It's like getting a superstar at a rookie's salary.

John Deere Assured Equipment. Works like new, priced like used. It's the ultimate win-win: John Deere quality at a price that's well within reach. John Deere Assured is certified, pre-owned equipment that is put through an intensive 100-point inspection. If parts do need to be replaced, we use only genuine John Deere Parts. And once it passes inspection, we give it a one-year warranty.

The time has never been better to put John Deere on your team. Call your local distributor about John Deere Assured. Or go to www.johndeere.com
"K-Rain Products are Better than the Rest"

"K-Rain products are better because the company is totally focused on making the best rotors in the industry. K-Rain is a specialist in sports field rotors, because of this fact they are the rotors of choice. The University of Maryland needed 21st Century irrigation systems. With K-Rain, that's what we have." – Rob Anthony

We work with one mindset: Make it better.
That's the power behind K-Rain. THAT'S THE POWER BEHIND YOU.

Rob Anthony
University of Maryland, Director of Athletic Turf

K-Rain ProSport and ProCom Found At:
University of Maryland, Byrd Stadium Football Field (above)
University of Maryland, Baseball Stadium
University of Maryland, Lacrosse Field
University of Maryland, Soccer Field

1.800.735.7246 | www.krain.com

© K-Rain Manufacturing Corp.
## FEATURES

### Field Science
- **8** Soil amendment user's guide

### Irrigation & Drainage
- **22** Measuring water infiltration rates

### Fields of the Year
- **32** Lebanon Valley College sets small college bar
- **35** Berry, Olivet Nazarene win College Soccer Field of the Year

### 25th Anniversary
- **38** The 10 Commandments of environmental turf craft

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the Sidelines</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STMA President's Message</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Mascaro's Photo Quiz</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STMA In Action</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STMA Chapter News</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketplace</td>
<td>45-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Education</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisers' Index</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reader Information Form (Green Mediator)</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

On the cover: This field hockey venue is just one of the sterling fields headed by Kevin Yeiser at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA. STMA awarded Yeiser College Complex of the Year in 2005.

www.greenmediaonline.com
Health Insurance For Your Turf.

It's all about the kind of coverage you have. And Hunter irrigation products deliver performance that ensures your turf is lush and healthy over every inch. As a sports turf manager, your work is on display for the world to see. That's why I use Hunter.

Hunter
The Irrigation Innovators
www.HunterIndustries.com
Commercial seminars often worth your time

One of the fun parts of my job is getting "on the ground" at some of America’s great sporting venues, usually due to a commercially sponsored event. Sometimes I even get some special treatment like a few years ago at the then-new Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. When the group toured the stadium, I instead joined Eagles’ turf manager Tony Leonard to visit the working innards of "The Linc." (I'm like those faux VIPs in the car insurance ads.)

This past summer the folks at Bayer Environmental Science sponsored a "Southern Sports Turf" in Charlotte at Bank of America Stadium, home of the NFL Panthers. (Quick trivia: what was the original name of this stadium?) We spent some time both on the stadium field (Voyager hybrid bermudagrass, which Panthers' head groundskeeper Tom Vaughan says has held up well over 3 years with resodding needed only in the east corner, where it freezes in winter), and the nearby practice fields (Tifway 419, called a "workhorse" bermudagrass, which Panthers’ head groundskeeper Tom Vaughan says has maintained along with right-hand man Adam White also features a Prestige infill synthetic surface.

"We try to keep the same cultural practices for the game field and our practice fields but of course the practice fields get a lot more use," Vaughan told about 40 sports turf managers who attended the session. Vaughan’s been head guy for 5 years after 3 years as assistant groundskeeper. "We killed our ryegrass on the practice field later than usual this year, the third week of June," Vaughan told the gathering. "We verticut every May and use a 50% controlled release nitrogen, custom-blended product after that about every two weeks. And we use Primo, lots of it, from March until June."

Before the team arrives from training camp, Vaughan mows at 1/2 inch to lighten up the turf" then as the season approaches he up to 3/4 inch. After overseeding with ryegrass in early September, he goes up to 7/8 inch. The fields are aerified two or three times a year, including one "drill & fill" treatment to help drainage.

Before the tour, this free event included presentations by Drs. Fred Yelverton, Grady Miller and research specialist Casey Reynolds, all from North Carolina State, on issues such as transition management of bermudagrass sports turf and traffic tolerance.

Next time you get an invite to one of these commercially sponsored events, I encourage you to accept. Sure, the hosts want to sell you something but most often they also offer great information just for showing up—advice for no price.

"Ericsson Stadium—are those naming rights really worth it?"
Exercise your membership right - vote!

Next month you will be receiving an election packet from STMA that requires some very important action on your part: casting your ballot.

The association is proposing Bylaws changes that are recommended by the Membership Committee to provide more opportunity for the association to grow. First, the sports turf manager category has been clearly defined so that it does not matter who your employer is, if you do the work of a sports turf manager, you will be in this category. That was not very clear previously, especially for those sports turf managers who work for a company.

Secondly, we have created a category for multiple sports turf managers from the same facility: Sports Turf Manager Associate. The first sports turf manager from the facility will pay full dues, the other managers from that facility will have the same voting rights and privileges, but will pay a discounted rate. Lastly, we are adding a new category so that those who work on sports fields, but not as their primary profession, (e.g., a coach, a volunteer, an athletic director), can join STMA and learn from us.

I encourage you to go to the Members-Only section of the website (www.sportsturfmanager.org) and click on Bylaws. You will see the previous Bylaws, which were ratified by the membership in 2003, and the proposed Bylaws. Your Bylaws Committee, headed by Chairman Ken Mrock, has worked tirelessly to make certain the Bylaws appropriately reflect our membership and provide a good framework to guide our association. I thank Ken and Bylaws Committee members Mike Boekholder, Dale Getz, CSFM, Carol Gundlach, CSFM, Ross Kurcab, CSFM, Richard Miller, Mary Owen, Scott Pippen, Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM, David Rulli, David Schlothauer, John Stier, Ph.D., N. Grove Teates, Jr., Jay Warnick, CSFM, and Steve Wightman for their dedication.

In addition to voting on these proposed revisions, you will also receive in your packet the slate of candidates for the 2007 STMA Board of Directors. As you read their biographical sketches, I'm sure that you will agree that the Nominating Committee has brought forth well-qualified candidates.

Please take the time to cast your vote. For your convenience, our Bylaws allow you to return your ballot by mail, e-mail, or fax. Be sure to follow the instructions on the ballot so that your vote is valid and can be counted.

Thank you for your participation in this very important governance process.

MIKE TRIGG
CSFM
mtrigg@waukeganparks.org

www.sportsturfmanager.org
Soil amendments can be used very effectively to support the turf of a sports field or create a quality sports surface. Understanding soil amendments and how to use them properly will ensure your sports field is the best that it can be.

**Keep your priorities in order.** The field surface is most important because that is where the game is played. The ground under the field is important, but only because it supports and maintains a consistent surface. Therefore, all questions regarding how to build, renovate or maintain a sports field should revolve around the sport the field is to be used for. This includes soil amendments!

Soil amendments can be used in a number of ways to improve a sports field. But all soil amendments do not impart the same effect. Some amendments improve drainage and aeration, some improve soil water management, some improve surface compaction, and still others can affect fertilizer availability and quality of turf. For surfaces that do not involve turf, like the skinned areas of baseball or softball fields, the...
Physical properties of soil amendments are extremely important. Improper use of soil amendments can ruin both the quality of your field and athletic performance. Some soil amendments that have been used are just bad ideas. Others are very effective when used properly, but when overused, they are bad, too. Remember, a soil amendment will only modify (usually slightly) the properties of your soil, so you must understand these basic facts:

1. For what sport and how intensely will the field be used? There are no specific guidelines for matching the sport and intensity of use with the best type of field. Most of what is known in this regard has come from trial and error. All natural fields have limits when it comes to sustaining a consistent playing surface under inclement weather and/or intensive use. Soil amendments can extend the use of a field, but they cannot prevent failure under extreme conditions.

2. What soil do you have? You must know what you have whether you use amendments or not. Soils are characterized in a number of ways, but here is a brief list that will help you: What is the texture of your soil? How much organic matter does your soil have? How deep is the top layer of your soil? How fast will water flow into your soil? How dense is your soil?

Having answers to these five questions can help you to predict a soil's drainage, compaction potential, and turf performance. There are a number of ways to answer these questions, including laboratory analysis, consultation with a soil expert, or by using your eyes, hands, and experience. Laboratories and experts are going to give you the most comprehensive information. Talk to a soil expert once you have your test results, because it is in the evaluation of the results where you really get to understand your soil. If you have been in the business awhile or are working with an
Introducing new Field & Fairway™ Emerald. It’s the first soil conditioner combining Turface’s water absorption and compaction-fighting properties with a rich, green color that covers up rough spots on your field. Field & Fairway instantly eliminates mud and standing water, making fields safer and more playable for athletes. Pour it on the field right after a downpour—or use it as part of your regular aerification and topdressing program. And Field & Fairway permanently improves any field, conditioning the soil to prevent further wear and tear. Call Profile to get this great new product on your field today!