Even the best grounds managers don’t know all the answers to their questions, but here is how to find them! We live in the information age, where we can quickly find out almost everything about anything. We look to our resources to find the answers. Anyplace that you can find information is a tremendous resource. The label will tell you what pests it will and won’t control, what things you can safely apply it to, when, how and the amounts much to use.

Tools You Can Use!

- Don Savard is a Certified Sports Field Manager; Director, Athletic Facilities and Grounds, Salesianum School; and SFMANJ Vice-President.

**Building a Better Toolbox—**Tools You Can Use! — Part 3

Don Savard, CSFM

The Information Toolbox—Identify Your Resources!

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I believe that my most important informational resources are the people. It began with the instructors that I had in school and the bosses and coworkers who taught me the fundamentals of my job. Trusted colleagues helped me figure out what to do—and sometimes what not to do, and continue to do so. My vendors partner with me and help me find solutions to problems. I network with my industry peers constantly. I try to surround myself with people who know more than I and I listen, ask questions and learn from them. My next choice is information that I can find in print. I have textbooks and reference books on my bookshelf. Some of these books are like a “groundkeeper’s bible”, they contain the fundamental facts about what I need to know and what I need to do. I read and reference them often. There are also a number of trade magazines that I read monthly. Publications such as Sports Turf, Grounds Maintenance, Landscape Management and others offer timely information for the reader. I read them to find answers to their questions, but here is how to find them! We live in the information age, where we can quickly find out almost everything about anything. We look to our resources to find the answers. Anyplace that you can find information is a tremendous resource. The label will tell you what pests it will and won’t control, what things you can safely apply it to, when, how and the amounts much to use.

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