

Invest in yourself without spending any money

Make 2010 the year that you focus on your career and future success by really using your STMA benefits. STMA offers so much information that is available through its website. By committing 15 minutes each week, you will expand your technical knowledge and add to your value as a sports turf manager.

But where do you start? Your time is a valuable resource, and there is so much information available to help you with your management of sports fields. First, create a quick career development plan. Perhaps you are a cool season turfgrass manager, but know that you would benefit from knowing more about warm season grass management. Or, if you know you'll always be managing cool season grasses, have you kept up on the new varieties in trial or on the market? Perhaps you need to hone your communication skills? Or, begin planning for a field renovation? Pinpoint what you need to know to be a better sports turf manager, write it down, and set aside 15 minutes each week to pursue information on the topics you have noted.



Computer image courtesy of istockphoto.com

Start with STMA's website, www.STMA.org. There are many different ways to find information.

These three ways allow you to see a broad list of resources available and

should be used when you want to find out what technical content is new or available on the STMA website.

Look at the STMA home page to see if any new resources have been added.

Click on the Resources Tab at the top of the STMA website, hover over the Technical Information or Related Topics to see what's there.

Log in to the STMA Members Only page, and click on Technical Resources. (To log in, put in your STMA ID number as your USER NAME, and use your last name as your password).

These three ways provide you with a search method to quickly find singular topics.

Use the Search Bar at the top of the STMA home page. Put in your topic and click. All related resources on the STMA website should be culled into a handy list for you. For example, if you are interested in project management, put that topic in the search bar, and all the information on the STMA website will appear in a list for easy browsing.

Click on the STMA magazine cover, and then on Advanced Search at the top of the SportsTurf page. Put in your topic and fill out the search criteria.

Log in to Members Only and from that home page, click on the TGIF link and put in your topic. TGIF is the industry's top resource for information, and access to it is included in your STMA membership. (TGIF is not available to Commercial members).

STMA continues to enhance the content on its website, so each week that you check back, you should find new information and resources

In addition to the technical resources on the STMA website described above and access to TGIF, following is a full list of membership benefits available to you:

- Annual subscription to SportsTurf Magazine, the industry's top publication dedicated to field management.
- STMA's News Online, a monthly electronic newsletter
- STMA Membership Directory

(Searchable directory is online, Members Only section)

- Employment Openings and Career information (online, Members Only section)
- Discounted registration/exhibition fees to attend STMA's Annual Conference & Exhibition, an event unmatched in the industry for sports field specific information and education, and all STMA Regional Conferences. In 2010, STMA is planning a summer regional conference in the Pacific Northwest area.
- Discounts to the University of Georgia's and the Ohio State University's distance-learning programs.

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- 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.

Just a reminder, if you are unemployed anytime in 2010, please let STMA headquarters know and we will extend your membership benefits for six months, so that you will have access to resources to help you gain employment.

For those who are not members, to join STMA please use the membership application in this magazine, or go to www.STMA.org and click JOIN STMA. ■



STMA Committee Volunteer Form

Committee appointments are for a one-year term of service, March - January.
Please fill out a new form annually.

Name _____

Chapter _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone _____

Facility/Industry Representation (check one)

- Facilities used by Professional Athletes
- Higher Education
- Schools K-12
- Parks & Recreation
- Academic
- Commercial
- Student

Name of Committee on which you are interested in serving: (not to exceed two)

Return this form to STMA Headquarters, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E, Lawrence, KS 66044
Fax: 785-843-2977 or via email STMAinfo@STMA.org

DUE FEBRUARY 5, 2010



2010 is The Year to Volunteer

Volunteering on a committee provides the STMA with vital insight and perspective from the membership on its programs and services. Most committees meet via conference calls, and depending upon the committee's charges for the year, they may meet via phone as few as twice during the year, or as frequently as twice a month for several months. These calls offer a great opportunity to meet and learn from others, offer your viewpoint and help to advance the work of STMA. Appointments are for one year, March 1-January 31.

Please sign up using the form below or via www.stma.org even if you are currently serving on a committee. The deadline to volunteer for a committee is Feb. 5. President Chris Calcaterra will be making the committee appointments by March 1.

- **Awards:** To judge the association's awards program applicants selecting the Field of the Year winners and the Minor League Baseball Sports Turf Manager of the Year. (This Committee meets physically in November in Kansas City, MO)

- **Bylaws:** To develop association bylaws, which are fair and enforceable, and clearly define the expectations for membership, governance processes and board of directors' service.

- **Certification:** To develop strategies to grow the number of certified members; to consistently monitor the program and recom-

mend enhancements to ensure that the program is the top achievement for sports turf managers.

- **Chapter Relations:** To create a chapter structure that is beneficial locally and nationally; to financially assist chapters with their administrative, operations and educational efforts; to facilitate the sharing of best practices,

- **Conference:** (Conference Education, Exhibition, and Tours subcommittees) To develop all content, sessions, workshops and off-site venues, and select speakers and moderators for the next year's conference that will make it a "must attend" event for members and nonmembers; to recommend strategies that will drive attendance to the exhibition and will add value to exhibitors.

- **Editorial:** To insure that the STMA magazine contains information relevant to the sports turf manager; to provide ideas and contacts for articles for publication;

- **Ethics:** To provide a fair and unbiased council to investigate claims of ethics violations, determine if the claim has merit, and shepherd the appeals process. (This Committee is called into operation only if there is an ethics violation claim).

- **Finance & Audit:** To provide oversight of the STMA's financial resources by reporting information to the Board of Directors.

- **Historical:** To preserve the history of the association and the profession.

- **Information Outreach:** To develop educational and informational opportunities for members to enhance their personal and professional development.

- **Membership:** To develop initiatives to drive membership growth and retention; to recommend programs that add value for each member.

- **Nominating:** To provide to the membership a qualified slate of officers and directors for the annual STMA Board of Directors election in accordance with the STMA Bylaws.

- **Past President's Advisory Council:** Purpose: To advise the STMA Board on issues pertaining to the past, present and future of STMA. (Restricted to STMA Past Presidents)

- **Scholarship:** To judge the SAFE Scholarship recipients and the Surface Athletics Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant; to develop strategies to enhance the programs.

- **Technical Standards:** To help determine standards and best management practices needed in the profession and to guide the work of the ASTM on developing sports field and facility standards.

- **Website:** To insure that the STMA website contains information relevant to members, prospects and the green industry in an easily accessible and consumable format. ■

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Special Notes: The Chesapeake Chapter is re-establishing as the Mid Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization. The forming Central Florida Chapter has secured 43 signatures for its official documentation to become an affiliated chapter.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.com.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization – MAFMO Chapter STMA): www.ccstma.org. * See note above

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: www.cstma.org.

Florida #1 Chapter: 954/782-2748

Florida #2 Chapter: 850/580-4026.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gatewaystma.org.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com.

Illinois Chapter STMA: 847/263-7603.

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.imstma.org.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: www.iowaturfgrass.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: www.kystma.org.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mokanstma.com.

New England STMA (NESTMA): www.nestma.org.

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

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

Sports Turf Managers of New York: www.stmony.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org.

Oregon STMA Chapter: 503/953-9406

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org.

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.scastma.org.

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

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.vstma.org.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: www.wstma.org.

Forming Chapters:

Central Florida: Contact George Lawson, 863-665-5800 (See note above)

Gulf Coast Chapter: 225/757-9136.

Nevada STMA Chapter: 702/884-2987.

Chapter Sponsors



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