

UPDATE

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Sports Field
Managers Association of New Jersey

SFMANJ Has a Busy Summer in 2008



Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, PA hosted a Summer Regional Conference sponsored by STMA on June 27, 2008.

STMA Regional Educational Event a Success

By: Kim Heck

Sports Turf Managers Association held a regional educational event and field day at Lincoln Financial Field (home of the Philadelphia Eagles) and Citizens Bank Park (home of the Phillies) on June 27, 2008. Six STMA-affiliated chapters supported the program: the Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO); Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ); Sports Turf Managers of New York (STMONY); Chesapeake Chapter of STMA; Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association (VSTMA) and New England Sports Turf Managers Association (NESTMA).

Emcee Dan Douglas from the KAFMO chapter, kept the more than 160 attendees moving to the various events throughout the day. Dr. John Sorochan, University of Tennessee, started the program with a presentation about how new bermudagrass can successfully be grown in the transition zone. He also presented cool season turf management later in the day.

Jeff Fowler, Penn State Extension, challenged attendees to make personal changes to help them be better sports turf managers during his '7 Habits of Highly Defective Sports Turf Managers' presentation.

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SFMANJ Summer Trade Show and Equipment Demonstrations

By: Brad Park

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) once again collaborated with New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) and Rutgers University to take part in the annual Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Field Day at the Rutgers Adelphia Turfgrass Research Farm in Adelphia, NJ on July 30, 2008.

A morning trade show and equipment demonstrations were sponsored by SFMANJ. The trade show consisted of eleven vendors and saw significant attendee traffic between 7:30 and 9:00 am.

Education was provided by Rutgers faculty, staff, and graduate students and included information on new perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass varieties, updates on pesticide regulations, breeding for brown patch resistance in tall fescue, and broadleaf and grassy weed control.

As a new programming format for 2008, vendor-sponsored equipment demonstrations were incorporated into educational tours. This format proved to be successful as large numbers of attendees were present when the latest turf maintenance equipment was being operated for all to witness.

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A trade show sponsored by SFMANJ welcomed attendees to the Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Field Day held at the Rutgers Adelphia Research Farm on July 30, 2008

STMA Regional Educational Event a Success

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Tony Leonard, Director of Grounds for the Philadelphia Eagles, who hosted the event, his assistant Dan Shemesh, and Dr. Sorochan conducted a tour of the field and discussed the equipment used and the overall field management practices.

Mike Boekholder, head groundskeeper for the Philadelphia Phillies, showcased his field,

highlighting specific recovery techniques he has been implementing over the past two weeks since the June 14 Jimmy Buffet concert.

A 'Chapter Challenge' was conducted that tested a team from each chapter on agronomic questions. The winning chapter, VSTMA, won a registration to the STMA Annual Conference, to be held Jan. 13-17, 2009 in San José. Philadelphia Eagles and STMA merchandise also was given away during a raffle.

Kim Heck is Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), Lawrence, KS

SFMANJ Summer Trade Show and Equipment Demonstrations

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Following the educational stops and equipment demos, lunch was served and pesticide credits were awarded. Pesticide recertification credits were available for applicators in New Jersey as well as neighboring states including Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The 2008 Field Day was yet again a great opportunity for SFMANJ members and other Green Industry professionals to network with peers and industry representatives.

See you at Expo 2008 in December!

Brad Park is Sports Turf Res. and Ed. Coor., Rutgers Univ.; SFMANJ Board member; and Editor; SFMANJ Update

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