

# ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • CONTRACTORS

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# PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

- by Kevin Kuhn  
Illinois PHCC President

## Next Year is Almost Here: Get Ready Now

As the year draws to a close and we're in full "holiday season mode," I want to remind all our members that dues notices for 2026 have already gone out and you have the chance to save 5% on your membership renewal by submitting your annual dues by or before December 31. Please take advantage of this discount and re-commit to the PHCC for the year ahead.

The National PHCC CONNECT convention held in late October in Grand Rapids MI reminded me (again) of the value of membership, which makes me want to emphasize why belonging to our association is always in our own best interest. This year's convention featured straight forward and eye-opening explanations of the wide range of innovative and practical resources, benefits, perks and services that only PHCC members are able to utilize.

The legislative reports we heard showed over and over again the importance of having a unified voice both on the national and state levels. The educational classes that I attended offered practical, real-world advice and information that the contractors can apply to their businesses.

The three sessions planned and presented by the Union Affiliated Contractors (UAC) addressed topics that are unique to signatory companies – prudent strategies to keep pensions viable and strong; a frank conversation with the UA General President Mark McManus that welcomed questions and comments from the audience; and a detailed explanation with realistic recommendations on the many things a union company must consider when it's time to sell, pass it down, or even close it.

The trade show, the social events, the apprentice contest, the tour of Bradford White, and the networking among peers completed the experience. Needless to say, I'm very glad I attended. Next year the location for PHCC CONNECT is Milwaukee from October 19-22, and I urge all our Illinois Chapter members to make the effort to be there. It's worth it.

In closing, all of us at the IL PHCC wish you, your families and your co-workers a very Merry Christmas, and a happy and peaceful holiday season. I hope that 2026 brings you success, prosperity and continued good health.

*All the best - Kevin*



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# 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](http://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

**Fri., January 9, 2026 – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
(Online)

**Fri., February 6, 2026 – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
(Online)

**Sat., February 21, 2026 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
(Online)

**Fri., 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)



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JANUARY 9, 2026**

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

**MARCH 21, 2026**

IL PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings  
Hilton Suites Hotel  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

**FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

**MARCH 23-25, 2026**

QSC of PHCC Catalyst  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**FEBRUARY 21, 2026**

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

**MAY 5-6, 2026**

PHCC National Legislative Conference  
Washington, DC

**FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026**

CCA of PHCC Spring Meeting  
Park City, Utah

**OCTOBER 19-22, 2026**

CONNECT 2026  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**MARCH 20, 2026**

IL PHCC Expo & Educational Day  
Drury Lane Conference Center  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL



## FALL MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL!

If you are not currently a PHCC member, now is the perfect time to join! Any new member who joins PHCC between now and December 31st of 2025, will have their dues paid through December 31, 2026. That gives you a free bonus month of membership benefits for FREE for the rest of 2025, and locks in your 2026 dues at the 2025 rate. See the membership application in this issue. Questions? Call or email the Illinois PHCC at 800-795-PHCC, [bev@ilphcc.com](mailto:bev@ilphcc.com) or [shelly@ilphcc.com](mailto:shelly@ilphcc.com).



# MANDATORY SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING

Public Act 101-0221 (commonly referred to as the Workplace Transparency Act), requires Illinois employers to provide sexual harassment prevention training to their employees on an annual basis, regardless of the size of the company.

**Under this law, Illinois employers have until December 31st each year to train employees on sexual harassment prevention.** The Act provides minimum standards that must be included in the training. To assist your business in complying with this new law, the Illinois Department of Human Rights has posted the following information on its website:

- A FAQ for Sexual Harassment Prevention Training
- Minimum Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Standards for All Employers

Employers must either develop their own sexual harassment prevention training program that equals or exceeds the minimum standards for sexual harassment prevention training outlined in Section 2-109(B) of the Illinois Human Rights Act, or they may use the model training provided by the IDHR. The model training program can be downloaded by visiting <https://www2.illinois.gov/dhr/Training/Pages/State-of-Illinois-Sexual-Harassment-Prevention-Training-Model.aspx>

**For more information,** please visit IDHR's website at [www.illinois.gov/dhr/training](http://www.illinois.gov/dhr/training).



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# PHCC's CONNECT DELIVERS A POWERFUL INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE IN GRAND RAPIDS

The Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association (PHCC) recently hosted CONNECT 2025 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from October 27-30, bringing together plumbing and HVACR professionals for an engaging industry event.

The conference featured over 20 educational sessions, interactive panels and countless networking opportunities, offering attendees the chance to share best practices, explore emerging trends and gain insights to help them grow their businesses.

The prestigious 2025 Colonel George D. Scott Award was presented to Jeff Voss of Boone, North Carolina, recognizing his years of service and devotion to the association and the industry. This award honors those whose efforts have significantly benefited other plumbing, heating and cooling contractors.

“CONNECT is more than a conference, it’s a celebration of who we are as an industry,” said PHCC President Dan Callies, president of Oak Creek Plumbing in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. “When we come together to share knowledge and support one another, we strengthen our future and the legacy of our profession.”

Next year’s conference will be held October 19-22 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Contractors are encouraged to mark their calendars now for this opportunity to continue building connections and enhancing their businesses.

For updates on future events, visit [phccweb.org/CONNECT](http://phccweb.org/CONNECT). Thank you to our 2025 CONNECT sponsors for their support!

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# RECAPS OF THE UAC SESSIONS AT PHCC's CONNECT 2025

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Three information-packed sessions presented by the Union Affiliated Contractors (UAC, an enhanced specialty group of the PHCC National Association) on October 29 focusing on the unique issues, challenges and opportunities impacting signatory (union) plumbing & HVAC contractors drew strong attendance at PHCC's "CONNECT" convention in Grand Rapids, MI. The "centerpiece" session, *"Conversation with UA General President Mark McManus,"* opened with the keynote speaker delivering a concise overview of the 393,000-member international union's current projects and activities – including training initiatives; organizing (recruitment) successes; legislative, code, licensing and regulatory priorities; and specific programs and initiatives that are underway and being led by the UA's various departments.

**UA General President Mark McManus** responded candidly yet thoughtfully to questions posed from nearly 75 attendees and led by moderator S.J. Peters (PCA-Chicago & UAC) at this briskly paced 80-minute session, covering a number of pertinent topics. Whether commenting on the UA's consistent efforts to protect licensing and strong codes; gaining (and regaining) work endlessly pursued by other trades or unlicensed "posers;" explaining the union's strategies for ongoing growth and evolution; innovations launched by local unions that often are adopted throughout the UA; or the cutting edge technological and end-user oriented training the UA insists on, Mr. McManus repeatedly emphasized the long-standing and industry-focused collaboration between the contractors and the union's leaders and members. Attendees were treated to a substantial and spirited discussion, often peppered with humor as well as personal insights by both the speaker and an audience comprised of contractors (signatory and 'open shop'), association officials, union leaders and CONNECT registrants from many areas of the trade who came to listen in.

**Pension Plan Options: Panel Session** – Insights, experiences and recommendations were sought from five distinct industry leaders who all are well-versed on the main subject of Defined Benefit union pensions in this substantial examination of the viability, sustainability and the future of retirement plans in the multi-employer world. Under the direction of moderator S.J. Peters (PCA & UAC), Plumbers Local 130/Chicago management co-chair Michael Kerrigan (FJ Kerrigan Plumbing) recounted the prudent actions over the past decade that led to the current nearly 106% funding of its DB plan, while MCA/PHCC Detroit EVP Chris Freeman explained how both Plumbers Local 98 and Pipefitters Local 636 in that market agreed to switch to an innovative "Cash Balance" plan aimed at preserving retirement security for the members. Immediate past PHCC President Dan Callies (Oak Creek Plumbing) commented on the funding levels and participant perceptions on the retirement plan at Plumbers Local 75 covering a large section of Wisconsin, while past PHCC President and current UAC chairman Dave Frame (Bob Frame Plumbing Services, South Bend IN) offered his perspectives as a previous DB plan Trustee for UA Local 72. Attorney Christina Wernick, partner with Laner-Muchin/Chicago and previous counsel for the Laborers Union in Greater Chicago, delved into issues and resolutions she has dealt with and observed regarding national pension plans, the PBGC, plan mergers and their impact (positive or otherwise), the "rescue plan" (realities vs.

*Cont. 'd from page 9*

perceptions), and more. Audience participation added to a substantial exploration and a constructive discussion on this crucial topic.

### **Selling; Next Generation Transitioning; or Closing a Union Contracting Business**

Attorney/Of Counsel Megan Wilkes along with Attorney/Partner Christina Wernick of Laner Muchin/Chicago jointly presented this in-depth session (subtitled: Eyes Wide Open) offering advance advice and important considerations that apply specifically to union contractors as they plan to leave their businesses. Among the subjects covered: collective bargaining contract language “binding” the companies to a union; how to properly disassociate or transfer such relationships; pension fund obligations to be addressed prior to a transition; and recommendations on avoiding pitfalls and problems that may arise without prudent planning. The session leaders also fielded many relevant audience comments and questions.

### **UAC MODERATED SESSION:**

### **“CONVERSATION WITH UA GENERAL PRESIDENT MARK MCMANUS”**



**From left, standing:** S.J. Peters (PCA of Greater Chicago); John Baethke (Baethke Plumbing; PCA; IL PHCC); Dave Frame (Bob Frame Plumbing; UAC Chair; past PHCC President); Rick Kuhn (RJ Kuhn; PCA); Tom Gent (Midwest IL Mechanical Contractors Association; IRC; UAC); Brian Kelly (UA, Director of HVAC Services); Mark McManus (UA General President); Kevin Kuhn (RJ Kuhn; IL PHCC President; PCA); Kelly Castrogiovanni (TPC; PCA President); James Coyne (Plumbers Local 130 Business Manager); Tom Bigley (UA Director of Plumbing Services); Brian Rich (GA Rich; UA Intl. Training Fund; UAC); Tim Brink (MCAA CEO; Steve Stimson (GA Rich; UAC; UA Book Store); Terry McCarthy (TPC; PHCC Auxiliary President; PCA); Matt Erickson (CJ Erickson; PCA; CCA); Dan Callies (Oak Creek Plumbing; PHCC immediate past President); **seated, from left:** James Majerowicz (Plumbers Local 130 Director of Codes & Standards); Michael Kerrigan (FJ Kerrigan Plumbing; PCA); Bev Potts (IL PHCC Executive Director; UAC); and Cindy Sheridan (PHCC CEO).

## MAINTAINING STRONG UNION PENSIONS & EXPLORING RETIREMENT PLAN OPTION



**From left: Dave Frame** (UAC Chairman; past PHCC National President; CEO/Owner: Bob Frame Plumbing Services – South Bend IN); **Christina Wernick** (Partner, Laner-Muchin – Chicago IL); **Mike Kerrigan** (President - FJ Kerrigan Plumbing; Co-Chair: Plumbers Local 130 UA Pension; past PCA President); **Dan Callies** (PHCC Immediate Past President; CEO/Owner: Oak Creek Plumbing); **Chris Freeman** (Executive VP – MCA Detroit and Alternate Trustee: Plumbers Local 98 & Pipe Fitters Local 636 Pension Funds); and **S.J. Peters** (Executive Director – PCA of Greater Chicago; UAC Advisor; Alternate Trustee – Plumbers Local 130 Pension & Welfare Funds).

### EYES WIDE OPEN - PREPAREDNESS AND AVOIDING PITFALLS: SELLING; NEXT GENERATION TRANSITIONING; OR CLOSING A UNION CONTRACTING BUSINESS



**Christina Wernick**, partner/attorney with Laner Muchin – Chicago (left) and **Megan Wilkes**, attorney/of counsel with Laner Muchin (right)

### CONVERSATION WITH UA GP MARK MCMANUS



UA General President **Mark McManus** (left) with session moderator **S.J. Peters**

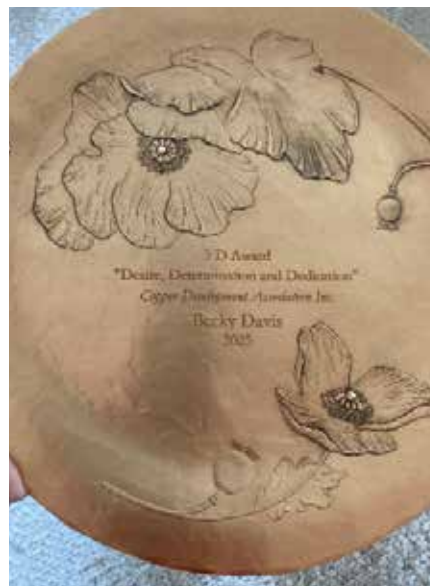




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# BECKY DAVIS HONORED AT PHCC CONNECT

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For over 30 years, she's been an active member of the Illinois PHCC Auxiliary and has made her mark for the National Auxiliary. Becky Davis was fittingly presented with the "3D" award sponsored by the Copper Development Association (CDA) during the closing festivities in Grand Rapids, MI on October 30 – the final day of the PHCC's CONNECT 2025 convention. She was introduced and given the award by Harold Moret of the CDA. The "3D's" stand for Desire; Determination; and Dedication.

The National Auxiliary Executive Board is tasked with choosing a recipient who is honored for their service as a dedicated and loyal member who willingly gives of their time and talent to better the Auxiliary.

Becky has held every office in the Illinois Auxiliary (some more than once) and is currently the Vice President, Newsletter Editor, Marketing Chair, and on the Scholarship Committee. Becky compiles information for the newsletter, The Auxiliary Pipeline, and sends it out at least twice a year. She sees that the newsletter goes to current, potential and past members to keep them updated on what the Auxiliary is doing. As Marketing Chair, she oversees the ordering, advertising, and selling of the Auxiliary's Plumbing License Law T-shirts. While this does provide some revenue to the Auxiliary, the purpose is more to inform the public about the importance of hiring licensed plumbers. Becky often volunteers at the Illinois PHCC helping with the sale of plumbing code books, manning events, and other projects.

On the National Auxiliary level, she has served as Convention Co-Chair multiple times. She also served as an at-large director, visiting neighboring states to represent the Auxiliary.

The Illinois PHCC and Auxiliary congratulate Becky on this well-deserved honor.





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## TERRY MCCARTHY ELECTED NATIONAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



At the annual meeting of the PHCC National Auxiliary, Terry McCarthy of Lake in the Hills, Illinois was elected as national president. He was installed during the closing event at PHCC CONNECT 2025 in Grand Rapids on October 30th.

The Illinois PHCC Auxiliary is proud of Terry and wishes him well on his year at the helm of the Auxiliary.



## ILLINOIS PHCC RECEIVES NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE AWARD



During CONNECT 2025 the Illinois PHCC was awarded the PHCC National Association's *Grassroots Excellence Award* for their work with legislative and regulatory issues on the state and national levels. The award was presented at the PHCC National Association's PAC Event in Grand Rapids on October 28th.



## ILLINOIS PHCC RECEIVES COMMUNICATION AWARD

At the recent PHCC Connect '25, the Illinois PHCC received an award in the Association Executive Council (AEC) of PHCC's Awards for Excellence in Communication. The awards are judged by a panel of experts against other state and local associations.

The Illinois Master Plumber magazine received an award for the Annual Membership Directory published each year by the Illinois PHCC.





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# CELEBRATING THE VERY BEST OF 2025 AT CONNECT

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## 2025 PHCC—National Awards

2025 Col. George D. Scott Award: **Jeff Voss**, Jeff's Plumbing & Repair, Inc., Boone, North Carolina

2025 Plumbing Contractor of the Year (sponsored by Delta Faucet Co.): **Ashley Stroud**, Plumbing Outfitters, Taylor, Texas

2025 HVAC Contractor of the Year (sponsored by Rheem): **Larry Shoemaker**, Deluxe Plumbing & Heating, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

2025 Plumbing Instructor of the Year (sponsored by Milwaukee Tool): **Cody Schroeder**, Midwestern Mechanical Trades Academy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

2025 Plumbing Apprentice of the Year (sponsored by Delta Faucet Co.): **Valerie Butler**, Mechanical Skills, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana

2025 HVACR Instructor of the Year (sponsored by Milwaukee Tool): **Jeremy Gregg**, Knoxville PHCC Apprentice School, Knoxville, Tennessee

2025 HVAC Apprentice of the Year (sponsored by Rheem): **Jantzen Fisher**, Western Dakota Technical College, Rapid City, South Dakota

## PHCC—National Auxiliary Awards 2025

3D Award (sponsored by the Copper Development Association): **Becky Davis** of PHCC of Illinois Auxiliary.

PHCC Safety First Award (sponsored by Federated Insurance)

**Fred Graber**, Mechanical Man, Inc., Goshen, Indiana.

AEC Communications Award Winners

**PHCC of Tennessee** for Best Events and Convention

**PHCC of Illinois** for Best Membership Directory

**PHCC of Tennessee** for Best Newsletter

**PHCC of Wisconsin** for Best Magazine

**PHCC of Washington** for Best Social Media

**PHCC of Gulf Coast** for Best Website

**PHCC of North Carolina** for Best Membership Brochures

AEC Spectrum Award

PHCC of Massachusetts Executive Director **Wayne Thomas**

Chapter Excellence in Advocacy Awards

2025 PHCC Grassroots Excellence Award: **PHCC of Illinois**

2025 PHCC Legislative Excellence Award: **PHCC of Massachusetts**

## Investing in the Next Generation

Scholarships totaling \$168,500 were announced by the PHCC Educational Foundation and PHCC National Auxiliary at CONNECT. The Auxiliary awarded 21 scholarships totaling \$39,500. The Foundation awarded \$129,000 to 55 plumbing and HVAC apprentices, trade school students, and college students pursuing studies directly related to the p-h-c industry.

### Educational Foundation 2025 National Apprentice Contest Winners

First Place Plumbing Apprentice Contest Winner – **Josh Vogt** with Bombard Mechanical in Las Vegas, Nevada

Second Place Plumbing Apprentice Contest Winner – **Cody Green** with Midwestern Mechanical in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Third Place Plumbing Apprentice Contest Winner – **Daniel (Danny) Pritchett** with Reichelt Plumbing in Schererville, Indiana







**Happy Holidays**

From the

**Bloomington/Normal PHCC**

**C.K. Brush**

**G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc.**

**Mid-Illinois Mechanical  
Pipeworks Inc.**

**The PIPCO Companies**

**Wm Masters, Inc.**

**Steve Stimson, President**

**Paul Brush, Vice President**

**Jeff Brown, Secretary/Treasurer**

**Tammy Rich Stimson, State Director**

**Bev Potts, Executive Director**



## PLUMBING CODE BOOK ORDER FORM

PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY.  
WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION TO PROVIDE YOU WITH UPDATES ELECTRONICALLY.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Cost \$60.95/Code Book

(includes tabs, Plumbing License Law, Plumbers Licensing Code,  
Plumbing Contractor Registration Code and  
Lawn Irrigation 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 [bev@ilphcc.com](mailto:bev@ilphcc.com) or [shelly@ilphcc.com](mailto:shelly@ilphcc.com)**

**(217) 522-7219**





*Happy Holidays !!*



*IPEA of Central Illinois  
&  
IPEA of Western Illinois*

*Visit our website at [www.ipea1.org](http://www.ipea1.org)  
for more information and for educational opportunities*

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The Illinois State Association of the PHCC and PCA of Greater Chicago:

## Plumbing Contractors Association (PCA) of Greater Chicago

Kelly Castrogiovanni, PCA of Greater Chicago - President (Terry Plumbing Co.)  
 Brian Kennedy, Chicagoland Plumbing Council - Chair (Gehrett Plumbing, Inc.)  
 S.J. Peters, Executive Director - PCA & Plumbing Council



Working together continuously for our members and our industry.



*The PCA appreciates and recognizes the dedication, innovation, services and resources we've all come to expect and value thanks to the capable hands, skill and tireless efforts of Executive Director Bev Potts, Associate Director Shelly Lott, the Chapter Board, and our State Auxiliary.*



*PCA of Greater Chicago is proud to be the sole signatory Chicago-area local chapter of the Illinois & National PHCC and the UAC.  
 Providing the most responsive advocacy and support to our members.*



PCA of Greater Chicago: 900 Jorie Blvd., Suite 195 - Oak Brook IL 60523 | Office: 312.563.9526 | Fax: 630.960.5487 | [sj@pcaofchicago.com](mailto:sj@pcaofchicago.com) | [www.pcaofchicago.com](http://www.pcaofchicago.com)





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

Please print or type

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Illinois Plumbing Contractor's Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

(For those involved in Plumbing Contracting)

☐ Union Shop ☐ Open Shop

### Type of Business Activities

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing               | <input type="checkbox"/> Backflow Inspection...EPA Backflow                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HVAC                   | Cert. # _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydronics              | <input type="checkbox"/> Refrigeration   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Process Piping         | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Sprinkler Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Utilities  | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Service/Repair..... <input type="checkbox"/> 24 hr. service |

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**

## Inclement Weather Driving

Driving is a dangerous task — it takes focus, awareness, knowledge, and patience to operate a vehicle safely. So when the weather takes a turn, events such as: snow, sleet, ice, rain, fog, wind, and extreme temperature fluctuations can contribute to potential disruptive moments on the road, and extra care is needed to continue driving safely.

### Watch the Weather before Getting Behind the Wheel

While weather forecasts aren't 100 percent accurate, they offer a good starting point for you and your drivers. Most meteorology services, such as the [National Weather Service](#) publish their predictions a week or more in advance and update them as conditions change.

If you have fleet drivers out on the road, they face unique risks as they are tasked with protecting your business' cargo, the vehicle, and themselves. If inclement weather occurs, your employees need to know how to safely react. Keep emergency kits in all fleet vehicles, encourage consistent communication, have your driver inform others of their location and destination, and remind them to keep cell phones charged should they need to call emergency services.

### Driver and Vehicle Tips

It is important for all drivers to plan out a driving schedule and remain aware of weather conditions that could impact you or others on the road. At all times behind the wheel, it is a good safety practice to utilize [Drive S.A.F.E.](#) techniques (Speed, Attention, Fatigue, Emotion), and expect potential delays if the weather isn't looking good.

Don't forget — it's not just you that needs to be ready for whatever the weather sends your way. Remember to prepare your vehicle as well by:

- Regularly maintaining your vehicle, and checking tire pressure and tread
- In cold weather, warming your vehicle before driving it, clearing accumulated snow, and scraping windows
- Ensuring any cargo is safely secured
- Packing emergency supplies, including jumper cables, extra layers, food and water, and first aid.

Reach out to your local [marketing representative](#) for more information on coverages that could help protect your business. Federated® clients can also access [mySHIELD®](#) for disaster preparedness risk management resources that can help them when severe weather is on the radar.

1. <https://www.weather.gov/sjt/WatchWarningAdvisoryExplained>. Accessed 10/7/22.

*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.*

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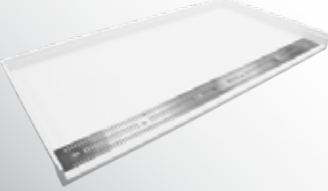










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