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## President's Message

by **Bruce R. Williams, CGCS**  
**President, MAGCS**

There seems to be differing opinions as to whether or not winter was too short or too long this year. Ready or not spring is here and it is time to gear up for the golfing and growing seasons. One of the things I like most about Chicago is the changing of the seasons. As the ice and snow of winter melt away the chirping of birds and swelling of buds mark the early signs of spring.

I am more excited about this upcoming golf season than ever before. I know that there will be many challenges ahead and I am eager to have the opportunity to solve whatever problems arise. It is nice to start off the year with a positive attitude and a renewed enthusiasm for our profession. Over the winter I hope you have all taken the time to re-charge your own batteries.

Winter affords us the opportunity to catch up on those things we were too busy to accomplish during the stress of summer. The main tasks we undertake during the winter are planning and organizing. Most of our time in the off-season is spent with setting up a strategy or game plan to achieve the goals at our golf courses for the upcoming season. The goals of each golf facility should be clearly defined and each operation should have it's own mission statement, philosophy, and set of objectives. Once the goals are established, then the Golf Course Superintendent can develop and implement the programs to achieve those desired objectives. This may involve equipment purchases, staffing, training, pesticide & fertility programs, course construction, etc. We work in a wonderful but complex industry.

I hope that all of the members of the MAGCS took the time to plan and organize for the upcoming season. A failure to plan is a plan that will surely fail. Let's start the season off with a positive attitude. This is something that can be quite contagious and might even spread throughout your staff and to the other departments of the club. Every day can be a special one if you set your mind to it.