

# TurfgrassMatters

Summer 2016

## INSIDE

**President's Report**

**GCSAA Report**

**Mid-Summer Update**

**Chesapeake Challenge Report**

**IAA Celebrates 50 Years**

**Getting to Know Chris Fernandes**

**Government Relations Update**

**Assistants Corner**

**Letter from the Editor**

River Bend Golf & Country Club  
in Great Falls, Virginia will host  
Stewards of the Chesapeake on October 11



**TURF  
EQUIPMENT**

AND SUPPLY COMPANY

## ***One Team, Many Solutions***

Your full line vendor for  
Golf Course Maintenance Equipment  
and Golf Irrigation.



[www.turf-equipment.com](http://www.turf-equipment.com)

800.827.3711



**Count on it.**

### Commercial Equipment

Mark Dupcak - 443.250.3433  
[markdupcak@turf-equipment.com](mailto:markdupcak@turf-equipment.com)

Mike Huey - 443.896.7172  
[mikehuey@turf-equipment.com](mailto:mikehuey@turf-equipment.com)

### Golf Irrigation

Doug Ballew - 443.250.2780  
[dougballew@turf-equipment.com](mailto:dougballew@turf-equipment.com)

Mike Johnston - 410.227.2491  
[mikejohnston@turf-equipment.com](mailto:mikejohnston@turf-equipment.com)

# President's Report – Chris Harriman

One thing that is less than enjoyable in the middle of the summer is finding time to sit down and write a newsletter article. I'm not even sure you guys read much of what is in the newsletter anymore, just look at the pictures and hopefully get reminded who is supporting our association. A major point for the board going forward is to make sure that we are keeping up with the digital side and ensuring that we are communicating and providing an opportunity for our partners to communicate using Twitter, Facebook, etc.

If you guys are not on Twitter, or at least reading some feeds, then you are missing out. There is a massive amount of information rolling through on a daily basis. My feed is pretty clean and just related to the golf course. I get instant updates on agronomics from professors and can read about what the consultants, as well as other supers are seeing. I don't read it because I need help, but you can't turn down information that is this easy to digest.

We continue to promote and update our events on Twitter and Facebook and attendance to these events has benefitted greatly. The new season-long match play event is ongoing and we have a few more high quality venues to finish out the year — September 6 at Bethesda Country Club for Super Pro, October 11 at River Bend Golf & Country Club for the Stewards and to top it all off, Cattail on November 7 for the Annual Championship. We have a number of events locked in for 2017 as well and will continue to exhaust solid venues that span the area for the future.

The main thing I wanted to get across in this issue was the elevated issue with staffing in our area. As I procrastinated in writing this article during the US Open at Oakmont and now, with the Quicken Loans at Congressional, it has become abundantly clear that anything is possible with an awesome management team and support crew. This spring I have had at least eight calls to ask if I knew of any assistants that were looking for jobs. On turfnet right now, there are exactly 150 job postings open for assistant superintendent or AIT. I have heard guys in our area just scratching to get people on the crew, hiring guys without education as assistants and running short-staffed all year.

I for one have hired my last white high school kid for the staff. The two I hired this year lasted one full week after school was out. If we are all going to wait around for these kids to magically be enthusiastic about working on the golf course and then go to college for turf, then we are in serious trouble. For sure in our area, the days of having kids drop in and want to work on the golf course so they can drive cool equipment, make things look like what is on TV and play golf on Mondays is long gone. I have spoken with professors at Maryland, Auburn, Purdue and I know Ohio State already has a lot vested in pointing education towards the international crowd. This is our future. One of my goals for the future is to make sure I am doing everything possible, and communicating with the right people, to start backfilling our staffing voids with people who want to excel in turf. Everything I see is pointing towards the international scene, and the majority of that being Spanish-speaking.

I've tried the mentor route. I have tried to find the kid that I was 20 years ago. Each time I bring a kid on and spend time with them, I just get more empty looks from our rock star Spanish crew guys, like, what in the hell are you doing with this guy? These guys are ready to learn and progress, we just have to create the opportunity for them. If our industry isn't going to fall flat on its face in 10 years, this is going to have to be a priority. Agree or disagree? Let me know: [chris@cattailcreekcc.com](mailto:chris@cattailcreekcc.com)

Good luck this summer everybody!



**Chris Harriman**  
Cattail Creek Country Club  
@Harrimanscash  
[Chris@cattailcreekcc.com](mailto:Chris@cattailcreekcc.com)



# Ride First Class.

*The All-New Jacobsen Truckster XD™*



## **Class-Leading Payload Capacity, Power & Comfort**

The all-new Jacobsen Truckster XD heavy-duty utility vehicle is the new leader in every category that matters most to you: a massive, 3,550 lb. standard payload capacity; the toughest bed in the industry; and a commanding 52.7 ft.-lbs. of torque from the diesel engine (51.6 ft.-lbs. of torque from the gas engine). More than just pure muscle, the Truckster XD also features 25% more cabin space than the competition. Learn more about how the Jacobsen Truckster XD makes easy work of your toughest jobs at [Jacobsen.com](http://Jacobsen.com).



*Kubota*

**JACOBSEN**

410-981-9584 | [www.jacobsen.com](http://www.jacobsen.com)

# GCSAA Report – Chase Rogan

## Overtime Pay Rule Announced by Labor Department

This is why GCSAA is actively involved in Government Affairs issues across the country. On May 18, the Department of Labor announced the final ruling that increases the salary threshold at which employees must be paid overtime. Under the new rule, individuals who earn salaries of less than \$47,476 a year will automatically qualify for overtime pay of time-and-a-half if they work more than 40 hours a week. Previously, those who earned more than \$23,660 were exempt from overtime pay. The new rules will go into effect Dec. 1, 2016.

If you are unfamiliar, this change dates back to last summer when the DOL announced the original version of this rule, allowing an open comment period to hear the public's thoughts on said rule. Along with other allied organizations, GCSAA submitted a letter (collectively submitted as the 'golf industry'), that expressed our concerns with this new rule. Along with other concerns, one thing the golf industry addressed in that letter was that the wage increase was too steep, and that the financial implications of this increase could cost others their jobs. Originally, the proposed rule offered a minimum salary of \$50,440.

While the DOL slightly decreased that minimum salary, this new rule will certainly create some tough budgeting decisions for much of our industry. One other positive to take away is that for the first time, employers will be able to use nondiscretionary bonuses and incentive payments including commissions, to satisfy up to 10 percent of the standard salary level of \$47,476.

The golf industry talked to Members of Congress and their staff about the impacts of the overtime rule during National Golf Day. Members of Congress were asked to support H.R. 4773 or S. 2707. The **Protecting Workplace Advancement and Opportunity Act** would ensure the DOL pursues a balanced and responsible approach to updating federal overtime rules.

As stated, the new rule will go in to effect on Dec. 1 of this year. At this time, it doesn't look like anything is going to change that. So, please plan accordingly and communicate with your business about this rule's effects on your department. If and when more information becomes available, we will communicate such. Please contact me with any questions.



**Chase Rogan**  
GCSAA Field Staff  
Mid-Atlantic Representative  
800-472-7878, ext. 3609

## Mid-Summer Update — Steve McDonald, Turfgrass Disease Solutions, LLC

The typical springtime roller coaster of cool and then warm periods marked March-May. May was a wetter and cloudier month than most had wanted. Rainfall has been extremely high in the DC Metro area, however, in points north it has been an extremely dry June and early July.

As far as springtime disease activity, the #1 disease was brown ring patch on *Poa annua* greens. Spring dead spot was not very common on Bermudagrass, likely due to the mild winter.

The recent weather trend has placed a need for more conservative cultural practices to preserve turfgrass health. Following the July 4th holiday weekend, the weather has turned warm and humid. Here are some quick thoughts for the next few weeks on putting greens. Active root growth has slowed for cool season grasses. Aggressive cultural practices such as vertical mowing and

sand topdressing for green speeds should be limited. Reduce stress from rollers and double mowing. Be sure to use a physical barrier on bentgrass collars for turning hand mowers. Solid front rollers should be placed on greens mowers to limit mechanical stress. Finally, determine your spoon feeding load based on growth rates as this is also impacted by rainfall. Currently, summer time disease (anthracnose, brown patch, dollar spot and Pythium) pressure is high.

The top three consulting conversations with superintendents in 2016 to date have been:

**Labor Concerns.** This is either the lack of good people to work or how to handle the increase in hourly wage and full time salaried employee. Every budget, each course, and each scenario is unique and it's been interesting to discuss how each course will handle this hurdle.

**Springtime Aeration.** We had cool to cold weather March to early May and cool-season grasses were slow to break dormancy and recover from spring aeration. If this is an issue, you may consider moving spring aeration into May. While May is a good month for golf, the number of days impacted is less when the grass is actively growing.

**Annual Bluegrass Weevil.** The Mid-Atlantic region is seeing all stages of annual bluegrass weevil — immature adults, true mature adults, larvae and pupae — which makes scouting and application timing tough. This year, ABW populations moved from over-wintering sites in the same peaks and valleys as the springtime weather and early emerging ones may have mated earlier than expected. ABW control has been complicated from the start of the season and springtime movement has made the mid-summer population more challenging to target.

We've got what it  
takes to earn your  
**BUSINESS...**

- Agronomic intelligence
- Logistical excellence
- Superior product line
- Highly trained technical team
- Friendly and responsive support team
- The region's largest independent turf distributor
- 85 years of quality and exceptional service

And our customers  
know it!

From premium grass seed and fertilizers to cutting edge plant protectants and agronomic services, we're dedicated to providing our clients trusted solutions for today's course management challenges. Check us out at [FisherAndSon.com](http://FisherAndSon.com).

800-262-2127 • Family owned since 1928

  
**Fisher & Son**  
COMPANY, INC.

# MAAGCS/ESAGCS Chesapeake Challenge Report

It was a spectacular afternoon in Queenstown Harbor, MD on May 31 and players from both the MAAGCS and ESAGCS were excited to take to the course in a head-to-head match play event between the two associations, known as the Chesapeake Cup.

To begin the day, Tom Tipton and Chris Harriman thanked the partners for supporting the associations' events and initiatives, then Chris Harriman gave an informative update on the MAAGCS's BMP project.

John Anderes and the Queenstown Harbor staff had the facility in top shape, and the BBQ lunch was excellent.

For the second straight year, the ESAGCS edged out the MAAGCS with a final score of 12 1/2 to 10 1/2. Of the 27 matches, only one resulted in a tie, and the match with largest margin of victory was won 8 and 7.

After the round the teams enjoyed a reception with hors d'oeuvres, and Joe Haskins of MAAGCS presented the 2016 Chesapeake Challenge Trophy to Tom Tipton of ESAGCS. Bragging rights will belong to the ESAGCS for another year until the two associations battle it out again in this fun day of competition and camaraderie.



Brian Pardoe, Bryan Bupp, Lance Ernst, Chris Harriman



James Weaver, John Lobenstein, Jason Neal, Dave Malasky



Tom Tipton and Joe Haskins



John Anderes of Queenstown Harbor tees off



We've got every product you need  
to keep your business *growin' on.*



[www.genesisgreensupply.com](http://www.genesisgreensupply.com)

CONTACT A SALES LEADER IN YOUR AREA



Ryland Chapman  
[chappy@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:chappy@genesisturfgrassinc.com) | 443-690-8958



Andrew McCormick  
[andrew@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:andrew@genesisturfgrassinc.com) | 804-640-4746



Dave Nehila  
[dave@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:dave@genesisturfgrassinc.com) | 410-404-0112



Charity Williams  
[charity@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:charity@genesisturfgrassinc.com) | 717-881-0429



# UM's Institute of Applied Agriculture Marks 50 Years

The Institute of Applied Agriculture (IAA) at the University of Maryland celebrated 50 years of opening doors to successful careers in agriculture and the green industry with a festive Anniversary Gala on May 14 at the College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Hyattsville, MD.

"The IAA educates individuals who can hit the ground running when they enter the workforce," remarked Dr. Craig Beyrouy, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland. "We couldn't be prouder to have the IAA as part of our College, and we look forward to seeing it thrive over the next 50 years."

The IAA has provided more than 1,100 Marylanders with the hands-on entrepreneurial and technical skills needed to manage profitable and sustainable agricultural enterprises. IAA alumni have had a significant impact on the state's green industry. In fact, approximately 40 percent of all current members in the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents graduated from the Turfgrass and Golf Course Management program at the IAA.

"Raise your glass and let's Toast the 'Tute," said Glori D. Hyman, Director of the Institute of Applied Agriculture, during the official toast. "To many, many more years of educational experiences, job opportunities, fresh meals and great friends!"

Participants enjoyed a glass of "Golden Gala," a dry rosé wine specially blended by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to commemorate the Institute's 50th anniversary. The grapes had been grown at University of Maryland research and education centers located throughout the state.

Proceeds from the Gala benefited the IAA Enhancement Fund, which supports scholarships, professional development opportunities (including participation in conferences and student competitions), curriculum enhancement and hands-on projects for IAA students.



## About the IAA

The Institute of Applied Agriculture (IAA), a professional education institution, is housed in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland College Park. The IAA offers eight 60-credit academic certificate concentrations that provide students with the entrepreneurial and technical skills needed to manage profitable agricultural enterprises, including farming operations, golf courses, sports fields, horticulture businesses, and landscape companies.

The IAA was established in 1965 to meet Maryland's need for a post-secondary, career-oriented program that could be completed in two years. Today, more than 90 percent of IAA students receive job offers in their field of study by the time they graduate. Some students choose to enter the workforce, while others continue their education. Through an accelerated dual-credential program called Agriculture Forward at Maryland, IAA students can earn both a Certificate of Applied Agriculture and a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland College Park.

For additional information, visit [www.iaa.umd.edu](http://www.iaa.umd.edu).



Graduates from the Turfgrass and Golf Course Management area of study took a class photo with program advisor Dr. Kevin Mathias (seated, third from the left). Graduation years spanning 1967-2016 were represented.



IAA Director Glori Hyman poured the first glass of "Golden Gala" wine for the official toast.



People...Products...Knowledge...



*People...Products...Knowledge®...*

**Utilize Helena's Extensive Agronomic Expertise to Beautify and Protect Your Golf Course and Landscape Projects.**

- ***Chemicals • Nutritionals • Adjuvants***
- ***Fertilizer • Seed***
- ***Professional Commitment***

**Mike Rincon (703) 628-8374**

**Jeff Snyder (540) 686-2560**

# Getting to Know Chris Fernandes



**Chris Fernandes**  
cfernandes@mcggolf.com

## **MAAGCS Board of Directors**

**Northwest Golf Course Superintendent**  
2007–Present

**University of Maryland**  
**Institute of Applied Agriculture**  
General Turfgrass Management

### **How did you get into your current position at Northwest Golf Course?**

I started as the Superintendent at Northwest Golf Course eight years ago. I was approached about the opportunity to work for the Montgomery County Revenue Authority at Northwest Golf Course, and it was a great move for my family and me. Prior to working at Northwest Golf Course, I was Superintendent at Bay Hills Golf Club in Arnold, MD for three years, and I worked as an Assistant Superintendent at both Walden Golf Club and Bay Hills Golf Club.

### **What excites you most about the MAAGCS in 2016?**

I am most excited about the direction we are heading with all of the events and education. I am also excited about the future and the direction the association is moving toward as a whole.

### **What are your goals in your new role with the MAAGCS?**

My goal is to help our membership in all aspects. I love the direction that the association has been going in the past few of years. I look forward to continuing my role in helping keep the momentum for the association and continue the growth and progression it has experienced in the past few years.

### **What new products or technology excites you in 2016?**

I'm most excited about the new sprayer technology; in particular, those with GPS and individual nozzle control.

### **Where do you see yourself in five years?**

I see myself as a Superintendent in the Mid-Atlantic region.

# Proudly Serving The Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association



**LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, INC.®**

landscapesupplyva.com



# Moving Maryland Forward Grant

The MAAGCS has posted an unprecedented number of Intern and Assistant Superintendents jobs in the last few years. Members report that interest in these jobs has been low, indicating a shortage of qualified applicants. Meanwhile, Latinos comprise the majority of grounds staff jobs but lack the education to advance into management roles. Indeed, in the 50 year history of the Institute of Applied Agriculture (IAA) there have been 1,500 graduates, but only four were Latino.

The University of Maryland is aware of issues like this and the IAA has received a grant from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion aimed at the education of Latinos in green industry fields. The grant will fund several initiatives beginning in the fall of 2016.

- Funds will be used to translate, print, and mail information about the IAA's programs to high school guidance counselors at schools with a high percentage of Latino students and to green industry employers such as MAAGCS members.

- An on-campus workshop is being planned in January of 2017. Two Latino, bilingual Assistant Superintendents who are graduates of the IAA will share their stories. The group will tour campus classrooms, labs, and the turfgrass research farm.
- Our GCSAA Turf Bowl Team will be taking a practice exam at this time. Attendees will take the same lab practical exam in hopes of exposing them to grass, weed, insect, and disease identification learned at the IAA.
- Attendees will be encouraged to enroll in an IAA spring semester online class in Pesticide Use and Safety. Fees for the class will be covered with grant funds. Completion of this class and passing the final exam awards students with the Maryland Department of Agriculture Private Pesticide Applicators License. Hopefully this success will encourage them to take two additional IAA online

modules that meet the minimum education required to take the Commercial Applicators exam. Ultimately, we hope students will apply for admission into the two year program at the IAA.

Many of you employ some outstanding personnel that would be eligible for this program. Please encourage them to participate and grant the leave necessary to attend. More information and the date of the workshop will be coming soon. Any suggestions you have for the success of the program would be appreciated. Thanks to the MAAGCS for being a sponsoring organization. For more information contact Kenneth Ingram at 301-405-0499 or [kingram@umd.edu](mailto:kingram@umd.edu).



## Thank You, 2016 MAAGCS Partners!

*Please patronize these outstanding companies which support the profession!*

### Platinum



### Gold



### Silver

Bartlett Tree Experts	Mid-Atlantic DryJect	Rain Bird
Central Sod Farm	Newsom Seed	SiteOne Landscape Supply
Collins Wharf Sod	Oakwood Sod	Sunbelt
Crop Production Services	PondHawk by Linne Industries	Synatek

### Bronze

A.C. Schultes of Maryland	Graden USA	Pocono Turf
Davisson Golf	Grigg Brothers	VGM Club
Earthworks	Harrell's	Wadsworth Golf Construction
Finch Services	Horizon	
Golf Cart Services / E-Z-GO	Murray Sod	



- MORE UNIFORM WETTING
- BETTER PLAYABILITY
- IMPROVED FERTILIZER EFFICIENCY
- INCREASED PESTICIDE EFFICACY AND CONTROL
- LONGER LASTING PERFORMANCE
- ~~HIGHER COST~~

**Sixteen90** is the economical soil surfactant with staying power. Its superior formulation allows for flexible protection against water repellency course wide. Turf managers can make short or long term applications on greens, tees, fairways, roughs, greens surrounds and bunker faces. However it fits into your turf management program, Sixteen90 outperforms the competition.



To learn more about **Sixteen90**, contact your local Aquatrols distributor today.

# Government Relations Update – Eric David

Over the last few months, numerous changes have occurred in regards to the golf industry and corresponding legislation. In May, men and women from the industry descended onto Capitol Hill for National Golf Day. Over 100 representatives from GCSAA, USGA, ASGCA, and PGA were in attendance with one goal; to make lawmakers aware of the economic and environmental impacts of golf.

The GCSAA had the largest group in attendance with 65 representatives and the focus was on three issues; Waters of the United States (WOTUS), Overtime Rule, and H-2B labor. The Clean Water Rule, adopted in July of 2015, dictates how individuals and businesses are expected to protect WOTUS, plus provide a clearer definition of waters that are protected. The overtime rule,

which goes into effect on December 1, 2016 will increase the income of salaried employees from \$23,660 to \$47,476. The wage increase will have a significant impact on the golf industry. The H-2B program has become difficult to understand over the last few years and even more difficult to use as a reliable source of labor. MAAGCS manned an exhibit on turfgrass at the Rayburn building.



Ryan Kraushofer and Mike Bostian showcase grass varieties in the Rayburn building

The GCSAA supports immigration and labor policies that create a legal labor force in the golf industry, as well as a system of hiring foreign workers that is not financially burdensome or time consuming for the employer. These are a few issues that face the golf industry nationwide and will be discussed in the future.



Eric David  
edavid@bcc1898.com

The State of Maryland has become the first to ban neonicotinoids for consumer use at a state-wide level. The Pollinator Protection Act (HB 198 and SB 211) went into effect on May 27 without Governor Hogan's signature. Consumers will no longer be able to purchase products containing neonicotinoids starting in January of 2018. The Act does allow for use by state certified applicators, farmers, and veterinarians and can be purchased at venues which sell these restricted use pesticides. It will only be a matter of time before golf courses are a target of lawmakers, so we should be aware that further bans on this class of chemistry are likely soon to follow.

In Maryland, the golf industry supported 14,700 jobs and generated a \$1.3 billion economic impact. At the same time, the industry also created \$407.6 million in annual wages and an additional \$33 million was donated to charities around the state. Congress should continue to support value derived from the golf industry as it helps stimulate economic growth and should not be overlooked when laws could be impactful.

A government relations section on the MAAGCS website is currently in development in order to facilitate information sharing, along with further explanation of new laws and rules that will affect the golf industry.

## Gaithersburg City Council Meeting

The City of Gaithersburg has decided NOT to adopt the pesticide ban that is in effect in Montgomery County. The members of the council felt that it would not be economically viable for the city to go without pesticides. They also expressed concerns how confusing the bans on pesticides had become since there were county laws and now state laws. The council will take up the matter again in the fall after more information can be collected.



**PLANT  
FOOD**  
COMPANY, INC.

# Premium Liquid Fertilizer For The Playing Surface Perfectionist

*Connect With Us Today!*

**Mike Janzer:**  
(215) 280-6252  
mjanzer@plantfooco.com

**Rich Sweeney, CGCS:**  
(609) 580-0402  
rsweeney@plantfoodco.com



*The Liquid Fertilizer Experts & Perfectionists Like You!*



[www.plantfoodco.com](http://www.plantfoodco.com)  
800-562-1291



*Liquid Sunshine*



*Patented Biostimulant*

## AERIFICATION RECOVERY

**RAPIDLY RESTORING PUTTING SURFACES**

**TURF NEEDS AIR AND GOLFERS HATE AERIFICATION. MINIMIZE THE COMPLAINT PERIOD BY RAPIDLY RESTORING THE TRUE, CONSISTENT PUTTING SURFACES YOUR PLAYERS WANT WITH THIS FLORATINE RECOVERY PLAN.**



Floratine of Maryland & Delaware  
464 Ailes Road  
Delta, PA 17314  
443-695-0851  
sean@floratine.net





# Assistants Corner – Chris Sandels

First off, I just want to say what a wild spring this has been for turf managers in the region. We have seen some dry periods followed by extreme rainfall. If I could accurately predict the weather, I'd be a millionaire. Because of this uncertainty, we have to take measures to ensure the survivability of the turf. Knowing when to push cultural techniques to promote health and knowing when to back off from potentially hazardous practices to prevent long term damage is critical.

Successful turf managers are always thinking ahead. It takes an incredible amount of concentration to always keep the future in mind while simultaneously being aware of the present. This ability comes through many years of experience, and you need to train yourself regularly to consider the longevity of the course while also maintaining day-to-day member and patron expectations.

As the hardest part of the season is approaching, we'll soon learn whether these carefully planned and executed practices will pay off. Hindsight is always 20-20, so take advantage of some of your shortcomings and pitfalls and consider how you may augment work in the off season to better prepare for any weather the summer may throw at you.

As we head into our aerification and course restoration periods, make sure that you have a game plan. For example, how will you set up your aerifier to provide the largest impact in organic removal reduction (if that's your goal) while considering whether the time for recovery is acceptable to your membership. Furthermore, is the course closed longer than it takes to aerify the greens? Take advantage of no play and get out there to accomplish other meaningful practices while the weather and calendar permits.

This past assistants meeting was held at Baltimore Country Club presented by Genesis Turfgrass. For the meeting, we had two presenters: Joel Weiman, Senior Designer for McDonald and Sons; and Carmen Magro of Stevens Water Monitoring Systems. Joel Weiman presented on the integration of design and technology. Carmen explained how the turfgrass industry can take advantage of using sensory technology and tools to better manage our delicate plants. Both presentations showed how to throw some technology into the art of turfgrass management to eliminate uncertainties.



**Chris Sandels**  
Chevy Chase Club  
@Sandels22  
chriiss@chevychaseclub.org

## Save this Date – Tuesday, October 11, 2016

# The Stewards of the Chesapeake

presented by



## River Bend Golf & Country Club • Great Falls, VA

Visit [www.maagcs.org](http://www.maagcs.org) for tournament information and to register.  
Proceeds benefit the BMP project.

### Honor Roll of 2015 Sponsors

#### Supporting Sponsors



#### Other Sponsors

BASF • Bayer • Bethesda Country Club • Central Sod  
Chevy Chase Club • Davisson Golf • Dow AgroScience  
Eastern Shore AGCS • SelectSource • The Andersons  
Turf Screen • York Ag • York Building Products



First

# 2-7 Days Before Aerifying This Spring

Better disease control and better root development

Purchase 36lb and get Honor at **\$328.50/acre** high rate

BASF rep. Ted Huhn 443-206-1095  
theodore.huhn@basf.com

 **BASF**  
The Chemical Company



Bayer CropScience

Science For A Better Life

## Bayer's New Way To Fight Against Nematodes

*Nortica is a biological product that protects turfgrass roots from Parasitic Nematodes.*

**Nortica** contains bacteria, *Bacillus firmus* (strain I-1582) that:

- Creates a living barrier of protection around roots
- Reduces stress and enhances plant health
- Induces a growth-promoting hormone that strengthens the root

Once **Nortica** is applied, the *Bacillus firmus* spores germinate to form reproductive, vegetative cells that colonize at the root surface.

**Nortica** consumes the plant exudates Nematodes use for food. With limited food supplies, Nematodes become lethargic and start dying from lack of food.

**Nortica** helps reduce emerging Nematode larva, thus decreasing surviving adult.

Call Your Bayer ASM for more information and design program  
for your greens:

**Rick Fritz      301.785.8358**



# Letter from the Editor – Tyler Bloom

Dear Members,

Football season and cooler night time temperatures are right around the corner. I hope to bring more of a positive editorial to end this summer newsletter even though we are all pulling our hair out or what's left of it in my case. First, kudos to Joe Haskins and Sam Camuso for setting up the inaugural Match Play. This has been a great event, and something to look forward to monthly. I have enjoyed getting to meet new faces and see some different facilities.

I find it difficult at times to look past some of the minor frustrations or challenges that occur in my daily job, and it is easy to lose focus of the big picture. Chris Harriman touched on the challenges of labor, Steve McDonald addressed general course conditioning stresses, but balancing the passion for our facilities and industry with realistic expectations can be equally challenging.

No matter what stage you are in your career, there are always positives in every scenario. In my second year, I have been fortunate to see hard work pay off, adjustments in agronomic programs yield good turf, and the Club continue to move in the right direction. I have seen staff members excel in their progression, while also battling the constant turnover with seasonal positions. Our members are investing back into the property, and the results are showing. That doesn't mean that I'm not under the microscope like the rest of the Mid-Atlantic region, and growth is at its peak.

Don't we all look forward to the day when someone looks forward to hand mowing, raking bunkers and doing detail work consistently? I am not quite sure that is in the blood of today's labor force nor in the constantly shrinking budgets, so it may be best to consider alternative solutions. We all want to take our courses to the next level, and in time we will all find solutions that meet the resources in place. Our industry is full of problem solvers!

On the home front, it is often difficult to separate the focus required in this job, especially at this time frame, and maintain a healthy family life. There's no one more important than your family, because they are there to take care of you when not everyone at the golf course sees eye to eye with you including your staff. I give my wife the utmost respect, because she lives the challenges day in and day out, while she also maintains a full-time job and has her own career dreams. She doesn't get as much credit as she deserves for dealing with me, picking up the slack at home and mentally keeping a positive attitude.

Take it from me, it is easy to constantly dwell on the negatives and the minor nuisances that drive each one of us crazy. However, there needs to be some balance and positive reflection. It'll help you get through the next 30 to 60 days, and stay razor-sharp for the remainder of 2016.

Warm Regards,

Tyler Bloom  
Newsletter Editor



**Tyler Bloom**

Sparrows Point Country Club  
@tbloom\_SPCC  
tbloom@sparrowpointcc.org



## 2016 Schedule of Events

**April-September:** Mid-Atlantic Match Play Championship

**Tuesday, September 6:** Superintendent/Pro Tournament, Bethesda Country Club, Bethesda, MD

**Tuesday, October 11:** Stewards of The Chesapeake, River Bend Golf & Country Club, Great Falls, VA

**Monday, November 7:** MAAGCS Annual Championship, Cattail Creek Country Club, Glenwood, MD

**December TBA:** MAAGCS Annual Meeting, Location TBA

Season to season,  
make the right call.  
Apply Velista<sup>®</sup>,  
spring—summer—fall.



Spring and fall are the perfect seasons to clean up your greens, tees and fairways. Velista<sup>®</sup> fungicide is the broadest spectrum SDHI that protects against anthracnose as well as dollar spot and brown patch and more. And when used in rotation with Briskway<sup>®</sup> fungicide, Velista delivers excellent control of summer stress diseases on greens when temperatures shift from warm to hot. Velista is the right call.

[GreenCastOnline.com/Velista](http://GreenCastOnline.com/Velista)

**For more information, contact:**

Sam Camuso  
240.405.5069  
[sam.camuso@syngenta.com](mailto:sam.camuso@syngenta.com)  
 [@samcamuso](https://twitter.com/samcamuso)



**syngenta<sup>®</sup>**

 [@SyngentaTurf](https://twitter.com/SyngentaTurf) #Time4Velista

©2016 Syngenta. **Important: Always read and follow label instructions. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your state or local extension service to ensure registration status.** Briskway<sup>®</sup>, GreenCast<sup>®</sup>, Velista<sup>®</sup>, the Alliance Frame, the Purpose Icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. All other trademarks used herein are the property of their respective company. MW 1LGG6006 04/16

®