



TURFGRASS MATTERS

Winter 2014

The Grass Roots Initiative

A great new project is taking shape down at the National Arboretum in Washington DC. The National Turfgrass Federation and U.S. National Arboretum, operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service, have collaborated in the development of the new public exhibit to highlight modern uses of turfgrass. On November 15th 2013, a groundbreaking ceremony was held with a number of MAAGCS members present. The Grass Roots Exhibit is the centerpiece of a four-year

initiative that focuses on the environmental, economic, aesthetic and recreational benefits of turfgrass in landscapes, golf courses and athletic fields. More info can be found here: <http://www.usna.usda.gov/Education/turfgrass.html>

The MAAGCS along with many other associations have a vested interest in supporting this initiative. Being able to communicate the benefits of turfgrass to the general public will always be important for our industry. The Board of the MAAGCS has offered to

help in the construction and on-going maintenance of the exhibit. Currently we are working with program coordinator Geoff Rinehart in order to hold a chapter event there in the spring as well as another publically attended chapter event in late summer after the exhibit officially opens. It is important that we all stay involved with this initiative and help support the Arboretum’s “commitment to helping citizens, including national decision-makers, understand new and emerging science underlying our nation’s beautiful lawns, athletic fields

and gardens.” You can follow the progress of the exhibit on Facebook and Twitter.

www.facebook.com/NTFGrassRootsInitiative and Twitter @Grass_Roots_NTF



Below: MAAGCS representing at the Arboretum along with Chase Rogan, Dr. Frank Rossi, and others

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