

# Sports turf-specific classes online

By Steven Jay Porus

**S**ports turf managers are seeking ways to get more accomplished in ever-tightening schedules. The Internet now allows professionals to tap into more information and greater knowledge with ease.

"You are almost certainly going to see more change in the next quarter century than in the last 100 years. We have to be prepared, competing in that world, for constant learning all of our lives. We have to assume the workforce will change constantly," said former House Speaker Newt Gingrich at a recent discussion on workforce development. "And we have to have an understanding that much of that learning is going to be 24/7, it's going to be online."

Green Industry Education's OnlineClassroom allows turf managers everywhere to attend live or pre-recorded conference sessions via the Internet. The classroom is easy to use, but users are advised to test their PC by selecting "Demo our OnlineClassroom" at [www.OnlineClassroom.org](http://www.OnlineClassroom.org).

The classroom works well with the following browsers: Explorer for Mac and Windows, Safari for Mac, and Mozilla Firefox for Windows. Java plugin is required to view PowerPoint presentations and have the ability to forward questions to the speaker via chat. Quicktime must be installed on your PC. Make sure the Quicktime plugin is available for Internet Explorer. This is required to view streaming video. Free downloads for Java, and Quicktime are available via the "Demo our OnlineClassroom" page at [www.OnlineClassroom.org](http://www.OnlineClassroom.org).



Last October, LandsConference in Louisville offered a Sports Turf Track sponsored by the Sports Turf Managers Association. The three classrooms provided streaming audio/video of the speakers, their PowerPoint presentations, and a chat box that allowed attendees to ask questions of the speaker. Attendees were also able to login and logout for continuing education accreditation.

The sessions from LandsConference are now available 24/7 online at LandsExpo as pre-recorded. The chat box in the live broadcast is replaced with the speaker's email link in the pre-recorded Sessions. The Sports Turf Track at [www.LandsExpo.com](http://www.LandsExpo.com) includes the following sessions:

**Session LE02**

Pesticides on Turfgrass  
Jay Gan, Ph.D., University of California, Riverside  
Bruce Kidd, Dow AgroSciences

**Session LE06**

Turfgrass Selection  
Kent Kurtz, Ph.D., California State Polytechnic University, Pomona;  
John Rector, Turf-Seed, Inc.

**Session LE10**

Evaluating and Amending Soil  
Kent Kurtz, Ph.D., Cal-Poly Pomona; Dirk Muntean, Soil and Plant Laboratory, Inc.

**Session LE13**

Synthetic Infill vs. Natural Turf  
A.J. Powell, Ph.D., University of Kentucky; Darren Gill, FieldTurf

**Session LE22**

(sponsored by STMA)  
Managing Healthy Sports Fields  
Tom Samples, Ph.D., University of Tennessee; Paul Sachs, North County Organics

**Session LE23**

(sponsored by STMA)  
Efficient Irrigation Management for Sports Fields  
Dave Minner, Ph.D., Iowa State University; Lynda Wightman, Hunter Industries

**Session LE24**

(sponsored by STMA)  
Developing an Aerification Program Specific to Sports Fields  
Trent Hale, Ph.D., Clemson University; Dale Getz, The Toro Company

For information visit [www.GreenIndustryEducation.com](http://www.GreenIndustryEducation.com). ■

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