Incredible educational value at Northern Green Expo 2013 – just look at these golf course speakers!

Dr. Rob Golembiewski is a Greens Solutions Specialist for Bayer Environmental Science with the responsibility of providing technical expertise for the turf & ornamental industry. Most recently, he served as the Turfgrass Specialist at Oregon State University. Rob received his B.S. and M.S. from Michigan State University and his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. Golembiewski’s career has included positions with Montana State University, Dow AgroSciences, Paramount Landscape, and the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Performing a Golf Course Irrigation Evaluation & Analysis
This session will review a step-by-step process, broken down by major irrigation components to properly evaluate an existing irrigation system. This evaluation will be the basis for a properly constructed report to illustrate standards in design and will also deliver budgetary costs to aid any club in appropriating funds to implement an irrigation upgrade.

Preparing Your Club for an Irrigation Renovation
Accurate communication is key for any club to consider future irrigation upgrades. This workshop will focus on the importance of quality and factual information by illustrating the specific needs and costs associated with an irrigation renovation. Furthermore, this seminar will demonstrate the appropriate timing and potential impact of a qualified irrigation installation from start to finish.

Implementation of Irrigation Plans & Specifications
The proper process for quality design documents can aid any club in a successful irrigation installation. This class will take you through the steps in creating a custom irrigation bid documents that fit your particular club needs. By implementing these bid documents, both the club and contractor will clearly understand the scope expected of each other by minimizing unknowns.

Enhancing Turf Performance with Soil Amendments
Minimizing turf irrigation needs has been a long sought after goal for turfgrass managers. It is more evident today than ever before that the goal of saving water is a necessity. Along with the innovations in new drought tolerant turf species, soil amendments continue to improve and show potential for water management and enhanced turf quality. Soil amendments can be defined as any additive placed directly into the soil profile which can create a better growing environment for the turf by modifying the soil. This presentation will focus on types of soil amendments available, their characteristics, uses, and research evaluating their potential in divot mixes and fairway incorporation trials.

Interseeding into Established Greens - Truth or Fiction?
Seed companies continue to develop and market new creeping bentgrass cultivars that are said to be more aggressive and capable of being overseeded into existing creeping bentgrass and/or annual bluegrass putting greens. But is it really possible to interseed into an existing green and change that population without completely renovating the green? This presentation will review research trials from around the country that have tried to answer this very question. At the conclusion, you will decide if the money spent on seed and labor could be better used elsewhere.


Erik Christiansen is president of EC Design Group, Ltd., an irrigation design and water management resource company with over 30 years of turf and irrigation related experience backed by over 400 projects. For over 30 years, Christiansen has been actively involved in the golf and commercial irrigation industry. He started out in the golf course industry at Willow Creek Golf Club, a 36-hole operation, moving on to irrigation contracting and distribution of golf and commercial irrigation products before finally organizing EC Design Group, Ltd. in 1993. He holds several professional affiliations and certifications including: American Society of Irrigation Consultants, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Golf Course Builders Association of America, Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, and the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission.