

# Turf students learn by doing

Here are some projects turf students at several universities completed this past academic year. Thanks to Andy McNitt, Pamela Sherratt, Kent Kurtz, Grady Miller, and David Green for their help:

## Learn by doing

The Cal Poly Pomona turfgrass program was really launched in 1969 with the hiring of Dr. Kent Kurtz, who brought with him industry experience and the practical approach to turf management was infused into all of the turf classes. "The student needs to see how grasses are installed and established by seed, stolons and sod and how the soil is prepared for planting. They also need to experience aerification, vertical mowing, mowing, renovation, overseeding, and all the aspects of turf management. This is the reason the program has been so successful," says Dr. Kurtz.

Our Lady of Assumption School, Claremont, CA, has had a carnival with rides and booths on their playground turf for many years to raise money for school activities. The playground turf suffered for many years with gas and oil spills from the carnival rides, compaction and unevenness, dead grass and all the ills of a lack of concern.

The site was part of Cal Poly-Pomona class assignments that have students visit challenging situations and try to come up with solutions. Part of it this time was

overseeding the school's grounds last winter, part of The Turf Club's community project program to help a non-profit organization each year. Some groups give the club a donation that assists them in traveling to professional meetings like the STMA Conference or GCSAA Conference & Show.



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