stations, a dedicated lecture center and wireless communications for computers and peripherals. The CAD Lab features 12 Dell workstations, an Epson 745 wireless digital projector, a tablet PC for instruction and various color printers and scanners ranging from desktop to 36” wide.

Finally, the classes as well as industry are supported by the Sustainable Urban Landscape Information Series (SULIS) website. Developed in 1997 by Extension Educator Bob Mugaas and me, this landscape and turf site receives almost ten million hits and over 450,000 unique visitors each year. The SULIS website is used as an on-line text for several of the courses in the curriculum.

RP: Sounds like you have been staying busy!

BP: I sure have been! However, we’re lucky to have a great teaching team working full or part-time with the landscape programs. Dr. Jim Calkins, Education Specialist, teaches courses in landscape design and management as well as classes in plant propagation. He is also the coordinator of the M.Ag degree program.

Teaching and Technology Specialist, Julie Weisenhorn is a graduate of the M.Ag program and teaches courses in landscape design and CAD as well as managing the studio/CAD Lab and the SULIS website. Research Plot Coordinator, Karen Vidmar, manages the Display and Trial Garden and is completing her M.Ag degree. Of course, we also all work closely within the department and the college. Landscape and turfgrass science courses are required for students in both programs, so students are impacted by over 40 faculty from many departments and several colleges during their undergraduate program.

RP: Wow. It’s mind-boggling to hear about all you have accomplished in your career. I know I speak for all members of MGCSA and the industry when I say it is a pleasure to give you the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award and to congratulate you on a job well done. Do you have any closing remarks?

BP: Thanks a lot, Rob, and thanks to everyone who have supported the students and programs over the years. To me, undergraduate education is like a business. Students are our products and the industry is the consumer. As educators, we need to listen carefully to the industry and maximize our resources to provide students with opportunities to help them meet their educational goals. Like a business manager, a successful educator must be continuously evaluating and changing. That is the challenge, that is the joy.
Nature Friendly Golf

By KAREN I. SHRAGG Ed.d.
City of Richfield

People who love to golf also love nature. People who maintain golf courses love nature, too. The traditional reputation of golf courses, however, is less than nature friendly. Golf courses are frequently shunned by those whose job it is to defend nature as places which demand too many natural resources in order to play a game.

I must admit to be one of those who long refused to pick up a golf club because I thought I was hurting the very nature I fought so hard to protect. My parents, aunts and uncles all loved the game that I dismissed because of my opinion that nature and golf were strange bedfellows.

That has all changed. It has changed because of the very fact that we now live in a time when golf courses are often the most undeveloped areas in a community. In a time of exponential human population growth, they are being threatened with being turned into housing developments.

I have come to realize that a fairway is much better than a driveway as far as the environment is concerned. A fairway maintained in the most sustainable way is even better. Enter the Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) for Golf Courses. The ACSP outlines ways in which courses can enroll in a program which will support them in their quest to become more nature friendly.

It's an idea whose time has come. With over 2 million acres dedicated to golf courses throughout the United States, there is a wonderful opportunity to save and protect waterways, make courses more wildlife friendly and improve the aesthetics for golfers all at the same time. Golf courses can become a more recognized part of the green corridors so desperately needed for migrating birds.

The ACSP program asks its managers to look at their entire course and come up with an environmental plan. It also asks for a special project to be done which can be anything from installing a butterfly garden to creating wildflower-laden prairies in out-of-play areas. Water quality monitoring and chemical control, wildlife monitoring are also required.

To busy golf course managers this can seem like another daunting task on top of work weeks already bursting at the seams. I would argue that the best of courses are already doing most of what is on the list of things to do. I would also say that it is a tremendous opportunity to seek out your local naturalist to help you in your application process. That's what they did at the Braemar golf course in Edina and I am ever so grateful. My involvement in helping them to achieve their certification has opened my eyes to the great natural experiences that await on golf courses.

Since then I have been assisting over 7 different courses with their certification and would love to add more to my list. It is great fun to make new friends with course managers and talk about the environment. As a nature center manager I find that we have so much in common. Whether it's buckthorn control or prairie burning, water quality measuring or getting people to follow the messages on your signs, there is a lot to discuss.

Look out world, I have taken up the sport, too. Though I will always be more excited to see a rare bird than to get an even rarer birdie, its given me new eyes and credibility as far as being able to give advice to golf course managers.

As an official steward for Audubon International, I would like to personally invite all golf courses, public and private, in Minnesota to get involved in this program. It will do the right thing, make new audiences and add new reasons to keep your course open in light of the pressure to have your land converted into yet another housing development. Your site will no longer be just a golf course, you will be a wildlife sanctuary acting to protect an open space for the benefit of all. Imagine bird hikes added to the list of what people can do on your courses!

Once certified, there are more opportunities to make even more positive changes to keep up the certification. I would personally love to see Audubon International courses look at their whole operations from an environmental perspective, from the greener paper products they could buy to the locally grown organic food they could offer.

To find out more about how to enroll in the program, go to www.auduboninternational.com and hit programs. You can also contact me at kshragg@cityofrichfield.org. Happy golfing and happy birding and may they be all done at the same place, your golf course.
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“A Quality Grown Reputation”
The latest MGCSA Board Meeting took place on November 7 at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata.

The Treasurer’s Report anticipates that expenses and income for November and December should show a small profit. A preliminary budget for 2006 is being prepared.

The MGCSA received a thank you note from the University of Minnesota for donating towards U of M research. Dr. David MacDonald, U of M, had good sampling of soil samples in his research. The goal is to find if nematodes are an issue or not.

Rob Panuska reported that the Past Presidents’ luncheon is set for 11:00 a.m. on January 5. The MGCSA Annual Business Meeting will follow at 1:00 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Panuska also thanked the Board for letting him serve as President in 2004 and 2005.

The MGCSA calendar for the upcoming year is almost set. The only vacancy in the 2006 meeting schedule (see Meeting Schedule on Page 3) is the annual BASF event.

The 2007 slate is taking shape, too. Greystone Golf Club will be the site of the MGCSA Scholarship Scramble. Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul is set for the 2007 MGCSA Championship and The Jewel Golf Club will be the site of the 2007 Harold Stodola Research Scramble.

Service awards will be presented at the Appreciation and Recognition Banquet on December 7.

2005 was a successful year for sponsorship dollars. The breakdown is as follows: Research $7,150, Scholarship $2,600, Spring and Fall meetings $3,500 and the Banquet $4,400. These funds will be distributed to their respective accounts.

104 people have sent their phosphorus re-training coupon back. Approximately 350 took the initial phosphorus training.

The Board increased the minimum salary requirements for a job to be posted through the MGCSA. The new minimums are as follows: 9-hole course at $30,000; 18-hole course at $40,000, and a 27-hole course at $50,000.

James Bade reported that GCSAA will hold seminars on January 24-25 at the St. Louis Park Doubletree Hotel. “Golf Course Safety, Security and Risk Management” will be discussed on January 24, and “Solving Your Drainage Problems” will be the topic for January 25.

Frank Rossi, Ph.D., Cornell University, will be a guest speaker at the March 7 MGCSA Mini-Seminar.

The MTGF set aside some money for an Architect for the Head House at the University at its last board meeting.

Kevin Clunis, CGCS, handed out a summary of the delegates meeting which took place in Kansas City in September. Clunis presented highlights and said there is a very good slate of candidates this year.
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'Reregistration', 'mitigation' and "REDs" are on the tips of a lot of tongues lately. What do these terms mean and how will they affect you as a professional turfgrass manager?

**What is Pesticide Reregistration?**

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) provides for federal control of pesticide distribution, sale, and use in the United States. FIFRA has been amended many times over the years since its initial passage in 1947. In 1988, Congress passed an amendment to FIFRA that required the EPA to conduct an exhaustive review of all pesticides registered prior to November 1, 1984. More than 1,150 active ingredients were affected. The EPA organized these active ingredients into about 600 groups, each containing related compounds. The EPA was charged with re-reviewing these active ingredients and reassessing both their health and environmental effects utilizing contemporary standards. The EPA then made decisions about the future use of these pesticides based on these comprehensive reviews. This process is known as 'reregistration'.

**What does the EPA evaluate during reregistration?**

For each group of active ingredients, the EPA examined the complete package of health, safety and environmental data. Sometimes these data packages were determined to be 'incomplete'. The registrants then had to decide whether to generate the required data to support reregistration or whether to allow those uses (or products) unsupported by data to be 'unregistered'. EPA evaluated each database to determine that each pesticide did not cause unreasonable risks to human health or the environment when used in accordance with approved label directions and precautions.

**How does the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996 fit into this process?**

FIFRA, as amended in 1996 by FQPA, requires that all pesticides meet new safety standards. EPA must be able to conclude with "reasonable certainty" that "no harm" will come to infants, children, or other sensitive individuals exposed to pesticides. All pesticide exposures -- from food, drinking water and home and garden use -- must be considered in determining allowable levels of pesticides in food. The cumulative effects must also be considered.

If there are 600 groups of pesticides undergoing reregistration, how did the EPA decide where to start?

The 1988 amendment to FIFRA directed EPA to divide the 600 cases undergoing reregistration into four lists: List A, B, C, and D based on whether the pesticide labels contain food uses (List A) and based on their potential for human exposure and other factors (List B = greater concern and List D = less concern).

**What is the process of reregistration?**

The 1988 amendment to FIFRA established a reregistration process consisting of five phases, with time frames and responsibilities for both EPA and pesticide registrants:

- **Phase 1** - List Active Ingredients - EPA published Lists A, B, C, and D in 1989 and asked registrants of these pesticides whether they intended to reregister.

- **Phase 2** - Declare Intent and Identify Studies - Required registrants to notify EPA whether they intended to reregister their products and commit to providing any necessary new data.

- **Phase 3** - Summarize Studies - Registrants were required to submit data.

- **Phase 4** - EPA Review and Data Call-in - EPA reviewed all submissions and required registrants to meet any unfilled data requirements.

- **Phase 5** - Reregistration Decisions - In this final phase, EPA reviews all the studies that have been submitted for a case and decides whether or not pesticide products containing the active ingredient(s) are eligible for reregistration and whether or not the pesticide causes unreasonable adverse effects to people or the environment when used according to product labeling. EPA also considers whether the pesticide meets the new safety standard of the FQPA. The results of the review are presented in a reregistration eligibility decision (RED) document.

What kind of information is contained in a RED?

REDs contain a summary of the information gathered during the reregistration process, Agency decisions related to their
findings, requirement for revised labeling and deadlines for compliance, among other things. Type of information found in REDs:

- Voluntary cancellation of pesticide
- Loss of use(s)
- Limits on amount, frequency or timing of applications
- Other application restrictions
- "Restricted Use Pesticide"
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Restricted Entry Intervals (REIs)
- User safety requirements
- Improved use directions
- Special / tamper-resistant packaging
- Engineering / production controls
- Ground / surface water safeguards
- Spray drift labeling
- Ecological safeguards

**What does it mean to have a 'mitigated' label?**

Mitigate (according to Webster's Dictionary): to make soft or mild; to assuage, lessen, abate, moderate.

**What is the EPA trying to mitigate?**

Risk, in the form of human exposure to pesticides. To have a 'mitigated' label is to have a label that has been reviewed and accepted by the Agency that incorporates all of the provisions set forth in the RED.

**When do 'mitigated' labels appear in the field?**

Once the Agency has finalized the RED and sets forth the provisions for labeling for each group of active ingredients, the registrants then rewrite their labels to incorporate all of the provisions of the RED. That 'mitigated' label is then submitted to the Agency for review just the same as every label amendment. The Agency reviews the mitigated label and returns it to the registrant stamped accepted (sometimes with comments). The EPA decides on that timeline for each group of active ingredients based on a number of factors.

**When does the EPA anticipate that reregistration will be complete?**

EPA estimates that the reregistration program will be completed in 2008. The program will be phased out upon completion. The EPA maintains a pesticide reregistration calendar on its website where you can check the status of any pesticide undergoing reregistration. If the process is complete, you can find a link to the RED. If the process is incomplete, you will find an estimate for RED completion.

**Website**

The website is: [http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppreg/rereg/status.cfm?show=rereg](http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppreg/rereg/status.cfm?show=rereg).

**Will 'newer' pesticides (those registered after November 1, 1984) ever undergo a similar kind of reregistration process?**

EPA plans to implement a new Registration Review Program by September 2006. The Registration Review Program was created by the FQPA in 1996. This new program requires EPA to review every registered pesticide on a 15-year cycle to ensure they meet current scientific and regulatory standards.

**REDs and RED Fact Sheets**

Completed REDs and RED fact sheets are available on the Internet: [http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrdl/REDs](http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrdl/REDs).
What is it that gets you going? I mean, what really gets under your skin and makes you want to pull all your hair out? I’m talking about your pet peeves. During the course of the day or even week, there are things that go well and things that don’t go so well. When things don't go well there are always things that annoy you and get on your nerves. What are those things? Sometimes they are day in and day out happenings and happen more frequently than we want. I am going to share with you my top three pet peeves and what I can do to try and settle myself and deal with these issues.

**My number one pet peeve is employee tardiness.** Being punctual in life is a necessity and I hate waiting on others because they can’t make it to their destination on time. When I was in college, I fell into a laid-back mentality and went with the flow, being fashionably late was acceptable and I never had to be anywhere except for work. I made sure I was at work on time because other people were counting on me.

**Why is it you can’t get to work on time?** Wake up five minutes earlier to ensure you make it to work on time. You don’t want to show up right at the time you begin. Plan for road construction, traffic or any other obstacles that you may run into on your way to work and delay your arrival. Get to work early; then you can sit and relax before you start your day. Granted there are the occasional and uncontrollable times when you’re late. It is when it becomes habitual when it really gets to be annoying. I make it a point to lead by example and show up to work on time. If my actions can prove to be influential to our team, then I’ve done my job.

**Another way to get me going is by not going above and beyond the call of duty.** There are only so many hours and so much we can do in a day, so why not make it the best? If you want to go through the day and only do what is asked from you, that’s fine, but why not put icing on the cake and do something that will knock the socks off someone. When there are days you are overloaded with jobs and it seems like nothing is getting done, don’t you wish your guys would multi-task? When raking bunkers, why not pick up a pile of debris or a broken branch as you travel around the course? Don’t make someone else do a job you are capable of doing in passing. I give someone a "that a boy" and thank them when I catch them going above and beyond what was asked. While working with someone, I like to do at least one thing to show them how easy and timeless it may be to go out of your way.

A member at Dellwood Hills once paid an employee twenty dollars for returning a golf club. Next thing you know, head covers and golf clubs are showing up left and right. This is great, guys finally picking up around the course, but was it for the wrong reason? Rewards pay big dividends regardless how big or small they may be. On hot days, a pop goes a long way when you want to say thank you. Another example: one day a member called and informed us our water coolers ran dry on number six. As I returned the cooler to the hole, I stopped by the thirsty group, with cups in hand and personally gave them a drink of water. You should have seen their faces and how exited they were. Maybe it was because they were thirsty and saw water but I like to think it was my going out of my way to make them happy.

**You know what else gets me, golfers driving carts.** It is like they forget about everything else when they get on that cart. Rules, policies are all thrown out the window by the time they leave the pro shop. People are going to drive the shortest distance they can to their ball and it doesn’t matter what is in their way. They will drive right up to the number one tee box, I mean right up to it where they are literally a step from it. Now look and see where the cart path is and they are only three steps away. Come on, you are telling me you can’t walk that extra six feet? Sometimes I wish we had a curb on all our paths so they couldn’t get off of them. I still like the idea of having a credit card machine on each cart so when you drive somewhere you are not supposed to be the cart shuts down. Then to reactivate the cart, you have to put in your credit card and it charges you a small finance charge. I think golfers would understand how important it is to keep carts out of certain areas. No more driving in those native areas, no driving within thirty feet of the green, it would be like herding the cattle. I am continually reminded of how much this bothers me every time we host an outside event. Why must you park so close to the tee box? Why can’t you stay on the cart path? I have figured out how to somewhat corral our membership on a daily basis. It is the public golfer that I have to worry about. Strategically placing benches to cut off traffic from going up to the tee or placing cart blocks in their way when driving to the green help, but they will still drive where they want to.

These are only three of my pet peeves, I could think of more but they’re all little things. In the big picture some of us say, this is nothing and wish these were all the things that may bother them. I know as I become a superintendent, the course and game will look a lot different than they do as an assistant and I will be coming up with new pet peeves as the job changes. If I set a good example to our team and membership, hopefully they will follow a good leader. Let your actions speak louder than your words.
Too many times during the heat of the summer we sometimes forget to say one of the most important things. So we take this opportunity to say to those who have so gratefully made our progress possible.

Thank You  Thank You  Thank You

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Floratine Products - Liq. Fert. & Soil Cond.  Gro Power - Granular Organics
Greensgroomer - Greens Brush & Trailers  JRM - Aerification Tines  Turf Health - Liq. Fert.
Turfline - Vib. Rollers & De-thatchers  Perm-O-Pore - Ceramic granulars
Sand-Dam - Bunker Blankets  FCI - Irrigation Nozzles  Sipcam - Fungicides
Merry Christmas! At my house we say Merry Christmas. I am not being disrespectful or apolitically correct, just honest. And if you celebrate Hannukah or Ramadan, then just take my happy exclamation and apply it to your beliefs. For in fact you know what I mean. Kwanzaa isn't a religious event, but if you acknowledge this seven-day remembrance of African culture, then by all means Merry Christmas to you, too!  

Yes, Merry Christmas to all!!! It seems that during this time of year I have the opportunity to reflect upon the many blessings I enjoy in my life. Mid-summer is a bad time, as my mind is focused upon self-centered thoughts such as keeping my grass green and green grass playable. But come snow time I often ponder my fortunes.

As a youth I lay awake dreaming about the wondrous gifts wrapped in spectacular fashion under the Christmas tree. Usually I received clothing, books and toys meant to stimulate my mind. But sometimes I'd actually get a present I had been wishing for, perhaps a Sheridan Blue Streak Pellet gun, a toboggan or my favorite model rocket ship.

But today, a bit older and wiser, I appreciate the season as so much more than "gifts for me." I am a very fortunate man. My family is loving and my health pretty good. I thank God that I don't smoke, drink or do drugs anymore. However, I value the lessons I learned when I did. My friends are honest and respectful, my religious beliefs comforting.

I give thanks for, and am hopeful for, continued success with work, family and play. During this lull I remember in detail my relationships and the knowledge I have learned from those who have passed away. My mind tends to wander and wonder about my children's future, my friends who are experiencing bumps in the road of life and those who put themselves in danger for my continued prosperity.

God bless our police force, our fire department and our volunteer military service personnel who are in and out of harms way. You have my utmost respect and I honor your dedication and willingness to protect me as I lead my life in a free America. I wish you all a Merry Christmas.

And at this time of year I am hopeful that addicted persons seek the help they need to become productive members of our society again. I pray for our enemies to appreciate freedom over oppression. And I reflect upon those who have less than I do and who struggle from day to day, searching for a way out of their rut in life. Where there is a will there is a way.

Thankfully I was born in a country that accepts the freedom of decision, the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion and the ability to be political. Fortunately I was raised in a community that values individual thought and those potential opportunities that arise from hard work and dedication. Gratefully, my parents raised me with values that support me on 'cruise control' when my mind is elsewhere.

I shout "Merry Christmas" to each of you, my friends and peers. Take this time to celebrate your achievements, reflect upon your challenges and be thankful for the opportunities you have in this great country we share together. Love your friends, love your family and love yourself. For your self worth and what you give through thought, word and deed are the true presents of life.

— JM

Happy Holidays

We Hope Everyone Takes Time To Enjoy the Holiday Season. Always Be Thankful For What You Have. Make Your Families The Priority This Holiday Season.

We Thank-You for Your Business in 2005!

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