

Calendar of Events 2000

July 22-24

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute's (OPEI) 17th annual International Lawn, Garden & Power Equipment Expo (EXPO 2000), Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Contact Sellers Expositions: (800) 558-8767/(502) 562-1962; fax (502) 562-1970. Web site: <http://EXPO.mow.org>.

July 27

Green Industry Professional Field Day and Trade Show, American University, Washington, DC. Will include: sports turf maintenance. For more information, call (703) 250-1368.

August 15

Cornell Field Day, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Contact Joann Gruttadauro: (607) 255-1792.

August 23

Michigan Turfgrass Field Day, Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Contact Kay Patrick: (517) 321-1660.

August 30-September 2

WorldScape 2000, a special millennium edition of CalScape Expo, Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, CA. Contact California Interior Plantscape Association: (707) 462-2276; fax (707) 463-6699; cipa@cipaweb.org. Web site: www.cipaweb.org.

STMA MESSAGE

Sports
Turf
Managers Association

www.sportsturfmanager.com



Change Happens

It's been said that change is a constant in the rapid pace of today's world. And, most of the time, that's a good thing. Changing technology in maintenance equipment provides us with the tools to do our jobs more

efficiently, more effectively and often produces better results. Changing technology in turfgrass development has provided varieties and cultivars better adapted to use on athletic fields. Changing technology in the computer industry has made record keeping easier and more efficient and has given us the ability to communicate quickly and inexpensively whether it's within our own department or facility or across the city, nation or globe.

Changes occur in our career paths as well. We start out in an entry-level position and, as we grow in knowledge and expertise, we move to positions of increased responsibility. Sometimes those career moves are within a single company or facility. Sometimes those moves mean a change in employment.

I guess change is on my mind because it's time for me to announce a change of my own. In 15 great years with Saint Louis University as director of grounds and materials management, I've invested a lot of time, effort, heart and soul into the campus, its projects and its people. I've also gained much in personal growth and professional growth. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank St. Louis University for all the opportunities I've had to develop our athletic field program and special landscape projects.

I want to say thank you to all those I've had the privilege of working with over the years and to express a special thanks to my boss and mentor, Chuck Smith, vice president of facilities services. I'm especially grateful to Chuck and the university for their support of my STMA activities.

I have accepted the position of vice president of operations for Munie Outdoor Services, Inc. of Caseyville, Ill. (just across the river from St. Louis). They're an established company and STMA member specializing in athletic field, golf course and commercial property construction, renovation, irrigation and maintenance. Over the years, I've had the chance to observe and interact with the Munie company. This contact led to the decision to join forces. The opportunities in this new position intrigue me and, as I'm already learning, they will certainly challenge me. That's one of the many things that are so special about this industry. The opportunities are many and varied. There's always a new area to explore where the challenges test you and help you to grow and develop professionally.

The ultimate goal, no matter what hat we wear in this industry, is the quality of the playing fields we provide for athletes in every sport, of every age and at every level of ability.

I pledge my continued support to STMA, to the STMA members, and to the programs and services that will continue to move us forward in the pursuit of our mission and our goals in this ever-changing world.

Rich Moffitt
STMA President
(314) 977-2956