

The 2013 monthly average monthly temperature and rainfall graphs so a cold spring followed by normal average temperatures while rainfall was heavy in spring and light in the second half of the growing season. (Information is courtesy of the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service)



Luke McGhee receives a \$1,500 J.R. Love Scholarship from WGCSA Vice President Jim Vanherynen at the WTA Research Day.

Luke is a graduate of Arrowhead High School in Hartland and is currently a senior in the turf program. He has also served as a student manager of the Wisconsin Men's Basketball Team.

He started studying Landscape Architecture but a discussion with Rod Johnson's brother Dave turned him onto golf course management.

Luke has done a internship and Erin Hills and plans to do another at Blackwolf Run this season before entering the job market in December.



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Southern Wisconsin
Rob Wasser
262-206-0775

Coming Events!

Feb 2-7, Golf Industry Show, GCSAA Conference, Orlando FL

Wednesday February 5th, Golf Industry Show Wisconsin Room 6-9pm, Brickhouse Tap, Orlando, FL

Monday February 17th, Assistants Seminar, Whispering Springs GC, Fond du Lac

Monday March 3rd, WGCSA Spring Business Meeting, South Hills CC, Fond du Lac

Wednesday March 5th, Northern Great Lakes Spring Symposium, Wausau (Hospitality on March 4th.)

Tuesday April 22nd, April Golf Meeting, Strawberry Creek, Kenosha

Monday May 12th, May Golf Meeting, West Bend CC, West Bend

Wednesday May 28th, Super/Pro, Fox Valley GC, Kaukauna

Monday June 23rd, WGCSA Tournament Meeting, Brown Deer GC, Milwaukee

Tuesday July 29th, UW - Summer Field Day, OJ Noer Facility, Verona

Tuesday August 11th, Joint meeting w/Northern Great Lakes Chapter, Brown County GC, Green Bay

Monday September 15th, Wee One Fundraiser, Pine Hills CC, Sheboygan

Tuesday October 7th, WTA Fundraiser, University Ridge GC, Verona

Saturday October 4th, Couples Outing/Party, Wild Rock GC, WI Dells

Tues and Wed Dec 9th-10th , Turfgrass Symposium, American Club, Kohler

WGCSA MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is committed to serve each member by promoting the profession and enhancing the growth of the game of golf through education, communication and research.

WGCSA VISION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is dedicated to increase the value provided to its members and to the profession by:

- Enhancing the professionalism of its members by strengthening our role as a leading golf organization in the state.
- Growing and recognizing the benefits of a diverse membership throughout Wisconsin.
- Educating and promoting our members as leaders in environmental stewardship.
- Offering affordable, high value educational programs at the forefront of technology and service.
- Being key to enjoyment and the economic success of the game of golf.

Congratulations Dr. Koch

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

Dr. Paul Koch has stayed close to home. Born and raised in Wisconsin Paul has stayed here through his undergraduate, graduate and doctorate education. With his recent selection to fill the vacant assistant professor of Plant Pathology in Turfgrass Science at UW Madison, we hope Paul can stay a badger forever.

Paul became interested in golf course maintenance as a summer employee working at The Bog in Grafton. He started out looking for a job that would not leave him stuck inside for the summer and he responded to an ad his mom found at the nearby course. He was on the high school golf team and liked the game so he thought it would be enjoyable. Koch says his first day on the job was during spring break and he spent his entire first week edging bunkers. Although he had his doubts during the first month by the end of that summer he had caught the turf bug that catches so many in the turf industry.

After a initial bacteriology major degree selection the enjoyment of working outdoors led Paul to change his major to turf management.

Paul continued at the Bog under Pat Shaw and Tony Gonzalez for 6 years during summers and breaks from college and had the opportunity to do just about every job on the course.

Koch interned at Blackwolf Run for two summers under the tutelage of Ron Bierwirth including helping with the greens

crew at Whistling Straits during the 2004 PGA Championship. While at Blackwolf Paul applied pesticides, performed general maintenance and helped with several different projects. One of the projects entailed removing railroad ties along the cart paths near greens and tees and installing large stones.

After graduation with majors in horticulture and soil science the search was on for a assistant superintendent position until Dr. Geunhwa Jung asked Koch to consider furthering his studies. A match was made and Paul was working at the Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab while working on his M.S. Degree in Plant Pathology.

Ways to contact Paul:

- Cell phone: 608-576-2673
- Email: plkoch@wisc.edu
- Twitter: @uwpaul

For the summer of 2005 Paul worked with Steve Abler at the Noer Center conducting research and learning disease diagnosis.


When Abler moved on in the spring of 2006 Paul was ready to step and lead the lab while continuing to work on his Masters Degree.

Paul received his Masters in Plant Pathology in 2007 and soon started working on his PhD which he received in 2012.

Dr. Koch continued on as the manager of the Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab through 2012 when Bruce Schweiger took over.

The university administration wheel turns slow to fill vacant positions and it took over a year to get approval to fill the position left by Dr. Jim Kerns. Paul and the industry as a whole are happy the way it has turned out.

Dr. Koch will be 70% extension, 20% teaching and 10% research. He will be teaching the beginning and advanced turfgrass management classes.

Congratulations Paul on this well deserved position. Thank you for your contributions so far and we look forward to working with you for years to come. 



Dr. Paul Koch examining a turfgrass plant.

(Photo from University of Wisconsin - Madison, Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab Website)

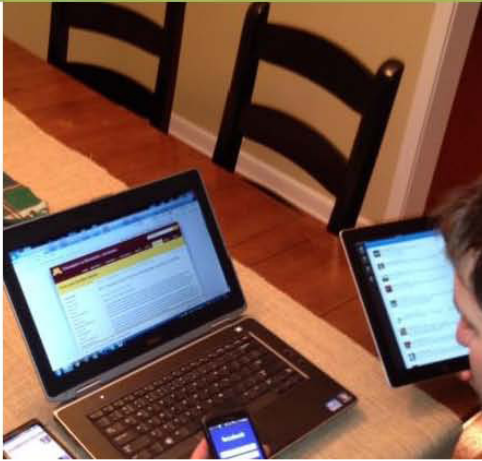


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Register at: <http://z.umn.edu/greatlakesturfschool>



2014 Great Lakes School of Turfgrass Science (Online Program)



Online Program (March 5th-May 7th, 2014)

- Live Wednesday night online sessions from 6-8pm (CST)
- 10 internationally renowned turfgrass science faculty from across the Great Lakes Region
- 20 hrs of in-depth training on turfgrass science and management
- This class is designed as a foundation of turfgrass training for individuals with no background in turf or those who desire a refresher

Class fee: \$395.00/person

Register at: <http://z.umn.edu/greatlakesturfschool>

2014 Great Lakes School of Turfgrass Science Schedule

Live sessions will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:00pm to 8:00pm (Central Standard Time).
Participants will have the option to view the live sessions or recorded sessions.



Session 1
Wednesday, March 5th
Class introduction, turfgrass growth and species



Session 2
Wednesday, March 12th
Turfgrass soil science and management



Session 3
Wednesday, March 19th
Turfgrass establishment, selection, and abiotic stresses.



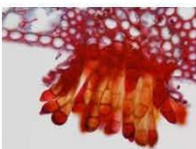
Session 4
Wednesday, March 26th
Turfgrass nutrition and fertility programming



Session 5
Wednesday, April 2nd
Turfgrass irrigation management and specialty products



Session 6
Wednesday, April 9th
Turfgrass weed biology, identification and management



Session 7
Wednesday, April 16th
Turfgrass disease biology, identification and management



Session 8
Wednesday, April 23st
Turfgrass insect biology, identification, and management



Session 9
Wednesday, April 30th
21st Century turfgrass management



Session 10
Wednesday, May 7th
Special topics in turfgrass management

New format

Expert
instructors

Open to
anyone

Fully online

Learn at your
convenience

Earn CEUs

All questions regarding
this course can be
directed to:

Sam Bauer
Extension Educator
University of
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Email:
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Phone:
763-767-3518

Register at: <http://z.umn.edu/greatlakesturfschool>