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1 What is your company's primary business? (check ONLY ONE)

- F Sports Complex G Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
 T School, College or University P Park
 H Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check ONLY ONE)

- A EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
 B MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
 C GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
 D SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
 F COACH E Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?

Y Yes N No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)

- F Over \$1 million C \$50,001 - \$100,000
 E \$500,001 - \$1 million B \$25,001 - \$50,000
 D \$100,001 - \$500,000 A \$25,000 and under

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| Delta Bluegrass Company | 5 | www.deltabluegrass.com |
| Diversified Sports Specialties | 44 | www.DSSworks.com |
| Ecolawn | 44 | www.ecolawnapplicator.com |
| Field Away | 33 | www.turfmuncher.com |
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| Kochek Co., Inc. | 37 | www.kochek.com |
| Krylon | 29 | www.k1-lineup.com |
| Natural Sand Company | 37 | www.duraedge.us |
| Newstripe Inc. | 21 | www.newstripe.com |
| Pennington Seed | 3 | www.penningtonseed.com |
| Redexim North America, Inc. | 2 | www.redexim.com |
| Sports Turf Managers Association | 15 | www.stma.org |
| Stabilizer Solutions | 23 | www.StabilizerSolutions.com |
| STEC Equipment | 25 | www.stecequipment.com |
| TifSport Growers Association | 27 | www.tifsport.com |
| Turfco Manufacturing | 11 | www.turfco.com/50years |
| TurfTime Equipment, LLC | 44 | www.TurfTimeEq.com |
| World Class Athletic Surfaces | 35 | www.worldclasspaints.com |

Continued from page 19

thetic turf with crumb rubber infill they all require maintenance and special care.

The following is a brief description and all maintenance should be done in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and guidelines.

Daily inspections of the playground area is advised as after hour users can leave an array of debris (bottles, cans, trash, etc.) that can become hazardous to identified user. This is also a good time to correct any damages or movement of the surfacing if it a loose-fill material that moves with usage of the equipment (under swings, bottom of slides, etc.)

Monthly inspections for excessive wear, loose hardware, cracked plastics, swing

chain wear, "S" hook openings is recommended by almost all manufacturers and should be done by a competent individual who has been shown what to look for.

Annual inspections should be done similar to the monthly inspections but in more detail. This is a great time to take care of touch up painting, replenishing the safety surfacing (loose-fill if organic material), replacement of swing chains if required, etc.

Cost estimate: The cost of equipment is reflected in the size of the pieces and the complexity of the unit. Equipment costs can range from a couple hundred dollars to thousands of dollars with installation costing anywhere from 50% - 100% of the equipment costs.

Operating or maintenance costs is purely represented by what materials are used for both the equipment and the safety fall zone, wooden structures with loose-fill surfacing will demand more maintenance weekly, monthly and annually then a powder coated steel structure installed over a pour-n-place or rigid surfacing (tiles, synthetic turf, matting, etc.).

Cost estimate prices were obtained from the 2006 RSMeans Building Construction Cost Data within the Philadelphia region and should in no way be considered current or used for budgeting purposes. ■

James Cornelius, CSFM, now works for Fisher and Son, Coatesville, PA after a long career with the West Chester School District.