committee would like to extend a tremendous thank

More information and past years photos and locations, visit: <http://iowanla.org/annual-day-of-service/>

Helping Students Grows Our Industry

Annually the INLA board of directors award four scholarships to students in Iowa. One (1) to an ISU student and three (3) to Iowa community college students in majoring horticulture.

Full descriptions online at: <https://iowanla.org/scholarships/>

**E.S. Harber Scholarship (1) - \$2,000
Deadline November 28, 2019**

For an undergraduate in Horticulture at Iowa State University who is majoring in Horticulture and planning a career in the landscape, nursery, and/or garden center business.

With excitement the INLA board members have announced the increase for the Community College Scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000 each. The increased was approved during the April 2019 board meeting in Ames, Iowa.

**Community College Scholarship (3) - \$1,000 ea.
Deadline November 28, 2019**

For a full-time student enrolled in the horticulture program at an Iowa community college. Students should be actively seeking employment in the nursery industry after graduation.

The purpose of the scholarship programs are to find the students interested in our industry with high character, strong leadership qualities, and the drive to succeeded. Please read our scholarship descriptions below. If you have a student in your life, encourage them to apply!

900 Des Moines Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515.262.8323
Fax: 515.262.8960

USDA Update on Farm Bill Implementation Progress

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the implementation status of the 2018 Farm Bill. President Trump signed this Farm Bill into law on December 20th, 2018, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) promptly began implementation of key programs. USDA held several listening sessions with stakeholders and the public, specific to each agency's respective mission areas.

TITLE X – Horticulture

- Hemp: On February 27, 2019, AMS issued a Notice to Trade regarding the hemp provisions in the Farm Bill and on March 13, 2019, AMS held a listening session on the hemp provisions in the Farm Bill. The 2018 Farm Bill extended the 2014 Farm Bill provisions for hemp production by 12 months to allow USDA to complete the required rulemaking process, and USDA intends to issue regulations in the Fall

of 2019 in order to accommodate the 2020 planting season. For the 2019 planting season, the 2018 Farm Bill provides that States, Tribes, and institutions of higher education can continue operating under authorities of the 2014 Farm Bill.

- Specialty Crop Block Grant Program: On March 7, 2019, AMS announced the availability of approximately \$70 million for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.
- National Organic Standards Board (NOSB): In March 2019, AMS issued a Call for Nominations for the NOSB that included 2018 Farm Bill provisions that will lead to a more diverse candidate pool for the NOSB.

Original story from <https://www.nurserymag.com/article/usda-update-on-farm-bill/> maybe edited for length and content.

INLA Member Job Board

Have a job opening in your business? Need to get the word out? INLA offers a free job board to members. Please email listings to Joan O'Brien joano@agribiz.org.

Visit www.iowanla.org/job-postings/ for current listings.

Call the INLA office at 515-262-8323/800-383-1682 or email joano@agribiz.org for more details.

REFER A NEW MEMBER TODAY!

The Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association strives to promote the horticulture industry through its membership of growers, landscapers, brokers, and retail garden centers.

INLA offers excellent opportunities to its membership.

VISIT: <http://iowanla.org/becoming-a-member/>

Contact Your Legislators!

AmericanHort has launched three Voter Voice campaigns for the green industry to contact their legislators on important issues.

Voter Voice is a grassroots advocacy program that allows horticulture professionals to connect easily with their elected leaders on issues that affect their business. One click of a button allows members to send messages to those elected to serve. While our Advocacy team is a constant presence on capitol hill, your efforts to contact your representatives on key issues makes that presence much stronger.

- Clarifying Agricultural Commodity Definition
- Save H-2B Now
- H-2B Returning Worker Exemption

Visit <https://www.americanhort.org/page/votervoice> to view all campaigns and actions you can take to help strengthen the industry through civic action.



July 13-16, 2019
Greater Columbus Convention Center
Columbus, OH USA

County Supervisors Weigh in On EPA Waters Rule

Seeking clarity on how drainage ditches are treated under federal environmental law, Webster County is adding its voice to the comments on a proposed rule from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The hope is that the new rule will clarify that drainage ditches are exempt from rules for the Water Of The United States (WOTUS), said Webster County Supervisor Keith Dencklau.

The supervisors sent a letter to the EPA with their concerns. Dencklau said the letter was being forwarded on from the Iowa Drainage District Association. The EPA's proposed rule, which can be found on its website, is changing an earlier WOTUS rule implemented in 2015. That rule has never been put into practice. It is currently on hold due to a preliminary injunction issued by the U.S. District Court in North Dakota, according to the EPA.

While the EPA in 2015 claimed its rules were only a clarification, not an expansion of power, representatives from the Iowa Drainage District Association said the rule would be a massive expansion of federal power, and could categorize much of Iowa farmland as a water of the U.S.

The Webster County Board of Supervisors is in charge of more than 300 drainage districts in the county, Dencklau said, covering more than 300,000 acres.

"We applaud the stated purpose of the new rule to provide clarity, predictability and consistency to the regulators and to the public," the letter stated. "In many respects, the proposed rule is much of an improvement over the current situation. However, with respect to the drainage ditches specifically, the proposed rule continues to lack necessary clarity and will lead to increased costs to drainage districts and thus the landowners in those districts. Ditches are listed as a category of WOTUS and as an exclusion. This is unnecessarily confusing."

The EPA's potential rule states that "certain ditches" would be included under the EPA's control, but "certain ditches" would be excluded. The supervisors' letter proposed the rule be amended "to add a specific definition for 'drainage ditch' and exempting them from the rule."

The letter warns that the current wording could force counties into a "regulatory never-never land" where decisions on maintaining a ditch would have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Original story from <http://www.messengernews.net/news/local-news/2019/04/supervisors-weigh-in-on-epa-waters-rule/> edited for length

Calendar of Events

2019

July 13-16 Cultivate'19
Columbus, OH

2019 Board Members

President

Shawna Moss
Kirkwood Community College

Directors

Irv Geffre
Alta Falls & Pond Supplies

Past President

John Hughes
Hughes Nursery &
Landscaping LLC

Brad Punke
Unilock Chicago Inc.

Nick Reiter
Escapes Landscape & Design

ISU Liaison

Dr. Jeff Iles
Iowa State University

Doug Matthias
Matthias Landscaping Co.

Autumn Dodd
Wapsie Pines



Western
Nursery & Landscape Association

January 15, 16 & 17, 2020
Crown Center Exhibit Hall
Kansas City, MO

contact sarah@wnla.org for more information!