

- Choosing newer cultivars of turfgrass that are more drought and disease resistant.
- Taking advantage of local and national educational opportunities that address environmental concerns.
- Be proactive by anticipating and being prepared for changes in the political climate and laws in your area.
- Look for ways to recycle or reuse items that in the past were discarded.
- Network, stay in touch with those around you and make every effort to share information and techniques.
- Investigate ways to make your facility more eco-friendly without breaking the budget.
- Consider plantings to shade buildings for energy conservation.
- Install energy efficient lighting and upgrade to energy saving heating controls.

I know that there are many more things that can be added to the list and I am sure that each of you has things that you have done to embrace the changing issue of environmental awareness. Keep it going and continue to develop and share your own list.

I don't think the green movement is about going all organic I think it is more about awareness. Sustainability is not only about resources it has to do with the way we get our fields to perform. If that takes more input of inorganic fertilizers to produce fields that are safe and playable then so be it. It doesn't mean that the common areas of our facilities can't be on an organic program.

Does it mean that we can't control invasive weeds with appropriate chemicals? I think common sense should be the rule.

Balance and planning can go a long way. The Green Movement is about looking at the future and asking the question, "What effect are my actions going to have on the environment and what can I do today to make it sustainable?" It is my responsibility to evaluate what they might be. I feel comfortable with a few weeds in my fields if it means reducing the input of herbicides but still having safe fields.

I am sure all of you have thought about many of the issues and ideas in this article at one time or another. I am also sure that many of you are well on your way to developing a sustainable maintenance program. I have only scratched the surface, there is so much more out there that ten articles might not cover all the information.

I hope the Green Movement has been demystified for those of you who are just starting to move in that direction. It is not a cult it is just an increased level of awareness.

If you have an idea about going green that you would like to share with the rest of us please contact me at kimered-ith1@gmail.com. ■

*Kevin Meredith, CSFM is turf manager for the National Soccer Hall of Fame, Oneonta, NY.*

## Snow management tips

**H**onda Power Equipment offers these snowblower operational and maintenance tips for the upcoming season:

Check the snowblower's engine oil levels daily.

Check the machine's main wear items. These include the blower's skid shoes and the scraper bar; both are intended to rub along the ground as the unit is operated and can wear out even faster when trying to clear snow down to the bare pavement.

Note: Both the skid shoes and the scraper bar are, on many popular models, usually held in place by nuts and bolts. Operators should follow these steps for adjustment and replacement (but make sure the machine is **not running** while checking everything out!

- Place the snowblower on a level surface. For track-type snow blowers, step on the foot pedal and set the auger in the middle position.
- Loosen the skid shoe nuts and obtain the auger ground clearance for the appropriate snow conditions. Adjust the right and left shoes equally, and then retighten the nuts securely.
- Loosen all the nuts, holding the scraper, and adjust the scraper to the specified ground clearance. Be sure to retighten the nuts securely.
- Inspect the scraper and replace it if it is excessively worn.

A lack of power may indicate the need for a tune up where spark plugs are replaced and valves are adjusted. Black smoke coming out of the exhaust may indicate a "rich" condition, a common problem when operating at above 5,000 feet altitude. Here, your authorized dealer may suggest resetting the carburetor. For oil changes, tune-up intervals, information about replacement parts, and warranty information, refer to the owner's manual specific to the model.

Here are several good storage practices for snowblowers that help to ensure optimum performance and a long working life:

Because rust and corrosion will keep a snowblower from operating at peak performance, clean the auger housing with water and wipe down with a cloth before storing. Check the chute drive gear, shift and throttle levers, and ring gear; if any lubrication is necessary, do so before storing.

As with any gas-powered power equipment model, empty a snowblower's fuel tank or add fuel stabilizer before storing a snowblower for any length of time. This will make for an easy start on the next pull.

Check for any worn parts and order from the dealer as it is easier to replace what is needed ahead of the season's first snowfall. Check manufacturers service manuals for suggested maintenance schedules and keep good records for all equipment. Inspect all painted surfaces and touch up where needed.

This information supplied by Honda Power Equipment, [www.honda.com](http://www.honda.com)



## New Workman offers better ride

The new Toro Workman MD Series utility vehicles are now available. They feature Superior Ride Quality (SRQ), a system combining a calibrated, coil-over shock absorber suspension design with a patented Active In-Frame twister joint. Each axle reacts independently to the terrain so that all four wheels remain on the ground. In addition, the operator platform was extended for additional leg room. Aesthetic upgrades to the front body include the latch-opened injection-molded plastic hood, as well as a steel diamond plate floorboard.

### The Toro Company

For information, fill in **054** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-054>



## First-ever gas UV from Kubota

Kubota introduces the new gas-powered, RTV500 compact utility vehicle that comes with the comfort, technology and refinement of a larger utility vehicle, but is compact enough to fit in the bed of a full-size, long-bed pickup truck. At 54.7 inches wide and 72 inches tall, the RTV500 gets the job done with a 15.8 horsepower, liquid-cooled, two-cylinder Kubota gas engine, four-wheel drive, and a top speed of 25 miles-per-hour. The RTV500 comes standard with Kubota's exclusive new "VHT Plus" variable hydrostatic transmission, which eliminates the need to adjust belt drives and provides smooth, reliable transmission-assisted braking and hill-holding capabilities.

### Kubota Tractor

For information, fill in **057** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-057>



## Pioneer Athletics adds colors to Star Stripe

Pioneer Athletics introduces Star Stripe colors (Blue, orange, red, yellow) for the Star Liner electric field liner. The Star Liner is a compact and portable electric field liner with a long-lasting battery and "Plug & Stripe" technology. Just "plug" the ready-to-use container of Star Stripe paint into the Star Liner and stripe away. Star Stripe paint features Halogen 2000 optical brighteners, giving you unbeatable lines that stand-up to tough play and weather. The paint container, which will stripe one regulation size soccer field, is self-sealing and specially designed to empty completely, minimizing waste.

### Pioneer Athletics

For information, fill in **055** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-055>



## Redesigned NewRider 3000

Newstripe's redesigned NewRider 3000 features include a 13-hp Honda OHV engine with oil alert, and the ignition, choke, throttle, pump switches and parking brake are now all located within easy reach of the operator's seat. An all-new foot peddle can be used for forward,

reverse, speed control and fast safety stops plus, the integrated hand lever can also be used if you prefer. You asked for it, we listened and now a removable Sun Shade (with water bottle holder of course) is standard equipment.

### Newstripe

For information, fill in **056** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-056>



## New Toolcat model available

Bobcat introduces the Toolcat 5610, featuring a three-point hitch and hydraulic power take off (PTO) for rear implements and the ability to run more than 40 front-mounted Bobcat attachments. Toolcat utility work machines accomplish many of the same tasks as a compact tractor, attachment carrier, compact loader, utility vehicle and more. It has an available Category 1 three-point hitch that allows buildings and grounds crews to perform a variety of tasks with three-point implements.

### Bobcat Company

For information, fill in **062** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-062>

## Redesigned precipitation/uniformity gauges

Turf-Tec International has designed their Precipitation/Uniformity gauges, which are designed to be set up in a head to head or grid pattern to determine how much water is applied from an irrigation system and to also show the water coverage uniformity. They are also useful in performing water audits with companion tools like Infiltrimeters and moisture sensors. The set of 20 gauges are calibrated in tenths of an inch and millimeters for ease of reading the amount of water in each gauge.

### Turf-Tec International

For information, fill in **061** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-061>





## Sherwin-Williams introduces SherStripe

Sherwin-Williams brings a complete lineup of paints and tools to the field with its SherStripe Athletic Field Marking Paint Program for natural grass. It offers: bulk paints in highly pigmented colors, custom-tinted team colors, or a Bright White color that is formulated with state-of-the-art Optical Brighteners for high visibility on the field. SherStripe aerosol paints available in a variety of colors that provide fast-drying performance so fields are ready for play in less than one hour. The aerosol paints can be applied with SherStripe striping machines or a hand-held wand.

### Sherwin-Williams

For information, fill in **058** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-058>



## SP-1575 Bulk Pro Spreader

SnowEx introduces the new SP-1575 Bulk Pro Spreader. Ideal for professional contractors who maintain roads, parking lots and driveways, the SP-1575 is designed to handle bulk materials, such as bulk (unbagged) salt, straight sand or sand/salt mixtures. Built with a 5.25-cubic-foot capacity hopper, the SP-1575 features a simple two-stage auger system that assures a positive, steady feed of material to the spinner without the clogging and flow problems associated with other auger configurations. Additionally, the patented vibrator/inverted-"V" flow system further facilitates bulk material movement.

### TrynEx International

For information, fill in **060** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-060>



## Honda HS928 snowblower

The HS928 employs a specially designed, heavy-duty, height-adjustable serrated auger to slice through icy snow build-up deposited by snowplows. It features: Honda OHV commercial grade engine; infinitely variable speed control hydrostatic drivetrain; 28" clearing width, 20" clearing height; self-propelled, wheel drive; automatic decompression for easy starting;

adjustable snow deflection; ice breaking serrated auger; 1-year commercial warranty.

### Honda Power Equipment

For information, fill in **059** on reader service form or see <http://www.oners.hotims.com/14685-059>

## STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:** [www.azstma.com](http://www.azstma.com).

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization – MAFMO Chapter STMA):** [www.ccstma.org](http://www.ccstma.org).

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.cstma.org](http://www.cstma.org).

**Florida #1 Chapter:** 954/782-2748

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gatewaystma.org](http://www.gatewaystma.org).

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.gstma.org](http://www.gstma.org).

**The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.stmalabasin.com](http://www.stmalabasin.com).

**Illinois Chapter STMA:** 847/263-7603.

**Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.imstma.org](http://www.imstma.org).

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.iowaturfgrass.org](http://www.iowaturfgrass.org).

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA):** [www.kafmo.org](http://www.kafmo.org).

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.kystma.org](http://www.kystma.org).

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** [www.mistma.org](http://www.mistma.org).

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** [www.mstma.com](http://www.mstma.com).

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.mokanstma.com](http://www.mokanstma.com).

**New England STMA (NESTMA):** [www.nestma.org](http://www.nestma.org).

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:** 402/441-4425.

**North Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.ncsportsturf.org](http://www.ncsportsturf.org).

**North Florida STMA Chapter:** 850/580-4026.

**Northern California STMA:** [www.norcalstma.org](http://www.norcalstma.org).

**Ozarks STMA:** [www.ozarksstma.org](http://www.ozarksstma.org).

**Sports Turf Managers of New York:** [www.stmony.org](http://www.stmony.org).

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** [www.sfmanj.org](http://www.sfmanj.org).

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** [www.ostma.org](http://www.ostma.org).

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.pnwstma.org](http://www.pnwstma.org).

**Southern California Chapter:** [www.socalstma.com](http://www.socalstma.com).

**South Carolina Chapter of STMA:** [www.scastma.org](http://www.scastma.org).

**Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:** 866/897-8621.

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** [www.tvstma.com](http://www.tvstma.com).

**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.vstma.org](http://www.vstma.org).

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:** [www.wstma.org](http://www.wstma.org).

### Forming Chapters:

**Gulf Coast Chapter:** 225/757-9136.  
**Nevada STMA Chapter:** 702/433-3113.  
**Oregon STMA Chapter:** 503-357-7202

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