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newsletter

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[sfmanjchapter@netscape.net](mailto:sfmanjchapter@netscape.net)  
Cost: Members \$150  
Non-members \$175

## SFMANJ BUSINESS

Next Board meeting—November 20, 3:30 pm at Rutgers University. Horticulture Farm 2, Geiger Conference Room, Ryders Lane, New Brunswick.

Election of the 2002 Board of Directors will be held at the annual meeting at the NJTA Expo educational session on Dec. 13. At that time members will have an opportunity to vote or choose an addition to the nominations.

If you are interested in helping with a committee, please E-mail us at [sfmanjchapter@netscape.net](mailto:sfmanjchapter@netscape.net) or call Larry George at 800-942-0134 or Jim Gavigan at 732-248-8979.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### STMA

January 7,8,9 – National Conference in Las Vegas. Contact STMA at 800-323-3875.

### NJ TURF GRASS ASSOCIATION

December 11 to 13 – NJTA Expo Conference at The Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. Sports Turf Educational session is on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup>. For information call Dr. Richard Caton at 856-853-5973.

### RUTGERS Coming up:

January 7-11 & February 11-15 -Athletic Field Management School

February 26-28, 3-day short course-Athletic Field Construction and Maintenance

January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6 - Professional Parks Maintenance

## MONTHLY FIELD TIP

### “JUST GIVE IT WHAT IT NEEDS”

When discussing maintenance and management issues on sports turf there is no one application or procedure that is going to make the difference in the direction your field is headed.

Every result has a direct cause. Every negative cause has a negative result and every positive cause has a positive result.

Even small changes in your program cumulatively make a big difference. Every situation is different. Some causes have a very noticeable effect such as the big game being played in the rain. Some causes have a less obvious effect such as adjusting the soil Ph from 5.9 to 6.5.

The more intense the playing schedule is on your field, the more intense and creative your management strategy needs to be. In order to have a winning program you should first accept a very basic principle of turf management. You can grow grass anywhere; “**JUST GIVE IT WHAT IT NEEDS.**”

By accepting this statement as the most basic principle of sports turf management and also accepting the challenges that go along with it, the sports field manager becomes a part of one of the most demanding and rewarding areas of the green industry.

The first step in giving your turf what it needs begins with fortifying your knowledge and getting a better understanding of what athletic fields are all about. Education is acquired by networking with other individuals like you, through a membership with SFMANJ. As a member you have the opportunity to become involved in the field days and seminars provided by the chapter and classes provided by Rutgers.

The NJTA Expo Sports Turf educational session held on December 13<sup>th</sup>, is planned and conducted by our organization. It is an exceptional opportunity for the sports field manager to attend classes dedicated to the profession and also see first hand, products and equipment on display at the trade show.

“Give it what it needs” has spawned an idea to begin a monthly series of articles addressing what your fields need. The information will come from the professionals in the field of Athletic Turf. Next month, “Begin At The Beginning, Soil Sampling.”