

The 6th Annual KAFMO-PRPS Athletic Field Conference

One successful conference provides the major building block for a second successful conference. This builds to the third, which all leads up to the report of another great event, the 6th Annual KAFMO-PRPS Athletic Field Conference held this past February 15 in Grantville, PA.

The KAFMO Chapter has discovered a time frame that works well for potential participants and has used their initial successes to create anticipation for the event. Solid educational programs combine with the vendor support of the trade show to produce an excellent combination of activities in a something for everyone package.

This year's educational sessions included a presentation on "Professionalism and certification for the sports turf manager," by Steve Trusty, executive director of the Sports Turf Managers Association; and a presentation on "Brownsfield to Greenfield

Sports Complex" by Greg Petry, executive director of the Waukegan, IL, Park District. These were followed by a presentation on "The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP)" by Kevin Morris, NTEP executive director.

Lunch and breaks offered opportunities for attendees to tour the trade show and visit with exhibitors.

The KAFMO awards program started the afternoon session. This was followed by a presentation on "Comprehensive risk management for parks, recreation and sports fields" by Greg Petry.

This combination of topics provided an excellent focus on the big picture: personal professionalism; field maintenance issues, and the facility and business management aspects. All of these must be managed efficiently and effectively in a successful sports turf management program.

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STMA Chapter News

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): TVSTMA will hold a Sports Turf Seminar at Crockett Park, Brentwood Parks and Recreation, in Brentwood, on April 24. The program will include the following presentations: What We Do; And How We Do It - by Erin Kinney and Rich Richardson of Brentwood Parks; Experience in Smyrna - by Mike Moss of Smyrna Parks; and Time Management - by Bill Randles, Vanderbilt University. A Vendor Show will take place following the presentations. To Pre-Register for this event please call Stan Thomas 800-627-8816, Bob Hogan 888-224-6426 or Mike Sallee 615-371-2209.

Other Upcoming TVSTMA Events are as follows: May 23: Franklin Road Academy in Nashville; June 12: All Day Vendor Show in Jasper; June 25: Joint Meeting with Tennessee Turfgrass Association at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville; and July 18: Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: The MO-Kan Chapter will hold a Spring Turf Management Field Day on from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM on April 24 at the University of Kansas Baseball Stadium. This event will focus on specific maintenance needs of Baseball, Softball and Soccer fields; general spring turf maintenance; field evaluation techniques; and irrigation water management. Instructors include: Brad Fresenburg, University of Missouri; Dr. Dave Minner, Iowa State University; and more.

MO-KAN also will hold at Summer Turf Management Field Day from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM on June 19 at a Blue Valley School District location. The

exact site will be announced soon. This event will focus on all aspects of Bermudagrass establishment and maintenance on sand base and native soil fields and will contain a laser grading session which will include the mathematics of dual slope laser grading, laser grader setup and the opportunity for you to operate a grader blade with laser controls. Instructors for this field day are: Brad Fresenburg, University of Missouri; Larry Phipps, Laser Specialists; Jody Gill, Blue Valley Schools.

For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jody Gill at 913-239-4121.

second is scheduled for June 5 at Cranberry High School in Seneca. Both seminars will feature former Baltimore Orioles Head Groundskeeper, Paul Zwaska, who is now General Manager for Beacon. Topics in the seminar are designed to educate groundskeepers, coaches, and facility managers with the emphasis placed on field maintenance materials, equipment, and maintenance practices. The day-long seminar consists of a morning classroom session followed by an early afternoon on-field session.

For more information on these seminars call Beacon Ballfields at 800-747-5985. For information on the KAFMO/STMA Chapter or other upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, at tel. 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail kafmo@aol.com.



Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): Beacon Ballfields, in association with the Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO), is conducting two field maintenance seminars in Pennsylvania. The first will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown. The

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: The Colorado Chapter is planning a late spring Baseball/Softball Seminar at the City of Westminster. Also in the planning stages is a Summer Workshop covering soccer/football/baseball/softball maintenance. This event will be held at the City of Aurora. For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website, www.CSTMA.org, or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The OSTMA chapter will hold a spring workshop with the Cleveland Browns in May. More information and registration forms will be available on the website as soon