

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

... for safe, natural sports turf

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SMART TOOLS...

Beginning on page 16, we feature extensive coverage of the GTI Turf Team's Field Day presentation on *Smart Tools for Sports Turf Managers*. Pictured below from left to right are team presenters Ken Carey, Pam Charbonneau and Erica Gunn.



STA Field Day a Resounding Success

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP: HEALTHY SOIL... HEALTHY TURF...

The STA Field Day was truly the place to be on September 14 as close to 200 turf managers and industry suppliers journeyed to Milton, *the Place to Live, Work and Play*, and in our case, to learn and liaise with colleagues. The event, the Association's 18th annual, revolved around the theme *Environmental Stewardship: Healthy Soil... Healthy Turf...*

Thanks to our hosts, our speakers, and to all of the industry suppliers who exhibited their goods and services furthering our education. We would be unable to present a day such as this without the generosity of our sponsors. Their support allows us to provide an opportunity for professional development at a reasonable price for the membership. Mother Nature as well has been very generous in her participation. The rain always seems to hold until day's end!

Irrigation for a Growing World

In case you haven't heard, there is a water crisis! First, only 1% of the world's water is usable. The vast majority (97%) is in the seas and oceans and is therefore saline and 2% is present as snow and icebergs. Second, it is never in the right place at the right time. Third, there is no new water – what we have currently is it – forever.

The reason for this cold facts introduction is simple. We must encourage the responsible use of water and as turf managers, that means adjusting irrigation practices.

At the present time, approximately 69% of North America's fresh water (not including the cold north) is used in agriculture, 10% is used by industry and 21% is used municipally – that's us!

If we all use water more efficiently, we will have an impact on the... → page 9