

Jake again sponsors SAFE Golf Tournament

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Field Environments (SAFE) was created by the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) to provide research, educational programs and scholarships dedicated to advancing the field of sports turf management.

For the 6th year in a row, Jacobsen, A Textron Company, is sponsoring the SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament. This event will be held in conjunction with the 17th Annual STMA Conference & Exhibition, January 18-22, 2006 in Orlando.

The Tournament will take place on Wednesday, January 18 at the magnificent ChampionsGate Golf Club where you can enjoy challenging play and spectacular scenic beauty. ChampionsGate is a "must play golf experience." A Greg Norman design, the International Course is one of the highest rated courses in Florida and has the look and the feel of a links-style course in the British Isles. The International Course offers 18 of the most dramatic and challenging holes. Please visit www.championsgategolf.com.

Registration fee includes greens fees, cart rental, and lunch. Proceeds from this tournament help support the SAFE scholarship, education, and research funds. Last year, this Jacobsen-sponsored event raised nearly \$16,000 for the SAFE Foundation.

The SAFE Foundation believes in pro-active research and education. We are

dedicated to funding the kind of research that sports turf managers need to improve their playing surfaces. SAFE also recognizes that research must be effectively disseminated to professional turf managers and volunteer turf practitioners. Thus, our goal is to fund sports turf research and education.

Also, as part of our mission, SAFE is dedicated to supporting students focused on the profession of sports turf management through our scholarship program. Scholarship funds are earmarked for students of 2-year programs, and for graduate students.

The SAFE Foundation has much work to complete before it can supply the sports turf industry with the desired level of programs. We are truly thankful to Jacobsen for their continued support of our cause. However, additional funding is needed to fulfill the scholarship, research, and educational aims of our mission. Your willingness to consider the SAFE Foundation's request for funding is truly appreciated.

For more information on the SAFE/Jacobsen Golf Tournament, visit the STMA website at www.sportsturfmanager.org or contact the STMA Show Office at STMA@newportevents.com, or call Andrea Dillinger at 866-847-8623.

For information on the SAFE Foundation, contact Kim Heck at SAFE Headquarters by either email, kheck@sportsturfmanager.org, or at 800-323-3875.

stma in action

STMA Supports Project Evergreen

STMA has again contributed to the green industry's alliance, Project Evergreen, to help educate consumers about the positive story of landscapes and promote the significance of those who preserve and enhance green spaces. The industry alliance was founded 5 years ago and is a non-profit organization made up of green industry service providers, associations, suppliers/distributors, media and other organizations.

STMA's funding supports a national media campaign to inform the public about the positive effects of well-maintained green spaces, including lawns and landscapes, sports turf, golf courses and parks. The campaign promotes the economic, environmental and lifestyle benefits of healthy landscapes and green spaces.

Project Evergreen also piloted a 25-field soccer renovation in Raleigh, NC, this year. For 2006, STMA will be working with them to expand the pilot to a minimum of six cities with the help of the STMA chapter network and local resources. For more information on Project Evergreen, go to www.projectevergreen.com

Five Ways you Can Support Disaster Relief

Like much of America, STMA members have been involved in providing disaster relief to communities hit hard by hurricanes and flooding. Members and



chapters have been volunteering their time and providing monetary donations. Here are several ways you can continue to assist the relief efforts:

- 1) Continue to provide cash donations to those organizations that are set up to accept and distribute money to those in need, such as the American Red Cross (www.RedCross.org) and the Salvation Army (www.salvationarmyusa.org).
- 2) Consider hiring a qualified green industry professional who was displaced or whose company can no longer employ them. PLANET (Professional Landcare Network) www.landcarenetwork.org has a growing list of available temporary jobs, and you can add your opening to it.
- 3) Use your chapter network to find out about sports field managers who need help in rebuilding and see how you can provide resources. To find out how you can help in Florida, contact John Mascaro, (954) 341-3115; to help in Texas call Sean Ray, 972-291-5130; or call the STMA headquarters, 800-323-3875, for more information.
- 4) Work with your chapter to conduct fundraising events with the proceeds or a portion of the proceeds earmarked for relief efforts.
- 5) Work with your product and equipment suppliers to donate or loan any equipment or needed products to those who are rebuilding. To offer this assistance, go to the message board on www.landcarenetwork.org.