



The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Ontario Turfgrass Symposium (OTS) is scheduled for February 19 and 20, 2007 at the University of Guelph. This year's theme, *Keeping it Green*, reflects the many critical cultural, environmental and maintenance issues influencing the turf industry. The conference will once again be held at Rozanski Hall at the centre of the beautiful University of Guelph campus. Delegates have the opportunity to participate in a learning environment that provides informative and engaging sessions on a variety of turf related topics. Speakers from both industry and research will offer insight relating to important and current topics in turf care, government legislation and environmental issues. Delegates at this year's conference will learn how to use current management options for pests and diseases, techniques to meet the needs of staff, the implication of bylaws and legislation on turf care, plus many other industry related topics. This year, OTS also marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of both the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and the Sports Turf Association. It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and network with colleagues and professionals in the turf industry. For symposium details, please visit [www.open.uoguelph.ca/](http://www.open.uoguelph.ca/)

## SPORTS TURF RELATED SESSIONS

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

#### M5 1:30 – 2:00 Selling a Concept to Council

*Chris Mark and Jane Arnett-Rivers, Town of Oakville*

From the moment it sounds interesting to the time of installation, there is a process. Buy-in from top to bottom is required and there are many ways to insure your enthusiasm is contagious. Understand the steps required to get a central irrigation system approved, tenders issued, awarded and installed.

#### M6 2:00 – 2:30 Alcohol Consumption on Sports Fields: Responsibility and Liability

*Terry Piche, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association*

What can be done about drinking in the stands and sidelines? Is the answer policy or proactive policing? Learn how staff can be empowered to effectively deal with alcohol consumption breaches and how one engages local police.



**Above:** Overseeding plots at the GTI (part of Evan Elford's research strategy, overseeding for weed management).

#### M7 2:30 – 3:00 Overseeding for Weed Management

*Evan Elford, University of Guelph*

Over 115 municipalities in Canada have restricted or banned the use of herbicides leaving managers with few options for weed control. Detailed research results will be presented which span the 2005/2006 growing seasons. It will examine various rates and timings of perennial ryegrass overseeding into Kentucky bluegrass athletic turf for weed suppression. IPM 0.66

#### M8 3:00 – 3:30 Sports Field Assessment

*Dr. Eric Lyons, University of Guelph*

Many factors affect our ability to provide safe, playable athletic fields to the public. Athletic field assessment can identify the strengths and weaknesses of current management practices and identify potential causes of future problems. Discover ways in which fields can be assessed to maximize the benefit to the turfgrass manager. IPM 0.66

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

**T1 9:00 – 9:30 Responsibility for Specification Compliance**

*Ian Haras, City of Guelph, Chris Davies, Frederick McGuire Consultants, Steve Macartney, Raintree Irrigation*

During a sports field construction or irrigation installation, exactly who is responsible for changes, installation quality and product standards? Who is responsible for producing accurate and professional as-builts? Hear three very different perspectives on contract work.

**T2 9:30 – 10:30 Full Contact Sports: When Urban Growth Catches Up To Existing Sport Fields**

*Terry Piche, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, Kelly Williams, Town of East Gwillimbury, Mike Burgess, Burgess and Associates*

Dealing with foul balls in the neighbour's backyard? Understanding how to negotiate peace when sports fields disrupt home-

owners' backyards, including proactive measures of what works and what doesn't will be discussed. In addition, how to effectively and properly deal with trespassing on municipal sports fields as determined by the Trespass to Property Act will be presented.

**T3 11:00 – 12:00 Reciprocal Agreements Between Municipalities and School Boards**

*Bob Kennedy, Sports Turf Management Solutions*

Reciprocal agreements for use of sports fields between municipalities and school boards have been in place in Ontario for over 50 years. Both parties have benefited from these agreements. Budgetary constraints experienced by school boards are jeopardizing these agreements as school boards lack the funds to properly repair fields. Explore and identify opportunities that can create a win-win situation for both parties.



## REGISTRATION

**EARLY BIRD: DECEMBER 21, 2006**

**Discounts.** It is important be aware that as an STA member in good standing, you qualify for lower association rates. Secondly, others from your facility/organization who are not STA members qualify for the lower association rates when registered with a member. Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register.

**THE SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION HAS MANY PRIME ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. CALL US!**

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