

VSTMA Field Day draws crowd

BY BOB STUDHOLME

The Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association (VSTMA) held its Annual Field Day on June 14 at Nottoway Park in Vienna. Situated roughly in the heart of Fairfax County in Northern Virginia, Nottoway Park is a Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) facility featuring six irrigated and lighted athletic fields: five diamonds and one rectangular field. The park's wooded picnic area with covered pavilion and restrooms, adjacent to all the ballfields, served as the ideal hub for the event.

Although the weather was unsettled for much of the day and a couple of morning showers altered the program slightly, the event drew a large turnout of 127 participants, 21 suppliers & service providers, plus five industry support groups.

The morning program included talks, review of test plots & field maintenance demonstrations. Bob Studholme, VSTMA Field Day Committee Chairman & FCPA turfgrass specialist, and Dan Sutherland, FCPA Area 5 manager, spoke on athletic field maintenance programs and standards for both public school and park fields in Fairfax County. On field #5, Bob presented test plots demonstrating the use of TGR's and wetting agents, and showed a comparison of wet lining with and without TGR mixed in the paint solution. The use of Stabilizer, various infield mixes, and turf blankets were also discussed.

On field #1, Dave Runkle of Luck Stone and Mark Roberts of Herod Seed demonstrated rebuilding batter's boxes and pitchers mounds with bag clay vs. clay bricks. Charlie Vestal of Profile Products then led an interactive discussion on using calcined clay as an infield conditioner and a turf soil amendment. Joe Harmon of Harmon Turf Services finished up the morning program by demonstrating and discussing the use of the Floyd-McKay Drill-and-Fill aerator/backfill machine. **ST**



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In the afternoon G.L. Cornell, Finch Turf Equipment and Turf Equipment & Supply displayed and demonstrated turf aerators, utility vehicles, AFCs, mowers, and irrigation equipment.

STMA Chapter News

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The OSTMA Chapter will participate in the Paul Zwaska Ball Field Workshop to be held September 10 at the Ohio State University Intramural complex off Lane Avenue in Columbus. The Ohio Turf Foundation Annual Golf Outing will be held on October 3. For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call OSTMA Headquarters at 740-452-4541 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982; or visit the chapter's website at www.ostma.org.

Florida Chapter # 1: The Florida Chapter will participate in the Florida Turfgrass Association Show to be held in Tampa September 16-18. For information on the Show call the FTGA at 800-882-6721.

For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: The Nebraska Chapter will meet on September 18 at the Wayne State College Baseball Field in Wayne. For

information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at: 402-461-2324 or email to lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org.

The Greater LA Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Chapter will participate in the Turfgrass & Landscape Management Field Day at the University of California-Riverside on September 24. Registration begins at 7:30 am with the educational program running from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. For information