

UPDATE

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey



Fall 2019
Vol. 19, No. 3

P.O. Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070 • 856-514-3179 • www.sfmanj.org • e-mail: mail@sfmanj.org

Don't miss the

2019 FALL FIELD DAY

October 23, 2019
Drum Point Park
(see inside)



Check inside for information on:

- EXPO 2019
- Growing Turfgrass in Red Bull Arena
- Fall Field Day Agenda
- Recap of Adelpia
- Irrigation System Winterization
- Upcoming Events

MORE COMFORT. MORE POWER.
MORE VERSATILITY. MORE CONTROL.

Simply Superior.

THE NEW WORKMAN GTX SERIES.
COMING SPRING 2016.



Storr Tractor Company

Branchburg, NJ 908-722-9830

TORO

©2016 The Toro Company. All rights reserved.

Welcome! New and Renewed SFMANJ Members

Currently we have 232 new & renewed members. Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey mailed invoices for 2019 membership dues to all current members. If you did not receive an invoice, please contact us at 856.514.3179 or download the membership form available at www.sfmanj.org. Mail membership dues direct to SFMANJ, PO Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070.

Zach Owen	Fisher & Son Co., Inc.
Greg Bennett	Precision Laboratories LLC
Lou Bosaco	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Lance Ernst	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Doug Higgins	Ewing Irrigation & Landscape Supply
Mike Johnson	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Mike Minard	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Matthew Nieves	City of Perth Amboy
Brian Pardoe	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Terry Prem	Turfware, Inc.
Chuck Reynolds	Reed & Perrine
Glenn C. Toepert	St. Joseph Regional High School
Scott F. Wylie	Brick Board of Education

**DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE
WHO MAY HAVE THE**

SFMANJ

FIELD OF THE YEAR?

**IF SO. PLEASE CALL THE
SFMANJ OFFICE AT
856-514-3179
AND LET US KNOW.**

WE WILL DO THE REST

**Don't Forget . . .
SFMANJ
Fall Field Day
Wednesday,
October 23, 2019**

2019 SFMANJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President, Bernard Luongo No. Burlington Co. Reg. School Dist.
Vice President, Rich Watson Laurel Lawnmower
Secretary, Scott Bills, CSFM Sports Field Solutions
Treasurer, Zachary Holm, CSFM New York Red Bulls

SFMANJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Virgil Caputo Monroe Twp. Parks Department
Fred Castenschiold Storr Tractor Company
Jim Iannetti Middlesex Boro Parks Department
Reese Kerlin New York Red Bulls
Ken Mathis Brick Township
Brad Park Rutgers University
Jessica Phillips The Turf Trade
Craig Tolley County College of Morris

ADVISORS:

Sean Connell Georgia Golf
Dr. James Murphy Rutgers University
Matt Olivi Piscataway Twp. Board of Education
Frank Ravaschiere City of Long Branch
Don Savard, CSFM, CGM Salesianum School

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Debbie Savard SFMANJ

MISSION STATEMENT

Committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers by improving the safety, playability and appearance of athletic fields at all levels through seminars, field days, publications and networking with those in the sports turf industry.

PO Box 205 • Pennsville, NJ 08070

Web site: www.sfmanj.org • Email: mail@sfmanj.org
Phone: 856-514-3179 / Fax: 856-514-2542

National Organization
Sports Turf Managers Association
www.stma.org

**Make plans to attend the STMA National
Conference in West Palm Beach, FL**

call 856-514-3179 for info

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A Message from the President	4
Fall is the time to begin planning for EXPO 2019.	5
Technology and Growing Turfgrass in the Adverse Climates of Red Bull Arena	6
The Intelligent Use of Water: Irrigation System Winterization	7
Making Plans for Next Year.	8
Photo Recap: Rutgers Lawn, Landscape and Sports Turf Field Day.	10
2019 Calendar of Events.	14
Photos from 2018 Fall Field Day	15
New Jersey Green Expo Turf & Landscape Conference Schedule	17
SFMANJ Fall Field Day Agenda	18

*This newsletter is the official quarterly publication of the
Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey.*

*For information regarding this newsletter, contact:
SFMANJ at (856) 514-3179 or Brad Park at (848) 932-6327*

A Message from the President

HOLY 10-10-10

By Bernard Luongo



Hey, I had to title this something! The other choices were, Oh The Horror and Let's Go Baste a Turkey.

I suppose I should get this out of the way first so I can write something that makes absolutely no sense further on down the page.

I will be stepping down as President at the Green Expo in December after four years in that capacity. I will be transitioning into a Board position for the remainder of my term. Zack Holm, our current Treasurer, will be taking over as President and Jessica Phillips will transition into Treasurer. I have the utmost confidence in both parties to move the association forward and deliver quality financial and educational results.

My time being affiliated with SFMANJ has been educational and rewarding. It started innocently enough by a simple phone call. I was struggling with the maintenance of athletic fields and with the advice our then Facilities Director, Donald Czehut, who suggested I call a turf extension – some place called Rutgers, a State University or something like that.

Now mind you, I was a novice in this position. I came from a business background with absolutely no turf background except the "lawn needs to be cut again". So I called up a number I found for the Rutgers Turf Farm extension. A lady answered and gave me a cell phone number for a guy named Brad Park.

I called, he answered. So I started to explain, without sounding like I knew next to nothing, that I was having some trouble managing these athletic fields with athletes being on them all the time and tearing them up. Maybe you can come down and take a look. Email addresses were exchanged and the logistics of a field visit was arranged.

Upon his visit, four hours were spent examining fields, equipment, seed, fertilizer, soil samples for testing, irrigation and chatting about field maintenance. After a little while, I had to tell him he was getting to technical. I explained that I was a novice at this and that I need for him to explain things in layman's terms as best as he could so that I could understand it and put it to use. I said to him, "right now you are talking like you have a PhD." Well he promptly stated, I am

Continued on page 16

High Quality Bluegrass & Tall Fescue

Sand Sod grown on Hammonton sandy, loam-type soil designed for today's specialized modern athletic fields

Visit us on our web site: www.ttfarms.com

Our completely irrigated 700-acre farm allows production and deliveries to parts of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York and all of New Jersey.

Labor Saving Big Rolls, please call for custom installation prices:

800-222-0591

609-561-7184

Fax 609-561-0296

401 Myrtle Ave. • P.O. Box 148
Hammonton, NJ 08037

SPARQ  www.t



Tuckahoe Turf Farms



Fall is the time to begin planning for EXPO 2019

December 10-12, 2019

By Brad Park



Editor's Note: This article was adapted from materials developed by Chris Carson, Golf Course Superintendent, Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield, NJ and Expo Education Chairman; and Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA)

It's time to begin planning your trip to Expo 2019. The New Jersey Green Expo will be return to The Borgata in Atlantic City, NJ during December 10-12, 2019.

A few highlights:

Credits, Credits, Credits... New Jersey DEP Pesticide Credits (and other states) are anticipated as well as New Jersey ProFACT Fertilizer Credits.

Education... a comprehensive Educational Program will focus on Sports Fields, Lawn and Landscapes, and Golf disciplines. Local, national, and internationally known industry and university leaders will be presenting important information that you can use to make your operation better.

Trade Show... one of the largest trade show events in the region, Expo proudly presents many of the best vendors and suppliers of services. Discuss your specific management issues with the best companies our industry has to offer.

Fellowship... many opportunities exist to meet old friends and to make new ones. Whether on the trade show floor, or in the hallways between sessions, or in the many formal social opportunities, or in the informal social get-togethers, the three days at Expo offer you a great opportunity to learn what others are doing in our business in a relaxed atmosphere. Many attendees have told us that these informal discussions are highlights of the conference!

One-on-one discussion opportunities with industry leaders... including the many Faculty at Rutgers University and at other top-notch Universities. Rutgers Professors and more will be there to answer your management questions.

The Borgata to host Expo... The Borgata is the premier Hotel/Casino in Atlantic City and Expo will be returning to The Borgata for 2019!

The Expo mission statement: The NJ Green Expo is a science based conference and trade show that provides education, business, fellowship, and environmental stewardship opportunities in partnership with the Center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers University.

How can you convince your employer to send you? Continuing education and industry connections are crucial to your success and the success of your sports fields. Here are some suggestions to help your employer understand how your attendance at Expo 2019 can add value to the overall operation of your facility.

Educate yourself on the Conference and Exhibition

Provide your employer an overview of the size and scope of Expo 2019 and a copy of the education agenda. This edition of SFMANJ Update provides the Sports Field Managers Program for Expo 2019.

Continued on page 13

See you at the Green Expo on December 10!

Please register for the event at www.njturfgrass.org

Turf Trade
Your #1 Turf Supplier

517 Franklinville Road • Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Fertilizers/Seed 856-478-6704

Plant-Protectants Alan Phillips 609-226-9303

Soils/Sands Jessica Phillips 609-226-0408

www.theturftrade.com

**YOUR "ONE-STOP SOURCE" FOR AMERICA'S
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SURFACES & SUPPLIES!**



STATE APPROVED CO-OP PRICING

WE'VE SUPPLIED PRODUCTS TO EVERY MLB TEAM,
MOST MINOR LEAGUE & COLLEGE TEAMS,
AND THOUSANDS OF TOWNS & SCHOOLS WORLDWIDE!

800-247-BEAM

www.BEAMCLAY.com

email: sales@beamclay.com

**THE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR
INFIELD MIXES, MOUND CLAYS & RED WARNING TRACKS
OVER 5,000 INFIELD & SPORTS PRODUCTS**

Technology and Growing Turfgrass in the Adverse Climates of

Red Bull Arena



As time unfolds, we are pushing the boundaries of growing turfgrass. Technology is a key factor in the increase in quality and safety of today's sport surfaces. At Red Bull Arena, technology plays a major role in the quality of our field on event days. Without technology, having a quality field game-in-game-out would be more difficult. Due to the construction of Red Bull Arena, we utilize technology to combat challenges in growing turfgrass such as shade patterns, poor air circulation, disease pressure, wear from play, and compaction.

Red Bull Arena is a 25,000 capacity, soccer-specific, stadium located in Harrison, NJ across the Passaic river from Newark, NJ. Stadium construction followed similar European design in that the stadium roof covers and protects fans while leaving the playing surface open to the elements. The roof causes extreme shading patterns with nearly half the pitch being shaded during peak season. Seeing how turfgrass grass depends on light to grow, one can see how this poses a serious concern. Enter grow lights.

We utilize a variety of styles and sizes of grow lights at Red Bull Arena. The first class of lights include 1000-watt high pressure sodium (HPS) light bulbs. When our entire fleet of lights are out, just over 25% of the playing surface is being treated at a time. The grow lights help in two key ways. First, they emit heat, increasing surface temperature under the lights compared to surrounding untreated areas. Second, they allow us to continue the photosynthesis and recovery of grass when it would otherwise not be possible such as during the night and during cloudy/rainy days. Putting our fleet of HPS rigs out takes two people about an hour start-to-finish.

The second class of grow lights involve a newer technology which utilizes LED lighting. Not only does this raise eyebrows and look pretty cool (the light emitted for LED is purple in color compared to standard yellowish light from the sodium bulbs), but LED has a primary unique benefit: LED lighting does not give off heat which allows for treatment during hot summer months when the high-pressure sodium lights would be too hot and potentially damage the turfgrass. Both lights not only combat shading issues but also wear-and-tear from events. Worn/thinned areas after a game typically bounce back within a week using lights. LED and HPS lighting allow us to grow grass and keep consistent density and color across the whole pitch.

As with most partially covered and bowl-style stadium seating we have weak air circulation at pitch level. This stagnant air, particularly in oppressive heat, can cause some serious problems. We combat stagnant air with turfgrass fans. These fans allow us to improve air circulation and cool the air above the surface using evaporative

cooling techniques. The fans are quite powerful; one can feel the fan air while standing at mid-pitch when the fans are off on the sideline. Evaporative cooling occurs when a hose, that is hooked up to the fan, blasts a cool, fine mist into the air, cooling the air and subsequently the turfgrass canopy. We utilize our fans throughout the hot summer months. For reference, putting the fans out takes two guys about 30 minutes start-to-finish. Turfgrass fans are an important tool for maintaining the best possible pitch at Red Bull Arena.

Another piece of technology is making its mark is the UVC (Ultraviolet C) machine. This machine is an electric powered, 3-wheeled, self-propelled unit that emits the C-wave of UV light that essentially sterilize the pitch surface as the machine travels over. UVC light is emitted by the sun and is extremely hazardous to living things. The ozone layer blocks UVC light which is the major concern of ozone depletion. Thankfully, we've been able to harness the power of UVC safely. These lights are about a foot off the ground and the machine crawls at about a 1.5 MPH pace taking one person about two and a half hours to complete. During high disease pressure environments, we are treating our entire pitch every day typically in the early morning hours or late night after a match. This technology has really taken off in Europe where pesticides have been banned because it's a pesticide-free alternative. A main drawback to this technology is that soil-borne pathogens are unaffected therefore we still stick to a strict spray schedule to combat those diseases.

A groundskeeper should strive toward an intimate relationship with his/her field. There is a wide array of factors undetected by the naked eye that affect turfgrass health. Turfgrass analyzers are a great tool in helping us better know the state of our turfgrass. This is achieved through two small (about the size of a kid's shoebox) cubes that rest near the center of the pitch (or typically under the lights if the pitch is being treated). These cubes collect real-time data, and the data is sent to a program that can be accessed anywhere where a connection is available. Our cubes provide data on Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) light levels both inside

Continued on page 14

856-514-3179
www.sfmanj.org



**SOIL AND WATER
CONSULTING**

We combine testing, personal attention and industry expertise to get you the results you want.

learn more at
soilandwaterconsulting.com

The Intelligent Use of Water:

Irrigation System Winterization

By Heath Traver

This article offers tips, tricks and other information that will come in handy when winterizing an irrigation system. However, I'd like to begin by talking about water at the molecular level. Typically, when a substance gets colder, the molecules pull in tighter to one another, thereby shrinking and increasing in density, which explains why substances turn into a solid when they reach their freezing point. Water, however, is one of the only substances in the known universe that expands when it freezes, becoming less dense. This rare characteristic explains why ice floats. If ice were to sink, bodies of water would freeze solid. Rather, it floats and insulates the water beneath the ice. This behavior makes life on earth possible.



This fascinating trait is also the reason that we must winterize irrigation systems in cold climates. If water were allowed to freeze within the system, it would expand and probably do damage to the components. When located outside, the backflow device is usually the most susceptible component on the system. It is typically installed above ground, and is mostly made of brass, which is an excellent conductor. Therefore, every year right around Thanksgiving, backflows on systems that haven't been winterized will rupture and water will flood the respective areas. Often times, the backflow is the most expensive component on the system. A 2" RPZ, which is very common on a sports field can cost around \$1,000 to replace. Of course, the backflow doesn't explode the second the temperature drops below 32 degrees. It usually takes about 2 days of the temperature being below freezing. Obviously, this timeline will change depending on the actual temperature and the size of the backflow.

There are 3 methods for winterizing an irrigation system: manual bleeding, automatic drain valves and forced air. Since more than 99% of the systems in our region require the forced air method, this is the one we will talk about here. This method involves running a hose from an air compressor to a blow-out point on the system, and blowing air through the lines until the water has been evacuated.

Before we get into the actual process of winterizing the system, it should be mentioned that if you are not 100% sure that you can effectively and safely winterize the system, an irrigation contractor should be hired to perform the service. If you decide to winterize

your system, eye protection should be worn because we are working with compressed air.

When selecting an air compressor, high volume and low pressure is important. The compressor should be able to supply 10-25 cubic feet per minute at 50 PSI. Often times, shop compressors with small holding tanks are utilized by allowing the tank to fill and then rapidly opening the valve to send bursts of air into the system. This creates high pressure within the system which could damage the components. It is also not as effective.



The first thing that must happen when winterizing the irrigation system, is that the main shut off valve for the system must be closed, cutting off the water source.

If there is a pump of any kind, the power should be shut off. If a pump tries to run with no water going through it, the pump could sustain catastrophic damage. If there is a pump relay on the system, it is recommended that the wire should be removed from the Master Valve terminal in the controller. This is an extra precaution in the event that somebody inadvertently turns the power back on to the pump. Next, an air hose must be run from the compressor to the blow-out connection, which is typically located near the main shut off valve.

Continued on page 17

UPDATE

Update is published quarterly, Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. The Newsletter is edited by Brad Park., Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator, at Rutgers University and SFMANJ Board Member. The design, layout, distribution, and advertising sales are currently managed by Debra Savard, SFMANJ Executive Secretary.

Past issues of Update, dating back to 2001, can be assessed through the Michigan State University Libraries.

To access this archive, visit:

<http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/updat>

2020

MAKING PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR

Don Savard, CSFM, CGM

How well did your sports field do this past year? Did it look and play as you expected it to? Are you satisfied with the results? Many sports field managers' review the past year and make plans (and budgets) now for the upcoming year. It is time to take an honest, hard look at how well the 2019 program worked so that you will know what to keep and what to change. Not sure where to start? Here's a hint: Ask your crew, your owners and user groups for their thoughts. Their answers might surprise you.

Were there any injuries on your fields? Safety is always a good place to start. Even if you were fortunate that nobody had an injury, there may be problems out there waiting to happen. You probably have walked by these potential accidents so many times that you don't notice them anymore. Ask a qualified third party (such as a trusted fellow sports field manager from another facility) to bring fresh eyes to your site. You will be amazed at what someone else will find questionable at your facility. Be sure to document every deficiency with a digital camera, then correct and document again after the corrections are made.

Do your fields play well? Are the surfaces fast or slow enough for the level of play? Do balls roll or bounce with expected predictability? Coaches and players (including those from visiting teams) can give you important feedback. You won't know unless you ask! Drastic changes like buying new mowing equipment might make a big improvement, but, so can subtle changes like adjusting mowing heights or mowing frequency.

Many of us have to schedule our cultural practices around the field users. Do we have the flexibility to adjust our schedules so that we don't have to mow grass when it covered with dew? Can early morning, evening or weekend work schedules be used to safely perform tasks that would otherwise not have time to be done?

How effective is your irrigation? The goal here is to provide enough water to the turf when it needs it, factoring in the amount of natural rainfall and the normal moisture loss due to evaporation and plant transpiration (evapotranspiration). Does your soil absorb the water being delivered, or is there runoff and puddling? Is the

distribution uniform or are there both saturated and dry spots? Does the time of day that you irrigate promote plant health or plant disease? An irrigation audit is a useful tool to measure how efficiently your irrigation system and watering program is working. For information on how to conduct an irrigation audit, visit the Irrigation Association website: www.irrigation.org. Not only does smart irrigation promote better turfgrass health, it saves money and does not waste your time.

Fertilizer certification and School IPM laws have been getting plenty of attention in New Jersey (and elsewhere) lately. Take the time to read and completely understand what is being asked of you. While there are some new guidelines to follow, you will still be allowed to perform the tasks of feeding turf and managing weeds, insects and diseases. Regularly scheduled soil tests and scouting for problems allows you customize your program to your environmental conditions. Based on my sports field's soil test results, I have been able to eliminate Phosphorus and Potassium from some fertilizer applications without sacrificing quality and saving lots of money. "P" and "K" are expensive. Why buy it if you don't need it?

The end of the year is a good time to ask yourself how well you interacted with and treated the people around you. These include your family, coworkers, bosses, user groups and the people who sell to you and provide you with services. If your relationships with any or all of those people are damaged, look inward and try to find some understanding of the problem and what part you might have played. I can attest (from firsthand experience) that some of my damaged relationships improved when I reached out and made amends.

Lastly, what have you done for yourself lately in terms of personal and professional development? Have you taken a class, or read a book lately. Personal development keeps you sharp and competitive. It energizes you and gives you personal power. Remember, if you are not pedaling, you are coasting, and if you coast long enough, you are headed downhill.

Don Savard, CSFM, CGM is a Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM); Certified Grounds Manager (CGM), Sports Turf Manager, Salesianum School, Wilmington Delaware; Past-President, SFMANJ



Laurel
EQUIPMENT
WWW.LAURELAWN.COM

rich@laurellawn.com

**Installation,
Service
Parts**

Distributors of

eXmark

WESTERN

**Snow Plows
Salt Spreaders**

Rich Watson
1850 Chews Landing Road
Chews Landing, NJ 08012

Phone: (856) 228-2670
(856) 228-2770
Fax: (856) 228-9470



Jersey Soil Blending

Phone: (973) 320-2730
Fax: (973)-667-6599
visit us at njsoil.com
info@njsoil.com

P.O. Box 525
Nutley, NJ 07110

Outsmart Mother Nature... Year Round!

EVERGREEN™ TURF COVERS

With 30 years of field proven experience and the longest warranties, EVERGREEN™ from COVERMASTER is the smart choice

SMART EDGE TECHNOLOGY™

- Hems and grommets are not required
- Unlike Polypro fabrics, EVERGREEN™ will not unravel
- Can be cut to custom sizes and shapes on site
- Anchor pins can be placed anywhere on the cover

UNIQUE DESIGN CREATES A TRULY 4-SEASON TURF COVER

- Winter blanket • Early spring green-up • Summer overseeding & repair • Frost protection • Extend your growing season
- BE SURE TO ASK FOR EVERGREEN™, THE ONE WITH COLOR**
- Provides additional light spectrum benefits for the turf
 - Choose color based on your climate



Can be cut or shaped without fraying thanks to Smart Edge Technology™



The with and without look of natural turf using the EVERGREEN™ cover



COVERMASTER®
NO ONE COVERS IT BETTER

Call Toll Free: 1-800-387-5808
Int'l: 1-416-745-1811 • FAX: 416-742-6837
E-mail: info@covermaster.com
www.covermaster.com

© 2017 Covermaster Inc.



covermaster.com/evad

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



Protect your turf.
Protect your players.
PROTECT YOUR REPUTATION.



Rain Bird can help ensure your sports turf performs at its best.

With a complete line of irrigation products and leading support, Rain Bird can help you care for your turf like no other manufacturer can. You'll benefit from innovative technologies designed to deliver superior turf, while helping you save time, money and water.



PHOTO RE-CAP

RUTGERS LAWN, LANDSCAPE AND SPORTS TURF FIELD DAY - July 31, 2019

Including SFMANJ-Sponsored Trade Show & Demos

Photos by Debbie Savard



More Photos on page 12



STANDING BEHIND
 — THOSE WHO STAND BEHIND —
THEIR WORK.



YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR THE SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR SUCCESS.

With locations in reach of every jobsite, a wide breadth of inventory and an innovative customer experience, we are the leading source for green industry supplies and services. Our world-class team of over 2,500 industry experts is focused every day on meeting the unique needs of every customer. We know your business, challenges and expectations better than anyone else, making us a true partner in your success.

1.800.SiteOne | SiteOne.com

Support our Advertisers



OUR REPUTATION...

The Viersma Companies are family owned and operated and we stand behind our reputation for quality workmanship with every job we do. We have been in business for over 45 years and believe that service and reliability are key to our success. We are more than willing to accommodate to meet your needs!

Family owned and operated since 1965

A certified installer of:



VISIT: www.viersma.com

CALL: (908) 852-0552

OUR SERVICES...

- Aerification
- Overseeding
- Topdressing
- Laser Grading
- Waterwick® Turf Drainage System
- Drainage Installation & Repair
- Infield Renovations & Construction
- Field Renovations & Construction



RUTGERS LAWN, LANDSCAPE AND SPORTS TURF FIELD DAY Including SFMANJ-Sponsored Trade Show & Demos

continued from page 10



*Hope you were able
to make it!*

Do you have SFMANJ's Field of the Year? **TELL US ABOUT IT**

- The playability and appearance of the playing surfaces
- Your maintenance program
- What you did to improve your field
- Your yearly budget for this field

The winners and runner ups will be honored with a plaque at the New Jersey Turfgrass and Landscape Conference & Expo in December and will be featured in an article in SFMANJ's newsletter, Update.

The first place winner will also receive a stay at the Borgata, Atlantic City and free registration to education courses and trade show at Expo.

To be eligible you must be a member of SFMANJ and must represent a School or Park Natural Grass Field

Entries are limited to 10 color photos.

Please include the name, location and owner of the facility, along with your name, position, and contact number.

Download form on our web site - www.sfmanj.org

Submit by mail or e-mail and must be received by

OCTOBER 15, 2019

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

**SFMANJ F.O.Y. Contest
P.O. Box 205, Pennsville, NJ 08070**

OR E-mail to:

mail@sfmanj.org

Call for more info:

856-514-3179

website: sfmanj.org / e-mail: mail@sfmanj.org

2018 WINNER

**Torpey Athletic Complex
Softball Field**

Grounds Supervisor: Dave Kuczynski

Fall is the time to begin planning for EXPO 2019



Continued from page 5

Pinpoint specific sessions you plan to attend, and tie their relevance to your sports facility. It is anticipated that tough-to-acquire New Jersey DEP Category 13 credits will be awarded for attendance during Sports Field Managers sessions in 2019.

Highlight the trade show and cite suppliers and equipment manufacturers you plan to meet. Discuss the networking opportunities you will have with peers who share challenges similar to the ones you have.

Explain how innovations in products, new research, and cutting edge management techniques continually change, and why it is important to stay abreast of those changes.

Reinforce how the success of your sports fields ultimately depends upon the continued professional development of you and your staff.

Know the Cost

Make a case for efficient and effective use of your facility's training dollars. By attending Expo 2019, you will be exposed to the most relevant education and technology in one place, making it the most effective use of training dollars.

Research travel times and hotel costs. While Atlantic City is feasible day trip from almost anywhere in New Jersey, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association does its part to negotiate reasonable room rates at The Borgata to make staying a night reasonable. Expo 2019 will feature online registration at www.njturfgrass.org

Have an Action Plan

Develop a plan for how operations will continue in your absence. Make sure you are accessible by phone (please turn off or set on vibrate during sessions!!!!) to address any concerns that might arise in your absence.

Consider preparing and presenting a report on the information you learned and how you plan to put it into practice at your facility. Demonstrate how you will share the technical information learned with your staff for their continuing educational development.

See you in Atlantic City!

Brad Park is Sports Turf Research & Education Coordinator, Rutgers University; Editor, SFMANJ Update newsletter; and a member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors.

ATTENTION MEMBERS!



SFMANJ Update is looking for authors.

Please feel free to send Brad Park, Editor, SFMANJ Update (park@aesop.rutgers.edu) and/or Debbie Savard, SFMANJ Executive Secretary (mail@sfmanj.org)

an article regarding your fields, your experiences, your problems and your surprises.

SFMANJ Update can accommodate articles of differing lengths and welcomes pictures. The SFMANJ Membership will benefit from reading your story.

**Feel free to call today:
856-514-3179**

JERSEY SEED

PROFESSIONAL TURF PRODUCTS

Specializing in Quality Grass Seed to Meet All Your Turf Performance Standards

Call for a Catalog

800-828-5856

Carrying a full line of quality mixtures especially formulated for:

SPORTS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS

LOW MAINTENANCE AREAS

GENERAL GROUNDS

GOLF, LAWN AND RECLAMATION

Technical Agronomic Support and Custom Blending Available

2019 Calendar of Events

SFMANJ Fall Field Day
Drum Point Sports Complex
October 23, 2019
Brick Township, NJ
856.514.3179
www.sfmanj.org



New Jersey Green Expo
December 10-12, 2019
The Borgata
Atlantic City, NJ
973.812.6467
www.njturfgrass.org

2020 STMA Conference and Exhibition

January 13-16, 2020
West Palm Beach, FL
800.323.3875
www.stma.org



2020 Rutgers NJAES OCPE Courses Two-Day Athletic Field Maintenance

February 11-12, 2020

Natural & IPM Strategies for Sports Turf

February 18, 2020

Baseball & Softball Skin Surface Selection & Management

February 25, 2020

Rutgers Cook Campus

New Brunswick, NJ

732.932.9271

www.cpe.rutgers.edu



Hope you can attend!

Visit our web site:

www.sfmanj.org

or give us a call

856-514-3179

Continued from page 6

Technology and Growing Turfgrass in the Adverse Climates of Red Bull Arena



and on-top of the stadium, humidity, air temperature at surface level, soil temperature, soil moisture, salinity, and leaf wetness. We leave these cubes out close to 100% of the time if the field is not being used for an event. This data is continually tracked and is a great tool to help make more informed decisions.

When dealing with a surface that either has a lot traffic, compaction is obviously a major concern. I won't waste your time now with redundant core/solid aerification explanation but chose rather to describe a newish machine that combats compaction with bursts of high-pressure air. This machine, the Air2g2, is shaped like the UVC machine (3-wheeled and self-propelled), however, the Air2g2 has three probes that inject first into the ground then releasing two bursts of high-pressure air. The idea here is to fracture the sub-surface allowing for oxygen exchange between the atmosphere and sub-surface, as well as pore space encouraging root growth. The surface will sometimes bubble up with the air which is entertaining to watch. It takes one man 6-12 hours to complete a full (120 yd x 75 yd) soccer pitch entirely dependent on spacing typically 1+ ft between probes dropping. The Air2g2 serves an important role in our arsenal of technology at Red Bull Arena.

In summary, I understand most readers may not have hundreds of thousands of dollars to invest in the latest and greatest turfgrass technology, or the labor to spend eight hours on a maintenance practice. Nevertheless, the ways in which technology is impacting how we grow grass at Red Bull Arena changes every year. At Red Bull Arena, stadium construction may have put initial turfgrass growing efforts behind the proverbial 8-ball, but the team has found ways to be on the offensive and defensive that help keep the pitch pristine throughout the year. Key technology includes grow lights to combat shade and wear concerns, fans to improve circulation and cool air above the surface, UVC to combat pathogens, analyzers that collect real-time data and Air2g2 to reduce compaction.

Reese Kerlin is a sports turf manager, NY Red Bulls Sports Turf Management Team; and a member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors



Do we have your e-mail address.

**Send a note to
mail@sfmanj.org
to make sure we have it
or to make a change.**



Photos from

2018 Fall Field Day

October 25, 2018 - Manahasset Park, Long Branch, NJ and Monmouth Park Racetrack



See you this year on
October 23 at
Drum Point Sports Complex
for the
2019 Fall Field Day!

Please call the
office with any
questions

856-514-3179

See you in October!

HAVE YOU CHECKED-OUT OUR WEB SITE LATELY?

- ✓ Check our [Events](#) page for upcoming events and pictures of past SFMANJ functions.
- ✓ Check our [Resources](#) page for past issues of our Newsletter Update, Minutes from past Board Meetings, links to useful information and job postings.
- ✓ Check our [Contact Us](#) page for direct links to all of the Board of Directors. Call us with any questions or comments.
- ✓ Check our [Vendor](#) page for interactive links to our advertising vendors' web sites and a complete list of all our vendors. Call them first! They are happy to answer any questions.

Sports Field
Managers Association of New Jersey

GEORGIA GOLF CONSTRUCTION, INC

athletic field, golf and sports fields



Infield laser grading
Native soil athletic field construction
Synthetic field base construction
Design, build and consulting
Pitchers mound building
Sodding and seeding
Aerification
Infield mix, amendments, mound clay, bricks

Georgia Golf Construction, Inc.

1441 Route 50, Woodbine, NJ 08270
www.georgia.golfconstruction.com • 404-216-4445

not a doctor. I quipped back, "well you are to me!" After that all the nervousness and anxiety of having a Rutgers guy on the property started to dissipate.

A month went by and a return visit yielded an extensive report and guidelines to follow for the next two years. A plan to follow. It yielded results almost immediately. Every two years for the next several time periods, Brad was out there updating the report on several fields and starting on new fields that weren't included on previous reports. (N.B.C. had 27 fields at the time).

At this particular time, I had started attending Rutgers short classes on Turf Management. It all started to make sense.

I had not yet joined SFMANJ, but this guy named Scott Bills reached out to me through Brad Park. Scott wanted to come out to see NBC's fields, so a visit was arranged. On his visit he thought some of NBC's fields might be worthy of Field of the Year consideration. Scott suggested putting one in the contest and also suggested becoming a member of a group of Turf Herder's and vendors called Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ).

I did both and in 2011 one of NBC's fields received a plaque at Green Expo for runner up. The Turf bug had bit me!

In 2013, after two more years of improving field qualities, it was kicked around that NBC might be a good place to have an SFMANJ sponsored Spring Field Day to showcase the property. I went to several Board meetings and listened as the board hashed out the logistics of a Field Day and what to expect. It alleviated a lot of anxiety. The day went off without a hitch, except that it was in March, and very cold and windy! To this day board members chat about those weather conditions on that particular day.

After the Field Day, I asked the board and the then current President Matt Olivi if I could still attend as a guest. Without hesitation he said sure! Matt, Rich Watson and the rest of the Board of Directors always made me feel at ease and I was kind of sad that it would be a whole month before I got to see them again.

As the months passed, I continued to show up at meetings, listening, taking notes and learning. Shortly thereafter I became a board member. The late Ray Cipperly gave up his board seat so that I could become a board member. I could not thank him enough at the meeting when this took place.

After becoming a board member, as tradition has it at SFMANJ, a new board member has the opportunity to speak at the Sports Field Sessions at Green Expo. I was nervous talking about Turf Maintenance practices at NBC in front of people that knew much more than I. After a little while, it felt as natural as the turf I was trying to keep alive.

As time passed, I knew I was in the right spot surrounded by folks in the industry that had the same passions and struggles. I transitioned into the Vice Presidency as Rich Watson became President.

A year later Rich had a career change and became commercial

vendor. As per SMANJ Bylaws, Rich had to step down as President, so we just swapped positions.

For me, the four years as President has been educational, both in understanding how a board works and fitting the personalities together. So not only is the board functional, but productive in such a way to this day it amazes me. The Board works together as a team and embraces positive and open minded thinking. Keep up the good work ladies and gentlemen!

I could not have been successful without the SFMANJ and the board members that I have met along the way. I could not have been more a well-rounded person without meeting and networking with the members met at the Field Days and Green Expo. What a great opportunity it was to be a part of an industry group and an association like SFMANJ.

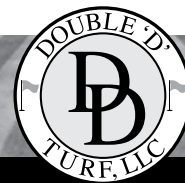
*I thank you all!
See you at the next show.*

Bernard Luongo is Lead Groundsperson, Northern Burlington County Regional School District, Columbus, NJ; and SFMANJ President



CORE AERATION
DEEP TINE
VERTI-QUAKE
VERTI-CUTTING
TOPDRESSING
SEEDING

Services for Athletic Fields



DoubleDTurf.com

Dennis DeSanctis, Sr. 732-241-7378
Dennis DeSanctis, Jr. 732-580-5516

The Intelligent Use of Water Irrigation System Winterization

This next point is very important. Before blowing air into the system, it must be verified that there is somewhere for the air to go. If compressed air into is blown into the main line, and none of the zone valves are open, the air pressure in the main line will build up and will most likely rupture the pipe at its weakest point. Typically, a zone is turned on at the controller which will hold the zone valve open. The air valve on the running compressor should be opened slowly. It is important to observe anytime air is being pumped into the system. This gives us the opportunity to react if anything goes wrong in order to minimize any potential damage. Once the water has finished coming out of all of the heads, we can continue to the next zone. It's important to note that most gear-driven heads are lubricated by water. Therefore, air shouldn't continue to be forced through them after the water has been evacuated from the pipes. This could potentially heat up and damage the heads. Continue blowing out all of the zones. Once complete, the zones should be blown out one more time (about 15 seconds each) to evacuate any water which has settled after the initial blow out.

As the final zone is blowing out, turn off the compressor. Once again, the zone valve should still be open until the compressor is shut down, because air pressure will build up in the system if it has nowhere to go. Unhook the hose, and winterize the backflow. The manufacturer's instructions on how to winterize the unit should be followed. Typically, all of the test ports should be left open, allowing the system to "breathe", and the ball valves should be left at 45 degrees to keep water out of the seals.

The controller should be left in the "off" position. Leaving it plugged in will keep a little heat within the unit, evaporating any moisture away from the electronics.

If there is a pump on the system, the manufacturer's instructions for winterizing the unit should be followed. Typically, there are drain plugs at the base of the unit, which will allow gravity to drain the water out of the pump. If you aren't 100% sure about winterizing a pump, a contractor should be hired to perform this service, as pumps tend to be very expensive.

Each system is different, and will require different methods for an effective winterization, but one thing tends to be universal: All of the potential issues that go hand-in-hand with managing an irrigation system disappear once it has been put to bed for the winter.

Heath Traver, CIC, CLIA is a Specification Manager for Rain Bird in the North-east US, and is licensed to practice irrigation in the state of New Jersey. Heath can be reached at htraver@rainbird.com.



Tim Gerzabek
Sales Representative
Specialty Division

51 A Main Street North
Woodbury, CT 06798
609-221-9240
GerzabekT@HelenaAgri.com
@TimG_Helena

HELENA CHEMICAL COMPANY
4 Killdeer Ct., Suite 100
Swedesboro, NJ 08085
Bus: 856-241-2070
Fax: 856-241-2086

New Jersey Green Expo Turf & Landscape Conference

December 10-12, 2019

The Borgata, Atlantic City, NJ

2019 Sports Field Managers Expo Program

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019

Afternoon session

- 1:00 - 1:30 PM New Jersey School IPM Update
Steven Bross, NJ DEP
- 1:30 - 2:00 PM Reduce fungicide use at schools: Selecting disease resistant perennial ryegrass varieties for overseeding
Dr. Phillip Vines, Rutgers Univ.
- 2:00 - 3:00 PM Professional relationships: A key to success
Virgil Caputo, Monroe Township, NJ and Jim Iannetti, Middlesex Borough, NJ
- 3:00 - 3:30 PM Integrated white grub control strategies on school and municipal grounds
Dr. Albrecht Koppenhofer, Rutgers Univ.
- 3:30 - 4:00 PM IPM: Diagnosing tree and shrub insect problems on school and municipal grounds
Buckley/Plant Diagnostic Lab, Rutgers Univ.
- 4:00 - 8:00 PM Trade Show

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

Morning session

- 7:30 - 8:30 AM Early bird sports field managers Networking roundtable
- 8:30 - 9:00 AM Annual Business Meeting & Awards Presentation
- 9:00 - 9:45 AM The year in review: Reducing pesticide use during 2019
Brad Park, Rutgers Univ.
- 9:45 - 10:30 AM Sports field topdressing: What are your goals?
Dr. Jim Murphy, Rutgers Univ.
- 10:30 - 11:30 AM Rutgers athletic field management program
Matt Henn, Rutgers Univ. Athletics
- 11:30 - 2:30 PM Trade Show

Afternoon session

- 2:30 - 3:00 PM Conditioner use in skin surface management
Dan Purner, Somerset Patriots, Bridgewater, NJ
- 3:00 - 3:30 PM Cultural & chemical control of weeds on school and municipal sports fields
Dr. Aaron Patton, Purdue University
- 3:30 - 5:00 PM PANEL: Skin surface management at different levels of play
*Moderator: Dan Purner
Virgil Caputo, Monroe Township, NJ
Jim Iannetti, Middlesex Borough, NJ
Matt Henn, Rutgers Univ. Athletics*

Don't Miss the

SFMANJ Fall Field Day

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

*Hope you
can make it!*

DRUM POINT SPORTS COMPLEX

330 Brick Blvd., Brick NJ

Tentative Agenda



7:00 – 7:30 AM	Vendor registration / set-up
7:30 – 8:45 AM	Attendee registration / Breakfast / Trade Show Open
8:45 – 9:00 AM	Vendor Pass-the-mic
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Synthetic turf maintenance and synthetic equipment demos <i>TBD</i>
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Skin surface management and skin surface demos <i>Scott Bills, CSFM, Sports Field Solutions, LLC</i>
11:00 – 11:30 AM	Natural turf equipment demos
11:30 – 12:00 PM	Interpreting a fertilizer label <i>Dr. James Murphy, Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Management, Rutgers University</i>
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Nonselective herbicide options for turfgrass renovation and chemical trimming <i>Brad Park, Research & Outreach Agronomist, Rutgers University</i>
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch and Credits

**Please call the office at 856-514-3179 if you have any questions.
Free membership with your registration for non-members for the remainder of 2019.**

Covering both Synthetic and Natural Turf



See you at the NJ Green Expo

December 10-12, 2019

To register, please go to www.njturfgrass.org

It's not too late to enter the

SFMANJ Field of the Year Contest

**Call 856-514-3179 for details
or visit www.sfmanj.org**

Tim Gerzabek
Sales Representative
Specialty Division

51 A Main Street North
Woodbury, CT 06798
609-221-9240
GerzabekT@HelenaAgri.com
@TimG_Helena

HELENA CHEMICAL COMPANY
4 Killdeer Ct., Suite 100
Swedesboro, NJ 08085
Bus: 856-241-2070
Fax: 856-241-2086

FieldSaver.® Save your field from rain and wear, and promote your brand with the Power of Branding.®

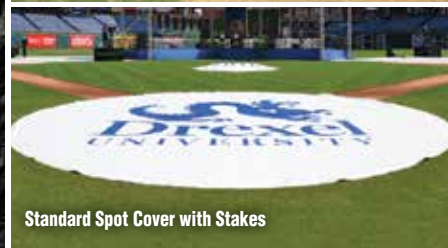
THE POWER OF
BRANDING



Full Infield Rain Tarp



Infield Turf Protector



Standard Spot Cover with Stakes

For price quotes, sizes, fabric specs and samples, visit www.CoverSports.com
sales@coversports.com • 800-445-6680

We make and print covers for all athletic surfaces: Windscreens, Stadium Padding, Growth Covers



Humphrys CoverSports
Industrial and Athletic Fabric Products Since 1874



The Liquid Fertilizer Experts & Perfectionists Like You.

800-562-1291 | www.plantfoodco.com





Or Current Occupant

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION
Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.



TURF EQUIPMENT
AND SUPPLY COMPANY

*One Team,
Many Solutions*

**Your full line vendor
for Commercial
Mowing Equipment
and Irrigation.**

www.turf-equipment.com
800.827.3711

TORO Count on it.

