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Membership Category:

☐ Sports Turf Manager \$110

☐ Sports Turf Manager Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) \$75

Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:

☐ Professional Sports ☐ Higher Education ☐ Schools K-12 ☐ Parks and Recreation

☐ Academic \$95

☐ Student (verification of enrollment) \$25

☐ Commercial \$295

☐ 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 maintenance/management of sports fields) \$50

☐ Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount)
Chapter name) _____ \$ _____

☐ Contribution To SAFE Foundation (research, education and scholarship): \$ _____

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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.

New Members*

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Person who referred you:

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*Not been an STMA national member since 2004. All categories of membership are eligible to recruit; new student memberships do not qualify for this program.

Phone: 800-323-3875

www.STMA.org

Cut Here

Changes for 2010 Field of the Year application—start the process early

During the “What Makes a Winning Field of the Year Application?” session at the STMA Conference this past January, one former STMA Field of the Year winner expressed his opinion when he said that he is “beyond certain that I got my current job because of winning STMA Field of the Year.” That’s a resounding endorsement for the prestige that this program can bring a sports turf manager, field, facility, organization, and community.

To keep up that level of prestige for the winning fields, the STMA Awards Committee has reviewed the Field of the Year Awards (FOY) application. They have refined some questions, expanded others, and instituted a couple of major changes for the 2010 STMA Field of the Year Program, while keeping the application simple and user-friendly.

Beginning this year, the FOY application will require the completion of the STMA PCI several times throughout the year and include the instrument and results with their application materials. While the language for the policy requiring the STMA PCI to apply for the FOY is still being finalized, you can rest assured that the requirement will be explained in detail in the 2010 STMA FOY application, which will be available in May. The STMA PCI can be down-

loaded by STMA members at www.STMA.org.

The Awards Committee also will be revising the questions in the application regarding budgeting at your facility. Similarly to the PCI requirement, the budgeting questions are still being finalized, but will be detailed in the final application available in May. The committee reminds you that this is a program for an individual Field of the Year, not the facility as a whole. Budgeting information requirements will reflect this, and you can start gathering numbers now for the field, or separate fields, you plan on entering.

Some of the requirements in the current application that will remain the same are:

- A description of the sports turf manager’s education and background
- A short narrative about specific challenges faced by the staff
- Agronomic information about the field
- An organizational chart for the facility
- An equipment list

The deadline to submit an application is October 15, 2010, but the Awards Committee strongly suggests that you get started by taking pictures of your field in the off-season or current season. That way you can show the transformation of the field throughout the year. This year, dates are required on all photos, and captions are highly encouraged. This is to

allow you opportunities to show your creativity and unique features of your field. Also, be sure to document unique challenges and solutions that arise during the year, so you will be able to “wow!” the committee with your expertise in the application when it becomes available.

STMA will award its Field of the Year in sporting grounds, football, soccer, baseball and softball categories at the professional, college and university, and schools and parks levels at the 22nd Annual Conference and Exhibition in Austin, TX January 11-15, 2011. Winners will receive recognition including a plaque, free registration to the Conference, \$500 toward lodging at the conference, and STMA Field of the Year Signature merchandise.

The fantastic package for each STMA FOY Winner would not be possible without the support of the STMA Awards Program sponsors: Carolina Green, Covermaster, Inc., Hunter Industries, and World Class Athletic Surfaces. Please support these sponsors and let them know that their contribution to the association is very much appreciated.

If you have any questions about the STMA Field of the Year Program, please contact Patrick Allen, Manager, Sales and Marketing at pallen@stma.org or 800-323-3875. ■

Trotta honored by Global Sports Alliance

Acknowledging the work of Global Sports Alliance Team worldwide, a special prize was awarded to STMA member Kevin Trotta, Captain of GSA New York, for the outstanding work he has carried out in that region.

“I am honored to be the recipient of the G10 Prize. The Global Sports Alliance is an extraordinary organization. I am proud to represent the GSA in the New York region and especially proud to be one of three STMA members now serving as GSA captains in the USA. (The others are Dan Schied of GSA Rochester and Carey Sager of GSA Boulder.) Through sports we have many opportunities to practice progressive environmental stewardship and to lead by example. The developing relationship between the GSA and STMA offers great promise for the future. We can work together and help shape a cleaner, smarter tomorrow for our children.”

NPO Global Sports Alliance (GSA) celebrated its 10th Anniversary on 11 November 2009. GSA Navigators, Team Captains, supporters and staff gathered at Roppongi Hills in Tokyo to look back at a decade of promoting environmental awareness and action through sport. Executive Director, Tatsuo Okada welcomed guests that had come from as far as Cuba, Nigeria and the United States, and looked back at 10 years of progress in which this unique non-profit has developed links in all areas of sport.

Among the organizations achievements are:

1. Establishing the Ecoflag, a symbol for environmental action in sport that is flown at amateur and professional sporting events worldwide.
2. Establishing 181 GSA Teams in 56 countries.
3. Creating the G-ForSE website, the largest source for environmental action in sport available.
4. Co-organizing five Global Forums with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that brought together the representatives of all fields of sport to consolidate actions and develop future goals.
5. Creating a program to “reduce, reuse and recycle” sports equipment by sharing used (but highly usable) sporting equipment with children in developing countries.
6. Developing a tennis ball reuse program that has redistributed more than 3 million tennis balls to schools around Japan. Setting its sights on the next decade, the organization will work to develop regional centers in order to administer the ever-expanding number of GSA Teams. ■



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

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

Florida #1 Chapter (South): Main 954-263-7933; **Secondary** 954-782-2748

Florida #2 Chapter (North): 850/580-4026.

Florida #3 Chapter (Central): 863-665-5800

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

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org.

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.

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

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

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

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.com.

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

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

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

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfinanj.org.

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

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

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

Oregon STMA Chapter: 503/953-9406

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

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

Singapore Chapter of STMA: Neil Power +65 64627313

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.scastma.org.

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

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

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: 702/884-2987.

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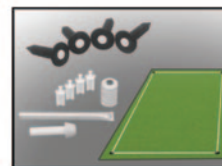


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April 2010 - Expires October 2010 - RS1004

1 What is your company's primary business? (check ONLY ONE)

- F ☐ Sports Complex G ☐ Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
T ☐ School, College or University P ☐ Park
H ☐ Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check ONLY ONE)

- A ☐ EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
B ☐ MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
C ☐ GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
D ☐ SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
F ☐ COACH E ☐ Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?

Y ☐ Yes N ☐ No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)

- F ☐ Over \$1 million C ☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000
E ☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million B ☐ \$25,001 - \$50,000
D ☐ \$100,001 - \$500,000 A ☐ \$25,000 and under

5 Please also send a free subscription to the following people at the same location

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Q&A

Critters under the snow



BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions?

Send them to
David Minner at
Iowa State University, 106
Horticulture Hall,
Ames, IA 50011
or email
dminner@iastate.edu.

Or, send your
question to
Grady Miller at
North Carolina State University,
Box 7620, Raleigh, NC
27695-7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu.

Some critter has made tunnels, mounds, holes, and trenches in our neighborhood soccer field. What's causing it and how do I get them to go away?

Ames, IA

Thanks for the pictures they sure help when diagnosing problems. A camera is a great tool for any sports turf manager to document their problems and successes as well as for creating a picture record for structures and buried utilities.

The extended snow cover and unfrozen ground this year provided a winter haven for two completely different critters: moles and voles. Mounds of dirt and heaved tunnels are easily identified as mole damage (#1). Unlike the mole runs I see in the summer, some of the mole tunnels were shallow and exposed under the snow (#2) and could have been mistaken for vole runs.

In fact the unfrozen ground and snow cover allowed moles to tunnel



#1 Moles made tunnels and mounds during a hundred days of snow cover in Iowa. **#2** Moles tunneling near the surface and under the snow should not be confused with vole runways.



3 Vole runways made in the grass and thatch above the soil and under the snow.

and feed on worms and other insects during the winter. Voles sometimes use runs made by moles, but voles are not soil moving diggers. Meadow voles make runways just above the soil surface and within the thatch and lower parts of tall grass (#3). They are normally confined to non-mowed grass areas keeping them hidden from avian predators and they have been prolific this year under the snow. When snow leaves voles retreat from mowed lawns to protected areas and there is no need to try and control them. If you feel the need to trap a vole for your collection then try a common wooden snap trap for mice baited with a dab of peanut butter.

Now back to the moles. I expect the activity to be early and heavy this spring as the snow disappears. Moles are more of a nuisance than a major sports turf pest, but spring soccer and ruts in the field constitutes a safety hazard and you should be making an effort get rid of the culprit and improve the playing surface. Rake or drag the mounds of dirt to smooth the surface and use the wheel of a riding mower or utility vehicle to flatten the tunnels. Plant the bare areas with seed or divot mix. Forget about all the gimmicks you might hear about, such as, gum, poison peanuts, wind mills or other lawn ornaments that vibrate, caster beans, drain cleaners,

car exhaust, etc. Regardless of the claim they are not an effective means of getting rid of moles.

Talpirid is bromethalin bait pesticide that looks like a candy worm and can be placed subsurface in the runs to kill moles. If you can't assure that field users and pets will not come in contact with the pesticide then don't use it. Follow all label directions. I have used Talpirid on golf courses and home lawns with some success. You never really know if the moles just left or if they were killed by the pesticide. My preferred method of mole control is trapping, call me if you are not having success; I always get my mole.

But first, consult these guides to help you develop a plan <http://www.themoleman.com> and <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/publications/pm1302b.pdf>. The harpoon and scissor trap are the only effective way to get rid of problem moles. I used the harpoon trap for several years with good success but switched to the scissor trap and had even better success. The keys to both are tending your traps on a daily basis, selecting an active and straight section of the run, and making sure the trap is set properly. I prefer the scissor trap because it is a sturdier device and is seldom set off without catching the mole. The harpoon trap can sometimes push itself out of the ground or miss if the spears do not reach deep into the tunnel.

Over time you will begin to think like the mole and on occasion you will see one actually working the surface in a tunnel. It's a good time to vent your feelings and let any primitive instincts take over...they can be had by a surface assault with a weapon of your choice. It takes 21 mole pelts to make a Chihuahua coat; be sure of your target. ■



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