Make plans for Expo 99

LOUISVILLE, KY – Expo 99 is just around the corner. It's an excellent opportunity for you to kick some tires, make some contacts and keep up with what's new.

As always, there are new additions and events to take advantage of:

▲ NAEDA's Tech Center — will give dealers an overview of the high-tech product lines on display throughout the show, including software, bar-code scanning, web development companies and more.

▲ Tree Care and Irrigation Pavilions — will bring products together in special areas for ease of access and comparison.

▲ A new series of hands-on dealer workshops and new seminars for landscape and lawn care professionals are planned. Sessions will be shorter and will be held on the weekend.

▲ OPEI's new "blue dot program" will highlight low-emission products with large blue-dot hang tags. More than 30 Blue Dot exhibitors will also be listed in the EXPO 99 Show Guide.

▲ Three new pick-up trucks to be given away: Isuzu, Nissan and GM.

Wear good walking shoes

In 1998, 600 manufacturers covered 240,000 net sq.ft. indoors and 642,000 net sq.ft. outdoors. The outdoor demo area is expected to be maxed out this year, with more companies and more equipment. But, if you need a rest, you can sit down for the seminars or technician certification, take a ride on demo equipment or kick back at the big concert on Saturday night (Crystal Gayle, Lee Ann Womack and Andy Childs).

Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indoor exhibits</th>
<th>Outdoor exhibits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.</td>
<td>8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.</td>
<td>8 a.m. - noon</td>
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Need more information?


See how the equipment handles. See how shiny everything looks. Wear your shades to cut the glare.

Inside may be big but it's also air conditioned, which helps when you're carrying all the brochures, business cards and promo items you collect. Kevin Wehmiller and K.C. Hackman of Wehmiller Mowing, Seymour, IN, look pretty relaxed.
Heavy hitters tackle key water issues

FAIRFAX, VA—Influential experts on water will meet here in September to discuss water issues that will shape many landscape management strategies over the next millennium.

It's the third such meeting initiated by the Fairfax, VA-based Irrigation Association, in an effort to establish a dialogue among the water industry's heavy hitters.

Irrigation Association Executive Director Tom Kimmell says the nation's biggest water users and those who treat and deliver water discovered at the first meeting that they're "not exactly on the same page." But subsequent meetings have broken down barriers. "This has allowed us a forum to talk about what's going on, to find out what the hot spots are and to try and find solutions," Kimmell says.

Philip Kuehl, Ph.D., who has served as moderator from Westat Inc., says water user associations and water suppliers — groups like the American Water Works Association and the Water Environment Federation — explored common interests at the second meeting, determining if and how they can work together. They're discussing potential water problems, solutions and identifying the most important water-related issues. Among the top 22 water-related issues identified:

- Why the public continues to have misconceptions about where water comes from and where it goes
- How the care, custody and control of water will become a national issue
- Why the use of reclaimed water will increase to meet demands
- Why a central focal point for water issues, policy and data doesn't exist
- Why the implementation of Best Management Practices is limited by insufficient funding, technical resources and the lack of incentives.

David Minor samples political life

Fort Worth, TX — For a while, friends and family of David Minor thought he would be the newest member of Fort Worth's City Council. But it was not to be. Minor, most recently divisional vice president for TruGreen-ChemLawn's Southwest Division, threw his hat into the political ring soon after leaving the company this spring.

"I jumped into the dance about three weeks behind the others," Minor explained to Landscape Management. "In the first poll, we had only 16% support, but four weeks later, we had 42%." Despite the growing support, Minor lost getting into a runoff election by just 27 votes.

Minor said he thought politics would be a natural interest for him, because "I like being involved with people, I like helping to find solutions and I like public speaking." Although the ferocity of the nonpartisan council race surprised him, Minor says he got several "positives" from the experience.

Since politics may not be in his future, Minor is now looking for other business and speaking opportunities. "I'm still serving in an advisory capacity for TruGreen-ChemLawn. They have been really good to me," he added.

What's next? "I might buy another business. The skills we learn are transferable and I see it as business is business."

California to get new methyl bromide rules

SACRAMENTO, CA—In mid March, a judge ordered California to adopt new regulations regarding the use of the fumigant methyl bromide. The ruling was the result of a lawsuit brought by four environmental groups which charged that state officials were endangering public health by failing to sufficiently control methyl bromide on farms.

They further claimed that the California Department of Pesticide Regulation didn't develop regulations for the chemical, based on a 1989 law. (Instead the department had established over 400 pages of guidelines.)

New Deere plant to manufacture Gators

RICHMOND, VA—A new 300,00-sq.ft. complex is slated for construction here to meet the demand for the Gator® line of utility vehicles from John Deere Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division. The plant, which will employ more than 300 people, is expected to be on line by the summer of 2000.

In addition to manufacturing, the complex will include a major design and engineering component and the sales and marketing group.

Mystery of the missing palms

MIAMI, FL—A Miami-Dade County parks director is being asked to explain the absence of over 3,200 coconut palms valued at about $1.5 million. The director was indicted in May when park workers couldn't account for the palms on public park property on Key Biscayne. The trees had been purchased from a local nursery using a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency following Hurricane Andrew in 1992.