









Features

Field Science

- 8 Is tall fescue right for your field?
- **12** Improving our nation's front lawn
- **18** Managing natural turf football fields "on a dime"
- **19** Turfgrass breeders' test provides extensive trial data

Facilities & Operations

- **20** From dirt to turf: 7 steps for successful construction of a synthetic field
- 24 Overseeing synthetic turf installations
- 26 Getting USC ready for some football
- 37 Kennesaw State builds 88-acre sports & rec park

Field of the Year

28 2011 STMA College Football Field of the Year: Ryan Field, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Irrigation & Drainage

30 How water pressure can affect irrigation system efficiency and performance

Professional Development

32 Notes on becoming a Certified Sports Field Manager

Tools & Equipment

36 Improving parks helps West Park, FL to "Playful City USA" title

Departments

- 6 From the Sidelines
- 7 STMA President's Message
- 17 John Mascaro's Photo Quiz
- 40 STMA in Action
- 43 STMA Chapter Contacts
- 44 Marketplace
- 45 Advertisers' Index
- **46** Q&A



On the cover: Ready for some football: Ryan Field on the campus of Northwestern University, just north of Chicago, was named College Football Field of the Year for 2011 by the Sports Turf Managers Association. Maintenance is mainly handled by Randy Stoneberg, Joe Berube and Rich Thorn.