

Stripe it with Conco® Athletic Field Marking Paint, and do your team proud.

- Optical brighteners for enhanced visibility
- Reducible up to 200% with no settling
- Cost-effective and versatile

- Available in bright white and school colors
- Ideal for natural grass or artificial turf

Available exclusively at Menards® — your one-stop shop for all your turf maintenance needs and more. For more information, or to place an order, contact **Perry Rochau** at **(309) 737-3586**.

www.concopaints.com



Facility&Operations

- 8. Volunteers
- Recruiting teams, community groups and individuals can help tremendously.
 - Teams can help rake baseball and softball infields.
- Eagle Scouts can help with projects such as building signs or
- Local Garden Clubs can be utilized to care for landscaped areas such as traffic islands. David Pinsonneault, CSFM, public grounds superintendent for the City of Lexington, MA, has put an "Adopt a Traffic Island" program into place that local garden clubs take advantage of to showcase their work.
- And sports leagues may be able to fundraise for projects, such as field renovation, or for supplies, such as line marking paint.
- Volunteer contributions may prolong the need for major field renovation.
- Be careful as to how much freedom you give volunteers. Their idea of helping may turn into a maintenance nightmare for you.
 - 9. Incentive programs
- As part of the economic stimulus package, some cities receive money from the government that is allocated to the grounds department and used to pay temporary seasonal hires.

Reducing maintenance costs

"We aren't developing new ideas on managing fields, everything is the same, we just need to adjust our practices and think outside the box."- Mike Tarantino

- 1. Focus on small trouble spots instead of the entire field.
- 2. Cut back frequency of cultural practices such as mowing, or
- 3. Try to remedy a problem by using cultural practices before using chemicals.
 - 4. Be more efficient with pesticide and fertilizer applications.
 - Always follow label rates.
- Consider spot treatments in areas of concern rather than broad based applications.
- Reevaluate necessity of application versus preventative application
 - Use a slow release fertilizer instead of quick release.
- Reduce rate of fertilizer applications if possible. Reduce the application rate for the entire area. Instead of applying 1 lb. N/1000 square feet, try applying 3/4 lb. N/1000 square feet. Or reduce the application rate only in lower traffic areas, such as end
- Determine exact square footage of each area you apply products and buy what is needed to eliminate excess.
- Shop around. Sometimes less expensive products perform the same as the premium product.
 - 5. Use plant growth regulators.
- Field paint that also contains a plant growth regulator can reduce the number of times a week you need to paint lines on fields.
- 6. Cut back on field maintenance supplies such as paint, infield skin conditioner, or hand tools.

- 7. Restrict high priority field use to only necessary uses.
- 8. See how cost effective it is to sign 2-year contracts instead of 1-year contracts with outside companies or vendors.
 - 9. Be more efficient with irrigation.
- Use of soil penetrants, evapotranspiration monitors and scheduled run times can all help reduce costs.
- Keep track of water dollars. You may not realize how much you are spending just to water your field.
- Review your electric rates and schedule your field irrigation during off-peak hours to reduce your utility costs.

Equipment

- 1. Borrow equipment.
- Some facilities have the capability to share equipment between different departments. For example, a parks and recreation facility may be able to share equipment with a local golf course.]
- 2. Depending on the size of you facility, rotate equipment between crews that put on a lot of hours to crews that do not.
 - 3. Set time aside for equipment maintenance to prolong life.
 - 4. See if you can arrange an advertising trade off.

Connie Rudolph, CSFM, head groundskeeper at Midway Stadium, St. Paul, MN has arranged a trade off with local equipment companies. In exchange for company advertising, she is allowed the use of a piece of equipment for the season.

Communicating effectively

"The key element to a successful approach in dealing with reduced budgets is effective communication with your boss, owner and teams. Their input is critical in helping to determine how limited resources can best be utilized. As part of the communication process it's important to stress the direct relationship between required maintenance and safety and liability issues."-Steve Wightman

Communication is fundamental to running a successful facility. Communicating our standards, expectations, and priorities helps everyone around us understand our goals and how we plan to attain them. As sports turf managers, it is our goal to build credibility and let superiors know we are professional, responsible, and knowledgeable in our line of work.

- 1. Be educated about your budget.
- Know where your resources are being allocated and why they are allocated to that area. Know your costs associated with each
- Be able to justify why a specific maintenance practice or material is essential if there is the potential for it to be cut out of the budget.
- Be honest when calculating your budget. Determine what you need, how much you need and why you need it to present quality work. Try to see where you can afford to make cuts if the need arises.
- 2. Always keep lines of communication open between your staff, coaches, administrators, superiors, and peers.
- Consistently communicate your priorities and facility conditions. Keep everyone updated about changes, problems, daily

maintenance, weather factors, etc. Educating the people you deal with on a daily basis may make your job easier.

- Hold meetings to outline the upcoming season or year.
- Have staff meetings so your employees understand your expecations.
- Communicate with coaches on what to expect. It is sometimes hard to make these people understand what is happening on the field.
- Have a close working relationship with those that deal directly with the budget.
 - 3. Listen to those around you.
 - Staff members often have valid input and ideas.
 - Surround yourself with people who can offer ideas.
- 4. Stay positive. No one wants to be led by a pessimist, and your mood influences everyone around you.
- 5. Be aware of your mistakes and don't repeat them. Evaluate your operations and determine how to sustain strengths and improve on weaknesses.

Once the economy hits rock bottom, it will be a slow recovery using tight budgets and thin resources.

Therefore, we need to focus on what really adds value to what we do and what is truly essential to make things better and stronger. Times like these call for sports turf managers who can spark innovation, are adaptable and can execute change efficiently. It is important to remember that you are not the only one facing budget cuts, but that you have an extensive network of peers that can be relied upon for support and advice.

Contributors:

David Pinsonneault, CSFM – Public Grounds Superintendent for Town of Lexington, Lexington, MA **Connie Rudolph, CSFM** – Head Groundskeeper at Midway Stadium, St. Paul, MN

Michael Tarantino – Director of Maintenance and Operations at Poway Unified School District, Poway, CA

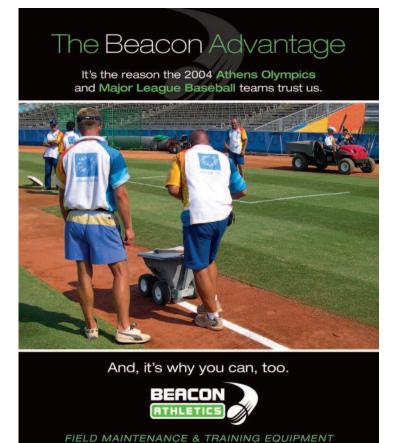
Mike Trigg, CSFM – Superintendent/Parks at Waukegan Park District, Waukegan, IL

Steve Wightman – Stadium Turf Manager at Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego, CA

Anthony Wise – Division Manager for City of Houston – Parks and Recreation Department, Houston, TX

Kevin Yeiser – Director/Grounds and Athletic Facilities at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA

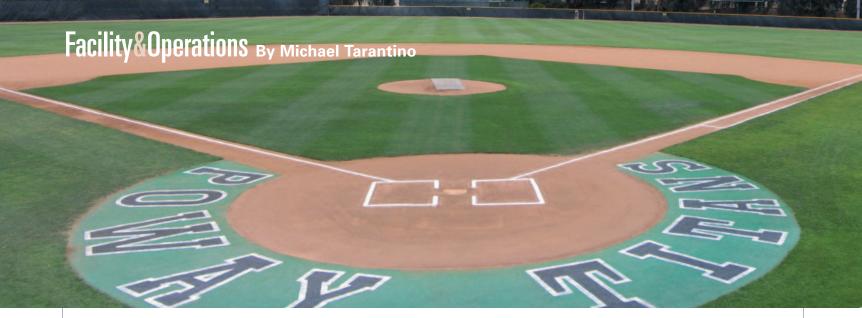
This article appears courtesy of the Sports Turf Managers Association.



800-747-5985 www.BeaconAthletics.com



www.stma.org SportsTurf 13



Have you used the PC

ACRONYMS ALWAYS SEEM TO CATCH MY ATTENTION when reading through a magazine; sometimes it's just the pure fun of trying to guess what the acronym stands for or just curiosity.

PCI. I hope most of you are saying to yourself, "Ah, I remember that, Playing Conditions Index." Now the big question is are you using it? The STMA Playing Conditions Index was developed to give sports turf managers a "snap-shot" of a specific field at a given point in time. Approximately 30 questions related to resources, activities, and agronomic performance are used to produce a numerical value that ranks a field from excellent to unplayable.

The continued use of the assessment tool provides invaluable information to the sports turf manager and can help guide field management practices, assist with communication to user groups, can help to substantiate the need for more resources, and as needed provides a way to provide information to the media relations department. The package contains a Media Advisory Bulletin with instructions to help convey information on field conditions and its effect on athlete performance to sports information professionals on game days. I happened to have found another use for the PCI. If used correctly and honestly (we all like to brag about our sports fields) the PCI will become the sports turf manager's favorite tool. I have used the PCI to track maintenance practices or in some cases lack of. The PCI is telling me what is working and what isn't; for example did the fertilizer I selected provide the desired results? Were the climatic conditions applicable to the fertilizer selected? Not only is this information valuable for product selection but if you're a creature of habit and do specific applications at certain times of the year, logging comments about weather conditions that to coincide with those applications, you will be able to log weather data that will pertain to those applications for

Did we have an irrigation problem? Were soil samples taking

before application? You can apply the PCI to every maintenance practice you use to maintain your play field and every resource applied to that maintenance i.e. manpower and money. This alone will be a benefit when budget justifications are due, trust me, we managers love this type of real, documented information.

The PCI shown was done in June on the Poway High School varsity baseball field. The great assets of using the PCI is not only are you collecting data to be used later but the PCI serves as a note pad to record data while you're observing the playing conditions. I use the PCI assessment tool to note what maintenance practices may have worked or failed and to plan upcoming needed maintenance.

When the form is complete (with notes) three copies are made; one is given to the grounds staff so they can plan the needed maintenance, one to the Athletic Director to keep them abreast of the work needed and the condition of the playing field and the last copy is to the coach so they know we aren't neglecting their field. The original will stay in a folder dedicated to that particular playing field. This system allows me to keep track of the maintenance performed, when the maintenance was performed, what worked and what didn't, and weather conditions. It is also a communication tool with the grounds staff, athletic director and the coach and will allow me to review all four of the PCI's when I begin to prepare the budget and look at next year's maintenance plan.

To get the full benefit out of the PCI, use the PCI at least four times per year with one of those times close to budget preparation. If you haven't used the PCI, give it a try, you may be surprised at the amount of information you'll be able to collect and use at a later date.

STMA members can access and print out the PCI at www.stma. org/MemberServices/PCI (see page 16).

Michael Tarantino is director of maintenance and operations for the Poway (CA) USD.



John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Brown square areas

Turfgrass Area: Little League baseball field Location: Valley Center, CA (southern CA) **Grass Variety:** Warm and cool season mixture

Answer to John Mascaro's **Photo Quiz on Page 31**

EVERGREEN Turf Blankets... ...trusted around the world!

"Results Outstanding..., Could Not Believe...

wrote Dann Daly, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Parks & Recr. Dept., North Smithfield, RI

- · Earlier spring green-up
- · Faster seed germination
- Deeper root development
- Delays dormancy in fall
- Ideal winter blanket
- · 3 & 7 yr. warranty covers
- · Best for quick turf repairs
- Available in any size

Want to know more? CALL TOLL FREE





fields are also readily available.



It works on the gree principle, every time!

covermaster.com

E-MAIL: Info@covermaster.com





SportsTurf 15 www.stma.org

Facility&Operations

STMA PCI Worksheet

Resources 1. Head turf manager experience 1 = 1-2 years 2 = 3-4 years	5_	17. % Turf worn/bare 1 = More than 40% field is bare soil 2 = 30 - 39% 3 = 20 - 29%	
= 5-4 years = 5-6 years = 7-8 years = 8+ years		4 = 10 - 19% 5 = 0 - 9% 18. Desirable turfgrass cover of field is currently	5_
Head turf manager experience at site = 1 year = 2 years	3_	1 = Dormant 3 = Overseeded 5 = Growing	_
is = 3+ years 3. Total number of fields currently overseen 1 = 16+ fields 1 = 11-15 fields 3 = 6-10 fields 4 = 2-5 fields	_1	19. % Diseased 1 = More than 40% infected 2 = 30 - 39% 3 = 20 - 29% 4 = 10 - 19% 5 = 0 - 9%	5
= 1 field . Head turf manager education highest level completed)	3_	Severity of disease *Answer only if awarded 1 - 4 points on question 19* -1 = Moderate (red thread, dollar spot, etc.) -3 = Severe (pithium, gray leaf spot, etc.)	
= High school = Attended some college = Non-turf related AA or BS = AA in turf management/agronomy = BS in turf management/agronomy or higher	0	20. % Infested by insects 1 = More than 40% infested 2 = 30 - 39% 3 = 20 - 29% 4 = 10 - 19%	5
. CSFM designation from STMA = No = Yes . Weekly man hours dedicated		5 = 0 - 9% Type of infestation *Answer only if 1 - 4 points awarded on question 20* -1 = Moderate (cut worm, army worm, etc.)	
o maintaining field = 0-24 hours = 25-49 hours = 50-74 hours = 75-99 hours = 100+ hours	_3	-3 = Severe (grubs, mole cricket, etc.) 21.% Infested with weeds 1 = More than 40% infested 2 = 30 - 39% 3 = 20 - 29%	5
Activities . Are multiple sports played on this field? = No 3 = Yes	0	4 = 10 - 19% 5 = 0 - 9% Type of infestation *Answer only if 1 - 4 points awarded on question 21*	
. Last activity type (see Table 1 at nd of worksheet)	4.5	-1 = Moderate (dandelion, etc.) -3 = Severe (goose grass, crab grass, etc.)	
.Time since last activity = less than 24 hours = 2-5 days = 6-9 days	_1	22. Thatch/Tensile strength 1 = Little or no thatch, weak tensile strength 3 = Excessive thatch, adequate tensile strength 5 = Ideal thatch, ideal tensile strength	_3_
= 10-13 days = more than 2 weeks 0. Activity scheduled to occur (see Table 1 t end of worksheet)	4.5	23. Compaction (Account for aerification, moisture content, etc.) 1 = Too little compaction 3 = Too much compaction	_3_
11. Amount of rainfall on field in last 48 hours = more than 1.5 inches 2 = 1.0-1.4 inches 8 = 5.9 inches 4 = 0.2-4 inches	5	5 = Ideal compaction 24. Drainage issues in turfgrass areas 1 = Devastating water retention, depressions, etc. 3 = Inconsistent runoff, non-uniform grade, etc. 5 = Excellent runoff, ideal grade, etc	5
= 0.01 inches Agronomic Performance of 12. lurfgrass variety suited to activity (consider	Turf	25. Add 3 points if you have a sand-based field (0 if no)	
2. Turfgrass variety suited to activity (consider ctivity and season) = Unmanageable = Manageable = Ideally suited	5	26. Irrigation (award 0 points if no irrigation system present) 1 = Quick coupler/hose only 3 = Manual sprinkler system 5 = Automated sprinkler system	5
33. Add 3 points if you overseed (0 if you do not)	3	27. Quality of irrigation system (if applicable) 1 = Poor	_3_
14. Root zone quality (consider depth and mass) = less than 1.0" 2 = 1.0-2.0" 8 = 2.1-4.0" 1= 4.1-6.0" = 6.1"+	4	3 = Adequate 5 = Optimal 28. Add 3 points if you conduct annual water audits (0 if no)	
15. Add 1 point if you conduct soil testing annually or more frequently (0 if you do not)	_1	29. Mowing frequency 1 = Less than weekly 3 = One to two times per week 5 = Three times per week or more	5
16. Add 1 point if you conduct nutrient analysis annually or more frequently (0 if you do not) Add 1 point if the results of your nutrient analysis were ideal (0 if no		30. Award 2 points if mowing frequency is consistent throughout the year	_2_
nutrient analysis or poor results)		TOTAL 1	94

TABLE 1 - Activity references© 5 = P.E. class 4.5 = Baseball softball 4 = Field hockey/ lacrosse 3.5 = Camps/ burnaments/ special event - moderate 3 = Soccer 2.5 = Camps/ burnament/ special event - intensive 2 = Football 1.5 = Concert/ festival/ band practice 1 = Activity during or after precipitation Football/Soccer/Lacrosse Playing Conditions Index© 121 - 103 5 - Excellent 102 - 85 4 - Above average 44 - 67 3 - Average 66 - 49 2 - Below average 48 or below 1 - Unplayable

Baseball/Softball Specific 31. Uniformity of playing surface 1 = Many large rocks (.5" or larger), other hazardous materials, weeds, etc. 2 = Many small rocks (.5" or smaller), other hazardous materials, weeds, etc. 3 = Few very small rocks, very few if any weeds 4 = No weeds, no rocks, but irregular or inconsistent materials 5 = Ideal uniformity of material	5_
32. Add 3 points if soil conditioners are used regularly (0 if no)	3
33. Maintenance of mound and home plate areas 1 = Poor (Severe holes, filled/leveled with existing materials, moisture rarely applied, etc.) 3 = Adequate (Some holes, filled with fresh clay when possible, moisture applied when possible, etc.) 5 = Expert (Minor or no holes, filled daily with fresh clay, regular moisture, etc.)	5_
34. Grass to skin transitions 1 — High lip, inhibits drainage, very irregular shape/ edging, etc. 2 — Noticeable lip, very irregular shape/edging, etc. 3 — Minor lip, somewhat irregular shape/edging, etc. 4 — No lip, adequate shape/edging, etc. 5 — No lip, ideal shape, ideal edging, etc.	4_
35. Infield grading of skinned areas 1 = Poor grade, devastating water retention, depressions, washout, etc. 3 = Inconsistent runoff, non-uniform grade, little or no standing water, etc. 5 = Excellent positive runoff, ideal grade, etc.	5
36. Frequency of moisture on skinned surfaces 1 = Never 3 = Sometimes/sporadically 5 = Daily/as needed	
37. Add 3 points if field tarped during any rainfall within 24 hours of an event (0 if no)	
TOTAL 2	27
TOTAL 1	94
+TOTAL 2	27

5 = Concert/ festival/ band practice = Activity during or after precipitation

aseball/Softball Playing Conditions Index©

149 – 127 5 - Excellent 126 – 104 4 - Above average 103 – 82 3 - Average 81 – 60 2 - Below average 59 or below 1 - Unplayable

TOTAL 1

=TOTAL

121

Membership Application



Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.

	Name Title							
	Employer/ Facility							
Fax to: (785) 843-2977	■ Business	☐ Home						
Or mail with payment to: Sports Turf	Address City	State Zip						
Managers Association P.O. Box 414029	Home phone	Cell phone						
Kansas City, MO 64141	Fax Email							
	Signature							
	Direct Supervisor Name							
	Membership Category:							
	\$110							
	☐ Sports Turf Manager Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) \$75							
		acility type where you are employed:	:					
	·	O Higher Education O Schools K-12 O Parks and Recreat						
"I know I am a better	□ Academic	\$95						
sports turf manager	☐ Student (verification of e☐ Commercial	\$25 \$295						
because of this								
association. As sports	 □ Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company) \$75 □ Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the 							
turf managers, we take the challenge seriously	maintenance/manageme	\$50						
to make our fields the	☐ Chapter Dues (contact he							
best possible for the next	Chapter name)	\$						
game. The resources I	☐ Contribution To SAFE For	\$						
have access to through	Total Amount Enclosed:	\$						
STMA helps me do it."	Payment Method:							
— Bob Campbell, CSFM	□ Check □ Money Order □ Purchase Order #:							
Higher Education Membership Segment	Credit Card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover							
manufacture and manufacture an	Name on Card							

*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.

Exp. Date:

Phone: 800-323-3875 www.sportsturfmanager.org

Card #:

Signature:

Facility Operations By Kevin Bevenour

Elements of a successful maintenance schedule

> "A list, catalog, or inventory of details." "A list of times of reoccurring events or projected operations."

"A timed plan for a procedure or project." "To plan or appoint."

These are the ways Webster describes the word "schedule." Some others say, "Life saver," "necessity," or "guide." Without several, I think my wife would have to be committed to the rubber room trying to keep track of me and my two young daughters. Whether you realize it or not, everyday is full of schedules. What time you set the alarm clock to get up each morning is the start of your daily schedule. The time you leave the house to get to work is another. Others are out of your control; try telling your body it's not time for that first cup of coffee just yet, or in my case, an ice cold Diet Coke. Some of us deal with multiple schedules for multiple things. I am fortunate to have schedules based on calendar years, school years, and budget years, not to mention employees, construction, trash pickups, recycling, tree care, and shrubbery. Landscape maintenance has seven different pruning schedules just in itself.

And then there are athletic field maintenance schedules, the topic of this article. I called upon some of my colleagues for help in gathering ideas. I generally asked the same questions to everyone and we led each other

>> KEVIN BEVENOUR ASKS, "Why don't more folks use these?

Field Maintenance Schedule

Field	П	25-May	1-Jun	8-Jun	15-Jun	22-Jun	29-Jun	6-Jul	13-Jul	20-Jul	27-Jul	3-Aug	10-Jul
Field	Ш	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF	MTWTF
Upper (M1)	R	H W	I F S		ССС В	CCC I	P H	I F		CCC I	B D	I F	
Pucillo (M2)	U	НААА	I	F	В		F H	CCCCI	CCCCI	B D	CCCCI	F	
Baseball (M2)	U	НААА	I F			B W	CCCCI	P H	I F		B D		l F

- A Core aerate, top dress, seed, fert
- B Biostimulat application
- D Crabgrass control application
- F Granular Fertilizer application
- Holiday
- I Field inspection

- P Pest control application
- R Irrigation by water reel
- U Automatic irrigation
- W Broadleaf weed control
- M1 Regular mowing once per week
- M2 Regular mowing twice per week

into other related topics. We all came to the same conclusion on what a good maintenance schedule should do: give grass the best opportunity we can to grow. What do top managers do that's different from what I do? Who does the same things? How can I make

it work? When do I get it done? The goal for this article is two-fold. One, to provide some educational and informational subject matter in a lighthearted fashion, and two, for all of us to realize, at some point, we have been there and can relate to what others are faced with. Oh, and three, to have a little fun while I'm supposed to be working!

Do you HAVE a schedule?

Do you have a maintenance schedule for your athletic field(s)? Hopefully, everyone has something. Whether it be something simple on paper, a complex, multi-layered spreadsheet, or just thoughts locked away somewhere inside your big melon, have something.

Keep it simple; for example: AM–Keep boss out of trouble, PM–Keep self out of trouble. I have a hard time with this one. Use things that normally occur as a guide like holidays, beginning of seasons, or just months. I like using July 4th as a guide. This is where I look at things like grub control, fertilization applications, and monitoring of crabgrass germination and it's a good mid-point of the year to take inventory of where you are on your maintenance schedule.

Keep records. Remembering what you did last year is a great guide for the next year, but you have to write it down and retain the data. Those of us who have been at this for a long number of

years have the philosophy that we just "know" when things need done, but for my own benefit I make sure there's something written somewhere, just in case. We are currently in the middle of the information age and there are many people, especially supervisors, who just love to have information at their finger tips. Computers are in every office. We all have the important person who sits behind the desk and needs to know what's going on and when questions arise, may come to you for the answer. If you have it, you just succeeded in following the first schedule presented to you.

No "to-do" lists

Don't get caught up in blindly following your plan. Things beyond your control will inevitably happen. When I asked my peer group to provide the biggest reason a schedule is not followed, the answer was unanimous. I'm sure everyone has it by now, that's right: Weather. It can make us look good and it can make us look really bad. (You'll note there are no pictures of campus with this article.)

I had my schedules changed frequently in the past couple of months for this very reason. Field maintenance was halted when the call came in that our day care director was losing her kids in the grass around the playground because it was so high. Don't worry, all the kids were saved. Things such as field use, vacations, campus



www.stma.org SportsTurf 19

Facility&Operations

events, and simple timing are other distractions. Hurrah, we just made the post-season; congratulations, 2 more weeks of practice and by the way, we're going to host the first round. Remembering your schedule is only a guide will hopefully save you some unmerited stress.

What should you consider when making your schedule? The two things you need to think about before you get started are budget and manpower. Once again, these were the two issues that everyone talked about. You can have the best intentions and have a program that will take your fields to the next level, but you need the backing to get it accomplished. "Nothing is written in pen without a budget number," was one of the statements I heard. I can't disagree. Raising the amount of nitrogen through increasing applications is a great idea, but do you have the person available to do it?

Another issue to consider is actual field

use. The following are some questions you need to answer: Who uses the field-men, women, boys, girls, small kids? Males tend to be more aggressive turf destroyers than females. What is the field used for, baseball, soccer, hockey, band, multi-sport? Each sport carries its own challenges; crease areas, mid-field, repetitive plays. What is the level of play; professional, NCAA, intramural, club, recreation? Ranking your field priority helps to adjust the maintenance level each may receive. In a school setting, is it in season or non-traditional; game field or practice field? How often is the field used; every day, weekly, seasonally? Am I the only one whose baseball season starts January 15? What are the expectations placed upon you by the hierarchy of your organization?

In the end, we all came to the same conclusion: we do what works for us. What works for Dan or Jim, may not for me or Jerry or Mike. Plan your work, work your

plan. Sure, we'd like to do more and will push ourselves to give the athletes that use our fields the best playing surface we can with what we have. We simply won't settle. We've tried, failed, succeeded, and learned.

I wish there was a magic formula or some voodoo spell to cast, everyone does. It simply comes down to hard work and caring about the final product. Find what works for you and make yours a Maintenance Schedule of a Top Manager.

Kevin Bevenour is grounds supervisor for Millersville University, Millersville, PA.



Basic sample maintenance schedule

Brooks Field (field hockey, club & intramurals)

Spring:

Deep aeration (Earthquake) Seed Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed

Summer:

Fertilizer application Biostimulant application as necessary Crabgrass control as needed Irrigation to bring turf out of dormancy before start of use

Fall:

Fertilizer application Overseed during use Irrigate as necessary Deep aeration

Winter:

Core aerate as necessary Fertilizer application

Baseball Spring:

Deep tine core aeration Seed Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Biostimulant application Irrigate as necessary

Summer:

Irrigate Fertilizer application Crabgrass control as needed

Fall:

Irrigate as needed Topdress as needed Fertilizer application Biostimulant application Seed

Winter:

Fertilizer application Biostimulant application

Softball Spring:

Deep aeration (Earthquake) Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as

needed Biostimulant application

Summer:

Fertilizer application Crabgrass control as needed

Fall:

Topdress as necessary Fertilizer application Biostimulant application Deep aeration (Earthquake)

Winter:

Fertilizer application

Stadium Practice Field

Spring:

Topdress as necessary Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Seed

Deep aeration (Earthquake)

Summer:

Fertilizer application Biostimulant application Crabgrass control as needed Irrigate to bring turf out of dormancy before use Seed

Fall:

Irrigate as needed Fertilizer application Biostimulant application Broadleaf weed control as needed Seed

Winter:

Topdress as necessary Fertilizer application

Spoils Field (Multi-purpose)

Spring:

Seed Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed

Summer:

Fertilizer application Crabgrass control as needed

Fall:

Seed Fertilizer application

Winter:

Core aerate Seed Fertilizer application

Pucillo Spring:

Deep tine core aeration Seed Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Biostimulant application Irrigate as necessary

Summer:

Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Biostimulant application Crabgrass control as needed Irrigate as necessary

Fall:

Seed Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Biostimulant application Irrigate as necessary

Winter:

Fertilizer application Broadleaf weed control as needed Biostimulant application Gypsum application Deep tine core aeration Topdress as necessary