

STA Member Profile

Bruce Hay • Manager of Parks Maintenance • City of Brampton



1. What is your role with the City of Brampton? Manager of Parks Maintenance.

2. What kind of team do you work with? I work with a dedicated team of parks maintenance professionals who are often called on to produce excellence on the spur of the moment. I have learned this positive trait is not just unique to Brampton, but is industry wide.

3. What are you and your team responsible for? Sportsfield maintenance and renovations, litter control, pathway maintenance, playground maintenance, winter snow operations at recreation facilities.

4. What is the biggest challenge in your job? Translating what our customers want in an athletic field and using the best turf

practices possible to provide superb field conditions during unpredictable weather events.

5. What is the most satisfying part, what makes the job worthwhile for you? I enjoy the people I have met in this business. They remain lifelong friends and accomplices. Also there is nothing like a dense, green sward of grass on a soccer field or a perfectly cut infield on a ball diamond.

6. What is the biggest misconception about your job? That I don't enjoy it

7. What is your educational/employment background?

- 3 yr. Landscape Technologist with Honours, Humber College
- Business Administrative Studies, York University.
- 5 yr. private sector landscaping maintenance
- 3 yr. City of Etobicoke Arborist
- 29 yr. City of Brampton Gardener, Cemetery Manager, Parks Foreman/Supervisor, Urban Forestry Supervisor, Parks Manager

8. Tell us about your family. Married for 29 years with two lovely daughters.

9. What do you enjoy doing outside of the workplace? Hobbies, favourite past times? Playing music on piano, organ and guitar and travelling abroad.

10. How has the industry changed and in what direction(s) would you like to see the industry, as a whole, move towards? The industry has benefited much

more from science than in the past to provide excellent turf. I think that the industry continues to learn how to strike a balance between new cultural practices and what we have known all along. I have learned that without an underground irrigation system it is very difficult, nearing impossible, to have a good field that has lots of use.

11. What do you consider to be the biggest benefit of being a member of the STA? There isn't just one. The generosity of the STA members to share information on what has worked and what has not worked in the business of turf; the dedicated number of professionals that have served and continue to serve on the STA's executive board: and a quality publication and excellent conferences. ♦

The *Sports Turf Manager* isn't your only member resource. Why not visit...



STA On-Line

at www.sportsturfassociation.com

View a listing of all *Sports Turf Manager* articles from 1987 to the present. Go to the "publications/ Sports Turf Manager" link and click on "cumulative index."

Go further afield via the Michal J. Bladon Education Link to the Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information File in the "Member's Only" section of the website.