



There Are No Limits

By: Steven Guise
STMA President

First, I express my gratitude to the STMA membership for the opportunity to serve as your president. As an STMA member for the past seven years and as a member of the board of directors, it's been a pleasure to see this organization grow both in membership and financial stability. As president, I will see that we continue to move forward.

The future of this organization promises to be tremendous when you consider the number of potential future members. As we grow, the sharing of their thoughts and ideas will improve our industry and expand it in new directions.

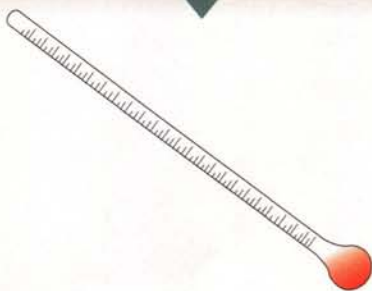
I begin my term with the initial goal of continuing the progress of our past president and board. The Certification Program is at the top of my list of priorities. This is followed closely by my desire to build a bridge to the NFL, MLB and FIFA groundskeepers and sister organizations such as the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association, the National Recreation & Park Association, the National Federation of High School Athletic Directors, and the Stadium Managers Association (SMA).

Executive Director Steve Trusty and I just returned from the SMA Conference, where we were received with open arms. We found that managers of professional and collegiate level stadiums are seeking information on such topics as field design, construction and maintenance practices to solve their multi-use problems of wear, drainage and compaction. Most of our Category I (professional sports turf facility managers) and Category II (four-year college and university facility sports turf managers) members work along side or directly for the SMA. We need to open communication lines between our two organizations for the benefit of all.

I would like to publicly thank all who served on the board in the past, past committee members and our Executive Directors who have pulled this organization together over the past seven years. There are far too many to mention, but a few individuals do rise to the top of my list: Gil Landry for his solid direction; Greg Petry for his financial negotiation; Mike Schiller for his dedication; Dr. Henry Indyk for his persistence in education; Eugene Mayer for his "reality checks" and support; Ken Kurtz for reminding us of our history; and George Toma for always being there for us. To all of you who have been so instrumental to the STMA, I will never forget your efforts. I invite you all to continue to be part of our evolution.

To all of our old and new members, I would like to say thanks for your support and to encourage you to get involved with your local chapters, sports fields, and our national organization. I work for you, so call me if you have any questions, comments, ideas, or if you just want to talk. I can be reached at (818) 834-1000 (office) or (714) 680-4026 (home).

TIP O' THE MONTH



Degree Days are units of measurement that reflect just how hot or cold the weather has been. They can help you predict when a critical pest event is likely to occur.

There are various methods for calculating degree days. One simple method involves using the "lower developmental threshold" or "base temperature" for a specific insect pest or disease organism.

The base temperature represents the temperature below which an organism will not develop. This information can be obtained from your local Cooperative Extension Service.

The following formula is a good method for calculating degree days:

Degree Days =

$$\frac{(\text{Max. Temp.} + \text{Min. Temp.}) - \text{Base Temp.}}{2}$$

For example, the following calculates the number of degree days accumulated on one day for an insect that has a base temperature of 55 degrees F. A Min/Max Thermometer shows you that the maximum (high) temperature on that day was 86 degrees F and the minimum (low) temperature was 62 degrees F. To calculate degree days for that day:

add: 86 + 62 = 148

divide: 148 / 2 = 74

subtract: 74 - 55 = 19

You would therefore have 19 degree days for that particular day. □

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