

Agricultural by-products

We often hear about agricultural by-products being used for de-icing and they are a popular topic because there is very little cost for the materials. Examples are by-products of sugar beet processing and whey from cheese making. They don't have significant effective temperature benefits on their own and if applied directly they can have undesirable traits such as slipperiness or smell. They do provide some benefit to blends. For instance, adding sugar beet molasses in a salt brine blend can reduce the corrosive activity of the salt substantially.

Blends

Blends are a good way to balance the effective temperature of an ice melt product and cost. DOT's, counties and municipalities will often create liquid salt brines and add liquid chlorides to customize a liquid for their area. Dry and liquid chloride blends are usually created by wholesalers and are sold under brand names. Blends can complicate the buying decision. Blends often have lower effective temperatures than their individual main ingredients due to chemical

interactions within the blend. But if you pay attention to the main ingredients and knowing their effective temperatures you can usually make a reasonable choice.

Sand

Sand is a traditional tool and it is useful when temperatures are below the effective temperature of all the fore mentioned products. It is good for temporary traction on the surface of ice only. Sand needs to have some salt mixed in with it to prevent it from freezing solid. Before using sand, consider the fact that someone will need to clean it up in the spring and sand is very hard on interior floors when tracked into buildings.

*There comes
a time when
old traditions
get broken and
new ones are
started.*

One more thing to consider when choosing an ice melt product is the impact on the surrounding environment. The MPCA has reported an increase in salinity levels of roadside soils and watershed areas around roads treated with salt during the winter. MNDOT aims to address this by adding liquid blends and pre-treatments to its strategy for minimizing dry salt use. A lot of dry salt gets bladed off directly onto surrounding turf. Liquid de-icing products don't get bladed off. Increased soil salinity can also be an issue for turf and ornamental areas adjacent to sidewalks and park-

ing lots. It is often necessary to replace soils with high salinity before resuming turf growth. Knowing this, the 'more is good' argument doesn't seem so smart.

There comes a time when old traditions get broken and new ones are started. The best way for a new tradition to succeed is for there to be a cost benefit. Alternative de-icing products and methods described in this article have been proven to save money. The MPCA

published a Winter Parking Lot and Sidewalk Maintenance Manual which includes some case studies where municipalities, schools and businesses utilized alternatives and saved money. The MPCA is also a good resource and reference for more information on this topic. Lastly, your association has affiliates that sell both the materials and the equipment to apply alternative de-icing products. Affiliates are a valuable resource for quality products as well as expert advice. Utilize them and enjoy winter!

*The 2012 Annual Banquet!
You should have, could
have, been there!*





MGCSA *Snow Day* Event

February 13, 2013

Majestic Oaks Golf Club, host Dan Hanson

7:30 education begins, lunch followed by Snolf and Boot Hockey

EDUCATION FORMAT: Parking Lot and Sidewalk Winter Maintenance

This *new* MGCSA opportunity combines both education and social networking. Bring your staff and learn some very important information about snow removal, safety and the impacts your winter maintenance program has upon the environment. More is not better and applying the right product at the right time is just as critical as it is in the summer when you apply fungicides.

After lunch stick around for snow golf, boot hockey or just socializing!

Cost of the day is \$30 per participant and includes MPCA certification training in snow maintenance, a wonderful buffet lunch and winter activities.

Training Topics:

Application Rates of Materials

How to Calibrate Equipment

Weather Conditions

Storing Materials

Environmental Effects

New Maintenance Methods

De-Icing

Anti-Icing

Training Materials:

MPCA Winter Parking & Sidewalk

Maintenance Manual

Clipboard rate chart

LTAP MN Snow and Ice Control

Manual

MPCA level 1 Certification

GCSAA CEU's

Spectacular Buffet Lunch

Random Participation Prizes to be awarded

Afternoon activities to include Snow Golf on the groomed 9 hole course and Boot Hockey upon a world class and maintained competition rink!

visit the MGCSA.org web site for more information and sign up today

On Board: Q & A with a member of your BOD

What did serving on the MGCSA Board of Directors mean to you?

Jeff Ishe, Executive Director-Property and Sports Operations GVG&CC

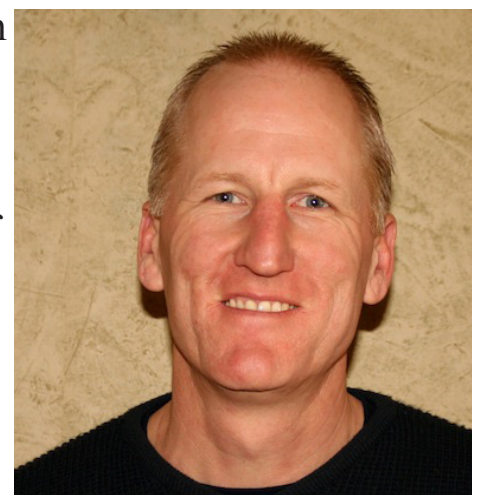


My four years on the MGCSA BOD has been very rewarding. Among other things, it has allowed me to gain a much better understanding of how our association functions, its finances, the importance of our relationship with the University of Minnesota and the value that we receive by maintaining our membership. I was able to chair or co-chair a few committees and have a larger appreciation for those who volunteer their time on behalf of our association. Serving on the BOD has also allowed me to build relationships with other superintendents that I

otherwise may not have. Assisting with the transition between Executive Directors has improved the day to day oversight of the MGCSA, given us a clearer direction and a much improved presence in the St. Paul political scene. I am proud to have served on the BOD and will do so again in a few years. Right now, the demands of my position combined with very active children, has forced me to scale back my involvement at the board level. Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the BOD.

Brian Brown, Superintendent at Chisago Lakes Golf Club

What did serving on the MGCSA Board of Directors mean to me? For me, serving on the Board of Directors for the past 5 years was a way to give of my time to an industry that I am passionate about. I truly believe in the objective of the association. "To advance the art and science of Golf Course Management, to collect and disseminate among member Superintendents practical solutions to problems with a view to more efficient and economical maintenance and production of golf courses, and to promote the welfare of the Superintendent and the profession."



While on the board I felt my position was to represent the smaller budget courses, newer superintendents to the profession, and outstate courses. These are the superintendents that tend to get less involved with the Association yet probably need the resources more.

One of the things that I will miss most about being on the board is the information that is discussed about the industry during board meetings. I have been quite surprised about all of the possible governmental regulations that are discussed. Paul Eckholm, CGCS does a great job and spends a lot of time researching introduced bills in the legislature. Superintendents get frustrated by some of the laws that pass but they would be surprised at how many more regulations are in bills that do not pass.

The MGCSA has had to change over the past few years. Where once the association concentrated on “practical solutions to problems with a view to more efficient and economical maintenance and production of golf courses,” it now has to focus more on protecting and “promoting the welfare of the Superintendent and the profession.” This focus has brought the need for Jack MacKenzie, CGCS to be our Executive Director. I didn’t know Jack very well before he was hired and frankly I was a little concerned about what his high energy was going to bring to the position. But I can tell you that we are so very fortunate to have Jack as the Executive Director of the MGCSA. Jack is a terrific representative for us on the government affairs side and can speak directly for superintendents. He already has represented us in the Minnesota Legislative offices and nationally regarding water use rights. The MGCSA has not forgotten its role with providing the practical solutions to problems but is teaming up with the U of M TROE Center and allied MN Green Expo. These additional resources bring accredited research and expertise to our members. Recently the board has brought a request to the membership to increase funding for the TROE Center. These additional research funds will be directed at specific research that will benefit the MGCSA members.

Thank all of you for letting me serve as a Director and Secretary on the MGCSA

Matt McKinnon, The Legacy Courses at Cragun’s



Serving on the MGCSA Board of Directors has been a great experience. I started in 2005 and since then I have had a chance to meet and work with many dedicated members of the MGCSA. When I started it was a big eye opener for me as I did not know what it takes to run and organize an association like the MGCSA. For me it was a lot of travel time more than anything but the working with new people, trying to make a difference and networking really made it worth while. Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the MGCSA Board of Directors.



2012 Chapter Delegates Meeting:

Citing the considerable amount of dialogue among participants, GCSAA President Sandy Queen, CGCS, said the association's 2012 Chapter Delegates Meeting was productive and will pay additional dividends in the future.

Conducted Oct. 5-7 at GCSAA headquarters and in Kansas City, Mo., chapter representatives met to learn more about association initiatives and to provide feedback on governance, programs and services, and issues regarding the game and business of golf. They also heard from candidates running for GCSAA national leadership positions.

The what and the why

"It is important that our members know the 'what' and 'why' of GCSAA efforts, but it is equally important that we hear what our members have to say," Queen said. "We cannot make decisions or shape policy without that feedback.

That is why I am so pleased that there was debate on what was presented. I continue to be impressed with the quality of representatives the chapters send to the meeting."

Queen noted that prior chapter delegate feedback helped formulate the new conference and show schedule, implement free GCSAA webcasts and restructure the annual meeting. Discussion this year will be utilized to "tweak" certain aspects of the Rounds 4 Research program, study the GCSAA Chapter Affiliation Agreement and help the board of directors and staff prioritize programs and services.

"The thing I like about the meeting is the board listens and wants our input," said GCSAA Class A member Brad Jolliff, a multi-year attendee from Oklahoma. "You get the opportunity to give your point of view. There is such a diversity of membership, and to make the best decisions the board needs input from many sources. The delegates meeting is a good way to get

the information.”

Chapter affiliation deliberated

One of the most lively discussions regarded the GCSAA Chapter Affiliation Agreement, specifically Class A conformity between GCSAA and chapters in terms of membership classification. Ultimately, the board of directors opted to extend the current affiliation agreement to give the association and chapters an additional year to collect data and do further study on the issue.

The extension was also granted to give the association time to analyze the report of the Membership Standards Advisory Group. For the past nine months, this independent panel of members has been studying the impact of the professional development initiative (PDI) that resulted in the creation of membership standards. The MSAG presented to the delegates its findings that PDI had been successful with increased advocacy with policy makers, the creation of the IPM requirement, expanded education opportunities that were accessible and affordable, and improved playing conditions. It did note that the faltering economy and the cost and time necessary to affect change through a public relations campaign worked against the program.

Recommendations focused on membership conformity, simplifying membership classifications, and strengthening the requirements for Class A status and items to help market it.

Dues increase up for vote

The association presented a proposed dues increase that will be voted on at the annual meeting in February in San Diego. The vote will be to increase dues \$25 for Class A and SM members, and \$15 for Class C members, making annual dues \$365 and \$185, respectively. The increase is a combination of a \$15 increase (for Class A/SM) based on the Consumer Price Index and \$10 (for Class A/SM) to compensate for GCSAA’s group life insurance premium being doubled by the provider.

Second-year delegate and Class A member Brian Beckner of the Everglades GCSA spoke to the value members received for their membership. “It’s too bad every member cannot be here to hear and see what they get for their dues,” Beckner said. “It is incredible what I get as a GCSAA member. Everything I heard this weekend was about helping me be a better golf course superintendent and being more valuable to my facility. We are fortunate to have GCSAA.”

The bottom line

GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Rhett Evans shared the association's invest-recover-grow strategy that has shaped the association's budgeting philosophy for the past two years. He described how funds have been invested in new programs such as field staff, Rounds 4 Research, web technology, advocacy and other areas to better serve the members. Giving time to allow these programs to gain traction will ultimately help stabilize association operations.

Evans indicated that staff will present a balanced budget to the board in December, but will pull some funds from the association's reserve just as it has done in the past. Among the new items in the budget will be funds to complete the filling of field staff, pay for headquarters facility improvements and add technology resources. The Mid-Atlantic and the Southeast regions are the remaining two regions without field staff. The facility improvement plan, announced earlier this fall, focuses on necessary structural repairs and enhancing the efficiency of the building. In all, expenses for the project are expected to be approximately \$1.9 million.

"We are by no means out of the woods when it comes to our financial challenges," Evans said. "Golf has had

some struggles. But I believe we have been prudent in what we have done to weather the storm and are positioned for continued success."

Tooting your horn

Among the more popular presentations were those that demonstrated how GCSAA resources were being used to advocate on behalf of members. Staff outlined the various government relations activities and the importance of members meeting with federal, state and local lawmakers to be heard on policy decisions. Various examples of GCSAA media placements on television, in print, on the web and on the radio were shared as well. Evans pointed out that NGF studies continue to place a premium on GCSAA members for their role in driving golfer satisfaction and facility success. He said that reaching out to key influencers such as employers, avid golfers and policy makers will continue to be a priority for the association.

On deck

Chapter delegates will convene on February 7 at 2:30 p.m. for the association's annual meeting in San Diego, held in conjunction with the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show.

Winter 2013 **TREE** **TURF** & Conference

Brought to you by



Call Kevin Manley for details
kmanley@jrkseed.com or 651.686.6756

Product Training Workshops, CEU's and Special Product Buys!

1 Iowa State University David Minner, Ph.D <i>Professor, Extension Turf Grass Specialist</i> Developing strategies that maximize turfgrass performance.	2 Miami Dolphins Alan Sigwardt <i>Director of Operations</i> Hands on experience from little league to the majors.	3 University of Nebraska Zac Reicher, Ph.D <i>Professor, Research</i> Management strategies for weed, renovation and cost reduction.	4 Morton Arboretum Frederic Miller, Ph.D <i>Professor, Research</i> Focusing on insect and mite pest of woody ornamentals.
Topic 1: <i>Management Strategies for Dealing with Intense Traffic on Athletic Fields.</i> Topic 2: <i>Drought Management Strategies for Non-Irrigated Turf Areas; residential, commercial, municipal parks and golf courses.</i>	Topic 1: <i>Applying NFL best practices to your Athletic Fields.</i> Topic 2: <i>Nutrient Mgt. Offers Performance & Savings.</i>	Topic 1: <i>Managing the Top 10 Toughest Weeds.</i> Topic 2: <i>Renovation of Turf Areas with a Budget in Mind!</i>	Topic 1: <i>Latest research & developments on Emerald Ash Borer</i> Topic 2: <i>Urban Tree Pests. Invasive species on the horizon.</i>
Jan. 22, 2013 8 am - Noon JRK Eagan, MN location	Jan. 29, 2013 10am-2:30pm Medina Ballroom Jan. 30, 2013 8am-12pm JRK Eagan, MN location	Feb. 19, 2013 8 am - Noon JRK Eagan, MN location	Feb. 26, 2013 8 am - Noon JRK Eagan, MN location

Cost Effective Training & Lunch for only \$15/person.

3 Locations to better serve you!



Eagan, MN
1980 Seneca Rd.
651-686-6756

Loretto, MN
6265 County Rd. 19
(Next to Lano Equip. & Spikes)
763-479-1481

Delano, MN
511 Railroad Ave.
763-398-0316

email: info@jrkseed.com • www.jrkseed.com

2013 MGCSA Calendar

January 22nd

Shop Tours NEW

Keller, Somerset and Town and Country Club

Hosts: Paul Diegnau CGCS, James Bade and Bill Larson CGCS

This low cost event takes our members to three very different turf management centers; Keller, Somerset and Town and Country Club. Beginning at Keller at 8:30 in the morning, tours will be progressive finishing at T&CC for a pizza lunch.

February 6th

The National Hospitality Night

Dick's Last Resort

Hosts: Sponsoring Affiliate Members and the MGCSA

The Golf Industry Show returns to San Diego and our group will return to Dick's Last Resort for an evening of great food, beverages and friendship. The doors open at 6 and the hosted portion of our party goes until 9. Our supportive Affiliate members help to subsidize the cost of this fun evening of social networking.

February 13th

Snow Day NEW

Majestic Oaks Golf Club

Host Dan Hanson

Education and fun all in one! This new program will provide a morning of education followed by lunch and a social mixer in the afternoon. Beginning at 7:30 am, our membership will learn about the proper chemicals, calibration and rates for winter parking lot and sidewalk maintenance. The MPCA provides an incredible amount of information you can use at your club. Completion certificates and ceu's will be available at this event. After lunch our crew will play snow golf, boot hockey or both! A grant has been applied for to keep the cost of this fantastic opportunity at a low level.

February 27-28

MEGA-Seminar

North Oaks Golf Club

Host Brian Boll

Day one presenter is well known turf industry professional Bruce Williams. His topic is focused upon

Day two is bookended with a variety of turf management science updates including cytokinens, removing poa in bentgrass stands and new dollar spot chemistrie presented by Dr. Derek Sellar, Director of the Turfgrass program at the Chicago District Golf Association. On either side of the

lunch hour will be Tom Keefe of Canada Geese Management reviewing geese control and Bud Laidlaw

March 12 or 13th

**Assistant's Forum and Hen House Habitat Event
NEW**

TPC Twin Cities

Hosts Justin Becik and Arik Hemquist

This new program offers the Assistants a great morning open forum session monitored by Executive Director Jack MacKenzie CGCS followed by a casual lunch. The topic of the day is why am I in this industry and what can the MGCSA do for me? After a casual lunch the group will apply their skills on constructing mallard hen houses to be taken back to your home course for installation. Organizers are reaching out to Delta Waterfowl for support in this long term 10,000 duck rehabilitation project.

May ?

**Affiliate Appreciation Meeting and Golf
Castlewood**

Host Jeremy Walker

This year the Affiliates Appreciation event has a little change up. The morning event begins with continental breakfast, a nine-hole golf event followed by business meeting and lunch. By condensing the event into one morning, it is the Arrangement Committee's hope to attract more participants.

June 3rd

The Scramble

Medina Golf and Country Club

Host Erin McManus

Our Research and Scholarship Scramble generates funding for the University of Minnesota as well as two scholarships available to the children of our members. A four man format the day includes lunch, golf, cart and dinner at one of the finest clubs in the area.

August 13th

The Championship

Prestwick Golf Club

Host Dave Kazmierczak CGCS

Take on Jeff Pint, 6 time Champion upon a fine track. This competition offers great prizes as well as a fine networking opportunity.