



Calendar

Next Board Meeting

June 16, 2020

Upcoming Meetings

**April 2, 2020 (Cancelled)**  
Parks & Recreation  
Steering Committee

**April 7, 2020 (Cancelled)**  
Public Works Steering  
Committee

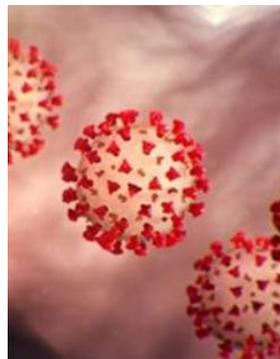
**April 14, 2020 (Cancelled)**  
Police Chiefs Steering  
Committee & Spring  
Forum

**April 16, 2020 (Cancelled)**  
Fire Chiefs Steering  
Committee

eNews | March 30, 2020



**IRMA Provides Coronavirus Resources and Information**



As IRMA members, and the world, follow updates on the Coronavirus Pandemic, we have compiled resources for member reference on our [website](#). In addition, IRMA members have been sharing information through IRMA's [Member Forums](#) page.

**Coronavirus Impacts to IRMA**

We are fortunate at IRMA that we are able to continue business without interruption by working remotely. IRMA staff is all working from home and will continue to manage your claims; we are available for conference calls as usual. In order to minimize risk, we are only issuing checks on Thursdays since we need to be in the office to issue claim checks. There will be no interruption in TTD checks. [Read more...](#)

**Governor Allows Remote Meetings Under Open Meeting Act**

Governor Pritzker issued an [Executive Order](#) allowing municipalities to conduct meetings remotely in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic. IRMA conducted its Board of Directors meeting by conference call with 60 members participating. The meeting proceeded with little technical difficulties. We will continue to consider this option as needed moving forward.

**IRMA**

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**Upcoming Trainings**

**All trainings through May 6<sup>th</sup> are cancelled due to COVID-19**

March 31, 2020

[Welding & Cutting Safety](#)  
**(Cancelled)**

April 16, 2020

[Playground Inspection](#)  
**(Cancelled)**

April 17, 2020

[Legal Update: Are You Up To Speed On Zoning Cases?](#) **(Cancelled)**

April 20, 2020

[Creating a Safe Worksite For Brush Chipper Operators](#) **(Cancelled)**

April 21, 2020

[Safe Operations & Towing of a Trailer](#) **(Cancelled)**

April 22, 2020

[Mower Safety](#) **(Cancelled)**

April 23, 2020

[Aerial Lift Safety](#)  
**(Cancelled)**

**eNews**



**Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

On March 18, the new [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) was signed into law, which provides paid leave to employees for certain reasons related to the Coronavirus Pandemic starting on April 1. These benefits are applicable when the exposure is not work related and compensable under the Illinois Workers Compensation Act. For IRMA's guidance on whether an exposure is work related, [click here](#). Just recently, the Department of Labor released the posting required by the Act. [Click here](#) for the poster that employers must display. The Department of Labor will issue additional regulations soon. Please reference IRMA's website for additional information related to the [Coronavirus Crisis](#).

**COVID-19 – FEMA Reimbursement: IRMA Letter will Assist Members**

In accordance with the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration, FEMA is urging all government entities and officials to take appropriate actions and measures to protect the public health and safety. [Read more...](#)



**Work from Home Safety: At-Home Ergonomics**

*By: Frankie Giannetti, Loss Control Manager at IRMA*

Across the country, more people than ever have been asked to work from home. While many of our administrative jobs do have the opportunity to do work remotely from time to time; it can be difficult to work away from our designated workstations and keep sound ergonomic practices in mind. Emphasis should be placed on proper body mechanics and posture no matter the location work is being done. [Read more...](#)

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Upcoming Trainings cont.

April 24, 2020  
[Ladder Safety](#)  
(Cancelled)

April 24, 2020  
[Playground Inspection](#)  
(Cancelled)

April 28, 2020  
[Chainsaw Safety 101](#)  
(Cancelled)

April 29, 2020  
[Chainsaw Safety 102](#)  
(Cancelled)

April 30, 2020  
[Chainsaw Safety 102](#)  
(Cancelled)

May 5, 2020  
[Mental Health-First Aid for Public Safety](#)  
(Cancelled)

May 6, 2020  
[Mental Health Training In Youths](#) (Cancelled)

May 6, 2020  
[Playground Inspection](#)  
(Cancelled)

## eNews

### Investment Update

By: Rita Boserup, Director of Finance at IRMA

IRMA's 2019 portfolio return is approximately 19%, however, the recent downturn and continuing fluctuation in the financial markets has had a negative effect on IRMA's investments, the extent of which we won't know until the middle of April after all the investment statements are received. [Read more...](#)



### IRMA Negotiates Rates with Athletico

By: Margo Ely, Executive Director at IRMA

We know that 70% of IRMA's costs are attributable to workers' compensation claims. We also know that the impact of the Coronavirus on IRMA will be significant; we are seeing treatment delays, surgeries cancelled, IME's postponed and injured workers are home not working. A significant component of our workers' compensation costs are physical therapy and work conditioning.

[Read more...](#)



### IRMA Online Resources

By: Frankie Giannetti, Loss Control Manager at IRMA

During times of contingency, employee safety must remain a priority regardless of the quickly changing circumstances. Keeping safe work practices top of mind is crucial as staff availability is already limited and loss of an employee due to a preventable injury can be even more consequential. Employers must take steps to continue daily, weekly, and monthly safety communication to their staff and IRMA is here to support that cause. [Read more...](#)

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## eNews

### IRMA Receives CAFR Award

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to IRMA by the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) for IRMA's 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the 33<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year that IRMA has received this prestigious award.

### Website – Member Forums Page

Just a reminder, members are able to connect through the "[Member Forums](#)" page on our website to get up-to-date information on your specific operating departments. This feature requires a username and password. If you do not have a username and password, you may contact Donna Morin at [donnam@irmarisk.org](mailto:donnam@irmarisk.org) for access.



### Safety Toolbox

BLR – [Employee Newsletter – March 2020](#)

BLR – [Employee Safety Newsletter – March 2020](#)

EHS – [Employee Newsletter – March 2020](#)

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**LATEST  
NEWS**

**Congratulations Director of Risk Management & Training,  
Jennifer Swahlstedt**

Congratulations to Jennifer on the birth of her second child, Nora born February 6, 2020 at 7 pounds and 19 inches.



**Pamela Berry Joins IRMA as our new Workers'  
Compensation Medical Only Claims Representative**



We are pleased to announce that we have hired Pam Berry as our new workers' compensation medical only claims representative. Pam has 16 years of experience in the insurance industry.

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