New educational bulletin highlights Environmental BMPs

STMA’s Environmental Committee and Information Outreach Committee have collaborated to produce the technical bulletin “Best Management Practices to Reduce Stormwater Runoff and Pollution at your Sports Facility.”

Stormwater runoff is generated from excessive irrigation, rainfall, or snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces and does not infiltrate into the ground. As the runoff flows over land and impervious surfaces, it can accumulate debris, chemicals, sediment, and other pollutants that can negatively affect water quality if runoff is left untreated.

Stormwater runoff is a problem because of its volume and rate from impervious surfaces, such as parking lots and other paved areas, and concentration of pollutants in the runoff. High volumes of runoff can cause changes in hydrology and water quality such as habitat modification and loss, increased flooding, decreased aquatic biological diversity, and increased sedimentation and erosion.

Sports and recreational areas can contaminate stormwater runoff with pesticides, sediment, fertilizer, and other pollutants. A simple change in behavior and maintenance practices can result in reduced inputs, cost savings, and cleaner, safer waterways. It is more cost effective and environmentally sound to put management practices in place before aquatic systems are affected. Restoring a polluted water body is much more difficult and expensive than utilizing best management practices from the start. Reducing stormwater pollution can be achieved by implementing various management systems.

Check out STMA.org to read the full bulletin and get more information on BMPs for bare soil, spill response and prevention, good storage practices, materials management, fueling areas, property and equipment maintenance, irrigation, fertilizers, pesticides/IPM, stormwater runoff collection areas, and educational outreach.

Destination Denver!
Mile High City memories await in 2015

Denver, CO is one of America’s most eclectic, exciting cities. Founded in the mid-1850’s by gold prospectors who hoped to strike it rich, similar to those lucky few in California only 9 short years earlier, this “…log city of 150 dwellings, not three-fourths completed nor two-thirds inhabited, nor one-third fit to be” (as described by newspaper editor and politician Horace Greeley) nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains quickly grew to become the bustling metropolis we know today.

STMA heads to Denver for its 26th Conference & Exhibition and conference planning communities are gearing up for the experience to be one of the most rewarding ever: a record number of submissions were received during our Call for Presentations and our conference tours are sure to stop at some must-see facilities.

Denver’s unique neighborhoods feature a cuisine, attraction, or interest for every taste. According to the Denver Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, these are the ones to see:

All information courtesy of the Denver Convention & Visitors Bureau located at denver.org

LODO / LARIMER / RIVERFRONT
Denver’s hip, historic district, with a huge independent bookstore, brewpubs, Western wear, Coors Field, and dozens of dining and nightlife options.

CHERRY CREEK
Denver’s premier shopping destination, with 320 independent shops, restaurants and galleries and Cherry Creek Shopping Center’s 160 name brand stores.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE MUSEUM DISTRICT
Explore the spectacular Denver Art Museum and a neighborhood brimming with galleries, restaurants, music venues, theatres and remarkable architecture.

UPTOWN
One of Sunset Magazine’s “hippest ‘hoods,” thanks to Restaurant Row, and proximity to City Park, Denver Zoo and Denver Museum of Nature & Science.
**HIGHLANDS**
Panoramic patio dining, art galleries on Tennyson St., and Victorian homes highlight the Highlands, one of Men’s Journal’s top neighborhoods.

**ART DISTRICT ON SANTA FE**
Join fellow art lovers during The Art District On Santa Fe’s popular monthly First Friday Art Walk, with galleries, shops, and restaurants open late.

**FIVE POINTS**
Rich in African American culture, head to this neighborhood for authentic BBQ joints, the Five Points Jazz Fest, and the Black American West Museum.

**RINO / RIVER NORTH**
RiNo is “where art is made” — a hotspot for creative types, with a renovated dry ice factory providing artists with space to create cutting edge works.

**CAPITOL HILL / CONGRESS PARK**
The gold-domed Colorado State Capitol anchors this hilltop neighborhood, which features art galleries, brewpubs and restaurants lining 6th Ave.

**EAST COLFAX**
Here, music lovers flock to the Fillmore Auditorium and Ogden Theatre, bookworms browse the expansive Tattered Cover, and foodies find eclectic eats.

**OLD SOUTH GAYLORD**
Just blocks from Washington Park, kick back with locals in this pedestrian-friendly ‘hood sipping brews at pubs, sampling sushi, and browsing shops.

**SOUTH BROADWAY**
South Broadway buzzes with activity year-round. Experience hip rock clubs, Antique Row, an arthouse movie theater and plenty of raved-about eateries.

**SOUTH PEAK**
Relax in bistros and browse shops, offering 37 different beers, 24 types of sushi, and Denver’s oldest folk music center.

**STAPLETON / NORTHFIELD**
Stroll trails linking this “new urban” neighborhood’s parks and shops. Catch the Colorado Rapids play soccer at nearby Dick’s Sporting Goods Park.

**GOLDEN**
Golden bursts with Wild West flavor, thanks to an old-fashioned downtown, the Colorado Railroad Museum, Coors Brewery and the Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave.

**LITTLETON**
Littleton’s Main Street is lined with turn-of-the-century buildings and shops. The city also features two living history farms, perfect for family outings.

**OLDE TOWN ARVADA**
Grab a gourmet pizza on Arvada’s turn-of-the-century Main Street, and see a smash Broadway musical at the Arvada Center for the Arts & Humanities.

**BELMAR / LAKEWOOD**
Belmar’s 22-square city block pedestrian district hosts a European-style market during the summer, as well as the Festival Italiano every September. - By Shant S. Thomas, Sales & Marketing Manager, STMA