

Sports Turf Manager

FOR BETTER, SAFER SPORTS TURF. WINTER 2018. VOL. 31. NO. 1.

Fraize Mowing 101 with Greenhorizons Sod Farms

by Steve Schiedel

Since inception in 1975, Greenhorizons has been seeking the most effective methods for installing, rejuvenating and maintaining high performance turf. Thanks to some European ingenuity in the mid 90's, we were able to incorporate an incredibly valuable tool into our arsenal of turf care equipment: the fraize mower.

We had always been working to solve the problem posed by excess organic matter that accumulated in the turf's thatch layer over time.

Thatch is a layer of grass shoots, stems, and roots (stolons and rhizomes) that are either alive and well, or are dead and will be broken down into nutrients for the plant! Thatch build up occurs when the turf produces organic debris faster than it can be broken down. This is a common occurrence on high performance turf pitches.

Thatch provides many benefits to turfgrass including insulation, protection from physical damage and promoting lateral growth. It's also a nice cushion for any players that happen to fall on the pitch!

Unfortunately, it's not all sunshine and rainbows when it comes to thatch. Thick thatch can cause extensive root damage because of how quickly it heats up and dries out. It can also hold too much water

during rainy periods resulting in root rot. Even large populations of disease-causing organisms can be found in thick thatch layers. Ultimately you want a thatch layer that's not too thick, not too thin, but just right!

Traditionally, sports turf managers have controlled thatch using core aeration. This helps to correct soil compaction and improve air circulation in the soil. Improved air circulation promotes microbial activity and healthy microbes in the soil are essential to turfgrass performance. These microorganisms process soil nutrients so that they're readily available for the plant to absorb. Topdressing with a sand-heavy soil after aeration will help decompose the thatch layer, and also help with water percolation preventing root rot.

Since the introduction of fraize mowing, core aeration isn't the only way to manage thatch. If the thatch layer is out of control, and you've concluded that the field in question requires intensive renovation, go on and put that fraize mower to work. Be aware however that fraize mowing is a very aggressive process and it must be part of a comprehensive renovation strategy. Several parameters need to be established beforehand such as depths, expectations, field conditions, and field downtime. An initial discussion is crucial to ensure that fraize mowing is truly the right solution, and that it is



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SPORTS TURF CANADA™

328 Victoria Road South

Guelph, ON N1L 0H2

Tel: (519) 763-9431

Fax: (519) 766-1704

E-mail: info@SportsTurfCanada.com

Web: SportsTurfCanada.com

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Ken Pavely, Ben Tymchyshyn
and Anne Baliva

PUBLISHER

Jackie Ranahan

Mach One Communications

E-mail: jackie@thinkmachone.com

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SPORTS TURF CANADA™ OFFICE

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Executive Manager's Message

BY ANNE BALIVA

For myself, 2018 has been a wonderful opportunity for lots of new conversations, understandings, and ideas. Our members are truly supportive of our organization and want to help us succeed. That's fantastic!

Our goals are to support the development of all sports turf professionals and ensure better, safer sports fields. Our courses, which we have recently reviewed and updated, are all aimed at ensuring the sports turf professional learns all that he/she needs to fulfill their job responsibilities to the best of their ability. Our publications and field days are meant to provide further education as to what is happening within the industry and allow members to connect with one another.

2018 has already brought great opportunities to connect with our members:

- The **STMA annual conference** in Texas where two of our Board Directors attended to get a better understanding of what's happening in our industry in North America and to meet with the STMA organization to define some possible opportunities
- The **Western Canada Turfgrass Association (WCTA) conference** in Richmond, BC on February 14th – 16th. This allowed myself and several of our Board Directors to interact with sports turf professionals and potential members to share what STC does and why. STC and WCTA have a joint membership agreement which provides BC and AB members discounted memberships in both organizations along with discounts to each association's activities. You should join today!
- The **Ontario Turfgrass Symposium** – took place on February 21st and 22nd and was filled with conversations with our members, the majority of our Board Directors and some wonderful speakers. Thank you to our members who sponsored and exhibited.
- Our "Sports Turf Canada is Bringing our Courses to Your Municipality!" has sparked much interest and we've had recent discussions with several municipalities to understand their needs and training requirements. We can customize any of our courses if there is a particular topic you need covered, a regional issue you are tackling or a unique arrangement. The City of Hamilton is hosting our first training session in March and we are working with other municipalities to set up other training dates. Watch the STC website for full details.
- And we can't wait for our annual members' forum this year at Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton, Ontario. This event sold out last year and we can't wait for the fantastic conversations that happen in that room. This year's conversations will be active with our sports turf expert panel discussion. Come out and ask your questions of our panellists: Robert Heggie (BMO Field, Toronto) and Joe Breedon (City of Barrie).

I encourage every one of you to give me a call, pull me aside at a meeting, or send me an email. Your staff and Board of STC want to know such things as:

- How satisfied you are with your membership benefits?
- Are our communications effective for your use?
- How well do you think STC represents your interests and needs in the industry?
- How do you feel about the quality of programs and services offered?
- Is there anything you'd like to see us do for our members that we don't already?
- If there was one thing you'd change about STC, what would it be?

I look forward to hearing from you. Until then, thank you for your ongoing support and dedication. It's so greatly appreciated.

Event Calendar

April 12, 2018 Sports Turf Canada Annual General Meeting

Tim Horton's Field – Hamilton, ON
sportsturfcanada.com

April 30 – May 4, 2018 Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) Annual Professional Development Program & Expo

University of Guelph, Ontario
orfa.com/apdp

May 30, 2018 Sports Turf Canada Robert W. Sheard Scholarship Deadline

sportsturfcanada.com/robert-w-sheard-scholarship

September 20, 2018 Central Canada (Ontario) Field Day

Hosted by: City of Belleville – a city located at the mouth of the Moira River on the Bay of Quinte in Southern Ontario, along the Quebec City-Windsor Corridor.

Where: Mary-Anne Sills Park, Belleville

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"THE FUTURE LIES BEFORE YOU LIKE A FIELD OF FALLEN SNOW. BE CAREFUL HOW YOU TREAD IT FOR EVERY STEP WILL SHOW."



Inside this issue...

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Deadline for Spring 2018 Sports Turf Manager: April 20, 2018

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going to be performed properly.

The concept of fraize mowing is simple: remove the top layer of organic matter including thatch, weeds and invasive grasses, while leaving the main root structure and crown intact. In conjunction with an overseeding process, this main root structure will regrow. There are several different types of fraize mowers that each have their own unique applications. From straight bar, to carbide tip round shank, to a 90-degree tiller blade; as a sports turf manager, you have options. With each implement, you also control depth. Whether you are planning on simply re-growing, overseeding, slit seeding, drop seeding and top dressing, coring and overseeding, or sodding, you can find the perfect fraize mower and depth combo to achieve the best results.

If you decide to fraize mow a field, be prepared to move lots of organic debris! Even light fraize mowing will remove hundreds of yards of material that will need to be pulled off the field using trailers, wagons, or trucks. A close dump site is essential and a plan for how to compost the material for later use will help immensely. Since fraize mowing removes so much organic debris, it is an excellent cultural practice from an Integrated Pest Management perspective. Instead of using chemical solutions to combat broad leaf weeds and *Poa Annua*, fraize mowing can pull away any seeds and stands that would have out competed your desired cultivar. As

previously mentioned, fraize mowing will also reduce the amount of thatch in your field, which can be home to disease-causing microorganisms! It is an excellent cultural alternative to the many chemical solutions used to treat diseases.

The fraize mowing process will also remove small divots and undulations from the field. You will be extremely pleased to see the flat field that results from proper fraize mowing. In extreme cases when there are large divots and holes, the field will need to be terra planed.

Terra planing is a deeper, more aggressive form of fraize mowing. This is almost strictly used when fresh sod is to be laid, or if the field is too uneven to simply be seeded. Typical terra planing depth is 1.5-2 inches. Sod will root and interface with the existing root structure much better if the surface has been terra planed. If the field is to be overseeded, terra planing is not recommended because the establishment time from seed to usable-field will be very long.

If you choose to lightly fraize mow a field, the post-mow process is typically topdress, groom, an aggressive starter fertilizer application, seed and water. This must be commenced immediately so that the stolons and rhizomes are allowed to regrow.

At Greenhorizons, we find that a medium fraize mowing depth in a reasonably even field, followed by mechanical slit seeding provides excellent results. When slit seeding, depth is crucial! Be

careful not to plant the seeds in the left-over organic matter, but right down into the soil. Direct seed-soil contact is critical to the success of the project.

A method that has also worked extremely well for Greenhorizons, is to terra plane the center 15,000 to 20,000 square feet of the field and re-sod that area. Then, fraize mow the outer edges of the field at a light to medium depth and topdress or slit seed that area. This will provide a usable field in approximately 6 weeks depending on the initial conditions of the field.

The ideal time to fraize mow for us is the first two weeks of September. This gives the field time to recover for the rest of the fall and early spring before programming is started in late May/ June of the following year. Keep in mind though that it is highly recommended to complete your fraize mowing project before the irrigation system is winterized. Some days in September and October can be very windy and dry!

Once a field has been fraize mowed, be sure to have all your tools and materials ready to go immediately following completion. Whether you're seeding, topdressing, or coring, having your equipment prepped and ready to go is key. Additionally, having water access and irrigating as soon as possible will prevent the field from desiccating.

Remember that you need to give the field time to recover after

fraize mowing! Improper field management following this process can result in a field in worse condition than before. Be sure to have plenty of time allocated to the project in anticipation of potential hang-ups. You need to be very detail oriented when fraize mowing so as to complete the project properly and in a timely manner.

A word of caution, especially when it comes to soccer fields, never renovate only the goal mouth's and centres. Although this is what typically wears out first, the ability to keep these smaller areas intensively maintained is very difficult. Choose a reasonable width for the centre and fraize mow from end to end. This can typically be irrigated with a zone or two, and can be mowed separately from the rest of the field allowing the renovated area time to establish without traffic.

In summary, fraize mowing can be an excellent tool in the turf manager's bag of tricks, but it must be part of an overall rejuvenation plan. If you plan on fraize mowing, remember these key points: establish a complete renovation plan before starting; consult with a company who has rejuvenation experience; ensure water is readily available for a speedy recovery; and make sure you have the equipment to haul a large amount of organic material and enough space to compost it. •



Author Steve Schiedel



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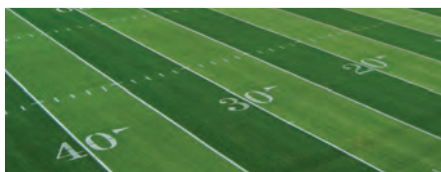
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Who's training our staff?

By Josh Carlsen

Have you noticed in the turf industry, that a new employee from another turf industry company will work and perform daily tasks slightly or even completely different then how you were shown?

My name is Josh, and I work for the Parks department of a municipality and I have noticed how employees do tasks slightly different then how I was shown. This had me thinking "Why? Why is he doing it that way? Why is she using that tool to do that job? Who trained this person? Who's training our employees?"

I wanted to find the answers to these questions, so I observed employees and how they worked alone and together, to see if I could find a solution to my conundrum. I realized if everyone was trained the same way, then the work done across the municipality would look the same. The training of hundreds of municipal employees by one person would take a long time and be a big task. But if that one person could train a few select people, then they could spread out and teach others. All workers will then work together with the same principles resulting in a consistent and beautifully maintained municipality.

Using the "how to train the trainer" education model whereby individuals identified to teach, mentor or train others, attend training themselves, I decided to take the concept and make a video specific to our industry with the help of some students of Kwantlen Polytechnic University. We called the video STANDARDS, because when you are training someone to become a trainer, you will always end up teaching in a way that the outcome will meet your standards of work ethic, so why not train in a way that produces high standards?

The word 'standards' can be turned into an acronym and then be used as a tool for training the trainer:

S - Safety
T - Tone
A - Ask
N - Narrate
D - Demonstrate
A - Advise
R - Record
D - Develop
S - Strict

These nine categories can be split up further into the following subcategories: Logistics, Standards, Preparation, Explanation, Voice, Positioning, Safety, Repetition, Practice and Confirmation.

I created a template included in this article, in which a trainer can be taught. Upon completion of being trained this way, the trainer can now teach employees these methods which will ensure everyone performs their work the same way, resulting in high standards of work ethic and performance. This template can be applied to any job in the turfgrass industry.

Whomever uses the template are to fill it out with the information and standards that they want taught. For example, a superintendent of a golf course would fill it out and go over it with their assistant superintendent and even train the assistant using the template. Then the assistant superintendent would train all the employees using the template which would guarantee that all the work performed on the golf course would meet the high standards of the superintendent.

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STANDARDS TRAINING TEMPLATE

STANDARDS – Safety

Logistics = Teaching Area

- Same Equipment Used.
- Personal Protective Equipment (“PPE”).
- Trainees should be taught in the same teaching area, with the same equipment, and with the same PPE to mimic the job-site.

Standards = Safety Comes First!

- You should always cover personal safety, equipment safety procedures and emergency shut down procedures for all equipment.
- Teach everyone consistently – same area, passing % and instructions.
- Safety is most important and should be practiced daily.

Preparation = Panic action (safe word or action).

- Ensure you have a safe word or action, such as waving your hands, or saying STOP!
- Recognize and react to nerves or mechanical ineptitude to ensure competence.
- Mastering a task before teaching/have to have done task before.
- You must have operated machine in work situation
- Know your machine and manual first.

Explanation = Once you have gone through the verbal instructions, have the student repeat everything back to you to ensure they understand what you have gone through with them.

Voice = Talk slowly, calmly and clearly when teaching.

- Practice what you preach.

Safety = Be in a position to correct “the worst that could happen.”

- “Triangle” line of sight.
- Where to stand.
- “Kill” signal.
- Hazards awareness.
- Point, guide, touch and gesture.

Repetition = Testing/Annual Retesting

- Be sure to feel out if the trainee is nervous, ask them if they feel safe and ready to operate, help them to feel at ease.

STANDARDS – Tone

Logistics = Inspire confidence.

- Understanding safety, equipment procedures and how everything works may not be enough to inspire a student to be comfortable on a piece of equipment - encouragement and supportive comments (I believe you can do this) help ensure the student will feel confident enough to want to run equipment for the first time.

Standards = Positive

- Make sure you speak very clearly and that the trainee understands you.
- Make sure the trainee can hear you. On a machine it can be loud so take that into account.
- Speak with respect.
- Provide feedback as they trial.
- When talking with a new employee be sure to talk very clearly, slowly and audibly.

Explanation = The new employee must hear and understand everything the teacher says. This is of the most importance as the students safety is up to you and your training. Pauses to “sink in.”

Voice = Loud, slow, clear and enunciate.

Safe = Emphasize critical points.

Repetition = Answer every question, ask them to repeat for understanding.

- Ask questions to make sure the trainee understands.

STANDARDS – Ask

Repetition = Ask the employee if everything is understood to clarify any misconception.

Practice Site = Ask about machine as a test (buttons, levers, parts, safe = limitations).

- Questions are always important. Ask your trainee if they have any questions about anything you've taught them. The trainee will learn more by asking what is on their mind, and make them feel more confident with the new machine.

STANDARDS – Narrate

Standards = Speak with respect.

Explanation = Assume they know nothing.

Voice = Confidence plays a big part when teaching.

Position = Be in a safe place; have a safety outlet route.

Safety = Use a checklist to cover all topics.

- Be sure to speak clearly and confidently and ensure the trainee understands the importance of the task and the risks involved. When it's the first time training someone, always use a large open area to ensure a safe exit route.

STANDARDS – Demonstrate

Repetition = Demonstrate > Guided trial > Practice time

Safety = While training a new operator it is extremely important to demonstrate safety.

Position = Guide their position, ergonomics: safe, efficient body position and feel.

Voice = Pace and volume appropriate.

Explanation = How not to do with correctly how to.

Confirmation = If no practice area, split work in half with employee .

Standards = Before having trainee operate machine, you operate it and make sure trainee feels comfortable on machine before running it, "ask" them:

- When demonstrating for a trainee, make sure they understand what to do and what not to do, and that they know how to be as safe as possible. Be sure that they are comfortable on the machine, and that they understand everything you say while encouraging them to ask questions.

STANDARDS – Advise

Voice = Calm and positive.

Explanation = Personal experiences.

Practice Site = Training right and wrong.

Demonstrate = Right and wrong.

- Give advice. Speak with a calm and positive voice. Use personal experiences to explain what you are teaching. Demonstrate both the right and wrong ways.

STANDARDS – Record

Standards = In writing

- Have a detailed paper/manual made up for the trainee. This can be useful for the trainee to study.
-

Safety = Must always demonstrate safety; safety "exam."

Practice Site = Retrain will ensure confidence in your teaching.

Demonstrate = Have employee demonstrate task competency.

- Keep detailed records of training and provide a paper manual for your trainee to study from. Have the trainee take a safety "exam" and provide results to learn from.

STANDARDS – Develop

Logistics = Deal with actions on local hazards.

Standards = Follow ups.

Preparation = Trainer should have used equipment and be familiar with equipment before being certified for training.

Explanation = No "grey-area."

Voice = Loud and affirmative.

Position = Be in a safe area where you can react to a potential hazard or accident.

Safety = “Triangle”; being visible

- The trainer should be familiar with the equipment and areas to be used.

STANDARDS – Strict

Explanation = Be friendly but also strict when teaching.

Confirmation = Ask “Do you understand what I am explaining?”

Demonstration = Ask “Do you understand how I demonstrated?”

Safety Aspects = Ask “Do you know all the safety procedures?”

Voice = Volume appropriate

Standards = “Auto-FAIL!”

- Remembering to be strict will be important in making sure your trainee is comfortable on their new machine. Be friendly but do not allow any standards to be broken. Safety is always important, and automatic failures on any test should still result in automatic failures.”
-

The video we created, featured at the Western Canada Turfgrass Association Conference, will show you this template with actions and visualizations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FaE5EEXtss>

Many turf managers have noted they would use this template to train their employees, ensuring the future of exceptional industry training. •

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Kelly Barnet, South Western Ontario
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kelly.barnet@brettyoung.ca

Everett Nieuwkoop, South Western Ontario, Toronto & Niagara
519-688-4397
everett.nieuwkoop@brettyoung.ca

Chris Nelson, Toronto & Niagara
416-500-5233
chris.nelson@brettyoung.ca

Steve Hewgill, Northern Ontario
705-896-2148
steve.hewgill@brettyoung.ca

Andrew Hardy, Toronto & Central Ontario
647-241-1134
andrew.hardy@brettyoung.ca

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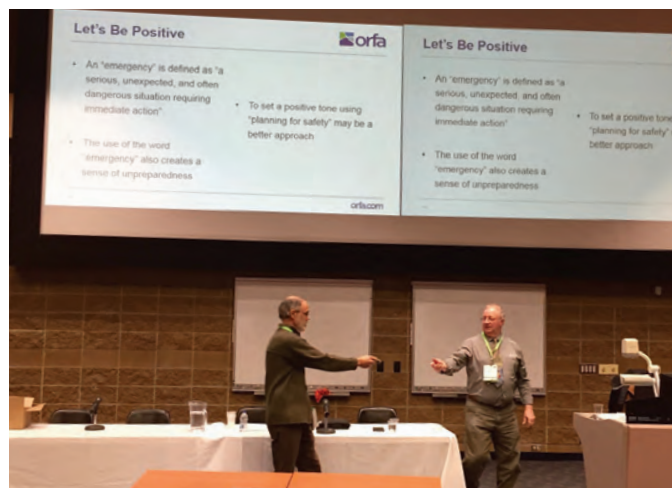
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Want to bring more value to your workplace from your Conference or Field Day experience? One observation that puzzles me is how few attendees seem to record their talk experiences. Perhaps some people can retain everything they hear and see, but my brain sadly cannot. Some things we hear at talks, we may already know, but we don't want to risk missing out on key items that could make a difference to our operation. We are always on the lookout for new research, products, procedures, concerns and experiences that we can apply to our job. Improving product quality while achieving financial savings is really the goal of attending these events.

Paper and pen recording works fine, but these days all sharing of information will be done digitally, so transcription then becomes necessary. Entering information directly onto a lightweight laptop or notepad is far more efficient timewise. Used tablets can now be had for \$200 and perfectly portable for this use.

Sitting alone for a time period may look unsociable, but can allow you to focus on the task without distraction. However, discussing with a buddy what you heard compared to what they heard can be very valuable in verifying accuracy and retaining missed points. Do what works best for you. Arrive early to find a seat up front with a clear view of the screen unimpeded by the speaker. A good central seat will also be easier to take pics with your phone: critical visuals, instructions, results and contacts are worthwhile with the mute button on.



Central seat up front for clear view and easy photos

For many, their keying speed is slow, so point form data input is essential. Entering everything said is not necessary, just the "take home messages" of the who-what-where-when-how-why key points. Of special interest to me are thoughts that hit me beyond just the straight facts: Personal experiences, discussions, cautions and 'What-ifs'.

Tips for applying Nematodes

- diaphragm pump less damaging
- high water output at least 2 gallons /1000
- low pressure below 70 psi
- remove all screens , filters, constant light agitation surfactant can help
- must water before and immediately after then lightly for 7 days
nematode numbers drop drastically after 7 days
- showery days best , next early morning or evening or cloudy days UV
can destroy in as little as 30 minutes
- some wetting agents (Iello 96)
- since scarabeid work on 3rd instar delay applications until conditions
improve

Because you can't write that fast

Here is an excerpt of my notes from a recent talk:

Manage growth rate with N: Balance of density/traffic/temp/health > desired play surface

Excess N > thatch accumulate > scalping

Minimize N to minimize thatch inputs

Growth Rate a function of EPI: "Environmental Productivity Index":

-light, water, temp, N (LWTN) = EPI

Temp may be most relevant, but limits of any will slow growth rate

PAR = Photosynthetically Active Radiation

PPFD = # photon/sq.m/sec

Daily Light Integral: # moles light/m/day

Question: Correlate N cost with net maintenance cost?

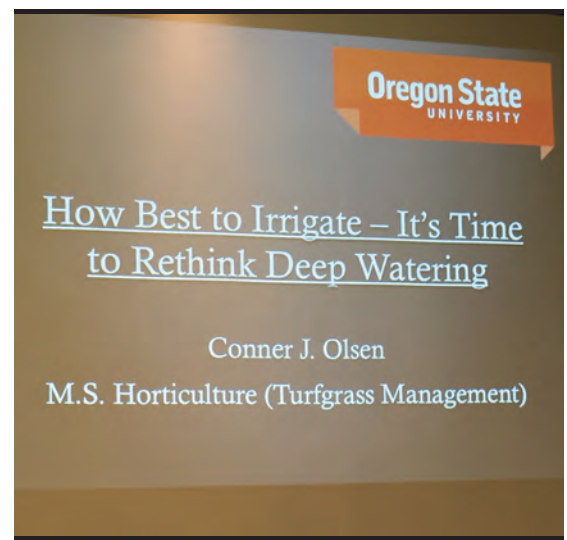
See: Rob W. about compost; Roch Gausson /Nebraska research on TD rate

Reviewing your data very soon after the event, while still fresh in mind, is important. If taking paper notes, getting these entered to digital format that night is really ideal before contexts are forgotten. Some data will invite more research, typically by accessing websites suggested in the talk. This will all result in data relevant to your use.



Easier than explaining an idea

When back at work, share your notes with your boss and staff. This is a time to inform, discuss and stimulate creative discussions and options. Ideally we want to transform this data into actions that can improve product and save resources. Bringing tangible value home from a conference or field day will certainly also justify to your boss the value of sending you to these events in the future. •



For follow up

Images taken at Ontario Turfgrass Symposium event, February 2018

Transporting Cargo and Dangerous Goods

Excerpts from a Presentation Held at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

Feb 22-2018

Presented by: Richard Curado, Ministry of Transportation
(A Transportation Enforcement Officer with the Waterloo District)



The notes contained below are specific to Ontario regulations. It's imperative to research the appropriate regulations for your own province or territory. This provides a simple overview of possible requirements.

Cargo Securement

Securement is the vehicle structure, securing of all items and blocking and bracing of secured items. Always refer to the highway traffic act (note different requirements for a commercial motor vehicle with gross vehicle weight rating of 4,500 kilograms or less and those over 4,500 kilograms).

Cargo:

- Must remain contained, immobilized or secured on or within the transporting vehicle and remain there under all normal operating conditions of the vehicle
- The driver is responsible for the load, and will not operate the load unless it is loaded, secured, bound and won't shift, in accordance with the regulations
- There should be no shifting as the vehicle's stability of manoeuvrability is then adversely affected
- The load must be able to withstand a minimum amount of force when accelerating and braking
- The type of securement must be appropriate to the cargo size, strength and characteristics (for example, if you are stacking items)
- All anchor points (floors, decks, walls, sideboards, stakes, posts, headboard and bulkheads) must be in good working order – no damage, distress or weakened sections
- Tiedowns can be directly tied to cargo or indirectly by passing over or through cargo

- All securing items must be designed, constructed and maintained so that the driver can tighten it. It must be in proper working order with no knots or damage, no distress, no weakened parts. The use of a rope as a tiedown is not permitted. Items cannot become loose or unfastened, opened or released during transit.
- Use of rub rails, when present (designed to "rub" against other objects to protect the chains, straps, and tiedowns commonly used to secure cargo) on the trailer. By routing such tiedowns between the rub rail and the deck of the trailer, the driver can protect the tiedowns from impacts to the side of the trailer is required.
- Materials for blocking or bracing must be strong enough to withstand being split or crushed by the cargo or tiedowns
- All types of cargo must meet one of three criteria:
 - Cargo fully contained by structures of adequate strength
 - Cargo is immobilized by structures of adequate strength or a combination of structure, blocking and bracing to prevent shifting or tipping
 - Cargo is immobilized or secured on or within a vehicle by tiedowns along with any other combination of securement system components
- Articles loaded and secured side by side must be in direct contact with each other or be prevented from shifting towards each other in transit by blocking or other space filler materials of adequate size and strength
- Cargo that may roll must be prevented from rolling – i.e lift the cargo off the deck and securing to the deck, and using chocks, wedges or other equivalent means



- There is a minimum requirement of 1 tiedown within each 3.04m (10 ft) or part thereof and the placement of them must be as close as possible to any spacers and as symmetrically as possible over the length of the article and as close to blocking and bracing as possible to hold article secure. Two are required within the first 3.04m for articles if not blocked by front end structure, over 500kg and less than 1.52m (5ft) in length.
- Tiedowns have a working load limit assigned by the manufacturer and chains are marked with a numeric code which corresponds to the National Assoc of Chain Manufacturers Welded Steel Chain Specifications
- Specific requirements for vehicles – light vehicle weighs 4,500 kg or less shall be restrained at both the front and rear from moving sideways, forward, rearward and vertically using a minimum of 2 tiedowns. Those designed to fit over or around the wheels must restrain the vehicles from moving.
- Further requirements exist for those that weigh more than 4,500 kg with accessories such as a hydraulic shovel, those that can pivot, tilt or move sideways.

Load inspections

- Pre-trip inspection – look for insecure cargo and the absence, failure, malfunction or deterioration of a required cargo securement device
- Drivers must inspect the vehicles cargo securement system not more than 80km from the point where the cargo was loaded. They are required to regularly re-inspect the vehicle's cargo and make adjustments as necessary – every 3 hours or every 240 km. Loads must also be inspected at each change of duty status (when a driver starts driving again after a break or off-duty period during the trip).

Dangerous Goods

Review the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act (Ontario)

- A searchable database exists to determine if it's a dangerous good
- There are strict requirements for containment, marking of items, documentation that must be carried, training on it's safe handling and emergency procedures, etc.
- Dangerous goods must be accompanied by physical documentation (within drivers reach) or within view from someone who enters from the driver's side
- There are multiple "special cases" that may exempt loads from some or all of these requirements depending on quantity and type.

Please note, these were notes taken from a presentation, it is important to review and understand the act that exists. Not knowing the regulations is not an excuse.

Visit http://ccmta.ca/images/publications/pdf/cargo_driver_handbook.pdf for more information •





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1 Day Natural Introduction

This course is designed to introduce the fundamentals of sports field maintenance and best practices, including case studies to ensure better, safer sports turf. The old saying of “build it and they will come” has been updated to “build it right and they can come every day to play safely”. Understanding the science involved with creating and maintaining turf is key for a safe and durable natural sports field. This introductory course will be of interest to those who maintain sports turf and those who wish to understand the fundamentals of sports field development and maintenance.

Topics

- What is sports field maintenance
- Importance of player safety
- Importance of proper training
- Turfgrass, the species
- Field construction and drainage
- Mowing techniques, equipment and best practices.
- Establishing turfgrass
- Fertilizing, products, application and environmental impacts
- Aeration, equipment and topdressing
- Overseeding
- Irrigation and maintenance

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\$425 non-member

2.5 Day Natural Safety and Maintenance

This course is designed to share the latest principles and techniques of managing and maintaining natural sports turf. The course will be of interest to those who manage or maintain sports turf (in other turf areas) and those who wish to develop additional knowledge, past the fundamentals. The course offers a range of options to deal with issues such as restricted pesticide use, restricted water use, and how best to manage within limited financial resources.

Topics

- Turf species and their uses, characteristics and benefits
- Soils as a growth medium for turfgrass including management of soil for better field performance
- Practices to enhance and promote good turf and improve playing conditions
- Water management including drainage systems, irrigation practices, efficient use of water
- Weed, insect and disease Identification, monitoring, and control
- Integrated pest management (IPM) programs using biological and cultural methods
- Restoration methods and best practices for optimal conditions

\$600 member
\$800 non-member

1 Day Synthetic Safety and Maintenance

This course explores the myth that artificial turf is low maintenance. It includes such review as construction methods, materials, maintenance equipment and staffing requirements. We will cover the complexities associated with synthetic turf maintenance. This course will be of interest to those who manage or maintain synthetic sports turf and for those who want additional knowledge of it's maintenance requirements. Course will include an on-field demonstration of concepts learned in classroom.

Topics

- What is synthetic turf?
- History of synthetic turf
- Design of fields
- How to identify your type of field
- Installation and drainage understanding
- Field safety best practices
- Infill understanding
- Equipment overview
- Maintenance best practices and techniques
- Troubleshooting common problems

\$225 member
\$425 non-member

Requirements:

- A suitable room that can hold approx 20 people from 8am-4pm
- Access to a sports field, preferably within walking distance
- Use of a screen, white board or TV for projection purposes
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www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/aarfp2018/home/

2018 Recreation Facilities Association of British Columbia (RFABC) Conference April 24 – 26, 2018

*Delta Grand Okanagan Resort and Conference Centre,
Kelowna, BC*

This year's theme is 70 Years, Building for the Future. Sessions on succession planning, project and contract management, alternatives to ammonia refrigeration systems, gender issues, janitorial trends, and converting ice-resurfacers to electric are topics being considered for presentations.

www.rfabc.com/Conference.htm

Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) 63rd Annual Professional Development Program April 29 – May, 2018

University of Guelph, ON

www.orfa.com/apdp

2018 Atlantic Recreation and Facilities Conference and Tradeshow May 30 – June 1, 2018

Charlottetown, PEI

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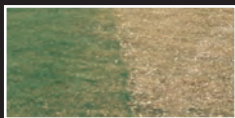
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