



New Executive Director Hired

Mark J. Woodward, golf operations manager for the city of San Diego has been selected chief executive officer for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

His selection by the GCSAA Board of Directors comes after conducting a national search to replace Steve Mona, who became the chief executive of the World Golf Foundation March 3. A familiar face to GCSAA, Woodward has been actively involved as a committee participant, a member of the board of directors and 68th president of the association in 2004. He is in his 30th year as a GCSAA member and first achieved the status of certified golf course superintendent in 1986.



He is the first golf course superintendent to serve as GCSAA's permanent chief executive.

The GCSAA Board of Directors, Government Relations Committee members and GCSAA Staff receive ongoing feedback on golf course management issues through communication with members, affiliated chapters (boards, executives, government relations liaisons), regional turfgrass and green industry coalitions, allied associations, industry partners, university scientists, and government agencies. Input and feedback is also gathered from the GCSAA Member Needs Assessment, as well as issue-specific member surveys.

Based on this feedback, the GCSAA Government Relations Committee annually develops a recommended Priority Issues Agenda. While staff actively monitor and take action on more than 40 issues

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Eligible organizations include:

- Wee One Foundation
- Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association
- Wisconsin Landscape Federation
- Wisconsin Nursery Association
- Wisconsin Turfgrass Association

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impacting golf course management, the Priority Issues Agenda outlines the legislative and regulatory "priorities" for GCSAA—those that are likely to require the greatest amount of association resources and staff time.

For each priority issue the Agenda contains an informational overview, a GCSAA Board-approved position statement, current GCSAA activity on the issue, information on official GCSAA position papers, and information on coalitions in which GCSAA participates.

The recommended Agenda is submitted to the GCSAA Board of Directors for approval. Upon approval, the Agenda is distributed to members through the GCSAA Website and other association communication vehicles.

GCSAA Staff utilize the Priority Issues Agenda to take action on golf course management issues. They are guided by the official GCSAA position statement for each issue.

2008 Priority Issues

- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Fertilizers
- Labor and Immigration
- Land Use
- Pesticide Laws and Regulations
- Water Management

For more information on any government issues that affect the golf industry, please contact the GCSAA Department of Information and Public Policy at 800-472-7878, ext. 3610.

If you have not visited GCSAA.com in awhile, it would be worth it to check it out again. The website is loaded with links to various educational and informational articles and links. Topics range from environmental stewardship, to resume writing to child labor laws and many other topics that would be helpful in our positions managing people and property.

The site also offers free job postings for superintendents, assistant superintendents and other industry positions. Whether you are a lurker or poster, the various forums are a great way to research and share techniques and ideas with other course managers.

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