

Resources to help you manage your fields

STMA IS COMMITTED to strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing members' competence by providing applicable information on how to manage athletic surfaces. The STMA Information Outreach Committee works hard to produce educational bulletins that provide tips and advice for how to best manage your natural turfgrass athletic surfaces. Topics range from health and safety to cultural practices to construction and renovation—all aim to assist in promoting and maintaining the health and playability of natural turfgrass surfaces.

Check out the Members-Only side of the STMA.org to access any of the following resources:

Seasonal field maintenance calendars that detail management practices throughout the year:

- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for Cool Season Turfgrasses
- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for Warm Season Turfgrasses
- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for the Transition Zone

Resources on cool and warm season turfgrass species commonly used for athletic turf:

- Kentucky bluegrass
- Annual bluegrass
- Perennial ryegrass
- Tall Fescue
- Bermudagrass

Cultural practices that keep your field in good health:

Fertilization:

- Understanding Soil Tests
- Plant and Environmental Responses to the Essential Nutrients
- Quick Release Nitrogen
- Slow Release Nitrogen

Irrigation:

- Rootzone Construction
- Water Availability
- Water Tables
- Amount and Frequency for Irrigation
- Application
- Irrigation Systems
- Effective Water Use

Drainage:

- Drainage Solutions
- Best Management Practices to Reduce Stormwater Runoff and Pollution at your Sports Facility
- Flooding on Sports Fields
- Drainage - A Crucial Component for Athletic Field Performance
 - Part One: Surface Drainage
 - Part Two: Internal Drainage
 - Part Three: Subsurface Installed

Drainage Systems

Guidelines for general field management that will help in maintaining healthy, safe athletic surfaces:

- Sports Field Management Practices - Athletic Field Management in the Spring
- Sports Field Management Practices - Preparing a Field for Winter
- Field Management During a Drought
- 2012 Heat and Drought Stress Effects on Sports Turf Management
- Football Practice Techniques that Help

Minimize Field Wear

- Strategies for Managing Heavily-Used Fields
- Thatch Management
- Sprigging Bermudagrass
- Sports Field Painting Tips
- Snow Removal
- How to Control Moles and Reduce Turfgrass Damage

Resources that give tips and advice for new construction and renovation of fields:

- 8 Steps to an Easy Field Facelift
- A Guide to Synthetic and Natural Turfgrass for Sports Fields - Selection, Construction and Maintenance Considerations
 - Natural Grass Athletic Fields for High Schools
 - Natural Grass Athletic Fields for High Schools PowerPoint

Suggestions for implementing environmental stewardship at sports facilities:

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Water Efficiency
- Stormwater Management
- Renewable Energy
- Carbon Credits, Renewable Energy Credits, and Carbon Offsets
- Transportation
- Lighting
- Heat Islands
- Brownfields
- LEED

Suggestions for implementing environmental stewardship on athletic fields:

- Soil Issues
- Species Selection
- Cultural Practices
- Traffic Management
- Natural Pesticides
- Pesticides
- Compost Applications to Sports Fields
- Best Management Practices to Reduce Stormwater Runoff and Pollution at your Sports Facility

Resources that focus on keeping fans, athletes, coaches, and other users safe

- Sports Field Safety Football/Soccer Safety and Maintenance Checklist
- Baseball/Softball Safety and Maintenance Checklist
- The STMA Collection of ASTM Standards for Athletic Fields

Take advantage of all that STMA has to offer! In addition to the resources STMA has provided, links to university websites and STMA conference presentations are also available to assist you in taking your athletic field and professionalism to the next level. ■

Our Founders—add to the history

STMA'S FOUR FOUNDERS—Dick Ericson, George Toma, William Daniels, PhD, and Harry Gill—[took an indistinct profession and formalized it. They were at the forefront of STMA's journey from an unorganized industry to a profession of significance. Many factors have influenced and strengthened the association along its way, but one constant remains: the culture of STMA that was created by these early leaders.

Nominate someone for a Founder's Award. Each Founder has brought something unique to the profession:

- Dick Ericson - a leader who continues to raise the professionalism in the industry

- George Toma - a mentor who continues to inspire individuals to be the best that they can

- William Daniel, PhD - an academic who established the industry's important partnership between educators/researchers and practitioners

- Harry Gill - a dedicated professional who made a tremendous impact on the success of STMA.

To nominate someone who embodies these characteristics, go to www.STMA.org, click on the Professionalism tab, and then on the Founders' link. The deadline to nominate someone is Oct. 15. ■