



1999

November 30-December 2

North Central Turfgrass Exposition, Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL. Contact Illinois Turfgrass Foundation: (312) 201-0101.

December 6-9

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation's 33rd annual Conference and Show, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. Contact Kevin Thompson: (888) 683-3445, ext. 3151.

December 7-9

Georgia Turfgrass Association's 30th annual Conference and Trade Show, Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA. Contact Sherry Loudermilk: (770) 975-4123.

2000

January 6

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Northeast Regional Conference, Marriott, Albany, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

January 10-13

38th annual North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show: "Growing for Tomorrow's World," Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Contact Marsha Richardson: (910) 695-1333.

January 11-13

Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: (814) 863-3475.

January 12-16

Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition, St. Louis, MO. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

STMA MESSAGE



Moving Forward to 2000

Much is happening within STMA as we move closer to 2000. First, STMA has extended our agreement with Adams Business Media, publisher of *sportsTURF*, for another two years. The magazine will to continue as STMA's official publication.

STMA will continue to work with *sportsTURF*'s editorial department to provide the kind of information you want and need, in the format that most effectively serves you. As always, I, the STMA Board of Directors, STMA staff members, and *sportsTURF* welcome your comments and suggestions.

Also, as part of this agreement, look for a bigger and better STMA Web page presence. With more computer-connected STMA members than ever before, we want to best use this rapid form of spreading information. We've also found the Web to be an effective outreach to those who don't know much about our association or sports turf management.

Another big news item is the 11th Annual STMA Conference & Exhibition in St. Louis, MO, Jan. 12-16. We're starting 2000 with a top-notch conference that offers more educational sessions, more optional events, and a super trade show — all focused exclusively on the sports turf manager.

This is the place to tackle those tough issues you deal with every day, pick up great new problem-solving techniques, and share ideas with others in the industry. There's something for everyone: the basics for those who are new to field care; sessions on fine-tuning maintenance programs for high-tech, high-profile fields; and everything in between. Here are some things to look for:

- We will be expanding the category sessions this year to give more members a chance to meet and share information with others in similar positions.
- Friday-afternoon workshops are new this year. You can choose one of six in-depth, two-hour educational sessions.
- Saturday afternoon features the popular round-table discussion sessions. You choose which three of 12 topics you wish to discuss.
- Always a highlight are the multiple opportunities for informal networking throughout the Conference.
- The second annual Pre-Conference Chapter Officers Training Session will be held 10:30 am-5 pm, Jan. 11. This interactive forum for idea exchange brings together leaders of STMA affiliated chapters, and leaders of chapters in the process of moving toward affiliation. Those interested in forming new chapters are highly encouraged to come as well. If you're interested, contact STMA Headquarters for more information.
- The STMA Certification program is also in high gear. The first group testing will be held the morning of Jan. 16 for those already pre-qualified to take the test. Thanks to all those on the Certification Committee for their work developing this program, to those who supplied suggestions along the way, and to those who assisted in the two separate sessions of "testing the test."

REMINDERS: Get your Conference registration in before Dec. 1 for the lowest rate. Get your Certification application forms in now to become pre-qualified and able to sit for the Certification test at the Conference.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403

See you in St. Louis!