

GET INVOLVED WITH SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATIONS

Probably the easiest way to begin solving playground and athletic field problems is to get involved with fellow professionals and join an organization that supports and promotes education, research and the concept of safer sports turf. Within the past two years two national organizations have emerged and are committed to work toward improved playing surfaces for our nation's youth and participants at all levels of sports. Both organizations work hand in hand in an all-out effort to improve conditions on playgrounds and sports field to reduce injuries and make the activities more enjoyable to the participants.

The *Sports Turf Manager's Association* has over 500 members from public and private schools, high schools, colleges, universities, youth sports, municipalities, parks, professional stadiums, contractors, educators, and commercial affiliates that are committed to improving sports turf, wherever it is grown. STMA sponsors seminars, workshops, and trade shows throughout the U.S. to educate the athletic field manager in solving problems, promoting new ideas and concepts, providing on-site demonstrations, and working together to improve the image and professionalism of the sports turf manager.

STMA's goals are:

- to collect and disseminate scientific, educational and practical knowledge through association with those persons engaged in or concerned with the construction and maintenance of safer and better sports turf areas
- to provide scholarship monies to promote, develop and encourage future leaders in the sports turf industry
- to provide monies for research and development of playing surfaces, facilities and quality sports turf
- to promote the design, development and use of related materials, supplies and equipment to the sports turf industry.

For further information contact Dr. Kent W. Kurtz, Executive Secretary, STMA, 400 N. Mountain Ave., Suite 301, Upland, CA 91786, 714-981-9199.

The *National Sports Turf Council* has been organized to promote research and education leading to better and safer sports turf everywhere. The NSTC creed is "To marshal all forces that can be brought to bear on the improvement of all sports playing surfaces for greater player safety and to enhance spectator and player enjoyment."

For further information contact Dr. Fred Grau, Chair, NSTC, USDA-ARS-BARC, Bldg. 001, Room 333, Beltsville, MD 20705, 301-344-3655.

OHIO TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

The Ohio Turf Conference was held December 6-9, 1988 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This is one of the largest regional trade shows held in Canada or the United States, and this year's conference was extremely well organized.

This was an excellent conference with respect to the speakers who were invited and the topics selected, which covered a wide range of concerns of the turf industry.

Some of the items covered were: golf course maintenance, professional lawn service, grounds maintenance and athletic field maintenance.

This annual conference is "a must" for everyone who has the opportunity to attend.

GUELPH TURFGRASS INSTITUTE

The 1st Annual Symposium on Turfgrass Management for Professionals in the Turfgrass Industry was held November 9, 1988 and was a great success. The Guelph Turfgrass Institute is expected to become a world-class centre for research, extension and professional development in all aspects of the turfgrass industry.

The Symposium consisted of 8 sessions and they included a wide variety of topics, including: Developing a Turfgrass Fertility Program; Use & Misuse of Turfgrass Species; Diagnosis and Management of Turfgrass Insect Pests and Diseases; Construction and Management of Athletic Fields; and more.

Each session was filled to capacity, with a total attendance of for the day. Those who attended were presented with an abundance of excellent information and possible solutions to on-going problems. Lunch and refreshments were included in the day's activities.

The turfgrass industry is certainly excited with what is happening with the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and we are eagerly looking forward to their next Symposium.

Special thanks to Dr. Lee Burpee and Annette Anderson for all their hard work in organizing a truly successful event.

COMING EVENTS 1989

	Date:
Ontario Recreation Society Toronto, Ontario	Feb. 15-17
Turf Care Trade & Service Symposium Markham, Ontario	Feb. 20-24
O.P.A. Educational Seminar Humber College Rexdale, Ontario	March 8-10
C.G.S.A. Conference Vancouver, B.C.	March 12-16
C.G.S.A. Field Day Contact C.G.S.A.	June 1
P.R.F.O. Conference (416) 495-4088	June 8, 9
Sports Turf Association Field Day Oakville, Ontario	June 15
O.P.A. Conference St. Catherines, Ontario	July 19-21
C.P.R.A. Conference Hamilton, Ontario	Aug. 14-17
Ont. Turf Research Foundation Golf Tournament	Aug. 14
Guelph Turf Institute/Ontario Turf Research Foundation Field Day	Aug. 24
Sports Turf Association/ C.G.S.A. Conference Toronto, Ontario	Dec. 8-12