



EXPO GOES GREEN

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

The Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO is going green in 2008. Our industry has always been on the forefront of the environmental movement but often doesn't get credit for it. Next year's EXPO will explore how the turf industry performs when it comes to going green. This common theme will be touched on throughout all the presentations, round tables, and panel discussions. The vendors in the trade show will likewise exhibit all the tools you need to make your business more environmentally green.

EXPO is held annually at the Madison Marriott West, and the Marriott has made major renovations to make your visit even more enjoyable this year. The conference is on January 8, 9, and 10, 2008. The first day, Tuesday, January 8th, includes two afternoon workshops. One is about developing an NR 151 Nutrient Management Plan, and the other is about troubleshooting electrical and hydraulic equipment problems. The main part of the conference starts on Wednesday, January 9th.

Over 30 educational sessions are scheduled on the 9th and 10th, and will be of interest to anyone who manages turf whether it be for lawn care and landscaping, sports turf, sod production, or golf turf management. Leading researchers, business managers, and other experts in their fields will inform you with everything you need to go greener in your position. Speakers will explore organic lawn care, human health effects in turf management, new environmentally friendly landscape management techniques, and so much more. Examples of what you will learn are listed here:

- Dr. Mike Hurdzan (Hurdzan/Fry Golf Course Architects) - Environmental Impact of Golf Course Design.
- Dr. Jennifer Grant from Cornell University - 1.) The Bethpage Experiment, Reduced Risk Putting Green Management, 2.) Lawn Care IPM: Doing It and Marketing It Successfully
- Dr. Bruce Branham from the University of Illinois - 1.) Environmentally Sound Nitrogen Fertilization Programming 2.) Why PGRs Work
- Dr. Marshall Clark from the University of Massachusetts - Pesticide Exposure in Turf Management
- Andy Kurth from Weedman Lawn Care - Dealing With Public Perception

This is only a short description of the education available. Other highlights include research reports from our UW-Madison turfgrass researchers and several round-

table discussions. One panel involves two golf course designers and two superintendents in a discussion of the environmental impacts from renovations and new construction. Another roundtable looks at different views of what defines a healthy home lawn from the perspective of a traditional and an organic lawn care provider, to a no-pesticide lawn activist, and a university turf researcher. One other main highlight is the trade show which has all the latest technologies and innovations to help you go green and make more green.

The full program and registration form will be mailed out in early November. It will also be posted on wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org at that time. You may contact Audra if you need more information at 608-845-6536 or ajander2@wisc.edu. This is going to be one of the best conferences you attend and it will be here before you know it! I hope to see you all there. 🌱

163 Yard Par 3 eighth hole at the Refuge Golf Club in Oak Grove, Minnesota.



HERFORD ■ NORBY

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