



Michigan Association of
County Drain Commissioners

124TH WINTER CONFERENCE

February 14-16, 2024

Radisson Plaza Hotel
Kalamazoo, MI

GENERAL INFORMATION & WELCOME

It is our pleasure to invite you to MACDC's 124th Winter Conference. Enclosed please find information about the conference. **Please note that Room Reservations are recorded by the hotel, and that Conference and Exhibitor Registrations are coordinated through MACDC.**

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION.

Register online at <https://macdc.us/events/conferences>

All registrants must register online at the link above. Payment can be made by check or credit card. To pay by check select that option during registration and mail your check along with your registration confirmation to:

**Michigan Association of County Drain
Commissioners
120 N. Washington Square, Suite 110A
Lansing, MI 48933**

Fees for MACDC Members and Associate Members are \$310; non-member rates are \$450. There is also a spouse/guest meal package available.

Please register for all persons attending the Conference. This information is needed to ensure that we have name badges for all attendees.

MEALS.

Your Conference Registration includes 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 2 dinners. You may also include meals for your spouse/guests on the registration form.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS.

Please indicate any special dietary needs on your registration.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

Make your reservations by calling (269) 343-3333 (mention **MACDC Winter Conference**).

Reservations can also be made [online](#).

*Hotel Reservation requests must be received by Radisson Plaza Hotel by **January 23, 2024**. Hotel Reservation requests received after that date will be made based upon availability.*

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT.

Check-in time at Radisson Plaza Hotel is 4:00 PM. Check-out is prior to 11:00 AM on your departure day.

LATE REGISTRATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY.

Please be advised that the MACDC Board of Directors has enacted a Late Registration and Cancellation Policy. This policy relates to the Conference Registration and not the Hotel Registration.

Conference Registration through MACDC's Treasurer must be received by **January 31, 2024**. Registrations received after February 1, 2024, will be required to pay a late registration fee of **\$25.00**.

Cancellations. Persons who cancel their Conference Registration by **January 31, 2024** will receive a full refund. No refunds will be granted after that date.

These policies will be enforced by MACDC's Treasurer.

EDUCATIONAL CREDIT.

Educational credit for Engineers and Surveyors may be applicable for certain sessions at the Conference. Attendees may claim credit based on the requirements for their particular license.

Sign-in sheets will be available at all educational sessions. It is the responsibility of the attendee to sign in during applicable sessions. Sign-in sheets will be available for download from the MACDC website following the conference.

EXHIBITORS.

Registration for exhibitor space is available online at <https://macdc.us/events/conferences>

****IMPORTANT****

All exhibiting companies must register all attendees for the conference in addition to the booth registration

Additional exhibitor information and a booth layout can be found on pages 6 & 7 of this packet.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT.

The MACDC-PAC will again be hosting a euchre tournament as a fundraiser for the PAC. The event will take place following the banquet Thursday evening, time and location to be determined. Only personal checks and credit cards are accepted with checks made out to MACDC-PAC. Sign up will be available at the registration table throughout the conference.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Tuesday, February 13

- 1:30–3:00 PM **Legislative Meeting**
Gillmore Boardroom
- 3:00–5:00 PM **Board of Directors Meeting**
Gillmore Boardroom
- 12:00–6:00 PM **Exhibitor Set-up**
Kalamazoo Room

Wednesday, February 14

- 8:00 AM–2:00 PM **Exhibitor Set-up**
Kalamazoo Room
- 10:00 AM **Registration Opens**
Pre KAC
- 12:00 PM **Lunch on your own**
- 1:10 PM **Call to Order and Welcome**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 1:15–3:00 PM **Educational Sessions**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 3:00–3:30 PM **Break/View Exhibits**
Kalamazoo Room
- 3:30–5:00 PM **Educational Sessions**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 6:00–7:00 PM **Reception/View Exhibits**
Kalamazoo Room
- 7:00–8:30 PM **Strolling Dinner/View Exhibits**
Kalamazoo Room
- 8:30 PM **After Dinner Activities**

Thursday, February 15

- 7:30–9:00 AM **Breakfast**
Morning Dish
- 8:30 AM **Exhibit Area Open**
Kalamazoo Room
- 9:15–10:30 AM **Educational Sessions**
Arcadia Ballroom

Thursday, February 15 cont.

- 10:30–11:00 AM **Break/View Exhibits**
Kalamazoo Room
- 11:00–12:15 PM **Educational Session**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 12:15–1:30 PM **Lunch/2024 Awards Program**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 1:30–3:15 PM **Educational Sessions**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 3:15–3:45 PM **Break/View Exhibits**
Kalamazoo Room
- 3:40 PM **Silent Auction Ends**
Kalamazoo Room
- 3:45 PM **Exhibitor Tear-down**
Kalamazoo Room
- 3:45–4:45 PM **Educational Sessions**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 4:45 PM **Associate Member Meeting**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 6:00–7:00 PM **Reception**
Arcadia Prefunction
- 7:00 PM **Dinner**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 8:30 PM **After Dinner Activities**
Euchre Tournament
Old Burdick's

Friday, February 16

- 7:30–9:30 AM **Breakfast**
Morning Dish
- 9:30 AM **MACDC District Meetings**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 10:00 AM **Business Meeting/
Committee Reports**
Arcadia Ballroom
- 11:00 AM **Adjourn**

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Wednesday, February 14

1:15–2:00 PM

The Assertiveness Problem: How to Develop Bold Employees that Can Handle Pressure

John M. Collins, Critical Victories

This presentation will expose some contemporary barriers that are preventing our newest employees from developing an authoritative presence. We will discuss the damage this causes and how to formalize a better process for helping people become stronger and better prepared to deal with challenging situations.

2:00–2:30 PM

Don't be Shocked! Tips for saving time, headaches, and money by anticipating utility conflicts

Luke O'Brien & Steve Roznowski, Spicer Group, Inc.

Unexpected utility conflicts can cause significant delays and costs for construction projects. We all know to call Miss Dig before construction starts, but there are a number of other things you can do to anticipate, coordinate, and avoid utility conflicts. This session uses past experiences to highlight ways to better coordinate with utilities before and during construction.

2:30–3:00 PM

The Trouble with Easements!

John S. Brennan, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes, PLC

In this session we'll explore some of the problems often encountered when acquiring easements for drain projects. Some of the topics we'll cover include private roads, plat dedications, public road rights-of-way, conflicting easements, and dealing with the reluctant property owner. Understanding these problems will assist you in planning projects and avoiding conflicts along the way.

3:30–4:15 PM

Communicate well for better project outcomes

Taylor Trapani & Stacey Trapani, Trapani Communications

This session will provide tips and tricks to effectively communicate during any initiative to maintain transparency and achieve your outcomes. The Trapani team works with clients ranging from Four Lakes Task Force to Fortune

50 companies and municipalities to manage communications for complex and controversial community projects. Their presentation will share examples from projects including millages, lake level special assessment districts, Super Fund sites and others to handle community and public outreach throughout your project.

4:15–5:00 PM Legislative Update

Deena Bosworth, Michigan Association of Counties

MACDC lobbyist Deena Bosworth will give an update on bills affecting drain offices, as well as an overview of the legislative process.

Thursday, February 16

9:15–9:45 AM

Liabilities and Obligations Arising from PFAS Contamination in Drainage Systems and Effluent

Pat Larkin, Clark Hill

Public and private entities with responsibility for managing wastewater and stormwater facilities currently face multiple hits to operating costs, new and growing regulatory and operational requirements and potential CERCLA-type liability – all arising from third parties' historic (or ongoing) use and releases of PFAS:

1. current or imminent obligation to perform expensive monitoring of intake and effluent flows for the presence of PFAS
2. expanded permit duties or risk-based need to identify and engage with sources of PFAS releases
3. enhanced treatment and disposal costs of system treatment residues
4. potential liability for historic disposals or contaminated drainage systems.

This session will provide strategies to identify, monetize and mitigate (or transfer) the imminent risks and obligations of Association members arising from PFAS contamination and discharge sources impacting drainage effluents.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Thursday, February 15 cont.

9:45–10:30 AM

Soil Erosion Updates

EGLÉ staff

EGLÉ staff will give updates on the SESC program and various happenings within the department.

11:00–11:30 AM

Social Media Management Best Practices

Trisha Bruzek & Brendan Hancsak, OCWR

During a time where social media is an integral part of our personal and professional lives, staying updated on best management practices is critical when it comes to the success of your organization's online presence. In this session we'll dive into the world of social media, providing you with tools and guidance on how to make the most of your efforts. Most importantly, we'll show you how to make social media fun for both you and your followers.

11:30 AM–12:15 PM

The YPC Show

Young Professionals Committee

Join the YPC for a fun and interactive session that tests your knowledge and Drain IQ!

1:30–2:00 PM

Michigan's Protected Amphibians and Reptiles: Regulation, Conservation, and Best Management Practices

David A. Mifsud, Senior Herpetologist, Herpetological Resource and Management

More than half of all reptiles and amphibians in Michigan are considered protected or declining. Several have recently been protected in the state, while others are being federally evaluated. This presentation will focus on the regulatory authority governing amphibians and reptiles, measures to conserve on drain projects, and ways to minimize impacts or improve habitat for these species through Best Management Practices.

2:00–2:30 PM

Treading Lightly

Drew Stoffel, PE & Christine DeVries, LRE

Dallas Goldberg, Muskegon County Water Resources

An overview of recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) when working near sensitive habitats, including how to identify and address common invasive, threatened & endangered, and wetland plant species found along Michigan's Drains.

2:30–3:15 PM

Stormwater Management - Rules, Regulations, & Ordinances

Cole Hedrick & Kyle O'Meara, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes, PLC

Dennis Chase, LRE

Effective review and management of stormwater impacts is essential to ensuring sustainable development and protecting our communities. This presentation will highlight recommended rules/regulations, review and ordinance authority, and importance of local municipality coordination.

3:45–4:15 PM

Riding the Data Wave: Tech for Flood Response and Lake Level Management

Brandon Wong, CEO, Hyfi

Discover how pioneering Michigan communities adopted monitoring technologies and data analytics to manage lake levels, enhance flood response, and actively engage with local residents. Join us for case studies from Dearborn and lakes across the state.

4:15–4:45 PM

EGLÉ Updates

Phil Roos, Director, EGLÉ

New EGLÉ Director, Phil Roos, will give updates on the department and EGLÉ's unique regulatory role in ensuring the Great Lakes and their connecting waters remain the vital cultural, recreational, ecological, and economic engines of the region. The agency also regulates air quality, waste management, drinking water, groundwater, oil and gas extraction, and contaminated site remediation.

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

County Drain Commissioners in Michigan are responsible for providing surface drainage to land usable for agriculture and development. Estimated attendance at the annual MACDC Winter Conference is over 300 participants. Attendees include County Drain Commissioners, technical and support staff, other elected officials, Michigan Department of Transportation and Department of Agriculture and related federal officials. The conference allows your firm to make contact with a significant number of officials who make daily purchasing decisions.

EXHIBIT RATES

	Member	Non-Member*
6-foot table-top display area <i>Includes one (1) skirted table and two (2) chairs</i>	\$400	\$800
12-foot free standing display area <i>Includes two (2) skirted tables and four (4) chairs</i>	\$500	\$900

***To join MACDC as an associate member, please call 517.484.9761 or visit our website at www.macdc.us/join**

Exhibit rates **DO NOT include conference registration**. It is MACDC's policy that **all exhibitors must also be registered** for the conference separately from the exhibit fee. **Individuals not registered will be billed following the conference.**

MACDC EXHIBITOR'S SCHEDULE.

EXHIBIT AREA - Kalamazoo Room

Tuesday, February 13

12:00 – 6:00 PM Exhibitor Set-up

Wednesday, February 14

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM Exhibitor Set-up
3:00 – 8:30 PM Exhibit Area Open
3:00 – 3:30 PM Break/View Exhibits
6:00 – 8:30 PM Dinner in Exhibit Area

Thursday, February 15

8:30 AM – 3:45 PM Exhibit Area Open
10:30 – 11:00 AM Break/View Exhibits
3:15 – 3:45 PM Break/View Exhibits
3:45 PM Dismantle Displays

NOTE: DISPLAYS CANNOT BE TAKEN DOWN UNTIL AFTER 3:45 PM ON THURSDAY

BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS.

- Space is limited so sign up early!
- Exhibit space is assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis and is reserved upon receipt of full payment.
- Table Assignments will be emailed to registrants prior to conference and will also be posted on the MACDC website (www.macdc.us)

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES.

Register online at www.macdc.us
Please register by **January 31, 2024***

ALL EXHIBITORS MUST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE SEPARATELY FROM BOOTH FEES

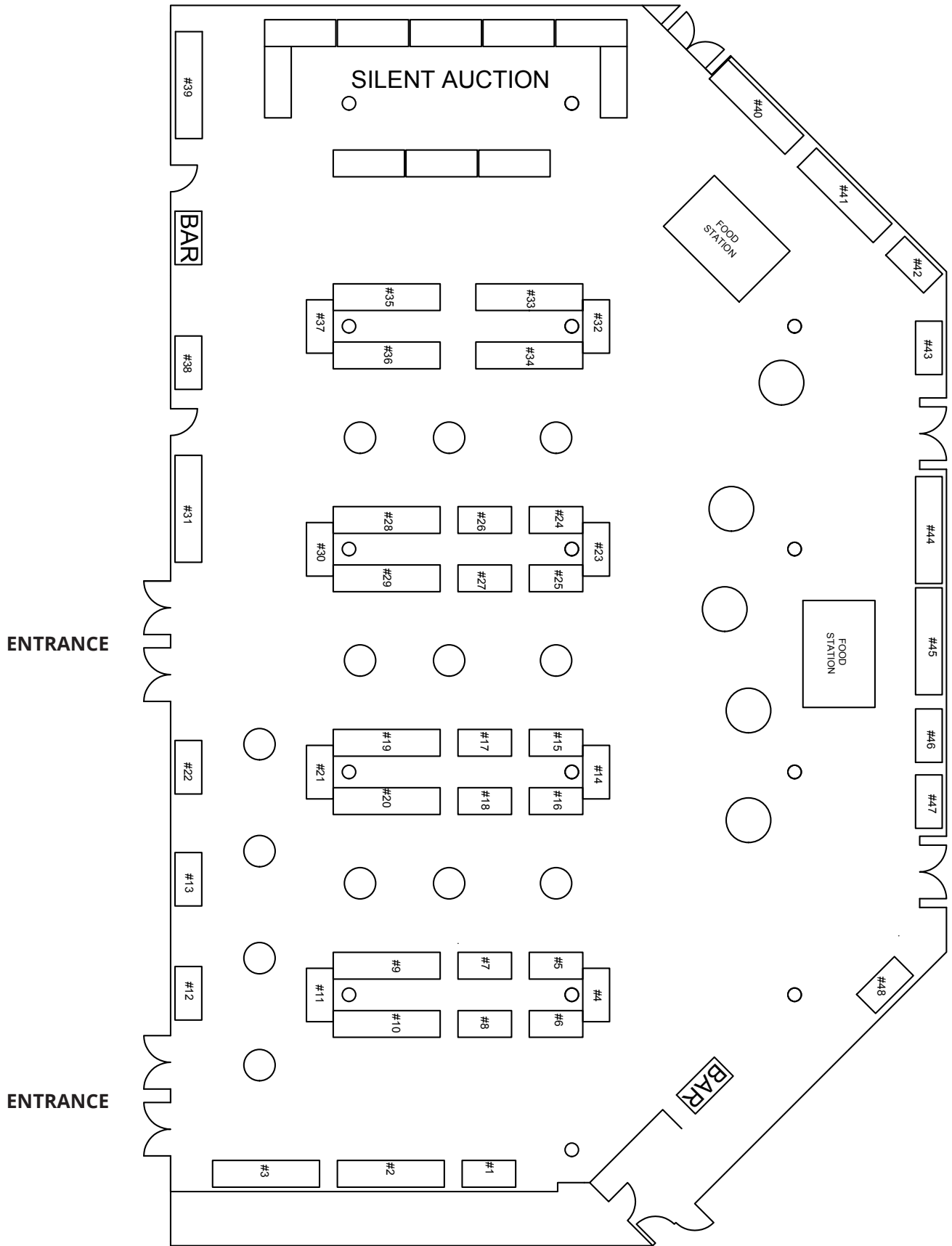
**To ensure listing in on-site materials. Firms submitting materials after January 31st may not be listed.*

QUESTIONS?

Contact **Roger Loding** at
Email: rogerl@jensenbridge.com | Tel: (810) 648-3000

Include a valid email when registering. You will receive confirmation of registration via email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact Roger by January 31, 2024.

EXHIBIT HALL LAYOUT



SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM

It is our pleasure to announce that we will again host the **Silent Auction** at our Winter Conference to raise funds on behalf of our Association. Auction proceeds supplement membership revenue to pay for expenses anticipated in the upcoming year, such as educational programs and publication costs. Our goal is to raise \$10,000.

Each MACDC District is asked to donate at least 10 items for the Silent Auction at the Winter Conference. Associate members have expressed their interest in also supporting this event and we greatly appreciate their contributions as well. To properly plan for this event, we need your commitments by **January 2, 2024**. Examples of popular Silent Auction items include: golf outings, wine, baskets, jewelry, fishing/hunting trips, art, sporting event tickets, etc.

Questions can be directed to **Peggy Snyder at 517-930-6926**. Your help in this fundraising effort is greatly appreciated.

Silent Auctions at our past conferences have been very successful, thanks to your contributions. Your generosity is appreciated. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the MACDC Silent Auction.

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Organization/Company: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Donation: _____

Description: _____

Restriction: _____

Gift Value \$ _____ Exp Date (if any): _____

Donor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return by January 2, 2024 to Silent Auction Coordinator Peggy Snyder

Email Submissions Preferred: snyderps@michigan.gov

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Environmental Stewardship Division

525 W. Allegan St., PO Box 30017

Lansing, MI 48909

Internal Use

Date received: _____

PLEASE RESPOND ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 2, 2024