



Two Events You Won't Want To Miss

By Tom Schwab, O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association has two superb events for you this season. One is educational and the other is just darn fun. Both are good for the industry and for you as an individual. Put these dates on your calendar — August 13th for Summer Field Day and October 10th for the Golf Fundraiser.

Summer Field Day – Tuesday, August 13th, 2002, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Facility

Most of you have been to Summer Field Day, held annually at the O.J. Noer Facility in Verona, and we hope to see you again this

year. This is the event that gives the University Turf Program an opportunity to show off the research they're doing for you. It also gives you time to meet with all the turf professors and research staff in one place to discuss your agronomic concerns.

More talks are being added to the research tour this year to give you more of what you come to Field Day for. Two clinics are being added this year also — one is on sprayer calibration and the other focuses on enhancing wildlife habitat on your course. The research tour subjects will include two presentations on

fairway renovation. One renovation talk will explore using Basamid soil fumigant for the renovation process while the other talk will address using compost to improve fairway soils. High and low maintenance turfs will next be discussed for turfing those fairways. Two stops will then talk about new systems of putting green construction. The golf tour will round up with a fungicide/plant interaction talk, and one on ornamental grass maintenance.

The other big reason to come to Field Day is for the trade show. Every product, service, and piece of equipment that you need on the

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course is on display. And there are knowledgeable sales people and factory representatives to answer all your questions. Many vendors let you test drive equipment so that you can compare features between manufacturers. The vendors also sponsor an auction to raise money for turf research — so come prepared to take home some valuable prizes while helping the industry.

You never leave Field Day without getting your money's worth. In addition to the research tour and trade show there is great food, plenty of time to meet with your peers, and so much more to view and find out about. You may want to see the new developments occurring at the Noer Facility this summer. The Bruce Company is renovating nine adjacent acres this summer for more research land. This will let the professors conduct important new turf studies well into the future. We added some new parking and landscaping at the facility also. There are also about 10 new studies, which the research team is eager to tell you about. So we hope you all can make field day and tell your friends to come.

WTA Golf Fundraiser, Thursday, October 10th, 2002, Blackwolf Run

You also can't miss this year's golf fundraiser. This event is nothing but fun and is usually held at some of the nicest golf venues in the state. This year is no exception. Mike Lee will again be hosting the event, this time at the Meadow Valleys Course of Blackwolf Run. Nine holes of this course were used for the 1998 U.S. Women's Open. The price is nothing but spectacular and 80% of the proceeds are going to turfgrass research. That cost is \$125 to play this wonderful golf course and benefit the industry at the same time.

And golf isn't all you get. Every golfer gets a door prize. Many of those door prizes are worth more than the cost of registration. Some

of the prizes last year included:

- A \$450 Taylor Made 3 wood
- TVs and boom boxes
- Ping and other putters
- Other golf clubs
- Several gift certificates for golf foursome passes
- Brewer ticket four-packs (maybe I shouldn't have mentioned this prize this year)
- All kinds of clothes
- Fishing poles and camping gear
- And so much more

The price also includes cart,

practice balls, lunch, and golf prizes. It's quite the event for only \$125. I pay out of my own pocket to go every year, and I'm not that much of a golfer. Plus I have several friends that have become regulars, who love the first-class way this event is run. So tell your friends. Tell your members. You'll all have a blast. Everyone goes home with nice prizes, a great golfing experience, and a great day with colleagues. Details have been mailed out, but if you have questions call Audra at 608-845-6536. ♣

