



Helping the superintendent through turf research...

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ILLINOIS TURFGRASS FOUNDATION, INC.

Turfgrass is very important in our everyday life. We commonly appreciate it for its' aesthetic values - highway road sides, parks, cemeteries, home lawns, golf courses and general landscaping. However, few people know that the oxygen produced by the grass plant is very important. An area of turfgrass 25 feet by 25 feet (625 square feet) can produce enough oxygen to support the lives of four people. An average golf course (130 acres) can produce enough oxygen for 36,400 people.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation is a non-profit organization that was formed to initiate and carry on research in the culture and maintenance of turfgrass. The University of Illinois has conducted this research program that has been funded by an annual allocation from the Legislature of the State of Illinois, the subscription of memberships, grants from private industry and a few donations. Recently, however, an adverse decision by the State Legislature has reduced the operating capital of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation to an extent that the future of this program is in jeopardy.

Therefore, in an effort to raise funds to support turfgrass research at the University of Illinois, the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will be sponsoring a golf day on August 25, 1975 at the Indian Lakes Country Club, 232 West Schick Road, Bloomingdale, Illinois. Tickets will be sold for \$30.00 per person and will include golf, golf cars, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and an opportunity to win many prizes. Additional contributions will be significantly appreciated. The donor of each \$100.00 will receive an additional free ticket. Additional information may be obtained from your golf course superintendent or the golf day chairman, Roger LaRochelle, 219-844-0330.

We hope that everyone will be able to participate in this event. Today, more than ever, because maintenance costs have increased substantially and turfgrass areas are being used extensively, it is our responsibility to acquire as much knowledge as possible. Your acknowledgement of and donation to the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will contribute to the product of our efforts.

We hope that you will make every effort to support this important research program. The excellent condition of our turfgrass areas and the development of many improved strains of grass are the results of research. Your participation is very necessary for this program to continue.

SAFETY TIPS FOR THE LAWN MOWING SEASON

Careless use of a power mower can turn a carefree summer into a nightmare.

By following these precautionary steps, you can help prevent injury to yourself and others.

1. Know how to operate a power mower - READ your owners' manual.
2. Pick up any sticks, stones, wire and any other debris in your lawn so they are not thrown by the blade.
3. Never refuel a running or hot mower.
4. Keep pets and children away from a running mower.
5. For self propelled mowers, make sure it is in neutral before starting the motor.
6. Keep feet out of reach of blades while starting and running the mower.
7. Do not run mowers in an enclosed area especially where there is little air circulation.
8. Never walk away from a running power mower - always stop the motor.
9. Check periodically to make sure all nuts are secure and blade or blades are sharp.
10. Do not cross walks, drives or roads with a power mower still running.
11. Never pull a mower up a hill or towards you to avoid slipping and getting a foot caught by a spinning blade.
12. Disconnect spark plug when working on a mower. If electric, make sure it is unplugged and do not use when grass is wet.

Cooperative Extension Service
421 North County Farm Road
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
Telephone: 682-7486

COMING EVENTS

- September 16, 1975—University of Illinois Turfgrass Field Day, Urbana
- September 23, 1975—University of Illinois-ISFA Pot Plant School
- December 10, 1975—Illinois Turfgrass Conference, Ramada Inn, Champaign
- January 12-14, 1976—Mid-Am, Arlington Park Towers, Arlington Heights
- January 15, 1976—Pesticide Clinic, Holiday Inn, Rosemont
- February 9, 1976—Illinois Seminar For Commercial Arborists, Sheraton O'Hare, Rosemont