

# The Florida Green

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**ON THE COVER:** 18th Hole Biltmore Golf Club, Coral Gables. Photo by Joel Jackson.

## Spring Board Meeting Outcomes

The FGCSA Board is moving forward with lots of initiatives to serve the membership. Your cooperation and participation will go along way to the success of your organization.

**BMPs -** The voluntary BMP Certification classes will be offered several times throughout the year and will move around to various regions to minimize travel time. All chapters are encouraged to partner with neighboring chapters to organize a regional session. Currently on tap: July 17 West/SW Region at the UF/IFAS Gulf Coast REC in Wimauma, and North/East Central Region on August 5 at the First Coast Technical College, Bldg. C, St. Augustine. Remember the activists have stated publicly, "Golf is next!" So let's document our pro-active stewardship and get certified in the Golf BMPs.

**Government Relations - Fertilizer Regulation:** Cities and counties have been at odds over "home rule" issues with the state's attempt at preempting local fertilizer regulations that differ from place to place, creating a nightmare for turf-related businesses. In the last session a new bill — HB 999 — was introduced which contained proposals for a Fertilizer Review Council to discuss the issue, but it also included a three-year moratorium on local regulations while the council had its meetings. There was much debate over the language of the bill and, after many changes to the bill, it finally failed in a voice vote of the Legislature, but progress had been made and work is already beginning for next year.

**Nutrient Numeric Criteria:** On April 22, Governor Scott signed into law SB 1808 allowing the FDEP to set water quality standards (Numeric Nutrient Criteria) tailored for Florida waters rather than criteria from the EPA, which is used throughout the US.

**FGCSA Government Relations Committee:** Government Relations Chairman Greg Pheneger is requesting that each local chapter appoint a Chapter Government Relations Chairman to join with Greg in forming a strong state Government Relations Committee. The committee will meet monthly or bi-monthly via conference call. Please notify Jennifer of your selection.



*Nancy Miller, CGCS,  
President*

**FGCSA Golf Championship:** The tournament will be held on Friday, Aug. 23 at Southern Dunes. It is also open to vendors. See details and sign up at [www.floridagcsa.com](http://www.floridagcsa.com).

**FGCSA Reception:** at the 2014 GIS will be on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at BB King's House of Blues at Pointe Orlando just across the street and north of the Convention Center on International Drive. Reserve the date!

**Rounds for Research:** The golf industry in Florida is missing out on a great opportunity to raise funds for turfgrass research, scholarships and advocacy by not fully using the Rounds4Research Program being administered by GCSAA with bidding for golf rounds posted on bidding for good. Tell the golfers and members at your club about the on line auctions at <https://www.biddingforgood.com/auction/Auction-Home.action?auctionId=189950805>.

Also here is the link to the EIFG website that contains documents that can be printed and used to advertise the program at your club. Please take the time to register your course. Our futures may depend on it! <http://www2.gcsaa.org/chapters/chpmgmt/rounds4research.asp>

**GCSAA:** A new staff position for the government relations department has been approved for a person to assist Chava McKeel, associate director of government relations, with national, state and local issues.

**USGA:** The USGA Florida Green Section as already set venues for next year's Green Committee University. Stay tuned for the times and locations. They will also provide a one-day seminar during the FTGA Conference in September.

**FGCSA Staff Positions:** All FGCSA staff job descriptions have been re-evaluated and tentative job descriptions for Association Manager, Communications Director and Executive Director have been developed. They are being finalized