



# August 2007

## GCSAA

GCSAA website will not be fully functional from July 30 to August 20, 2007. While the site is undergoing a major renovation and upgrade, members will not be able to input Education Points online during this time. Members should call GCSAA member solutions at 800-472-7878 to record education points for them during the changeover. I have a complete list of times the website will be down (it is probably online) but if you encounter problems with the GCSAA website or can't find it in the next few weeks, don't panic, it's not you.

## EAB Update

The Emerald Ash Borer has now been found in DuPage and LaSalle Counties. This has forced the Illinois Department of Agriculture to expand the quarantine area established last year. For the most part, all of the counties the majority of the MAGCS members work and live in are under quarantine (Boone, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, McHenry, Putnam, Will and Winnebago). An EAB article for *On Course* is in the works. The article includes some new results and hope for select chemical control and/or protection from the pest. North Shore Country Club is a test site for preventative treatment chemicals and methods. For more information on EAB visit: [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info) or [www.agr.state.il.us](http://www.agr.state.il.us)

## Green Industry Association

The GIA (not the renamed Illinois Nurserymen Association to the Illinois Green Industry Association) met in July and discussed future actions of this group. Recently a few of our area community college's horticulture programs have been under attack from department heads and administration for decreased enrolment. This comes at a time when many of our green industry partners as well as us have trouble finding qualified (educated and trained) people to hire. Educators feel the slip is due to the perception that students have of the industry. – The pay is low. To forego this myth, the GIA is going to compile data from all our respective associations to create literature for prospective students on salaries, benefits and other advantages to working in our industry. The GIA hopes to place this in the hands of high-school students and counselors.

## IPTC Education Schedule Set

The education schedule is complete for this fall. Key golf talks will include presentations by Dr. Mike Fidanza of Penn State. Dr. Fidanza is scheduled to talk about his fairy ring work and offer control strategies for this unpredictable pest. Dr. Henry Wetzel of Jacklin Seed by Simplot will discuss strategies for seeding directly into existing stands of *Poa annua*/ bentgrass with newer cultivars of aggressive bents. Our own Dr. Settle of the CDGA and Ty McClellan of the USGA will recap the year from the acute to chronic problems they encountered in 2007. The IPTC education committee has slated many professional management seminars and talks throughout the conference. Somewhat related to golf, the Sports Turf Managers have put together a synthetic turf symposium that is second to none. If you work for an entity that is thinking about switching even one field to the synthetic stuff, let them know about the 2007 IPTC. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend – December 5-7, 2007. (It is a week later this year, a chance for everyone to get their snow mold prevention down and still attend.)

## MAGCS Logo

A new supplier for MAGCS logo apparel, the new website and the GCSAA's branding initiative have placed the MAGCS logo on the Board's agenda for review. Initial discussions have begun and the need to review the logo is agreed upon. Some local chapters have adopted what the GCSAA has termed a transition logo (shown below). Some of the issues that came up this year with the MAGCS logo is that it is too complex to reproduce on a broad range of media (apparel, web, print) and that detail is lost depending upon how it is used (size and resolution). The current MAGCS Board of Directors plans to discuss the logo and its own branding at a future board meeting this winter in a comprehensive public relations and media planning session. In the meantime, if you have feeling either way on the MAGCS logo, please let your board know or contact me. It is our logo. -OC

