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 Joey Fitzgerald, Univ of MN - Crookston, Crookston, MN
 Greg Hoag, City of Falcon Heights, Falcon Heights, MN
 Justin Hoffmann, Slayton, MN
 Bob Huntrods, Northwestern College, St. Paul, MN
 Aaron Karn, St. Cloud, MN
 John McPhee, The Toro Company, Bloomington, MN
 Jeff Reich, National Sports Center, Blaine, MN
 Jeff Roiger, Northwestern College, St. Paul, MN
 Steve Thiessen, Northwestern College, St. Paul, MN

Missouri

Donald Carey, Jr., Grain Valley, MO
 Matt Gerhardt, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
 Mike Kostecke, St. Louis Youth Soccer Assoc., Des Peres, MO
 Daniel Looney, St. Louis, MO
 Jerad Minnick, Kansas City Royals Baseball, Kansas City, MO
 Jim Overman, St. Louis Youth Soccer Assoc., Des Peres, MO
 Joseph Overstreet, Liberty, MO
 Zane Patton, Columbia, MO
 William Pipp, Columbia, MO
 Mark Vessell, St. Louis Youth Soccer Assn, Desperes, MO

Mississippi

Scott Cox, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., Leland, MS
 Greg Narmour, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., Leland, MS
 David Simmons, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., Leland, MS
 James Wedgeworth, Timberton Golf Club, Soso, MS
 Mark Weilenman, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., Leland, MS
 Mike Williams, World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc., Leland, MS

Montana

Aaron Feider, Missoula Osprey Baseball Club, Missoula, MT

North Carolina

Curt Farmer, Durham, NC
 Phil Martin, Duke University, Durham, NC
 Thomas Meier, Freudenberg Spunweb Company, Durham, NC
 Alan Milam, Guilford Technical Community College, Clemmons, NC
 Rusty Miller, Atlantic Sports Turf, Clayton, NC
 Raymond Moors, Cabarrus Turf Irrigation, Inc., Harrisburg, NC
 Jamie Pruitt, Kannapolis Intimidators, Kannapolis, NC
 Brad Smith, Kannapolis Intimidators, Kannapolis, NC
 Scott Strickland, Durham, NC
 Joe Zvanut, Jacobsen, A Textron Company, Charlotte, NC

Nebraska

Ruth Cattlett, DTN, Omaha, NE
 Mike Cippera, Loveland Lawns / Odeys Field Experts,

Omaha, NE

Pat Dunning, Loveland Lawns, Omaha, NE
 Terry Haubold, Sodexo, Omaha, NE
 Matt Klima, NCTA, Curtis, NE
 Danny Renz, NCTA, Curtis, NE
 Mike Ridder, Lesco, Inc., Lincoln, NE
 Tyler Smith, Amherst, NE
 Matt Warner, Landscapes Unlimited LLC, Lincoln, NE
 Roxanne Winslow, NCTA Curtis, NE
 Bryce Zeller, Lincoln, NE

New Hampshire

Kim Britton, St. Anselm College, Manchester, NH
 Kenneth Harrington, New Hampshire Fishercats, Manchester, NH
 Robin Wilson, Hillsboro, NH

New Jersey

John Crossen, Township of Hillsborough, Hillsborough, NJ
 Erik Hammerdahl, Scotch Plains - Fanwood BOE, Scotch Plains, NJ
 Lester Hauck III, Monmouth University, W Long Branch, NJ
 Barbara Koonz, Koonz Supply, Springfield, NJ
 Joseph Lisa, Layton BOE, Clayton, NJ
 Ron Matakis, Delbarton School, Morristown, NJ
 Ken Mathis, Rick Township, Toms River, NJ
 Matthew McDermott, Scotch Plains - Fanwood BOE, Scotch Plains, NJ
 Robert Orgera, Borough of Mendham, Mendham, NJ
 Robert Osborn, Barnegat Township Schools, Barnegat, NJ
 Craig Patterson, Richard Stockton College of NJ, Smithville, NJ
 Ryan Radcliffe, Lakewood Blueclaws, Lakewood, NJ
 Douglas Tanis, Pequannock, NJ
 Peter Van Drump, Advanced Agro Technologies, Wayside, NJ

New Mexico

Bryan Waller, Albuquerque Isotopes, Albuquerque, NM

Nevada

Barry Baker, Las Vegas, NV
 Steve Bonnell, City of Fernley Parks & Recreation Dept, Fernley, NV
 Jason Perry, Western Turf, Reno, NV
 Jim Roper, Western Turf, Reno, NV

New York

John Butz, Abel Bainson Butz LLP, New York, NY
 Greg Chorvas, Cantine Veterans Sports Complex, Saugerties, NY
 Chris Flynn, Hopewell Junction, NY
 Bill German, USMA/Army Athletics, West Point, NY
 Adam Holligan, SUNY Cobleskill, Delmar, NY
 Jason Holt, Clark Companies, Delhi, NY
 James Hunter, Clark Companies, Delhi, NY
 Frank Lindsay, Greece Central School Dist., Rochester, NY
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Friday, October 14, 2005 - Landscape 1 Track

Session LC01 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **Synthetic Infill vs. Natural Turf**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, STMA
A.J. Powell, Ph.D., University of Kentucky; George Neagle, Synlawn

Session LC02 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Drainage Issues in the Landscape**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, IA, ISA, STMA
Barry Kew, University of Kentucky; Phil Hilliker, EMCH Bros.

Session LC03 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Hemlock Wooley Adelgids**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, ISA
Terry Tattar, Ph.D., University of Mass.; James Cortese, Cortese Tree Specialists

Friday, October 14, 2005 - Golf Track

Session LC04 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **It's All About the Turf**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, STMA
Erik Ervin, Ph.D., Virginia Tech; Michael Vanatta, Environmental Turf

Session LC05 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Management Skills for Golf Courses**

Accreditation Applied For: GCSAA
William Baker, Rep. UCR Ext.; Andrea Bakalyar, Wee Course at Williams Creek

Session LC06 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Golf Course Preparation**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, STMA
William Baker, Rep. UCR Ext.; Andrea Bakalyar, Wee Course at Williams Creek

Saturday, October 15, 2005 - Arboriculture Track

Session LC07 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **Micro-Injection Solutions**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, ISA
Terry Tattar, Ph.D., University of Mass.; James Cortese, Cortese Tree Specialists

Session LC08 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Tree Decay: Structural Issues**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, ISA
William Baker, Rep. UCR Ext.; Susan Sims, Sims Tree Learning Center

Session LC09 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Soil Issues That Impact Tree Health**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, ISA
Susan Sims, Sims Tree Learning Center; Paul Sachs, North County Organics



Saturday, October 15, 2005 - Sports Turf Track Sponsored by STMA

Session LC10 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **Managing Healthy Sports Fields**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, STMA
Tom Samples, Ph.D., University of Tenn.; Paul Sachs, North County Organics

Session LC11 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Efficient Irrigation Management**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, GCSAA, IA, STMA
Dave Minner, Ph.D., Iowa State University; Lynda Wightman, Hunter Industries

Session LC12 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Developing an Aerification Program**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, GCSAA, IA, STMA
Trent Hale, Ph.D., Clemson University; Dale Getz, The Toro Company

Sunday, October 16, 2005 - Landscape 2 Track

Session LC13 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **Sustainable Landscapes: HortiGenomics**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, IA, STMA
Susan Sims, Sims Tree Learning Center; Dr. Bruce Williams, Agronomy and Horticulture Services LLC; Ron Whitehurst, Rincon-Vitova Insectaries

Session LC14 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Warm Season Turf for the Landscape**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, STMA
Trent Hale, Ph.D., Clemson University; Michael Vanatta, Environmental Turf

Session LC15 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Laws and Regs for Chemical Application**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, IA, STMA
Ken Franks, Kentucky Dept. of Ag.; Jerry Seabolt, Tennessee Dept of Ag.

Sunday, October 16, 2005 - Park and Recreation Track

Session LC16 - 8:00 to 10:00 - **Turf Options for Park & Recreation Mgmt.**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, STMA
Tom Samples, Ph.D., University of Tenn.; Michael Vanatta, Environmental Turf

Session LC17 - 10:30 to 12:30 - **Saving Water with Irrigation Efficiency**

Accreditation Applied For: ASLA, CCA, GCSAA, IA, STMA
Bernd Leinauer, Ph.D., New Mexico State University; Andy Moore, Aquatrols

Session LC18 - 1:30 to 3:30 - **Managing Pest Outbreaks in Trees**

Accreditation Applied For: CCA, DPR, GCSAA, ISA
Ron Whitehurst, Rincon-Vitova Insectaries; Joe Docola, Arbor Jet

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Bill Servedio, USMA-Army, West Point., NY
Marcus Sherburne, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY
Russell Washegesic, The Brickman Group, Ltd., Schenectady, NY
Steve Wiseman, Binghamton Mets, Binghamton, NY

Ohio

Matthew Carroll, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Don Confoey, Sekely Industries, Salem, OH
Randy Heilman, Central Farm & Garden, Wooster, OH
Shane Hohlbein, Cincinnati, OH
Nathan McGuire, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Jeff McKelvey, Opening Day Lawn & Landscape LLC, Louisville, OH

Casey Myers, Ottawa, OH
Travis Post, Corning, OH
James Wright, City of Westerville, Westerville, OH

Oklahoma

Casey Cox, Tulsa Drillers, Tulsa, OK
James McPherson, Oklahoma City, OK
Rick Newville, Amateur Softball Assoc., OKC, OK
Bill Rowton, City of Walters, Walters, OK
Gary Shepherd, Tulsa Drillers, Tulsa, OK
Bryan White, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Oregon

Mike Billman, DLF International Seeds, Halsey, OR
Jonathan Garrett, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

chapter news



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Sports Turf Managers Association of

Arizona: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Chris Calcaterra at e-mail: chrisc@peoriaaz.com or call 623/412-4231 or Bill Murphy, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or 480/312-7956.

Chesapeake Chapter STMA (formerly called Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization - MAFMO Chapter STMA):

Chesapeake Chapter STMA is planning a regional meeting with the Virginia STMA, SFMANJ and KAFMO to be held at the new Ravens Practice Facility in Owens Mills, MD in July. Our meeting at RFK Stadium in Washington, DC will be scheduled at a later date at which time we will see the change over from baseball's new team the Washington Nationals to MLS Soccer 2004 Champions DC United. For more information contact Graham Davis at gdavis@american.edu or call 301/495-5522.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:

The infamous LMO Golf Tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19th at The Heritage at Westmoor, for information on the golf tournament please contact Phil McQuade at 303/237-7188. For information on the Chapter or other upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website at www.cstma.org or call the

CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303/346-8954, or contact President Richard Buelter at 303/233-2922 or dbuelter@jeffco.k12.co.us.

Florida #1 Chapter: The Florida #1 Chapter is holding a Chapter meeting on July 26th at the City of Coral Springs Sportsplex in Coral Springs, FL. For more information on the Florida #1 Chapter visit the Florida #1 Chapter page on STMA's website or contact John Mascaro at 954/341-3115 or STMA@turftec.com.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers

Association: The Gateway Chapter will be hosting a Field Day on July 12th from 8am - 3pm with the Missouri Valley Turf Grass Association at MU Turf Research Farm in Columbia, MO. Also, on August 8th from 5-10 p.m., is Game Day at the River City Rascals in O'Fallon, MO. For information on the Gateway Chapter or upcoming events, call Mike Krone, Missouri Baptist College at 314/392-2328 or e-mail krone@mobap.edu.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:

For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Skip Kirby at 770/928-1580 or by e-mail at skip@sportsturfmanagement.com.

The Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association:

The Greater LA Basin's next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15th at Pomona College, Pomona, CA, time is to be announced. This is an educational, general meeting including the nominations of officers for the 2006 year. CEUs will be available and there will be a lunch buffet for members. For information and reservations or for more information on upcoming events call Emilio Avalos at 949/824-8243 or e-mail eavalos@uci.edu.

Illinois Chapter (formerly Midwest Chapter) STMA:

For information on the Illinois Chapter or

upcoming events call chapter secretary Libby Baker at 847/263-7603 or e-mail Bake60ft6in@aol.com.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: July 11th is the Extension Fundraiser Golf Event at Waverly Golf Course in Waverly, IA. There is a cash lunch at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at noon. It is a four-person, best shot format with a meal and prizes to follow. The cost is \$50 per player which includes golf, cart, meal and prizes. Call the Iowa Turfgrass office at 515/232-8222 to sign up by July 1. July 27th is the ITI Field Day Classic at Jewell Country Club in Jewell, IA and July 28th is the ITI/ISU Extension Field Day at ISU Turfgrass Research Station in Ames, IA, for more information visit www.iowaturfgrass.org. For information on the Chapter or upcoming activities, contact Jeff Wendel of The Turf Office at ph. 515/232-8222 or fax 515/232-8228 or e-mail Jeff@iowaturfgrass.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club at 610/375-8469, ext. 212 or by e-mail to: kafmo@aol.com.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: They KySTMA Summer Workshop is being held July 28-29 at the University of Louisville. For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, check out the website at www.kystma.org or contact Tom Nielsen at TNielsen@batsbaseball.com or Donnie Mefford at dbmeff00@email.uky.edu or call him at 859/257-1451.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): The Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA) held a spring field day for 70 participants on May 11, 2005, at the Detroit Lions Practice Facility. The topic of the event was artificial turf. Bruce Lemons, President of Foresite Design, spoke first about his involvement in the Synthetic Turf Council (STC). He next discussed specifications and construction of in-fill systems. Amy Fouty, CSFM (Michigan State University, Past Pres. MiSTMA) discussed some potential maintenance differences between indoor and outdoor artificial turf fields. Charlie Coffin (Detroit Lions Sports Field Manager) gave a very informative and entertaining look at managing an in-fill system at Ford Field. Craig O'Berry (Vice President MiSTMA) from Pioneer Paint discussed the paint options available to field managers to use on artificial turf and he and Coffin covered the role of disinfectants in overall management. For more information on this event or on the Michigan Chapter, visit their website at www.mistma.org or contact Chad Follis at 269/377-3340 or 269/381-0596 or by email at chadfollis@farmngarden.com.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, visit the Chapter website at www.mstma.com or contact chapter President Greg Hoag at 651/486-8295 or by email at greg.hoag@metro-inet.us.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Paul Hecker at 913/971-9717 or email phecker@olatheks.org.

New England STMA (NESTMA): NESTMA will be holding its 14th Annual Summer Field Day at Saint Anselm's College in Manchester, NH on August 10, 2005. Please contact Bill Butts at 617/484-3360 or bbutts@waverlylandscape.com or Keith Macdonald at kmacdonald@bridgew.edu. For more information on the New England chapter or other upcoming events, contact David Pinsonneault at 781/861-2757 or dpinson@ci.lexington.ma.us.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530/758-4200 or email Emory Hunter at emhunter@usa.net.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, call Loren Humphrey at: 402/461-2356 or e-mail to lhumphrey@cityofhastings.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: The Rutgers Landscape and Sports Turf Research Field Day, in cooperation with the NJ Turfgrass Association and the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey is August 3rd in Adelphia, NJ. For information on the New Jersey Chapter or upcoming events call SFMANJ at 908/730-7770, e-mail HQ@sfmanj.org or visit the Chapter website at www.sfmanj.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): The OSTMA will be having the 2005 South East Ohio Field Day on July 14th at the University of Rio Grande. For more information, visit the Chapter's website at www.ostma.org or call OSTMA Headquarters at 888/824-9805 or 419/824-9805 or Boyd Montgomery, CSFM, at 419/885-1982.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Chapter or upcoming events, contact Bob Christofferson at 206/346-4218 or bchristo@mariners.org.

Southern California Chapter: On July 14th, the Southern Cal Chapter will host a Field Day at Rancho Bernardo High School. This will be a mix of field and classroom. West Coast Turf will discuss different types of sod available to the industry, a brief tour of an in progress installation of Fieldturf, drill and fill demonstration and more. We will conclude with presentations from Dr. Kent Kurtz (Cal Poly), Dr. Shoumo Mitra (Cal Poly), Bruce Kidd (Dow Agro Sciences) and Bill Blackmann (Horizon). Four hours of CEUs have been applied for. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members. Non-members, your \$50 also gets you the in the local chapter for the remainder of the year! Also, please join us on

August 26th for the Padres game. For more information or information on the Southern California Chapter or pending activities, call the Chapter Hotline at 888/578-STMA (578-7862) toll free in Southern California or 760/226-8873 or Michael Tarantino at 858/679-2526 or by e-mail: MTarantino@powayusd.com.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: The South Carolina Chapter will have a meeting on July 19th at Citizens Park in Aiken, SC. The focus of the meeting will be sports field construction. Contact Trent Hale at 843/662-3526 ext. 206 or by e-mail at tchale@clemsun.edu for more information or visit our website at www.scstma.org.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: On June 23rd, the TXSTMA held an educational field day at the San Antonio ISD Sports Complex covering the topic of "Managing Sports Fields with Excessive Play". Speakers included Dr. David Chalmers and Dr. Jim McAfee from Texas Cooperative Extension and Dusty Robinson from Texas A&M Graduate Program. Abby McNeal, CSFM with the Denver Broncos represented STMA and provided information from the Synthetic/Natural Turfgrass Task Group during a tour of the Alamo Dome. The next chapter event will be held in the DFW area this fall. A date and location will be announced soon. For more chapter information, call T. J. Thompson, President-Elect at 972/670-2138 or the chapter office at 866/897-8621.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): The Tennessee Valley chapter will be holding a Field Day on Thursday, July 21st at the University of Tennessee football stadium, in Knoxville, Tenn. For more information on the Field Day or information on the Chapter or other upcoming events, call Chapter President, Chris Pearl at 615/242-4371 or visit the Chapter's website at www.tvstma.org.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Virginia Chapter please contact VSTMA President Bob Studholme of the Fairfax County Park Authority at 703/324-8590 or robert.studholme@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Wisconsin Chapter or other pending events, contact Chris Brindley at 715/346-3622 or cbrindle@uwsp.edu.

Forming Chapters:

North Florida STMA Chapter: For information on the newly forming North Florida Chapter, contact Mark Clay at 904/633-6116 or Jay McCord at 904/448-2583.

New York Sports Turf Managers Association: Contact - Mike Albino by phone at 315/468-6225 or (c) 315/427-1214 or email him at mikealbino@earthlink.net.

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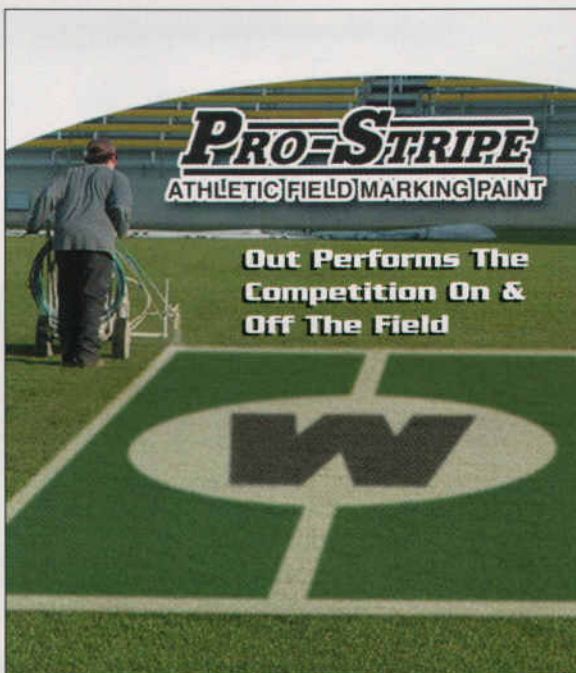
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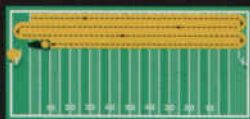
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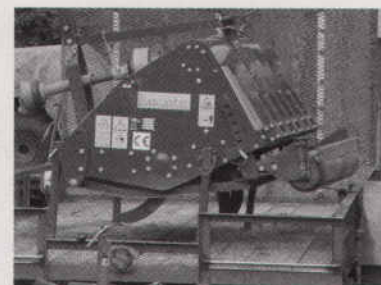
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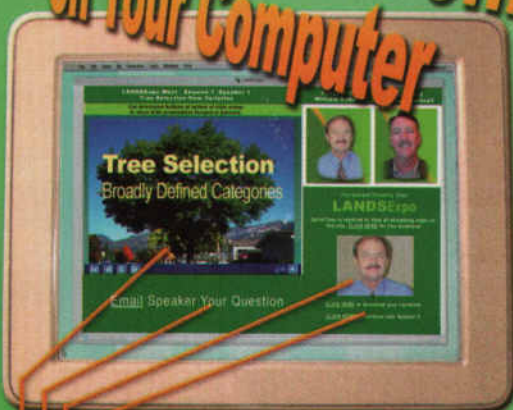
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Bad audit may be good news

We attended the irrigation audit workshop by Dr. Kopec at the 2005 STMA Conference last year and decided to have our old system audited. The bad news is we failed miserably with a Distribution Uniformity of 25%. The good news is we are getting a totally new system. My previous requests for an irrigation system upgrade fell on deaf ears, but the audit was the documentation I needed to sway their decision. The cost savings analysis that showed a 3-year pay back from reduced labor and water savings was the deciding factor for my boss. I am working with the irrigation designer now and I was wondering if you could give me some advice on what to ask for so that I have a really good system for the future.

St. Louis Parks and Recreation Department

Seeking professional guidance, as you have done, is a good first step in developing a capable and efficient irrigation system. Some of the other critical players for your project will be an Independent Certified or Licensed Contractor and a reputable distributor. Be sure to check references and previous work experience to insure that they have specific sports field experience, not just landscape or golf experience. Let the players practice on your field, not the irrigation company.

Ask your designer to calculate and explain precipitation rate and distribution uniformity profile for your old and new systems. If they can't do that, then look for a new consultant. The Distribution Uniformity (DU) on your fields ranged from 25 to 50% and that means that you were applying more than 1.5 times the amount of water that should be needed. A properly functioning irrigation system will have a DU of 70 to 95%.

I have made many mistakes and fixed just as many from others so here are some of my tips to consider for your fields. I won't try to play irrigation consultant, designer, and contractor in this reply, but instead will act as a sports turf manager who is explaining what I want from an irrigation system. Remember you are the customer and they are there to serve you. They should be giving advice but they should also be asking you for your special irrigation needs. Some of my favorite head placement layouts for football, soccer, baseball, and softball can be found at <http://turfgrass.hort.iastate.edu/extension/egathfldheads.pdf>

Football

* Don't place a row of sprinklers down the center length of the field. This is an intense traffic area that often turns to mud, exposes heads, and places players in greater contact with heads. Instead, place rows of heads on either side of the intensely trafficked center of the field.

* The irrigation designer sees the entire field for uniform water distribution; however you need to explain that the field has differential wear patterns and you want the field irrigation zones blocked so that you can water the high traffic areas separately. This is because frequent shallow watering is needed to establish seed in high-traffic areas and deep infrequent watering is needed for other low-traffic areas of the field. The system can't be perfectly blocked to cover the exact shape

of the wear pattern, but it will make it possible to differentially water traffic areas that are constantly being reseeded and resodded.

Soccer

* The wear pattern for soccer is concentrated in the center and then at each goal mouth. A row of center sprinklers is used for soccer since the players don't line up and drudge through the center of the field and because regulation soccer fields are often wider than football fields.

* Instead of trying to fit the goal mouths in with the rest of the head layout, it is easier to just place one or two extra heads to cover the goal area and place them on a separate valve for separate control from the rest of the stations.

Baseball

* Water the skinned dirt area separately from the grass area. Use a fast rotor head, such as the Hunter I-42, at the edge of the skin and the outfield grass. These part circle heads should be set to water only the infield skin. All heads should be placed in the grass not the skinned dirt area.

* Place quick-couples behind the mound and/or near the warning track by first and third base.

* Be careful not to place any head, quick-couple, or valve box in the player rounding areas near first and third base.

Softball

* At a minimum place one head behind the pitching circle to partially water the skin infield. This head should be placed in a small valve box to protect the head when dragging and using the field. Turn the head on and it pops off the valve box head and waters the

skin. Just replace the lid when the field is being groomed or being used for play.

* In addition, place heads in front of each dugout and directly behind home against the fence. These heads can even be used for between-game maintenance of a doubleheader to keep the dust down and prep the field. Heads can also be placed in the grass and at the arc of the infield to water the skinned area.

I am a do-it-yourself type of person so I fully understand the cost-saving temptation to put in your own irrigation based on lots of free advice and your own ingenuity. Well, here is my free advice: the best products in the world don't make up for poor design and a good irrigation design must take into account traffic patterns associated with specific sports. Beware of those that sell you irrigation supplies and give you a "free design" as part of the package. It is better to have a design by an independent agent that is accountable for their work. Once the equipment is specified, then let the bidding begin. **ST**



QUESTIONS? Send them to Dave Minner at Iowa State University, 106 Horticulture Hall, Ames, IA 50011, or email dminner@iastate.edu. Or, send them to Grady Miller at the University of Florida, PO Box 110670, Gainesville, FL 32611, or email gmliller@mail.ifas.ufl.edu.