2012 has been a story of success for the City of West Park, FL. They are recent recipients of the 2012 “Playful City USA” designation, and the lucky winner of a FieldLazer S100 field marking machine in the Graco FieldLazer “Walk the Line” Giveaway.

In 2005, the City of West Park was established as Broward County’s newest municipality. There are currently 14,156 residents. Like many communities in Florida, the City has been hit hard by the current economic challenges and has had subsequent reductions in the tax base. Despite these hard times, the City is committed to maintaining its course of positive progression.

Since the City’s inception in 2005, West Park has made significant investments in its parks to facilitate play and physical activity. The City has made substantial improvements to the park grounds with new playground equipment, a new scoreboard, and sports field upgrades. The City has a longer term plan to completely upgrade its 18.5 acre park to a state of the art facility.

The “Playful City USA” designation is a nationwide program honoring cities and towns that make play for children a priority. West Park has two main parks with two football fields, up to eight soccer fields, one baseball diamond, a volleyball court, and two playgrounds which are active year round. To help ensure a safe environment, the City has recently implemented a Smoke Free policy. This allows the local police to enforce any potential infractions and provide a positive, healthy place for play.

In May 2012 the City won the Graco FieldLazer S100 field marker and it couldn’t have come at a better time. West Park was renting a low pressure field marker and striping over the weekend to keep up. It cost over $100 to rent each time they striped a field. With the new field marker, they not only eliminate the rental fees, but now are saving over 50% in paint costs due to Graco’s high-pressure paint spray technology.

**Steiner introduces new 440 4x4 tractor**

The new Steiner 440 Tractor is available in an assortment of high hp engines (32, 34 or 40HP gas or 24.9 HP diesel), with all-steel fuel tank and oversized filler neck with tethered fuel cap and 200-watt halogen quartz front headlights to its 1500 psi of lift pressure, Eaton Series hydraulic pump and transmission, Peerless 2600 dual range transaxles, 5 gallon capacity hydraulic oil reservoir, large 12 volt 525 CCA (cold crank amp) battery (630 CCA on the diesel), 7” seat slides for the perfect fit, an all-new operator panel design that puts control at your fingertips, and a folding ROPS standard, the new 440 has features that exceed the norm.

**New multifunctional zero-turn mower attachment**

TurfEx introduces the new Thatch, Groom ‘N’ Sweep Package, an attachment system designed specially for zero-turn mowers that can be converted from a sweeper to a dethatcher without having to purchase additional equipment. Available in both 48- and 60-inch widths (models MT480 and MT600, respectively), the Thatch, Groom ‘N’ Sweep Package uses a universal mount that easily fits the form of most major manufacturers’ zero-turn mowers. The attachment includes two rows of brush sections, which can be replaced with spring-mounted tines to turn the sweeper into a dethatcher in just a matter of minutes. To switch between the two, the operator simply removes a containment plate, and then slides the brush or tine sections in and out of the housing.

**Cub Cadet RT 65 tiller**

The Cub Cadet RT 65 Garden Tiller offers the following advantages: Honda GC190 187 OHC engine; 18-inch tilling width; 13-inch dual-directional tines; self-propelled, with forward and reverse; adjustable depth bar; and 16-inch pneumatic, ag tread wheels.

**Diagnosing Turfgrass Problems: A Practical Guide**

This book by Clemson University turfgrass veterans Ralph W. White and L. B. (Bert) McCarty provides a straightforward introduction to the fundamentals of turfgrass diagnosis for turf professionals. It is designed to provide the experienced professional with a handy reference for use on site, but it can also give homeowners a guide for improving their lawn care. The information included in this book is intended to help one recognize symptoms of common problems and limit mistakes in diagnosis and identification that allow minor problems to develop into major ones. Clemson University ISBN 978-0-9798777-6-6