

## 2014 Summer Conference

July 11-12

Lake Lawn Resort – Delavan, WI



Come and join your fellow precasters for a weekend of fun and camaraderie! This year's Summer Conference takes place at the beautiful Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, WI. We'll play golf to raise money for the WPCA Scholarship fund, relax by our own, private bonfire, **tour the Dalmaray plant** and take a boat tour on beautiful Delavan Lake. Not a golfer? Relax by the lake, swim, kayak or take advantage of the spa also located on the resort grounds. **Business meeting topics** will include an update on the Portland Cement Grant Funding, a Legislative Update on items of interest to the precast industry and more.

Full Agenda and Conference Registration forms are on page 2 of this publication. See you on July 11<sup>th</sup>!

2014 WPCA Conference brought to you in part by:

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Spring 2014

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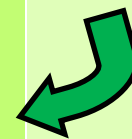
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*Hole sponsorships are still available at \$50 per hole – please contact Katie at (608) 441-1436 for details.*



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 Please call The Lake Lawn  
 Resort at  
 1-800-338-5253  
 by June 11<sup>th</sup> and reference the  
 "WI Concrete Association" to  
 receive the block rate of \$169

# WI Precast Concrete Association

## Annual Summer Conference Registration

July 11-12, 2014  
 LAKE LAWN RESORT  
 2400 East Geneva Street, Delavan, WI 53115  
[www.LakeLawnResort.com](http://www.LakeLawnResort.com)

Attendee 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attendee 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attendee 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/Children (for nametags): \_\_\_\_\_

	<u># of People</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Total</u>
WPCA Member Registration Fee:.....	_____	x \$ <u>100</u>	= \$ _____

**Friday, July 11**

3:00 pm: Dalmaray Plant Tour (405 S Arch St, Janesville, WI 53548).....  
 5:15 pm: Registration in Main Lobby.....  
 5:30-7:30 pm: Fish Fry & Cocktails on Lookout Patio..(please include spouse/children) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Cocktails Sponsored by **Concrete Sealants** (PLATINUM Sponsor)

7:00-10:00 pm: Reserved Bonfire.....

**Saturday, July 12**

8:30 am: Breakfast in the Courtyard...(please include spouse/children)..... x \$ 15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 9:00 am: Business Meeting.....  
 12:00 Noon: Lunch .....(please include spouse/children)..... x \$ 25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 1:30-5:00pm: Golf (9 holes)..... x \$ 35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative activities include: Mini Golf, Arcade, Shopping, Pool, Spa, Kayak, Paddle Board and Wave Runner Rentals.

Spa reservations: 1-800-338-5253

Water Sport Rentals: 1-800-338-5253

5:00-6:00 pm Boat Tour



Tour Sponsored by **Mixer Systems** (GOLD Sponsor)

TOTAL Amount Enclosed: \$

Please make all checks payable to WPCA and mail by July 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10 East Doty Street, Suite 523, Madison, WI 53703.

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## Legislative Update: George Klaetsch



### 2013-14 Legislative Session Adjourns

The 2013-2014 Wisconsin legislative session came to a close on Tuesday, April 1, when the Senate passed a final list of bills. It also marked the last day for senators Ellis, Schultz, Jauch, Cullen and Lehman, Leibham and possibly Grothman. The senators have a combined 175+ years of combined service. They join a growing list of 20+ Assembly members who have stated their plans to retire or seek other elected office.

Before those Senators retired, they saw a flurry of activity in the final weeks that included passage of the asbestos trust fund transparency bill, a much publicized compromise on oral-chemo coverage, economic development tax credits and a slew of changes to voting guidelines, to name a few.

The WPCA primarily approached the 2013-14 legislative session from a defensive position; thus ensuring the defeat of the following bills. Here is a list of primary legislation WPCA worked on during the 2013-14 legislative session:

### **AB 133 & SB 148 – WPCA Opposed**

Campground storage and disposal of septage (This legislation did not pass)

Relating to: the applicability of the one-family and two-family dwelling code to certain structures used for camping and the exclusion of certain recreational vehicles and portable toilet systems from the definition of plumbing. This bill was opposed because it created discrepancies between how different entities could pump, haul and dispose of liquid waste.

### **AB 499 & SB 407 – WPCA Opposed**

Exempting certain structure from plumbing codes (This legislation did not pass)

Relating to: exempting certain one- and two-family dwellings from the requirements of having smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and from standards and rules relating to plumbing.

This bill was opposed, because the legislation exempts certain one- and two-family dwellings from the requirements and standards and rules relating to plumbing. Specifically giving certain dwelling units special treatment in the disposing of their waste.

### WPCA Legislation of Interest – AB 683

Another legislative proposal that was of interest to the WPCA, but the association did not take a formal position was AB 683 affecting septic and holding tank installers doing minor electrical work.

On March 19, 2014 Governor Walker signed 2013 Wisconsin Act 143 into law. This was a major

victory for WOWRA, its members and Wisconsin septic installers in general. It is also a victory for electricians who preferred septic installers conduct some minor electrician work themselves.

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**(Legislative Update Cont.)**

As many of you know, there was a great deal of confusion with previous legislation attempting to address what regulators considered prohibited electrical work and what they considered allowable electrical work. Even after a two-year delay of new statutes both electricians and plumbers wanted clarification of what was allowable and what was not.

In late January, State Representative Tom Larson and State Senator Glenn Grothman introduced AB 683/SB 545 to address and clarify state statute as it related to the regulation of permitted electrician work. Rep. Larson (an electrician by trade) wanted to make sure of one important item within this legislation – “I want to avoid two utility trucks in the same driveway for one job.” This was adequately addressed when AB 683 was passed into law.




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**President’s Message: Paul Miller**



I bet I know what most of you are thinking, because it’s exactly what I am thinking.....thank goodness spring has sprung! It’s been a long winter but I believe most of us should be seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully the phones are starting to ring and our members are seeing the potential for money to come in as opposed to going out! I personally spent the winter working on my equipment and getting ready for what appears to have the potential of being a busy spring! The phones are ringing, the crew is back to work and I am starting to realize how easy I had it this winter! Gone are the days of “leisurely” getting work done. Now it’s time to buckle down and not waste a minute of the day. There are orders to fill and customers to respond to. I wish you all a very lucrative spring season and am looking forward to hearing about all of your the successes at the conference this summer at the Lake Lawn Lodge in Delavan with a tour of Dalmaray Friday, July 11th and a business meeting, golf and boat tour on Saturday, July 12th.

Paul Miller

# OSHA Proposes Tougher Limit for Silica-Dust Exposure

Engineering News Record | Tom Ichniowski

After more than a decade of study and review, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration has proposed a much tighter limit on how much airborne silica dust workers can be exposed to, a move that agency officials say will prevent hundreds of deaths and illnesses among construction workers each year.

The long-awaited proposal, which OSHA released on Aug. 23, has two parts: a new exposure limit and other requirements for the construction industry and a standard for maritime workers and other industries.

OSHA is proposing the same new permissible exposure limit, or PEL, for construction and non-construction industries: 50 micrograms of crystalline silica per cubic meter of air, averaged over an eight-hour day.

That level is much more stringent than the current limits, which were put in place 40 years ago and that OSHA says are outdated.

OSHA chief David Michaels told ENR in an interview that the current PEL for construction is the equivalent of 250 micrograms but adds that it is based on an "obsolete" measurement system. "No one can use that method any more," he says.

The current limit for non-construction industries is 100 micrograms.

OSHA says the proposed regulation will provide particular benefit to construction workers who encounter silica dust in tasks such as crushing rock, milling pavement and using masonry saws, jackhammers and drills.

Michaels says, "This will save more lives in the construction industry than any proposal OSHA has worked on in many years and perhaps ever."

OSHA projects that if the rule is made final and fully put into effect, it would annually save the lives of 700 workers, 80% of them in construction, and prevent 1,600 new cases of silicosis, 68% of them in construction.

Peg Seminario, the AFL-CIO's director of safety and health, in an interview said, "The majority of workers who are exposed and overexposed [to silica] are in the construction industry." She added, "The standard will go a long way to helping reduce exposures and reduce unnecessary disease and death."

OSHA says the construction provisions would require companies to limit workers' access to areas in which silica levels may be higher than the PEL. It also would require employers to use dust controls to protect workers from such exposure levels and provide them with respirators in areas in which dust controls cannot limit exposure.

Michaels says that, in drafting the proposal, OSHA paid particular attention to its impact on small construction firms and built in flexibility regarding how they can comply with its provisions. He estimates that for construction companies with 20 or fewer employees, the new requirements' annual cost would be \$550.

In one example of flexibility, OSHA says in a fact sheet, "Employers can choose to measure their workers' exposure to silica and independently decide which dust controls work best in their workplaces."

The agency adds that companies also would have the option to use a dust-control method listed in the proposed rule for specific construction activities. If a company chooses that option, it would not be required to measure workers' silica exposure.



Michaels says those control devices—listed in a table in the proposal—include "attaching a water hose to a masonry saw [and] putting in a ventilation system." He adds, "All of these are available at Home Depot for small employers and the work that they do."

Michaels also says a company "has to take into account the number of hours a worker is doing a job." Thus, he adds, a worker doing a particular task "all day, every day, may need a respirator," while another worker doing a task for less than a day would not.

The proposal also has training and record-keeping requirements.



Photo By: Tom Bodway, Silica/Milling Machine Partnership

In the initial hours after the proposal was unveiled, construction industry officials were just beginning to dig into the voluminous details, which span more than 700 double-spaced pages.

Brian Turmail, an Associated General Contractors of America spokesman, says his group's officials and member firms will be evaluating the proposal, including the reasoning and science behind the major cut in the exposure limit. He adds that AGC hopes the rule "will be effective in addressing something that we all want to accomplish—which is cutting exposures to silica and the chance that our workers could get cancer from it."

Turmail adds, "We all have the same goal. We just want to make sure that we found an effective way to get there."

He adds, "And it's just a little too early to tell if this is that right way. And if not, we want to sit down with OSHA and roll up our sleeves and figure out a way to get there."

The National Asphalt Pavement Association said in a statement that its segment of the construction industry "is positioned to meet the new standard" because of work done by the Silica/Milling Machine Partnership, which includes representatives from industry, equipment manufacturers, labor, academia and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

The partnership has worked on milling-machine retrofits that trim potential silica exposure below the 50-microgram level as well as studying other systems, NAPA said.

The association added, "While the proposed PEL is achievable, as part of the federal rule-making process NAPA will file comments offering suggestions to help better calibrate the rule to the industry's exposure potential."

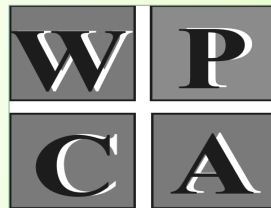
Officials from the construction industry, organized labor and other interested groups will have a chance to weigh in on the OSHA proposal. The agency will take written comments for 90 days after the proposal is published in the Federal Register.

OSHA also plans public hearings, starting on March 4 in Washington, D.C. Michaels says that another comment period will follow the hearings.

He adds, "We strongly encourage various stakeholders from the construction industry to participate in this because that's the only way we'll know if what we're doing makes sense."

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