

... in the works

Maryland Golf Economic Impact Study

MAAGCS Secretary-Treasurer Jon Lobenstine is currently working as part of a task force for a State of Maryland Golf Economic impact study. This comprehensive study looks at a broad range of industries that directly relate to golf, from revenue generated at golf courses themselves, to businesses, construction projects, tournaments (such as the U.S. Open), etc. that are occurring in Maryland and provide economic stimulus to our region.

The economic impact of golf in the United States was nearly \$200 billion in 2005, and supported about 2 million jobs!

The economic impact study will be performed by the World Golf Foundation's Golf 20/20 initiative. Similar studies have been done in 27 other states so far. Jon is working with Bill Smith (Maryland State Golf Association), Jon Guhl (Mid-Atlantic PGA), John Shields (National Golf Course Owner's Association), and the research team from SRI International w. Each of these local associations is funding an equal percentage of the study. Our portion of the study (\$3,375.00) was paid for by proceeds from the Stewards of the Chesapeake tournament, so thank you to all who were in attendance and helped to sponsor the event!

For a look at other similar studies that have been done, you can go to this site:

<http://www.golf2020.com/economicresearch.aspx>. The study should be completed near the end of 2011.

As another school year begins, don't forget that the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents will again be offering scholarship money to students employed by MAAGCS members. In 2010, scholarships were awarded to seven students. Applicants must have completed one year of employment at their current course, have shown interest in pursuing a degree or certificate in Turfgrass management, and are currently enrolled in a Turfgrass management curriculum including online programs. Recommending a student member or assistant would be a great way for golf course managers to recognize him or her for going that extra mile this summer.

Anyone interested in applying can get an application through their college professors, golf course manager, or through the MAAGCS office. Our office can be reached by calling Theresa Baria at 888/MID-TURF or by E-mailing her at maagcs@earthlink.net. Be sure they have all the proper paperwork, and fit the proper criteria before sending the completed application. Please take advantage of this opportunity to allow MAAGCS to help the financial burden of college expenses. The application deadline is October 30th and remember it never hurts to apply.

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