



News from  
Illinois Public Works  
Mutual Aid Network

January 2021

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## 2021 Annual Conference

Tuesday, Oct. 19 – Wednesday, Oct. 20

DoubleTree by Hilton, Bloomington

Learn about emerging disaster concerns, attend emergency preparedness training and network with other PW professionals. Any member who's interested in helping with the annual conference please contact [Mark Doerfler](#). Thank you!



## IPSI 2021 Scholarships

As a sponsoring organization of the Illinois Public Service Institute (IPSI), IPWMAN is offering two \$725 scholarships for 2021: one to attend the IPSI Spring session Apr. 25-30 which focuses on supervisory skills and one to attend the Fall session Oct. 3-8 which focuses on leadership skills.

Scholarship application deadlines are Feb. 5 for Spring and Aug. 6 for Fall.

[Learn more about IPSI](#)

[Get scholarship details/application](#)

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## Meet your new regional directors



**Region 3:** Gary Holm, City of Batavia; Vince Kilcullen, Village of Algonquin

**Region 6:** Kent Cox, City of Macomb; Clifford Frye, Christian County

**Region 8:** Dan Bowman, City of O'Fallon; Rob Hancock, City of Troy

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## Check out and share this video

In September we reported about Chenoa joining IPWMAN after the community was hit with straight-line winds. Please share their story with others in your area so they can join now before something happens and they can't get assistance when they need it most.

View the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45nfz5TtzA>



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## Why can't IPWMAN help non-members if the county is a member?

The complex nature of this topic underscores the importance of having seamless IPWMAN membership across various types of public works agencies within every county in Illinois!

If a county has roadways that pass through non-member towns, cities, and villages and the county maintains those roadways, IPWMAN can assist the county as part of an emergency response that requires assistance on those roads. Similar situations are possible when townships maintain roadways that are within a city, village, or town. If the township is an IPWMAN member, IPWMAN can assist with emergencies on those roadways.

Unless the State of Illinois requests assistance from IPWMAN, members are unable to provide help to non-member agencies for the following reasons:

**Liability:** The mutual aid agreement signed by IPWMAN members legally specifies that any responding agency will not be held liable for damages as long as its agents do not act negligently or maliciously. The requesting agency also agrees to provide the responding agency with information related to completing tasks, as well as with awareness of safety concerns and hazards, as part of daily briefings. If the requesting agency directs a responding agency to an assignment outside of the requesting agency's jurisdiction, the requesting agency exposes itself and the responding agency to possible claims for which they are responsible.

**Reimbursement:** The member mutual aid agreement also fulfills certain conditions that must be met for FEMA to consider providing reimbursement to disaster-stricken agencies when the cost of the disaster exceeds a dollar amount based upon population and per capita income.

To determine the costs for that reimbursement — typically for 75% of the recovery costs — a stricken community may include the costs of volunteer work, but only if a mutual aid agreement is in place prior to the disaster and the community requested assistance from an agency covered by the agreement at the time of the disaster.

Let's work together to build a wider network of IPWMAN members across Illinois so that wherever help is needed, there are agencies to step up and help each other.

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## Shoutout to our Fall duty officers!

**Sept:** Kelly Kerr (primary); Elias Koutas (secondary); Mark Runyon (shadow)\*

**Oct:** Joe Cronin (primary); Gary Holm (secondary); Rob Hancock (shadow)\*

**Nov:** Tim Neargarder (primary); Scott Schweda (secondary); Caleb Hanson (shadow)\*

**Dec:** Don Wenzel (primary); Vince Kilcullen (secondary); Dan Ruggles (shadow)\*

\*Newly recruited duty officers who have been added to the rotation for additional training



## TRAINING UPDATE

### IPWMAN Duty Officer Training

Duty officer training, open to any interested member, is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 from 10-11 am (via ZOOM). Duty officers play a very important role, acting as the initial point of contact following a request for assistance. If you want to be part of the duty officer dream team, contact [ekoutas@palatine.illinois.us](mailto:ekoutas@palatine.illinois.us) so he can add

you to the training list.



### Online Training Opportunities

**Work Zone Safety** (Jan. 7, 14, 21, 2021 9:00 am)

**Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities**  
(Feb. 3-4, 2021)



**Spotlight On... Series.** Plan to set aside the second Tuesday of each month for APWA's webinar series covering 12 key public works focus areas. The series features sessions on relevant topics presented in varying formats to maximize participant learning and engagement. Emergency Management will be the topic on June 8, 2021 from 1-4:30pm.

## TRAINING CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE](#)

### Winter safety info

- **Prepare for winter driving** with info from NSC.
- **Learn about hypothermia**, one of the greatest dangers facing people who work in the cold, in this video.

**New! Tailgate Talk: Cold Weather Driving Safety - PDF**

### Remember: IPWMAN is ready to help!

If local resources get overwhelmed in the midst of a blizzard or ice storm this winter, our members are available to help. Contact the number listed on the orange Mutual Aid Requests IPWMAN Call Center card. If you are a member and need an orange card, contact Sarah Harbaugh at [info@ipwman.org](mailto:info@ipwman.org).



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Avon Township Road District

Village of Lakewood

Village of Kenilworth

**See all members by county or region**

## 2021 audio and video presentations

Do you belong to an organization whose members would benefit from knowing more about IPWMAN? We recently joined the IAA meeting via videoconference and we would love to present information to other groups. Contact **Barb Stiehl** to discuss details.

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### ILLINOIS PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID NETWORK

P.O. Box 898 | St. Charles, IL 60174 | [info@ipwman.org](mailto:info@ipwman.org) | 844-479-6269

[www.ipwman.org](http://www.ipwman.org)

