

## SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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**SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**  
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### STA OFFICE HOURS

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# The President's Desk

ANDREW GAYDON



**A**fter a rather cold and wet depressing spring and damp summer, we are now experiencing and enjoying a beautiful September and October and the fall colours are expected to be exceptional this year. This is a good time to enjoy the outdoors and sports turf, especially the golf course, sports or hiking.

### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Field Day

This year we experienced a spectacular day which I hope was enjoyed by all who were present. We had another record attendance representing more than 120 industry professionals and 20 supplier companies exhibiting their products. Without the support of our generous sponsors, the day would not be possible. Our thanks to all of you. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Murray Glassford and his staff at Parks and Recreation, City of Mississauga, for ensuring the event ran smoothly and for making all of us feel welcome.

Keynote speaker Dan Ferrone had the audience relaxed and smiling in no time to start the day off right. Thanks Dan. Our second speaker was Dr. Eric Lyons from the University of Guelph who discussed *Managing Athletic Fields for Healthy Root*

*Systems*. The information that he shared provided great food for thought.

Up next was a group of experts from the City of Mississauga speaking about their decision tactics in deciding on how, why and where to install a synthetic field. This was presented by Stefan Szczepanski, Susan Mentis and Murray Glassford.

Our final morning speaker was Terry Murphy who has become, over recent years, *the* specialist in horticultural safety – a subject to which we must all pay close attention.

The afternoon consisted of the outdoor trade show and an excellent field marking demonstration. I would like to thank the Field Day Committee and of course Lee Huether for doing an outstanding job with the planning and organizing of this successful event.

### Association News

Please join me in welcoming Paul Gillen of AerWay to our Board of Directors. We look forward to him sharing his experience and providing active board participation.

We would also like to congratulate Randy McCord who was the recipient of the STA scholarship as the 2004 Ontario Diploma in Horticulture graduating student in the turf option with highest overall mark.

### Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

In an effort to improve and enhance industry appeal, OTS 2005 will primarily be an educational forum held at the University of Guelph February 21-22 next year. The traditional trade show we have enjoyed in the past will also change in form; however, this new direction will allow the symposium to return to its educational roots.

We encourage all members to check our website to stay current with dates and functions as well as industry news. Finally, the STA Board would like to wish all our members and readers a good winter ahead, but as typical Canadians, we will first maximize our time spent enjoying the fall!