

MAFMO's Fall Field Day Goes to School

On Thursday, September 25, the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA) took its Fall Field Day to school. Seventy attendees gathered at the football field of Magruder High School in Rockville, Md., at 8 a.m. for the special "Turf-Ace in the Turf" combination educational sessions, demonstration and field-renovation project.

The school site was selected partly because of a special pilot program that Magruder High School's horticulture instructor, Ray Smith, is testing for Montgomery County's high schools. The one-year course, called Landscape and Turfgrass Management, has 20 students enrolled. Each class covers two periods, giving the students double time to really dig into their material.

Dig in they did. The 20 students had moved supplies onto the field in preparation for the field day and

helped throughout the day with various aspects of the demonstration program.

In addition, 99 students from Smith's other horticulture classes joined the sessions, each participating during what would have been their regular horticulture class period that day. Magruder High School's principal, John Nori, also joined part of the day's activities, taking time to meet and thank as many of the attendees as his schedule allowed.

Smith welcomed the group and gave a brief overview of the pilot program and the activities of the day. Throughout the school year, the 20 students in the pilot program gain hands-on learning experience as they maintain the field. They also have the opportunity to see that what they do actually makes a difference in field conditions.

Tim Anderson, sports field specialist for Seedco of Baltimore, then gave a presentation, "The Basics of Sports Turf Management," and Steve Trusty, STMA executive director, spoke about STMA, the services it provides to members and outlined the association's developing Certification Program.

Each of the companies donating to the renovation project gave a short explanation of their products or services and how they would be used in the renovation. Alpine Services contributed the aeration, topdressing and rolling. Aimcor provided three tons of Turface and the services of Tim Anderson. Gaithersburg Ford/Kubota supplied the tractor and slit seeder. Lesco provided the fertilizer. Newsom Seed supplied the overseeding and the services of field-day coordinator Allen Bohrer. Sherwin Williams provided the field-marking paint. Toro/Turf Equipment and Supply Company supplied the topdresser.

Once the presentations were completed, the focus moved to the field. And what better way to demonstrate equipment and supplies than to put them to work in an actual field renovation? The one-day session came at an

ideal time because the school's next football game was just 1 1/2 weeks away. Demonstrations on field lining and painting topped off the hands-on sessions.

Following field activities, attendees collected further information from table-top displays set up by the contributing companies. For everyone, the day proved a beneficial example of a chapter-service project teamed with a hands-on educational opportunity.

STMA Chapter News

Florida Chapter #1: Florida Chapter #1 will assist newly forming Florida Chapter #2 in hosting STMA's 9th Annual Conference & Exhibition, "Meeting the Challenges," to be held January 14-18, 1998, at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort and Disney's Wide World of Sports complex in Orlando, Fla.

For information on the STMA Annual Conference and Exhibition, contact STMA Headquarters at (800) 323-3875.

For information on Florida Chapter #1 or other pending activities, contact John Mascaro: (954) 938-7477.

MAFMO: The Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization



In the foreground, instructor Ray Smith (left) and principal John Nori compare notes on student participation during MAFMO's Fall Field Day at Magruder High School. Photos courtesy: Trusty & Associates.



Tim Anderson, sports field specialist for Seedco of Baltimore, demonstrates proper techniques for student and pro alike at MAFMO's field day.

has joined forces with the Maryland Turfgrass Council to sponsor the sports turf sessions at "Turfgrass '98," which will be held January 12-13 at



Part of the field-painting demonstration at Magruder High included production of the school's distinctive lightning bolt pattern.

the Baltimore Convention Center.

For information on this event or the MAFMO Chapter, contact the Hotline: (410) 290-5652.

Midwest Chapter: For information on the Midwest Chapter or pending activities, call the Chapter Hotline: (847) 439-4727.

Colorado Chapter: For information on the Colorado Chapter and upcoming activities, call the 24-Hour CSTMA Chapter Hotline/Fax: (303) 438-9645.

Minnesota Chapter: For information on the Minnesota Chapter and pending activities, contact Connie Rudolph: (612) 646-1679.

Southern California Chapter: The Southern California Chapter will hold a Super Bowl Seminar in early January at Qualcomm Stadium, the site of the 1998 Super Bowl. Further details on this event will be announced soon.

For information, contact the Chapter Hotline: (1-888) 578-STMA

(toll free in Southern California).

Iowa Chapter: The Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association (ISTMA) will again participate in the Iowa Turfgrass Conference, which will be held January 26-28, 1998, at the Des Moines Convention Center. On Monday, January 26, the morning sports turf workshop includes sessions on "Winning Fields = Winning Teams" by Duane Banks, "Setting Up for Practice" by Mike McDonald and "Pattern Mowing" by Luke Yoder; and round table discussions on "Dealing with Soccer/Football on the Same Field and Heavy Use Fields" led by Gary Peterson, "Football/Soccer Painting (Rules, Techniques and Logos)" led by Mike Andresen, "Fertility/Soil Sampling" led by Ron Cooker, "Baseball/Softball Mound & Homeplate Maintenance" led by Luke Yoder, "Picking an Infield Mix" led by Jesse Cuevas, and "Football/Soccer Goalmouth Maintenance" led by Kevin Vos. The afternoon session is a combined golf course/sports turf workshop,

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"Selecting Sands and Soil Modification," presented by Dr. Jim Crum.

The sports turf session on Tuesday afternoon includes "Crumb Rubber" presented by Dr. Jim Crum, "Landscaping Your Complex" by Ron Cooker and "Aeration: Not Just for Compaction Relief" by Jesse Cuevas. At 3 p.m. is the ISTMA Annual Membership Meeting.

The sports turf session on Wednesday morning includes "Ten Tips for Managing Fields on a Limited Budget" presented by Dr. Dave Minner, "I'm Not the Boss, What Are My Responsibilities?" by Jeff Salmond and "Managing and Its Role" by Mike Burt.

For more information, contact Lori Westrum at The Turf Office: (515) 232-8222 (phone) or (515) 232-8228 (fax).

KAFMO: The Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO Chapter STMA) will participate in the Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference and Trade Show to be held in Valley Forge, Pa., on January 8, 1998. Athletic field sessions have been expanded to complement the always impressive trade show.

On February 19, the chapter will hold seminars in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society.

For more information, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club: (610) 375-8469, extension 212.

STMA Chapters on the Grow

Nor-Cal: The Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association is planning its 1998 schedule of events. Details will be announced soon.

For general information about the Nor-Cal STMA Chapter, contact Gail Setka at the UC Davis Grounds Office: (916) 752-5035 or fax at (916) 752-9631.

Arizona: For information on the Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona or upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Department: (602) 994-7954.

Mid-South: The newly forming Mid-South Chapter of STMA held its first meeting on November 4 in Memphis, Tenn. Dr. Mike Goatley, Mississippi State University, talked on sports turf renovation and management. Fourteen new members joined the chapter. The next meeting will be held in mid-February, 1998. More details will be announced soon.

Members of the new chapter will participate in the Tennessee Turfgrass Conference to be held January 4-7, 1998, in Nashville and in the Arkansas Turfgrass Conference to be held January 12-13, 1998, in Little Rock.

The Mid-South Chapter serves Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, and parts of Louisiana, Missouri and Kentucky. For more information, contact Chip Houmes: (901) 377-5081; or Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305.

Nevada: Plans are moving forward on the formation of a Nevada Chapter of STMA. For information on this developing chapter, contact Ibsen Dow: (702) 649-1551.

Great Plains: For information on the Great Plains Sports Turf Managers Association or upcoming activities, contact Mark Schimming, City of Wichita: (316) 337-9123.



Get Serious With STMA

Application for Membership

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) is an organization of professionals representing all segments of the sports turf industry. Our members work to combine the science of growing grass and the art of maintaining sports turf to produce playing fields that are both safe and aesthetically pleasing.

STMA provides members with a variety of benefits, including: education through regional institutes and conferences; support for sports turf research; facilities tours; a national awards program; access to the STMA National Conference and Exhibition; complimentary subscriptions to Sports Turf Manager and sportsTURF Magazine; and much more.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional sports turf facility manager | \$75 |
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Sports Turf Managers Association, PO Box 3480, Omaha, NE 68103-0480

For more information, contact STMA Headquarters at 800/323-3875

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