


A Letter to the MAGCS

n behalf of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Board and membership, I am writing to express our sincere appreciation for the 1998 donation of \$12,500 from Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, presented at the recent North Central Turfgrass Exposition.

Your group's continued support of ITF's work to raise turf research and scholarship funds is truly valued and deeply important. We are proud to have been able to award over \$104,000 for turf research and scholarships in Illinois in 1998.

Our 1998 funding awarded \$4,000 in undergraduate scholarships; an additional \$1,500 has been raised by the University of

Illinois Turfgrass Alumni group. The research farms/field plots at the University of Illinois and Southern Illinois University have received \$16,000 and \$5,700 respectively.

ITF funded researchers: Dr. Bruce Branham, Dr. Ken Diesburg, Dr. Tom Fermanian, Dr. Tom Voigt and Dr. Hank Wilkinson each received grants of \$15,500 in support of their ongoing programs. The ITF Board has established a \$10,000 research surplus, which may be awarded competitively in 1999.

We are proud of the research being done which helps to educate the turf professional and leads to improved turf on the golf course, home lawn and public park. We are truly excited about

the future of ITF and committed to building the strength and quality of the Illinois turfgrass industry.

If at any time you have a question about ITF activities or goals, please call me. We would welcome an opportunity meet with your membership or board to discuss mutual interests or needs. Please pass on our deep thanks to your membership for the continuing support of ITF's mission.

Randy Wahler
President
Illinois Turfgrass Foundation




IPM — What Does It Mean?

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been achieved over time. A turf manager must determine the biological outcome of the control used both positive and negative. What is the overall value of a particular management program; is it effective, costly? If symptoms have been treated, what are the causes; can they be corrected? Develop a plan for remediation. Can physical or environmental factors be changed, influenced? Map the problems and the results. Does this area have the same problem at the same time or place, and can we determine the cause? Can we seek other interdisciplinary opinions?

Golf turf is part of a complex ecosystem that is influenced by many different factors, both natural and man-made. Understanding these factors, their

influence on turf health and management and the interactions of the many factors are key to maintaining healthy, playable turf. Knowing and measuring these factors allows turf managers a way to learn to manipulate the environment (golf course turf) for our customers' benefit while preserving the habitats and environment around us. Not only are we as managers asked to maintain our turf for quality at all times, we must do so with increasing demand for our product and increasing scrutiny of how we do it. We must stay within certain limits or standards, economically within our budgets, socially within legal limits and societal standards, and environmentally to preserve and protect and possibly improve the ecology of our local surroundings. 

Paying For a College Education . . .

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In some cases, *zero coupon municipal bonds* can be an effective means of building your child's college fund. Zeros sell at a deep discount and do not pay annual interest. Instead, you receive the face value of the bond at maturity. Be aware that these bonds have greater market volatility than bonds which pay interest regularly. Zeros can be attractive college investment vehicles since they can be purchased so that their maturity dates are staggered to coincide with the years during which your child attends college.

Plan today for the long term

Your child's education is one of your most important financial decisions. 