



# Why I Love My Job in the Spring!

By Don Savard, CSFM, CGM

**A**s a Sports Field Manager, I love my job in the spring! It begins with the February anticipation; I want to go outside and accomplish something. There are new things I'd like to try out on the fields. Will the weather cooperate today so that I can complete some task? Will I meet my deadlines so the teams can hold practice?

Next, the season begins, people are having fun. There's good weather, followed by bad weather, followed by decent weather and the challenges that come with rescheduling games and adjusting mowing schedules. Finally it all comes together; the smell of fresh cut grass, warm sunshine, short sleeves, suntan lotion, and doubleheaders.

Did someone ask about a Field Day? We got 'em! See inside this newsletter for details on our upcoming events; first, our Summer Field Day on June 22, 2010 at our 2009 Field of the Year in Lacey Township New Jersey. Following that next will be the Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day 2, Lawn, Landscape and Sports Fields to be held July 28, 2010 at the Adelphia Turf Research Farm. Good stuff, always news you can use!

Interested in enhancing your career? Becoming active in the SFMANJ has been one of the best things I have done for my career. Here is why:

1. It has introduced me to people in our industry I would not have met. I have developed a valuable network. I know who to call when I need help and people call me when they need help too.
2. I have access to the latest industry trends and developments. This helps me manage my sports fields effectively and smarter.
3. It has given me an opportunity to give something back to the industry by serving on a committee, writing an article, or helping out at an event.

4. I have had an opportunity to work with people outside of my place of employment. It has exposed me to new ideas, different outlooks and a chance to perform at a higher level.
5. I have a better understanding of how the State and local government operates and what the challenges and issues are and the effect it has on my job.
6. My sports fields are better.
7. Because of whom I know and what I know, I have developed more credibility at work.
8. I have input when it comes to the what, when, and where of event planning.
9. I enjoy the camaraderie with my fellow board members.
10. I have grown personally and professionally.

**Care to join us sometime?  
SFMANJ Board meetings are open  
to all members.**

Come and see what we do. Our SFMANJ Board of Directors usually meets the first Wednesday of the month. Usually we meet at the Rutgers Geiger Center at Turf Farm II. All are welcome, please call ahead: (856) 514-3179; or email: [mail@sfmanj.org](mailto:mail@sfmanj.org) and let us know that you are coming so we can have a seat for you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Savard" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don Savard is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) and Certified Grounds Manager (CGM); Director, Athletic Facilities and Grounds, Salesianum School; and President, SFMANJ.