

president's message

Planning equals SUCCESS

Planning is the key to success. Many of you plan throughout the year to ensure that your facilities and your careers stay on track. Some of you strategically plan at conferences, at your desk, in office structures and so on. I am sure I am not alone on this one, but for years I planned most of my work and career changes on a mower. Two hours a day, every day, without interruptions was extremely valuable. Once in a while the use of a headset for tunes would come in handy for enhanced meditation. (Even now I fight my son for the mower to take care of the home yard.)

It's so easy to get bogged down on the challenges of the day and put off focusing on the big picture. But the most successful programs come from sorting through those always-too-long "To Do" lists, identifying the truly important issues, and tackling the planning necessary to make a positive impact on those issues. August can be a pivotal period towards preparing for your next sports season. Prioritizing and finalizing those capital improvement budgets also can use those final touches of planning. This can be especially important if you work for a municipality or other entity where multiple departments must submit their individual budgets for consideration in the overall budget.

Before you hop on that mower for another planning session, take a look at Dr. Frank Rossi's article on field renovation via interseeding (p. 20). Also check out the article by Eric Adkins, CSFM, to see how becoming a certified sports field manager can have an impact on your career (p. 10). I am sure Eric spent a few hours planning his future on a mower as he worked toward certification and as he moved forward in his own career development to his new position at Michigan State.



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Two-a-days are here

Are you ready to rumble? Great things happen this time of year. Kids go back to school (which makes many parents very happy). And, from high school to the pros, the month kicks off workouts and exhibition games for FOOTBALL SEASON! The month of August signifies a seasonal change in many types of sports. The dog days of summer normally begin to wind down from baseball in August/September and begin to crank up with football. Fall is just around the corner.

Nature continues as a "hot" topic. Temperatures and growing grass are still tough for many of you bluegrass lovers and of course great for the bermudagrass turf handlers.

When I connect with friends in Arizona they talk about the dry heat and I talk about the humid heat. Well, for much of this summer, it has been just plain hot all over.

Combating heat stress on turf is a difficult task for everyone in sports turf. Networking with other sports turf managers is a great step in planning your own heat stress program.

The other HOT news to share with you includes information regarding scholarship criteria. The details are post-

ed on the STMA website now (www.sportsturfmanager.com). Information and application forms will be sent to educators and to all STMA Student members shortly after Labor Day.

Scholarships are awarded for those in 2-year, 4-year undergraduate, and graduate programs. To add that important networking aspect, each scholarship recipient also receives free registration to the STMA Conference in January and up to \$500 toward his or her travel and lodging expenses to attend the Conference.

Whatever your game,



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