

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1

Application deadline for UMass Winter School for Turf Managers, Mon.-Fri., Jan. 4 - Feb. 19. Contact Trudie Goodchild: (413) 545-2484, or Mary Owen: (508) 892-0382.

October 6

Winning Fields seminar, Doubleday Field, Cooperstown, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873, or (518) 783-1229.

October 25-28

The National Institute on Park and Grounds Management's 28th Annual Educational Conference, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV. Contact National Institute: (920) 733-2301.

November 1-5

North Carolina State University Supervisors' Management School, Wilson Lodge, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, WV. Contact Chip Futrell: (919) 513-1938.

November 4-6

ERNA's Expo Fall '98, Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact ERNA: (800) 376-2463, or www.erna.org.

November 10-13

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Annual Turf and Grounds Exposition, OnCenter, Syracuse, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873, or (518) 783-1229.

November 14-17

The 9th Annual Green Industry Expo (GIE), Opryland Hotel Convention Center, Nashville, TN. Contact Eleanor Ellison: (770) 973-2019.

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January 13-17

Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 10th Annual Conference & Exhibition, Mesa, AZ. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875, or (712) 366-2669.

STMA MESSAGE

Sports
Turf
Managers
Association



How Do You Spell Success - GREEN

Let's face it, in this business we're measured by how green we keep our turf. When we're complimented, people tell us how beautiful our facilities look. They're really telling us our grass is green and our flowers and trees are pretty.

Field playability isn't a factor to the casual observer. The majority of the general public falls into this category, and among them are many who have a hand in judging the success of our programs.

So here we are in September, and it's beginning to cool down in most areas of the country. It's cool-season turf time — a great time to turn to fertilization to help keep your turf green.

For years, research has shown fall fertilization to be a tremendous benefit to turf. It helps turf hold color into the winter, and provides energy reserves for an early-spring green-up.

I remember my days as a "turf technician" at Chemlawn, when the green grass on some lawns would pop up through the white snow. It was obvious that grass was not popping up on every lawn, but it was happening on all of the lawns that I'd fertilized with late-fall applications.

My experience might not pass for strict scientific research, but it sure made an impression on me, and it became a factor in my own turf maintenance programs. So as those leaves begin to fall, set up the late-season fertilization that will give your turf the carbohydrate reserves it needs for next year's growth spurt.

Please take the time to read about this year's High School Soccer Field of the Year. Sports Turf Manager Kurt Knuf acts as that facility's one-man shop. I think he should be wearing a shirt with one word stretched across the back in big letters — PRIDE.

It's obvious that Kurt has extreme pride in his work and his commitment to Flinn Memorial Stadium and Quincy High School. I'm proud of his accomplishments, and urge him to keep up the great work! Looking at his record, I'm sure Kurt will accept this advice — he took High School Football Field of the Year honors last year with this same field.

Kurt's positive attitude is as important as the well-planned and well-executed program that he has put in place at his facility. He wants as many young competitors as possible to have the experience of playing on a top-level surface.

While field users don't expect you to grow a golf green, they do expect your fields to look as good as one. If you have a field or two that meet this criteria, now is the time to enter photos in the Field of the Year awards program.

If you need information, just call STMA Headquarters: (800) 323-2875.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Guise".

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403