

Join STMA for half price for a half year

Never been a member of STMA? Then you qualify to join STMA through this exclusive, pro-rated offer.

Join now and receive the next 6 months of membership at half price. Those who are sports turf managers and academics pay \$55, and commercial members pay \$148. We are confident that the value you receive from being a member of STMA for a partial year will convince you to join for the full 2010 year, and beyond.

STMA Membership benefits include:

- Access to the Members' Only section of STMA.org, which has a searchable membership directory, technical resources, and employment openings for you and résumés of potential employees and interns for easy recruitment.

- Discounted registration/exhibition fees to attend STMA's regional conferences and its Annual Conference and Exhibition—an event unmatched in the industry for sports field specific information and education.

- In 2009, STMA will be hosting a Midwest Regional Conferences on June 24-25 in Ames, IA, complete with equipment and cultural practices demonstrations, turf research plot tours, an outdoor exhibition, tours of the Iowa State University sports facilities, a full day of indoor classroom education with two concurrent sessions, a golf outing, a softball competition and a barbeque.

- A subscription to *SportsTurf Magazine*, the official magazine of STMA and the industry's leading publication (please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery).

- A monthly e-newsletter that communicates association, industry and career development information.

- On-line access to the Industry Sourcebook to quickly and thoroughly research product, equipment and service suppliers.

- Online access to Michigan State's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF), the green industry's greatest resource for up-to-date technical information (sports turf manager members).

- Discounts to the University of Georgia's distance-learning programs.

- Opportunity to take a leadership role through national committee service.

- Ability to enter your sports field in the

nationally recognized Field of the Year Awards Program.

- Ability to apply for a scholarship through The SAFE Foundation, STMA's charitable arm (student members).

- Recognition as a professional and access to further validate your abilities through certification.

Our members tell us that the top three reasons they join STMA are to take advantage of our network of peers for ideas and best management practices, our sports turf management-specific education, and for quick access to information and resources.

Membership in STMA also enhances job security and may be the most economical "unemployment insurance" you can buy. STMA's programs and services help members to proactively strengthen their value to their employers. "I know I have been able to provide more value to my employer because of my membership in STMA. I have learned cost and time-savings ideas that were especially effective in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina," says Kenneth Edwards, CSFM, City of Gulfport, MS. The knowledge, skills and abilities you gain by accessing STMA's education and information can also help you to prepare to take that next step in your career.

Another benefit of joining a national organization is its ability to advocate for you and for the profession through alliances with other organizations. An STMA board member serves on the National Turfgrass Federation board, which advocates for more federal funding for turfgrass research. STMA is an educational partner with the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) and works closely with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and other organizations whose members are the employers of sports turf managers. STMA actively works with these organizations and green industry associations to promote the professionalism of our members and to educate these groups about the high level of education and technical expertise needed to manage safe playing surfaces. We continually seek ways to provide recognition and garner respect for our members.

Use the special Membership Application in this issue to join your professional association at this special half-year price. ■

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