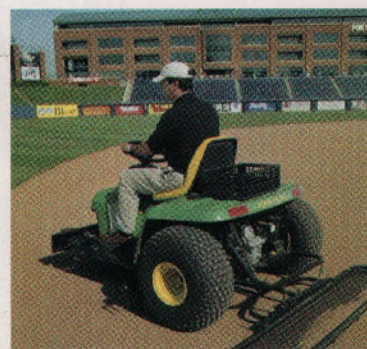


## BUNKER RAKES

The 1200A Bunker and Field Rake delivers power, speed, and great range in the field. Operators will notice a number of comfort and productivity improvements in the 1200A. These include 40 percent less steering effort, an adjustable high-back seat, standard power lift of the rear rake, and an improved braking system.

John Deere/800-537-8233

For information, circle 085 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-085](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-085)



## INFIELD MACHINE

The Infield Pro is available with a 16 or 18-hp Vanguard engine and all the tools required to keep your skinned areas in shape. Patented three-wheel series/parallel traction drive gives you the control, and machine has 7 1/2-in. ground clearance.

Attachments include the tooth rake, spring rake, weeder/cultivator, spring rake, 40-in. dozer blade, 58-in. spiker, debris blower, finish grader, and drag mat.

Toro Company/800-348-2424

For information, circle 086 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-086](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-086)

## "IN-FIELDER"

Groomer machine features heavy-duty bolt-on serrated grader blade; floating pulverizer reel with lubed pivots; and leveling bar floating on lubed pivots. Roller has six sections to reduce skidding and bunching while turning.

Reist Industries/519-669-1501

For information, circle 090 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-090](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-090)

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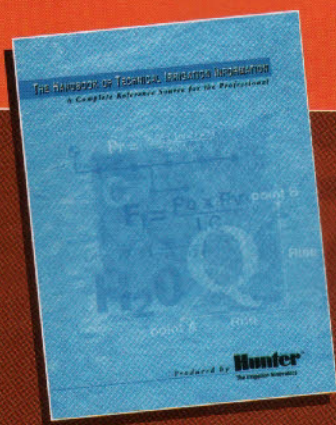
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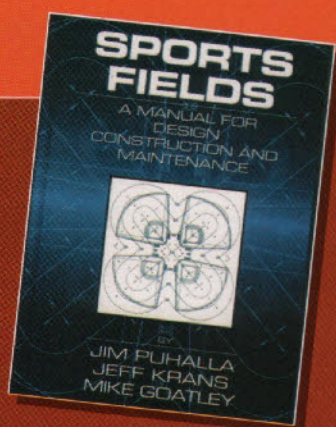
**[www.tifsport.com](http://www.tifsport.com)**

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The Handbook of Technical Irrigation Information is designed to be used as a reference guide for all professionals whose livelihood takes them into the realm of irrigation. Contractors, architects, designers and engineers alike are now able to benefit from the wide spectrum of information that has been gathered from numerous sources into a single document between the covers of this handbook. *on sale \$17!*



This book is designed to provide a comprehensive technical reference source for those who are responsible for the design, construction, renovation, or maintenance of sports grounds. Each chapter illustrates a specific design element of all popular sports facilities, and explains how these elements are integrated in a successful project. *on sale \$39!*

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## sportsturf machines

### TURF ROLLER

Tru-Turf Equipment has available a 1400-lb. sports turf roller. Units employ patented 3 off-set roller principal and are fitted with three different spiking depths. Available as a 3-point linkage or tow behind model with a Vibrator attachment option.

Tru-Turf Equipment/011-61-7-5594 7199  
For information, circle 089 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-089](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-089)



### FIELD DRAGS

Beacon premium X-drags combine plastic lumber with hardened steel nails. The 3 x 2-ft. nail drag is ideal for scarifying baselines, cutouts and home plate areas. Also for daily nail dragging of infield skin topdressing layer. It can be pulled either width direction by changing the tow rope connection point. Fits between 3-ft. line and foul line down 1st baseline.

Beacon Ballfields/800-747-5985  
For information, circle 084 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-084](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-084)

### SMITHCO AFC

The Smithco Super Star AFC features a highly responsive hydraulic-drive system and hydraulic controls for all implements. The 16 and 18-hp gasoline engine is powerful, air-cooled and quiet. New scarifier has exact depth control, and "step-through" chassis, tilt wheel and mid-back seat for operator comfort.

Smithco/610-688-4009  
For information, circle 093 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-093](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-093)



### JAKE GROOMER

The restyled Jacobsen Groom Master golf bunker and sports field groomer comes with a choice of 19-hp Kubota Diesel or 16-hp Briggs & Stratton V-Twin gasoline engine. The unit adapts to chores including bunker raking, sports infield grooming, finish grading, spiking, and turf grooming. An extra-tight turning radius and large, knob-by-tread tires provide traction and agility.

Jacobsen/888-922-8873  
For information, circle 083 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-083](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-083)







## INFIELD GROOMERS

The Kromer AFM grooming system's multi-function unit can be equipped to take care of every infield need: spring-tined harrow, leveling blade, and finishing broom; ridge remover broom to eliminate the lip; spray boom for dust control; and dry line and paint liners.

Kromer Company/800-373-0337

For information, circle 080 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-080](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-080)

## GROUNDS PLANE

WINDS mini grounds plane is pull-type machine that can level, grade, and groom all in one operation. It features a mechanical positioner, leveling blades, ripper with positioner, and a finishing broom. Three sizes available, your choice of hydraulic or electric lift.

WINDS/309-465-7655

For information, circle 091 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-091](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-091)

## MID-SIZE WALK-BEHIND

The Yazoo/Kees Kutter is a mid-size walk-behind features 7-gauge side skirts and a "rolled" front edge. Transmission is Peerless 5-speed 700 Series with speeds up to 6 mph and assisted reverse and 9-spline output shaft. Engine options are Kawasaki or Kohler, in 32, 36, and 48-in. decks.

Yazoo/Kees/877-368-8873

For information, circle 096 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-096](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-096)



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### CLAY SURFACE/INFIELD GROOMER

The GreensGroomer with sports field scarifier and rake stands up grass before mowing and brushes in topdressing with one pass. Attach the scarifier and rake and you can break up, level, and comb clay surface infields. GreensGroomer WorldWide, Inc/888-298-8852 For information, circle 095 or see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-095](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-095)



### BOB-CAT CLASSIC

The Bob-Cat Classic is an updated gear-drive walk-behind mower available with a 15-hp Briggs & Stratton ELS or a 15-hp Kohler Command Pro engine, and either a 36 or 48 in. side discharge, fixed-mount mowing deck. Features include a unitized engine and cutting deck and electric clutch with single deck drive belts.

Jacobsen/888-922-8873  
For information, circle 077 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-200](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-200)



### VERTICUTTER

The Goossen VertiCutter (VC-60) is a PTO-powered pull-type verticutter built for professional verticutting and detaching. The powerful chain drive system can handle the toughest environments. The patented skid-plate height control system handles contours very well and maintains a controllable work depth from 0 to 1 in.

Goossen at Harper Industries  
800-835-1042  
For information, circle 094 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-094](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-094)

### POWER RAKE

BlueBird's PR22 power rake has a modular platform that can be configured to a lawn comb, seeder, or power rake with rear catcher bag to collect thatch. Each unit offers choice of a flail blade for removing matted thatch, Delta slicing blade for thinning, or spring tine reels for fine turf.

BlueBird/800-808-2473  
For information, circle 097 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-097](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-097)



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### TURF VACUUM

The TV60H PTO-powered hydraulic drive turf vacuum is designed specifically for sports field applications and golf course renovation. Features include a 7-cu.yd. hopper, 25-in. diameter blower with replaceable poly liner, and a hydraulic hopper dump and latch system. All controls from operator's seat.

Goossen/800-835-1042  
For information, circle 074 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-201](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-201)





## "BALL FIELD FINISHER"

Broyhill's Ball Field Finisher ensures pattern definition for all types of soils with its 12 x 2-in. diamond grooves. The standard flip-up scarifier and 45-degree back slope level bar allows for easy grading, surface break-up, or landscaping. Optional Finishing Brush shown. Broyhill/800-228-1003 x34  
For information, circle 081 or see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-081](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-081)



## KUBOTA UV

Kubota introduces the RTV900, available in four configurations with a wide variety of accessories. Combining Kubota diesel engineering technology and a perfectly matched Kubota transmission, this utility vehicle offers power, strength and stability, with all the operator and passenger comforts you could ask for. Kubota Tractor Corp/888-458-2682  
For information, circle 092 or see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-092](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-092)

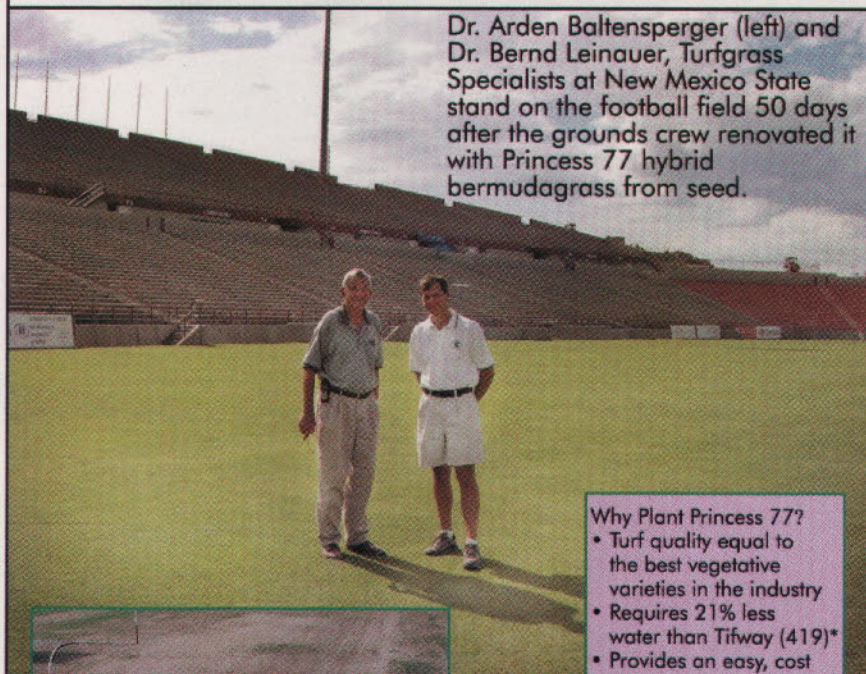
## BEDSHAPER

The Little Wonder BedShaper is available as a front-mount attachment for both Grasshopper and Walker mowers to make short work of even the largest edging, bed shaping, and trenching projects. BedShaper is ideal for the construction of new beds.

Little Wonder/215-357-5110 x8423  
For information, circle 098 or see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-098](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-098)



# Princess 77 Helps New Mexico State Develop a Strong Field for Their Team



Dr. Arden Baltensperger (left) and Dr. Bernd Leinauer, Turfgrass Specialists at New Mexico State stand on the football field 50 days after the grounds crew renovated it with Princess 77 hybrid bermudagrass from seed.

### Why Plant Princess 77?

- Turf quality equal to the best vegetative varieties in the industry
- Requires 21% less water than Tifway (419)\*
- Provides an easy, cost effective tool for renovation projects



Removal of the existing ryegrass revealed an 85 - 90% loss of Tifway (419) on the field.

Following their first undefeated season at home, the New Mexico State University Aggies were looking to start the 2003 football season with their second consecutive home opening win. However, the players weren't the only people preparing for the upcoming season. The responsibility of having the field ready for play by the first snap of the ball fell on the shoulders of Bud Jones and the New Mexico State Grounds Crew.

Removal of the existing ryegrass revealed an 85 - 90% loss of Tifway (419) on the playing field. Renovation of the field using Princess 77 hybrid bermudagrass from seed solved the problem. 50 days later, the field was pronounced to be "at full density and in excellent condition." According to the the grounds crew, Princess 77 held up "remarkably well" to the traffic of the first game.

Available in seed and sod.



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1-800-286-6100 EXT 280  
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PRINCESS 77

\*Response of Bermudagrasses and Zoysiagrasses to Applied Water Using a Linear Gradient Irrigation Design, Sean Reynolds, 2000, Master's Thesis

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## UTILITY WORK MACHINE

Bobcat Company has introduced its 5600 Toolcat Utility Work Machine equipped with a 44-hp Kubota diesel engine and combined all-wheel steer and 4-wheel drive in one machine. This combination gives it the ability to go through tough ground conditions.

Bobcat Company/701-241-8700

For information, circle 081 or

see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-190](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-190)

## INFIELD SPECIALTY MACHINE

Fieldmaster Infield Groomer is a 3-point hitch or drag machine that comes in 4 or 6-ft. widths featuring a scarifier, leveling bars, roller, weight and utility tray, and brush. Used in fifty states, Boys College World Series, Girls College World Series, National Baseball Congress, and the 1996 Olympics.

Fieldmaster/800-728-3581

For information, circle 082 or

see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-082](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-082)



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Our line up of all-star products — over fifty different formulas — has been developed to offer you maximum flexibility in toppling turf care challenges and to assure your ability to attain optimum results. From the infield out and goal to goal, APT products help you keep your turf healthy and hearty under the most demanding of game conditions. And if insects or weeds attempt to get in on the action, we can help you

give them the boot with our undefeated special teams of control products.

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## NEW ZT MOWER

The EverRide Warrior zero turn radius mower from Auburn Consolidated Industries, the original equipment manufacturer for Kubota, Honda, John Deere, Case New Holland and others. Features include 7-gauge tunnel deck with 149 sq. in. of discharge area; frame laser-cut from Grade 50 steel; and hydrostat system with top-mounted cooling fans.

Auburn Consolidated Industries  
402-274-8600

For information, circle 082 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-191](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-191)

## TORO SPRAYER

Toro's Multi Pro 5600 sprayers deliver accurate spray coverage for better control of turf disease, pests, and your budget. The spray system has a dual diaphragm pump that can be run dry without damage to the seals or pump.

The Toro Co./800-803-8676

For information, circle 099 or  
see [www.oners.ims.ca/2908-192](http://www.oners.ims.ca/2908-192)

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## Synthetic Turf Groomer with GreensSlicer® Spring Tine Rake.

**Fast, Efficient Grooming  
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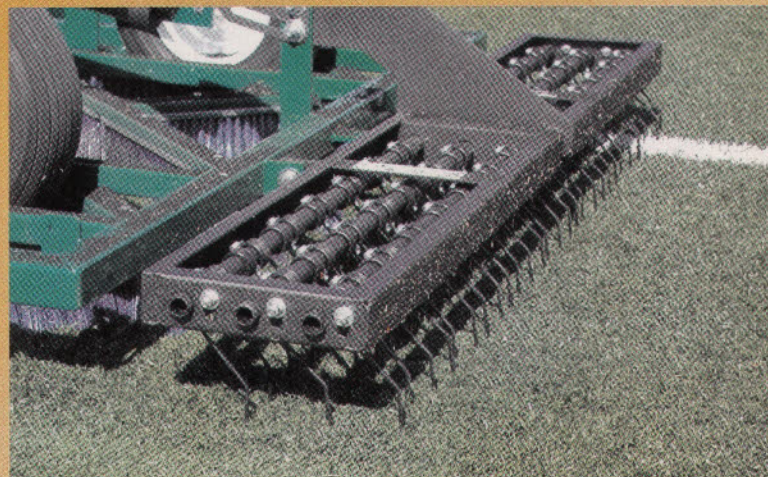


### FEATURES and BENEFITS

- Synthetic Sports Turf Groomer works with all fill material currently used, in both wet and dry conditions.
- Patented brush design lifts turf fibers leaving them in a plush, upright position. Brushes move fill to low spots or depressions left after play.
- Synthetic Super Duty Blue Brushes retain their original shape, resist wear, and will not rot.
- GreensSlicer Spring Tine Rake consists of 3 rows of 28 tines spaced 7/8 inch apart for thorough coverage.
- Each row of tines may be adjusted to the desired level of aggressiveness.
- The GreensSlicer combs through the fill material, relieving compaction and assuring a soft, level playing surface.



**Synthetic Super Duty Blue Brushes**  
Resist wear and will not deteriorate from moisture.



**GreensSlicer Spring Tine Rake**  
3 rows of 28 tines.



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U.S. Patent No. 5833013. Other Patents Pending.

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BY ERROL WIRASINGHE, PH.D.

# 5 STEPS TO MAKING BETTER DECISIONS

**T**urf managers are required to make crucial decisions. Unfortunately, the more information and the more choices we have, the more difficult decision-making is. When it comes to decision-making, common sense and experience are vital tools; however, they alone are not enough.

Before you make another decision, fine-tune your decision making process with the following steps:

## 1. Study the problem and define your objective

We often believe that we have a good idea of the problem at hand (the decision to make), but understanding the problem is not the same as understanding the objective. As you review the problem and decide your course of action, you need to determine what your ultimate goal is. By looking at the big picture, you

can devise an unambiguous objective and make your decision easier.

In order to uncover your objective, ask yourself the following questions:

- \* What is the problem?
- \* Is this a problem?
- \* Why is a solution required?
- \* Who is affected?
- \* How does it manifest?
- \* When did it first manifest?
- \* What are the consequences?
- \* Is it a transient or recurring problem?
- \* Under what conditions does it occur?
- \* Are there obvious causes?
- \* Is a solution worth the cost/effort?

## 2. Identify all relevant factors that impact your problem

The criteria relating to your decision are all the circumstances that could be contributing to the problem. As you consider your criteria, pay attention to two main issues. The first is to select the most appropriate criteria. This is vital to making the best decision; too often decision-makers take a light-hearted view of this step and pay a very dear price later on. Too many or too few factors will compromise your decision.

Contrary to popular belief, all identified factors do not have the same significance or importance. Thus, the second issue is to determine how important each criterion is (assign weights) compared to the others. Since your final decision will depend heavily on the relative value you place on your factors, the weights you assign to each should truly represent your desires. Of course you can do this using common sense and experience, but that defeats the purpose. I recommend the "pairwise" comparison technique, which consists of comparing the criteria against each other, in pairs. This process will also help you identify prerequisites, obligatory criteria and desirable criteria.

## 3. Creatively identify all available options or solutions

After identifying criteria, list all your available options, from the ones that seem the most logical to those that seem ridiculous. Remember, you're not deciding at this point; you're simply listing your possibilities, so write down everything you can think of. Whatever you do, do not jump to conclusions and think, "My options are obvious." Don't limit your options. List and analyze everything.

## 4. Gather information pertaining to your options and include any new factors you may have discovered

Begin by looking at each of your proposed solutions and develop the pros and cons as they apply to each. Be descriptive in each of your pro/con judgments. Depending on the pros and cons you list, you may have to gather additional information. If so, question the information being provided to you. Questions to ask include:

- \* Is the source of the information credible?
- \* Is the source/person reliable?
- \* Does the provider have a conflict of interest?
- \* Will the information be valid for the period under consideration?

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\* Is the problem serious enough to merit further verification of information?  
 \* Is the information relevant to the objective under consideration?  
 \* Beware of eyewitness accounts or "I heard this from a reliable source." Seek definitive proof wherever possible. Often during the information-gathering phase, you will identify new criteria that you need to consider. Add these to your original list. Finally, do not cut corners as you evaluate your options, especially if a bad decision is likely to have serious consequences.

#### 5. Rank your options and make your decision

With your solutions spelled out on paper and the pros and cons of each listed, you can analyze your options and identify the best route to take. Use the pairwise technique, to rank your options: consider one criterion at a time, and then compare each candidate against the others, in pairs, and assign points. Once you have exhausted all criteria and candidates, multiply the points assigned to each candidate with the corresponding criteria weights to determine its rank. Once you make your final decision, based on the information you have uncovered, do not second-guess it. It is your decision and you need to develop faith in it and be in harmony with it.

As you execute your decision, keep in mind the timing of your decision. For example, if you decide to approach your supervisor for a favor, you would intuitively wait for a moment when he/she is not under pressure and is in a good mood. Yet, when it comes to implementing a well-thought-out strategy, many people completely forget how critical timing is. They become emotionally attached to the decision and try to execute it immediately.

It is also important to be aware that what is urgent might not necessarily be what is important. Urgency is time related; it requires immediate action. Importance is driven by values. If ignored, important items could turn into urgent items.

Just because today's world is complicated doesn't mean that decision-making must be complicated too. Take a systematic approach to all your daily decisions to ease the stress and frustration decision-making brings on. The optimum decision depends on how you assign weights to the criteria, and how you assign points to the candidates.

By following the process discussed above, you'll make more reliable and consistent decisions

that positively affect your company's growth and profitability.

ST

Dr. Errol Wirasinghe is the author of "The Art of Making Decisions—Expanding Common Sense & Experience." For more information go to [www.XpertUS.com](http://www.XpertUS.com).



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— Richard Confoey, Inventor



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GO FASTER**

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**IT'S INCREDIBLY  
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**IT'S A GREAT VALUE!**

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Our exclusive, patent-pending Balance Equalizer System keeps VersaGrader parallel to the ground even when the pulling vehicle goes over a bump. Level the entire field faster than you ever thought possible. Then easily maintain it with the optional rake, broom and sod cutter attachments. Keep your playing fields, lots, landscape and roadways in peak condition with one super-efficient piece of equipment. VersaGrader replaces power rakes, rollers, old levelers and more.




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# NEED H VOLUNTEERS

**O**ften during the busiest times, we wish that there were a few more hands around to help with some of the tasks or chores that need done. Volunteers might be the answer to your needs. However, efficient and effective volunteers do not just fall from the sky. It takes planning and management to have volunteers that do not consume all of your time, and who stay consistent with your goals and mission.

First you must understand why people volunteer. Some want to help build a better community; others want to give something back to their community. Recognition is what drives some; others want to have the feeling that they have personally achieved a task, or have perhaps brought about social change. Yet others volunteer just because someone asked them to, or to help out a friend, or show support for a given cause. In the end it doesn't matter if they meet the goals that they have for themselves and the organization.

On the other side, volunteer complaints include: not being called back, not being available at the needed time, not being given anything to do when they show up, feeling "in the way," being forced to fund-raise only, never being thanked, and not receiving enough guidance.

You need to manage your volunteers so that they don't have these thoughts.

Designing a work plan for volunteers' needs to be done carefully and with some forethought. Simply allowing people to do as they please will not only frustrate you to the "doing it yourself would be easier" mentality, but also people will begin to shy away from helping productively.

There are countless places and organizations for people to volunteer their time. You want to make each volunteer experience as positive as possible, so people will return time after time to lend a hand. To help make your volunteers' experiences a success, give them clear, concise and meaningful work. Explain your expectations and provide them with the proper training and tools to do the job. Have a training day to show volunteers what you want and how you want it done. Do not give them work that you would not do yourself. Be organized and prepared. Nothing will kill the passion of a volunteer faster than if they arrive and find staff ill prepared for the event. This is a bit like having a friend ask you to help them move, and when you show up to help, you end up packing boxes before you can load them in the truck.

Have job descriptions and always have a to-do list for volunteers. Job descriptions help you and the volunteer better understand what you want them to do. Having a to-do list will help you answer quickly that unexpected call asking "Is there something I can do to help?" You always want to have a task for this volunteer, saying "no" will only delay the question in the future.

Give volunteers meaningful work that can be accomplished in the time that they have. Do not give them more than they can handle. Know your volunteers and their abilities. If they have one hour a week to volunteer, do not give them 10 hours of work and expect them to complete it. Allow them to complete a job and then express your appreciation for the work they completed.

Communicate with your volunteers. Do not limit communications to only what needs to be done and always say "thanks." Always be timely and return calls or e-mails.

Another great way to recognize volunteers is by feeding them. During a workday serve lunch, or have a recognition dinner for them at the end of the year or season. Communication needs to be a two-way street. Volunteers should feel free to talk to