

# Membership Application

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### Membership Category:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Turf Manager  | \$110 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Turf Manager Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) | \$75  |

Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:

- |  |  |                                    |  |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Professional Sports  | <input type="radio"/> Higher Education | <input type="radio"/> Schools K-12 | <input type="radio"/> Parks and Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic  | \$95                                   |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (verification of enrollment)  | \$25                                   |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial  | \$295                                  |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company)   | \$75                                   |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) | \$50                                   |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount)  |  |                                    |  |
| Chapter name) _____  | \$ _____                               |                                    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution To SAFE Foundation (research, education and scholarship):  | \$ _____                               |                                    |  |
| <b>Total Amount Enclosed:</b>  | \$ _____                               |                                    |  |

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\*There must already be a national sports turf manager from your facility or commercial member from your company before you may sign up in the Associate category.

*"I know I am a better sports turf manager because of this association. As sports turf managers, we take the challenge seriously to make our fields the best possible for the next game. The resources I have access to through STMA helps me do it."*

— Bob Campbell, CSFM  
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## Certification: examining members' reservations

**S**ince its inception in 2000, STMA's certification program has continued to grow in prominence and recognition by the membership and the profession. Currently 88 members are certified. As STMA continues to encourage members to "take the test," we also have become aware of certain stumbling blocks that may hold back some members. Those hindrances, gathered from the certification survey conducted in the fall of 2007, can be grouped into six categories:

- Value to me in my career is uncertain (40%)
- Employer does not request it (32%)
- Study/exam prep time is limited (31%)
- Not knowledgeable about the program & process (24%)
- Too costly (15%)
- Potential to fail the exam (14%)

This month we'll tackle the top two reasons noted above and provide some insights from certified members on how becoming a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) provides value to them.

### Boyd Montgomery, CSFM

"Certification raises the level of expertise and lends creditability to turf managers. This helps with conversations with your boards, management, and the public on many aspects of turf management. If we want our profession to become a high-paying, respectable profession, then we need to commit ourselves to becoming the professionals that command this level of respect. If you think about other occupations, many have levels of certification, which to you as a consumer brings a small piece of mind. For whatever reason you are engaging them, you have confidence that the person has obtained a level of expertise."

### Jimmy Rodgers, CSFM

"When I was challenged with becoming certified, I was the sports field manager at the University of Virginia. The educational setting at a university, (even in an athletic department), and my willingness to stretch my proficiencies, was a natural marriage. The University supported me 100%, both in time and in funding to fulfill this desire. I was rewarded with a 10% base pay increase shortly after the passing results came back from STMA.

"Certification, in my opinion, does not necessarily make you a more knowledgeable field manager than those who have not taken the test. However, it does signify to yourself and to your peers that you are not afraid of a challenge, and that you have taken steps toward a greater appreciation of the needed proficiencies critical to effectively managing sports turf."

### Dale Getz, CSFM

"By studying for the exam I was able to fill gaps in my knowledge base. This knowledge base provided me with confidence to decisively move forward in my career. As a professional, being certified showed my employer that I was committed to my job and had the background to deal with every situation with confidence."

### Richard Calarco, CSFM

"I truly believe in the sports field certification program. Over my 30+ years of experience, I have too often seen many facilities with totally unacceptable conditions due to poor management and lack of trained personnel. It is to this end that I feel the certified program truly begins to provide professional accountability to the turf management industry."

### Don Savard, CSFM

"I have always believed that the public deserves the best and most qualified professionals to take care of them, whether the professional is doctor, lawyer, mechanic, or green industry professional. I realized that if I wanted to make a difference and be the very best that I could be, it was time to do something about my own lack of professional credentials.

"Since attaining my CSFM, I have confidence in my abilities but more importantly, I have a greater self knowledge of what I do not know. I have had the opportunity to help other people in my profession one-on-one, through articles I have written and presentations that I have made both locally and nationally. I am at the top of my game, and I am still growing. I know that the credential, hard work, professionalism, knowledge and skills that I gained to reach the level of CSFM will open doors for the next and *better* opportunity."

### Eric Fasbender, CSFM

"When I first became a member of the STMA in 2001, I knew that getting my certification was going to be an important step in my career. I had a vague idea that getting certified might lead me to get that dream job or help justify making more money, but the real reason I wanted my CSFM became clear when I attended my first STMA conference. I saw the other members who were certified and realized it was about being recognized as a professional in this industry." ■

*For more information on the CSFM program, contact Leah Craig at [lcraig@STMA.org](mailto:lcraig@STMA.org) or 800-323-3875.*

## Governance changes on the horizon

**A**s President Andresen, CSFM, reported during the Annual Meeting in January, several governance changes will be brought to the membership for a vote early this fall. There are



three major proposed changes:

Combine the Board Secretary and Treasurer positions into one position, Secretary/Treasurer. Once elected, the member in this position will be on track for President Elect and President. This will clarify the ascension process and reduce the number of Board Officers to five.

Expand the Board by two At-Large Director positions. Along with combining Secretary and Treasurer into one position, this will be a net gain of one Board member, bringing the total number of Board members to 13. Twelve Board members will be eligible to vote—the Immediate Past President remains a non-voting member of the Board. The two new Director positions can represent any category of membership except Commercial. One of the new Director positions will be placed on the ballot with a minimum of two candidates running for that position, and will be voted on like the current Director candidates. This Director position will also have a 2-year term. The other new Director position will be appointed by the President to a 1-year term. This Director will typically be the candidate who loses the Secretary/Treasurer election.

Shorten the Officers' terms to 1 year vs. the current 2-year terms, with the exception of the Commercial Vice President, who will continue to serve 2 years. This will reduce the maximum time spent on the board from 14 years to 8 years.

The Bylaws Committee is working on aligning the Bylaws with these changes and the Governance Task Group is working on Standard Operating Procedures that will clearly define how these processes will work and the appropriate actions if unique situations arise, such as if the President Elect and the President have to leave the Board during their terms.

Look for continued information about these changes throughout the spring and summer in this magazine and in the STMA Online newsletter.

to interact with the professionals about their Major League Baseball (MLB) teams and particular sports field venues," he said.

Covermaster, Toro, and Turface Athletics, along with 48 MLB groundskeepers representing 25 teams, donated time, resources, and materials to utterly transform the high school field. In one day, these pros rebuilt the pitcher's mound, bullpen and batter's boxes; mowed and edged the turf; dragged the infield; and incorporated field conditioner into the playing surfaces.

Grant Trenbeath, head groundskeeper of the Arizona Diamondbacks, helped connect the MLB groundskeepers with Paradise Valley. "We were happy to renovate a sports field in the Phoenix area," said Trenbeath. "Besides helping the community, it allowed us time for camaraderie and to catch up with one another. We sweated elbow-to-elbow, working hard to get a lot done in a single day with a dedicated group."

"This has become somewhat of a tradition at the Sports Turf Managers Conference," said Joe Betulius, vice president of sales for Profile Products. "The STMA is a great organization and we are proud to be affiliated with such a talented group of individuals." Profile Products donated 10 tons of soil conditioning products and mound and batter's box clays to the effort.

"Seeing the transformation from beginning to end was truly amazing; we came quite a long way," said Dale Getz, national sales manager for Toro's sports fields and grounds business. "Toro is proud to sponsor this important event. Throughout the day, the professionals were happy to share field maintenance tips that can be used to keep the field in tip-top shape."

Toro provided the use of a Groundsmaster rotary mower, utility vehicles, a Dingo compact utility loader, line painter, and an Infield Pro. Covermaster donated sports surface covers.

## STMA members and sponsors renovate field in AZ

**A**s it has done for the past 3 years, STMA and several corporate sponsors "gave back" to the community in which the association held its Annual Conference in January, in this case the baseball field at Paradise Valley High School near Phoenix.

Roy Muller, teacher and coach at Paradise Valley, was very pleased with the renovation. "The renovation made the sports field look great and also safer for the kids. But it was really good for the students to see the professionals volunteer their time and energy for a community project. It was also fun for the students





# Extreme Makeover: Home Edition features Pioneer Athletics

**S**TMA Commercial member Pioneer Athletics helped on a project featured on the February 17 episode of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

This is the third project Pioneer has worked on for the two-time Emmy-winning television show. This time the crew helped the Hughes family from Louisville, KY with a blind and disabled son who has overcome challenges to become a musician and inspiring leader as part of the University of Louisville band. The field crew at the university helped renovate the practice field the band practices on. Pioneer supplied the paint and stencils for all the logos.



For previous episodes, Pioneer had worked in Alaska, where they installed a football field in the backyard of the lucky family. Another season, the Cleveland-based company worked at Minot's Knights of Columbus Field in North Dakota.

## Guard groundwater

**A**ttention all turf managers: the Groundwater Guardian Green Site program is now open. Groundwater Guardian Green Sites are places with a lot of turf that

implement groundwater and surface water-friendly practices as part of their regular site maintenance.

To earn the exclusive Groundwater Guardian Green Site designation, site managers complete a simple application that documents their site's groundwater-friendly practices related to water, pesticide and fertilizer use, pollution prevention, and environmental stewardship. The application is available for download online at [www.groundwater.org/gg/greensites.html](http://www.groundwater.org/gg/greensites.html).

In 2007, the program's pilot year, the following sites were recognized as Groundwater Guardian Green Sites:

Arbor Links Golf Course – Nebraska City, Nebraska  
Bayside Golf Course – Brule, Nebraska  
Eastern Nebraska 4H Center – Gretna, Nebraska  
Firethorn Golf Club – Lincoln, Nebraska  
Heritage Hills Golf Course – McCook, Nebraska  
Hickory Hills Golf Club – Grove City, Ohio  
Players Club at Deer Creek – Omaha, Nebraska

Other currently participating sites include:

Chalco Hills Recreation Area – Omaha, Nebraska  
Gifford Farm Educational Center – Bellevue, Nebraska  
Haymarket Park – Lincoln, Nebraska (2007 Field of the Year winner)  
Millard Public School District Campuses – Omaha, Nebraska

Potential sites are encouraged to get involved in the Groundwater Guardian Green Site program by downloading the 2008 application at [www.groundwater.org/gg/greensites.html](http://www.groundwater.org/gg/greensites.html), e-mailing [guardian@groundwater.org](mailto:guardian@groundwater.org), or calling 1-800-858-4844.

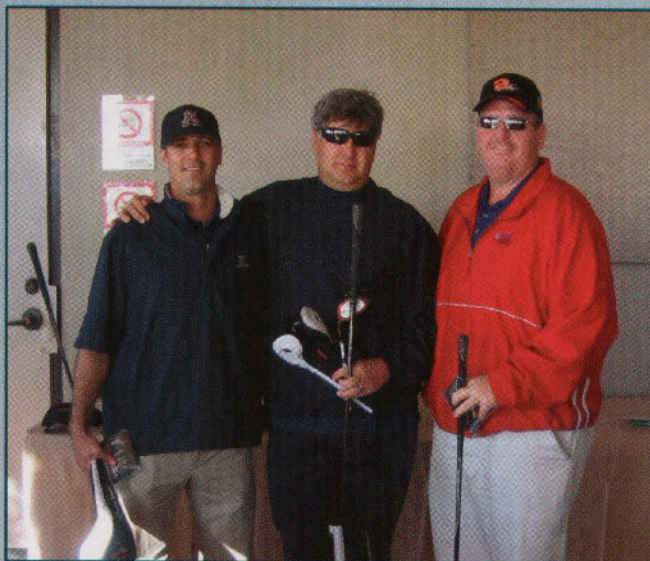
The Green Site program grew out of a project to revitalize and grow The Groundwater Foundation's Groundwater

Guardian program, which recognizes communities of all types implementing groundwater education and protection activities on the local level. In 2007, 140 Communities in 34 states and one Canadian province were recognized as Groundwater Guardians. The Groundwater Guardian Green Site program is supported by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Pollution Prevention Program, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The Groundwater Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Lincoln, Nebraska with a mission to educate and motivate the public to care about and for groundwater. Since its inception in 1985, the Foundation has offered various educational programming for youth and adults. To learn more, visit [www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org).



## SAFE Golf Tournament



Bob Schotte, Brad Godaire, and Joe Kennedy, CSFM, won the A Flight at this year's SAFE Golf Tournament, sponsored by Jacobsen, during the STMA's Conference in Phoenix.



Steve Young, Abby McNeal, CSFM, Vickie Wallace, and Dave Wallace won the B Flight at the 2008 SAFE Golf Tournament outside Phoenix. Jacobsen sponsors the event.

## STMA Chapter Contacts

**Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:**  
www.azstma.com.

**Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization – MAFMO Chapter STMA):**  
www.ccstma.org.

**Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.cstma.org.

**Florida #1 Chapter:** 954/782-2748

**Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.gatewaystma.org.

**Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
706/542-7859.

**The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.stmalabasin.com.

**Illinois Chapter STMA:** 847/263-7603.

**Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.imstma.org.

**Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.iowaturfgrass.org.

**Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org.**

**(KAFMO/STMA):** www.KAFMO.org.

**Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.kystma.org.

**Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA):** www.mistma.org.

**Minnesota Chapter STMA:** www.mstma.org.

**MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.mokanstma.com.

**New England STMA (NESTMA):**  
www.nestma.org.

**Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
402/441-4425.

**NEW - North Carolina Chapter of STMA:**  
919/515-3492

**North Florida STMA Chapter:** 850/580-4026.

**Northern California STMA:**  
www.norcalstma.org.

**Ozarks STMA:** www.ozarksstma.org.

**Sports Turf Managers of New York:**  
www.stmony.org.

**Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey:** www.sfmanj.org.

**Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):** www.ostma.org.

**Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:** www.pnwstma.org.

**Southern California Chapter:**  
www.socalstma.com.

**South Carolina Chapter of STMA:**  
www.scstma.org.

**Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
866/897-8621.

**Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA):** www.tvstma.org.

**Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.vstma.org.

**Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:**  
www.wstma.org.

### Forming Chapters:

**Gulf Coast Chapter:** 225/757-9136.

**Nevada STMA Chapter:** 702/433-3113.

## Chapter Sponsors



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## Irrigation has come a long way, baby

**T**he STMA Historical Committee met in November 2007 for the first time to log and develop the acquired collection of the late Dr. Kent Kurtz, STMA's first executive director. "Doc," as he was admirably referred to, also served as the association's first Historian, and amassed an amazing collection of document and photographs of the sports turf profession and STMA. Doc's collection included a kind donation from the estate of turf industry pioneer Dr. Fred Grau. In appreciation of Doc's contribution and the generous donation of the Kurtz family to STMA we will be running a monthly account of the people, places, stories, equipment, and photographs that are impor-

tant to the profession and association.

Hold on to your photos! Starting this spring, and in order to enrich Doc Kurtz's collection, the STMA Historical Committee will be running a contest each month to see who has the most unique pictures of sports turf specific equipment and significant STMA members. Look for details in this section in future issues.

Sports field irrigation has come a long way from hand watering with hoses and manually moving sprinklers, to hose reels, to quick couplers, to modern computerized sports field specific irrigation systems. These photos from the STMA Kurtz Historical Collection show a variety of early sprinkler heads. ■



Sports turf managers have also been very creative and innovative in irrigation. According to STMA Past President Steve Wightman, when he was at Mile High Stadium in Denver from the mid-1970's until the mid-1980's, a homemade semi-portable irrigation system was used to supplement the lack of coverage provided by the perimeter irrigation one of the original PAT Systems.

## Cal puts rec field on garage roof

**T**he University of California at Berkeley recently completed a project that put a playing field on top of a parking garage. Walker Parking Consultants served as prime designer and project engineer, while Overaa Construction built the garage and provided and installed the artificial turf.

Located two blocks south of the main campus, the Underhill parking facility has 1,000-spaces on four levels, with two floors below the ground. A 77,400-square foot multi-sport artificial turf field and running track serves as the facility's rooftop.

"We appreciated the opportunity to participate in this project and to develop UC Berkeley replacement parking in this part of the campus, along with a recreational field that features an innovative design," said Jerry Overaa, chief executive officer for Overaa Construction. "This facility underscores the definition of 'mixed use' for the UC Berkeley community."

During construction, UC Berkeley engineering students visited the site several times on field trips for classes focused on concrete and construction management. The entire project team supported this effort to contribute to the academic mission of the campus and provide students with a 'real world' case study. Students living in the nearby residence halls will now have new space available for intramural team sports and exercise. ■





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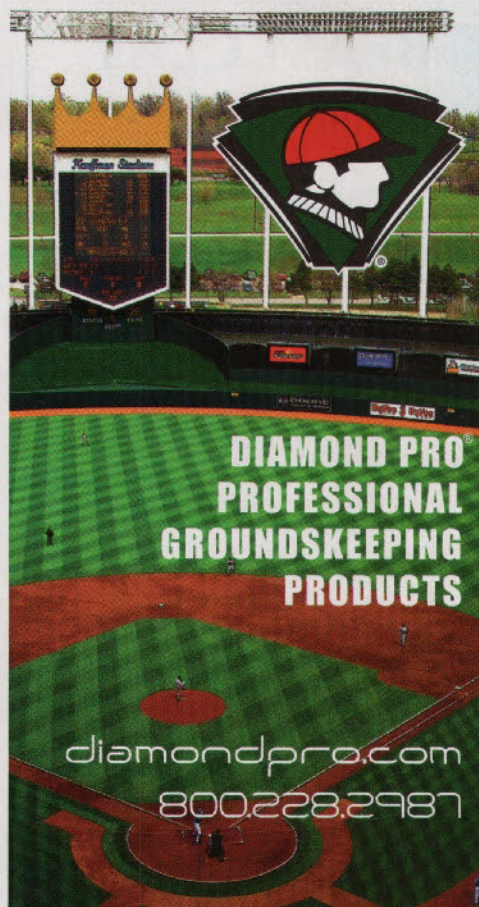
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Beacon Athletics	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-133">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-133</a>	133	35
BLEC USA	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-131">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-131</a>	131	37
Bobcat Company	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-121">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-121</a>	121	25
Colbond Geosynthetics	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-126">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-126</a>	126	27
Covermaster	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-120">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-120</a>	120	21
Covertch	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-137">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-137</a>	137	47
Delta Blue Grass	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-114">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-114</a>	114	11
Diamond Pro	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-140">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-140</a>	140	47
EP Minerals	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-118">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-118</a>	118	18
Ewing Irrigation	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-124">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-124</a>	124	41 (regional)
Fuller Five Landscape Supply	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-134">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-134</a>	134	39
Green One	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-127">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-127</a>	127	28
GreensGroomer	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-115">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-115</a>	115	13
Jacobsen	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-147">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-147</a>	147	52
John Deere	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-112">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-112</a>	112	5
Johnston Seed	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-116">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-116</a>	116	15
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Newstripe	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-132">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-132</a>	132	37
Pacific Sod	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-123">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-123</a>	123	24
Partac Peat/Beam Clay	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-144">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-144</a>	144	48
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Pioneer Athletics	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-129">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-129</a>	129	33
ROOTS/Novozymes	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-113">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-113</a>	113	9
Scotts Professional Seed	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-119">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-119</a>	119	19
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Sports Turf Managers Association	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-128">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-128</a>	128	29
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TifSport	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-122">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-122</a>	122	23 (regional)
Turf Specialties	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-136">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-136</a>	136	47
Turfco Manufacturing	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-138">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-138</a>	138	47
Varicore Technologies	<a href="http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-146">http://www.oners.hotims.com/14678-146</a>	146	51
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# What's the limit on high seeding rates?

**BY DR. DAVID MINNER**  
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**M**ost of my winter turf conference season has been spent talking about higher than normal seeding rates as a standard procedure for intense traffic areas of athletic fields. Several of you have asked for this in writing so here are a few guidelines from 4 years of research trials that are about to be submitted for research publication.

It is important to understand how we did the trial in order for you to develop your seeding strategy. First, we applied all of the seed at the beginning of the fall football season near the first of September (we did a separate study comparing a one-time beginning of the season seeding vs. seeding the same total rate over a five-game season). As it turns out, the single seeding in September provided more turf cover at the end of the playing season than the multiple seedings throughout the season.

I would never stop anyone from seeding throughout the season or before each game to fill in divots and worn areas, but the take home message here is do not miss that important seeding window from mid-August through early September where cool season turf is used. Even if your field has respectable turf cover at the beginning of the season, the idea is to seed early and have the seed establishing as the mature grass begins to decline.

When seeding at this time of year use a solid tine aerifier or non-aggressive seeder to punch seed into the ground; avoid equipment that damages or loosens the existing turf. Secondly, in our study seed was applied to either a bare soil or a turf area that was killed with Round-up to simulate the worst case scenario of a worn field; hopefully you would be starting with at least some turf cover.

The most important factor in our study was that traffic and seeding both occurred September 1 and traffic continued weekly until November 14. Under these conditions some of the seed was pushed too deep in the ground for germination, some seed remained on the surface and never germinated, some seedlings succumbed to traffic, and some seed established and made plants that survived the autumn traffic season.

Given this type of attrition we roughly estimated that 50% (we are still studying this) of the seed applied

never makes a successful plant; it is no wonder that higher than normal seeding rates are needed before gains in turf cover are realized when seed is applied during traffic.

Traffic levels ranged from 2 to 20 games per week and seeding rates per 1000 square feet ranged from 1 to 45 pounds for Kentucky bluegrass, 5-120 pounds for tall fescue, and 5 to 200 pounds for perennial ryegrass. This pretty much covered all levels of possible traffic and seeding rates that ranged from normal to the absurd.

We used excessive rates to be sure that we could determine

the seeding rate where no additional advantage was realized. This photo shows that increasing traffic level requires higher seeding rates to achieve more turf cover. The table can be used to budget how much seed you should apply to intense traffic during the playing season.

The intense traffic area of most football fields is usually only about 10,000-15,000 square feet. It is important to remember that the excessively high seeding rates recommended below should be



applied during periods of actual traffic. I suggest that you put at least half of your seasonal seed allotment out near the beginning of September. It has been my experience that the athletic field renovation rates will not cause too much seedling competition, however, the intense traffic seeding rates listed below may cause excessive and weak seedlings if all of the seed is allowed to germinate in a non-traffic situation.

Normal seeding rates are for ideal conditions when no play will occur for one year; those rose colored glasses just don't exist in many sports turf situations. When renovating a field where there is time for most of the seed to germinate and establish, but not necessarily enough time to mature and produce complete turf cover, you can double the normal seeding rates. Finally, if you are constantly battling thin turf and exposed soil then consider seeding very high rates during the traffic season. Dealing with intense traffic is a game of attrition and catch-up. Give it a try for a couple of seasons and if you don't see an increase in turf cover then sod may be your best solution. ■

Grass Species	Recommended Seeding Rate lbs/1000 sqft		
	Normal Conditions	Renovating Athletic Fields	During Intense Traffic
Kentucky bluegrass	1-1.5	3-5	5-8
Perennial ryegrass	7-9	10-20	60-90
Tall fescue	7-9	10-20	60-90