

UPDATE

ISSN 2158-124X

Sports Field



Managers Association of New Jersey

Winter 2021

Vol. 21, No. 4

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

WELCOME 2022

See inside for:

Important Message from STMA

Winter Sports Field Tips

The Intelligent Use of Water

Writing Tips

Turf Blankets

A Little Humor



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Welcome! New and Renewed SFMANJ Members

Currently we have 220 new & renewed members with 50 renewed for 2022. Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey is generating invoices for 2022 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.

Renewed for 2022

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Jeffrey Bordley	City of Vineland
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Scott Ely	Field Lining and Painting Services LLC
Lance Ernst	Turf Equipment & Supply Co, Inc.
Keith Fisher	Central Regional Board of Ed
Bruce Hoffman	Martin Stone Quarries Inc.
Zachary Holm	New York Red Bulls
Jim Iannetti	Individual Member
Bob Kaufman	Storr Tractor Company
Derek Kerr	New York Red Bulls
Lee Kozsey	Syngenta
Judson La Londe	Millburn Short Hills Youth Baseball
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Kevin Malone	The Landtek Group Inc.
Dylan Martin	New York Red Bulls
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L. John Neyhart	Freehold Township Parks and Rec.
Matthew Olivi	Dunellen School District
Jeffrey Olszyk	Players Development Academy
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Cece Peabody	New Jersey Turf Grass Association
Brandon Perrine	Fisher and Son

Continued on page 14

2021 SFMANJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.

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National Organization

Sports Turf Managers Association
www.stma.org

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

For information regarding this newsletter, contact:
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SFMANJ does not necessarily support the opinions of those reflected in the following articles.

You can always reach
us at
mail@sfmanj.org

Important message from

Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA)

We hope this letter finds you well and ready for some much-deserved rest and relaxation during the holiday season.

The Board of Directors wanted to let you know about an exciting announcement we'll be making during the 2022 STMA conference in Savannah, GA. The sports field management industry continues to evolve, and we recognize that to best serve our members we must also evolve. With this in mind, we will be unveiling a complete rebranding during the upcoming conference.

Included in this effort will be a new name for the association, fresh logo, updated tagline, and perhaps most importantly, a 10-year strategic plan that has short-, mid- and long-term goals. Core to this vision is growth, not only in membership – but in further showcasing members' work and increasing the recognition and respect of the profession.

As the world rapidly changes, STMA aspires to lead its membership into a future that leverages technology, fosters a fully resourced work environment, and creates recognition of the professionalism and education of its members.

We hope you can join us in Savannah for the unveiling, but if you are unable to attend in-person, please join the General Session virtually. To do so, simply go to STMA.org on Tues., Jan. 18 for FREE live streaming, which starts at 8:00 a.m. EST.

Be a part of the exciting transformation of our industry and association! We look forward to seeing you in-person or over the live stream on Jan. 18.

Thank you for all that you do and Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

The STMA Board of Directors

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Bitter Sweet

Fred Castenschield

One of my favorite Christmas memories was running down the stairs to find my very own toy lawn mower under the Christmas tree! I spent many hours following my father around the yard thinking I was cutting the grass. My first lawn mower service experience, according to my dad, was secretly filling his mower's fuel tank with sand thinking I was trying to help!

As I got older, I loved going to my grandparents' flower farm and riding with my grandfather on his old International Tractor. I loved helping him plow the fields and pull the flower wagon around with that tractor. After college graduation my dad and I transitioned the farm to a Christmas tree operation; to this day we still use an old International Tractor just like my grandfather's. Who would have thought these early experiences would lead to a 45-year career in the turf grass industry?

Thirty-nine of those years have been with Storr Tractor Company. Although it has been through several changes of ownership, I was lucky enough to maintain my selling area for all 39 years with the company. During the course of that time I have made many good friends as well as terrific customers whom I will surely miss! I have also been blessed to have had access to the commercial Toro product lines to provide my customers with the best equipment available in the industry!

Over twenty-one years ago I was honored to be invited by Dr. Henry Indyk from Rutgers University to become involved as a



board member with a newly formed organization called Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) which would become the local chapter for the national organization, Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). I am still on the board after 21 years! What a terrific organization SFMANJ has been for myself as well as all its members - many of which I have encouraged to join. I enjoyed serving as Secretary and Vice President of the Association over the years. I enjoyed helping to organize field days and participating in Board meetings. It has been a wonderful experience and quite a learning experience as well. Some of the knowledge I have gained through SFMANJ and Rutgers University encouraged me to get my pesticide license which became a necessity for my Christmas tree farm operation.

Well, all things come to an end and I will be retiring at the end of 2021. The next chapter of my life will be transitioning to a full-time farmer instead of a part-time farmer at my family Christmas Tree farm where I received my first tractor ride from my grandfather!

I really am looking forward to spending more time with my wife, children and grandchildren and taking the grandchildren for their first tractor rides on the antique International tractor!

Fred Castenschield is a recently retired Sales Representative, Storr Tractor Company; past recipient of the SFMANJ Henry Indyk Award; and current member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors

WARNING!!

If you are not getting email from SFMANJ, please check your

SPAM FOLDER

As a non-profit, we are trying to keep our costs down, including mailing information to members. If we don't have your email address, please give it to us!

Visit our new web site:

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Or call the office at 856-514-3179



AHOY YE OLDE CRITTERS

Bernard Luongo

During the course of your entailment, employment, sentence or whatever you chose to call it for that particular moment in time that your mental state defines it, there comes a time when you run across critters that you share the property with. Some have two legs, some have four, some you would like to show the door.

With that being said the first critter to visit is one with two legs, wings, and a long neck. No! it's not an ostrich. It's everyone's favorite: Geese. They have that amazing talent of picking which fields are steak and which ones are of a lesser side dish. If your main goal in life is to eat **** and fly ... you'll eat anything. So the geese fertilize the grass and help green it up. The grubs come in and eat the healthy roots (why eat weed roots); the raccoons and skunks dig beautiful holes looking for the grubs. Let's not forget the athletes tearing up what's left. I honestly don't know how anyone expects this stuff to grow.



The second set of critters is a following of the food chain. Shortly after the day has started on the lower 40 (there were 200 acres under management). The feral cats would be lined about 100 feet apart along the woods edge waiting for the morning's menu. They were seasoned hunters (no can food for these kitties). Later in the day there was a sighting of a reddish brown fox and so the food chain continues.



One of my favorite times of the year was the changing of the clocks in the fall and the chaos it bestowed on humans. The wildlife was just doing their own thing. It is still dark that time of the year when the two-legged critters start arriving on the property. Shortly afterwards the radio would come to life, calls of wildlife sitting on sidewalks, strolling across parking lots, blocking front doors. Hey! - They don't know anything about clock changes. What they do know is dark and light. All they are trying to do is get home before the sun comes-up. I always found it amusing that there was some hidden solution to this dilemma. Possibly two grounds crew members with a lasso?

Not too many skunk stories. They were there with the changing of the clocks but they did have the proper agenda - Always heading back to where they belonged early. They didn't over-stay their welcome.

Daytime nocturnals are a whole different ballgame. We tracked a late morning raccoon for literally a mile through the trails on the

property. It followed the wood line on a very funny angle - Akin to a horse on the rail till it disappeared into the woods to die.

Talking about trails, there were many on the property. The property was a continuous 200 acres. So you can imagine one of the most active was a trail that connected the high school property to the transportation depot, a favorite haunt of some very large deer that look even larger as they run in front of your utility vehicle. One morning, while on this route, two were in the path. Very relaxed in their environment. As I got closer they took off. Driving back the pathway was clear. As fate would have it, a half hour later I had to take this route again. There they were. Same location. They saw me coming. One took off to the left. The other swung its neck in the opposite direction of its body like a wild horse turning completely around. I swear it had a p*ssed-off look on its face and just the way it turned its head and neck in disgust confirmed it for me. I wonder if they now understand how we feel when we come upon them grazing on the asphalt? Maybe I'll interview some of the buzzards alongside the road to see if they heard anything.

If your facility is fortunate enough to have an active Future Farmers of America (FFA) Department, there is always the potential for a fun story. Rabbits, hens, roosters, goats. They are all there. The goats had a double pen, sleeping quarters and roaming quarters. One day they escaped from the roaming quarters and were grazing on the Freshman lacrosse field - all three of them free. I believe they call them free-grazers. Teachers and kids were notified from the Department and the goats were rounded-up. I would visit them often (the greenhouse boiler room was in the middle of the outside pen complex). I came-up with an original nickname for one. Goatee.....It did have hair under its chin. It didn't seem to mind being called that. It always had a grin on its face. On some special mornings we had break through communications it saw me and said bah-bah. I reciprocated.



Next is a story that gave every day - the beaver. At one time there were several on the property. All were living in a pond in the woods that the cross country course wound through. They were happy.... the pond was never higher. Then they disappeared except for one that thought the pond wasn't a great place to live anymore. It decided to take-up residence in a large retaining basin at the

Continued on page 15

Board meetings are open to all members and usually held on the first Wednesday of each month.

**Call the office at
856-514-3179 or
email: mail@sfmanj.org
if you would like to attend.**

Tim Gerzabek
Sales Representative
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WINTER SPORTS FIELD TIPS

Clean-up. Leaves, sticks, and other debris that accumulate on the grass over the winter should be raked up when weather permits. Debris lying on the turf too long can smother the grass and create bare spots. Bare spots will probably transform into weeds later in the season.

Mowing. Winter is a good time to clean, lubricate and repair your mowing equipment. You do not want to find out that your mowers do not work properly at first use in the spring. Because of the chance for wet weather and rapid shoot growth any delay in mowing at the start of the season (spring) can turn into a "behind the eight-ball" scenario very quickly.

Fertilization. Plan for your fertilization needs by testing your soil to determine whether liming is necessary to adjust soil pH (6.0 to 6.7 recommended) as well which nutrients are needed and how much. If you applied a thorough late season (autumn) fertilization, your turf probably will not need as much fertilization in early spring (March - April). Without a fall fertilization program, the turf may require some rather aggressive fertilization to encourage recovery from play or winter damage or to enhance spring green-up. An application of 2/3 to 1 pound of actual N per 1000 sq. ft. is a good starting fertilization rate in early spring. Fertilization with phosphates or potash should be based on soil test results.

Winter Seeding. Winter seeding is a risky practice; the probability of the seed washing away and being eaten by birds is very high. Work the seed into the soil if you choose to seed during winter and realize that is likely to you will need to re-seed when warmer weather returns. Seeding when air temperature consistently exceeds 50 degrees Fahrenheit provides a better chance for success.

Drainage Assessment. Winter is good time to assess your fields for areas of poor drainage. Identifying and mapping out these areas now will give you a record of where you need to treat with your aerifier this spring. If aeration is not enough, maps of the poorly drained areas will provide documentation that you can use to show facility administrators where improvements such as slit drainage are needed.

Cover Skinned Infield Areas. Wet winter weather can lead to considerable erosion of skinned areas on baseball/softball infields. Consider covering these areas during the winter to eliminate much of the skin restoration headaches this spring. Type "baseball field covers" in any of the popular internet search engines to see examples of numerous companies that can supply covers in various sizes and shapes.

Dr. James A. Murphy is Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Management, Rutgers University; Director, Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science; and Advisor, SFMANJ

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.

Be sure to get your entries in by September 30, 2022

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

SEPTEMBER 30

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2021 WINNER

Cherry Hill BOE

**Barbara Richterman Complex
Lacross/Soccer Field**

Sports Field Manager: Jeff Schofield

The Intelligent Use of Water

By Heath Traver

The door creaks open and I take my first steps out into the cold morning air. My breath is visible and gravel crunches under my shoes as I make my way to the field house. The daffodil sprouts poking through the soil tell me that spring is coming. It is the perfect time of the year to begin strategizing the irrigation season. Here are a few start-up tips to get you off to a strong spring:

Identify and repair leaks and broken equipment.

It is relatively simple to locate and replace broken heads, but it is the less obvious issues that can often lead to larger problems. Small leaks in irrigation systems can go unnoticed for years. The EPA estimates that a leak about the thickness of a dime can cause water waste of 6,300 gallons per month. Systems are now available that allow you to detect and fix these leaks before they become very costly. We now have the ability to monitor real-time flow and react to any issues (broken heads, ruptured pipes, etc.). The system can identify the issue, isolate and shut down the problem zone and generate automated alerts that will allow the system manager to react proactively before smaller issues get out of hand.

Water at the appropriate times.

There are a few reasons to water overnight, besides the obvious point that nobody is around to be inconvenienced. Watering during the extreme heat of the day can be harmful to plant material. These hot conditions can also cause the irrigation water to evaporate before it has the time to infiltrate the soil. This is very inefficient. In addition, watering *too* early in the evening can also be harmful. Allowing the soil to remain moist for extended periods of time can promote fungal growth (mushrooms, moss, etc.). The "sweet spot" would be to schedule the irrigation to complete its cycle at around 6 AM (give or take, depending on the needs of the individual property). If this approach to scheduling is made difficult due to a high number of zones on the property, there are controllers available that have the ability to run as many as 8 zones simultaneously. This will significantly shorten the watering window, allowing us to irrigate the entire property in less time.

Monitor your system.

The most common way to manage an irrigation system is to set the controller up in the spring, and *maybe* make an adjustment in the summer depending on temperature and rainfall. This is a very inefficient way to irrigate. New technology is available which gives us the ability to monitor local weather conditions, and adjust the amount of irrigation water on a daily basis depending on how much water is needed. The EPA has estimated that this approach to landscape irrigating can cut down on water usage by 30-35%.

Check System Efficiency

Setting up intelligent schedules is not the only thing to consider when it comes to smart watering. System performance must also be taken into account. If we have an area which doesn't get as much water as the rest of the property, this weak point will get stressed out first. Typically, we would increase the zone times to make sure that the entire property looks healthy. By watering to that weak point, we are more than likely overwatering other parts of the property. Another issue which would affect efficiency is irrigation water that does not end up finding its intended location. At high pressure, water tends to mist as it exits the sprinkler head. Wind can easily carry this mist away from its intended target. By using pressure regulated heads, we can ensure that the heads are putting out the appropriate amount of pressure as specified by the manufacturer. The appropriate pressure will ensure larger water droplets, which are less susceptible to wind. Another way to increase efficiency is to use drip irrigation, which applies the water directly to the intended area. Drip is the most efficient way to irrigate, and is now being used in sub-surface applications (even in lawn areas). If you feel that your irrigation system is underperforming, an audit may be the correct course of action. A qualified irrigation professional would have the ability to go through the system, check scheduling and efficiency, and make recommendations on ways to improve the system. Water is our most valuable resource, and it is our responsibility to use it intelligently.

Heath Traver was previously an Area Specification Manager for Rain Bird in the Northeast US.



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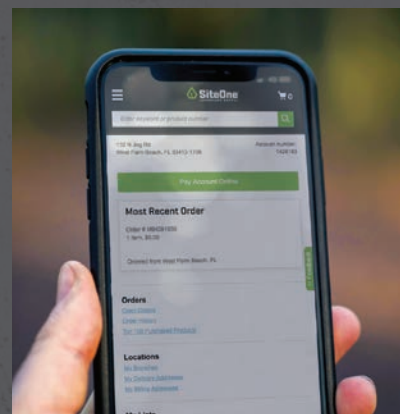
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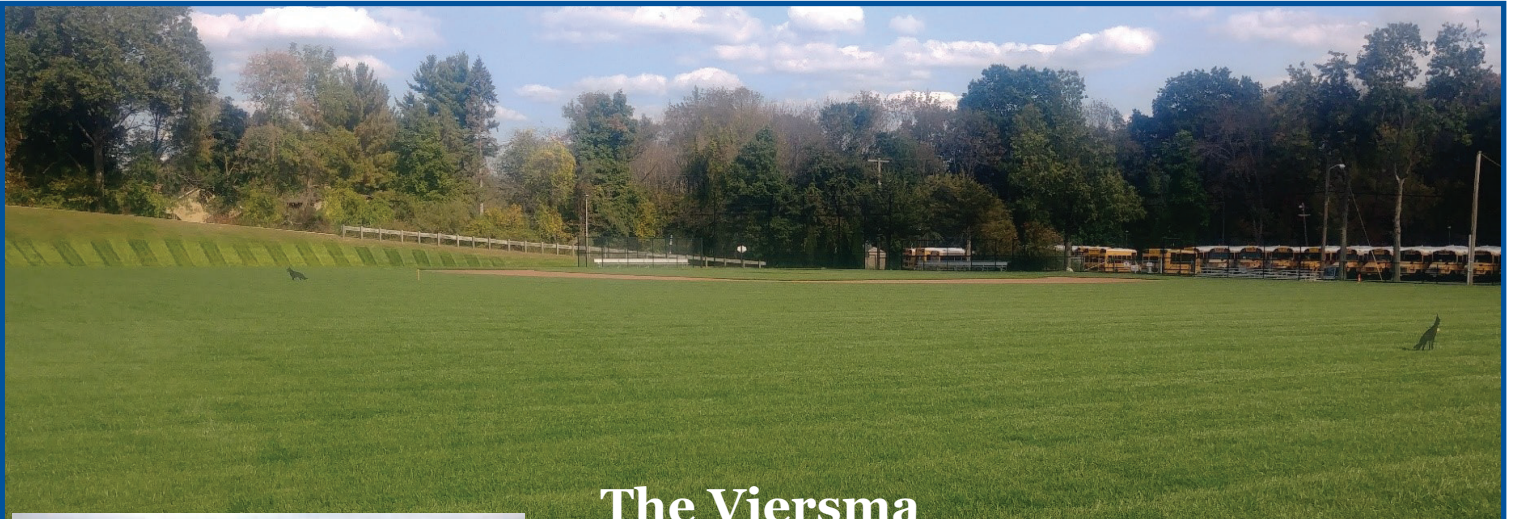
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Before



After

It's Time to Get Back to It!

The Viersma Companies is dedicated to servicing athletic fields from offering simple tune-ups to full field reconstruction. Although last year presented additional challenges, we were able to complete projects for both existing and new clients. These tune-ups, renovations and reconstruction projects included amending existing topsoil, drainage installation, built-up lip removal, laser grading and installing infield mix, as well as, sodding renovation projects and entire athletic fields. As we look forward to a great 2021 season, let us know if we can assist you in any way.



After



SFMANJ Photo Recap:

New Jersey Green Expo December 7-9, 2021



Jersey Soil Blending — Engineered Custom Soils with independent testing by USGA certified labs

- USGA Damp Green Topdressing
- Fairway Topdressing
- USGA Construction Blends
- 70-20-10 Drainage Blend
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How to Write Like a Pro

By Sports Turf Managers Association
(STMA) Editorial Staff



O.K., so you don't like to write and you didn't go to turf school to focus on writing. However, good written communication skills are critical to your job success. Being able to communicate well in writing can help you in a myriad of ways. A well-written memo can persuade your employer to authorize budget dollars for products, equipment, personnel and training. Or, an e-mail that confirms your understanding of a discussion with a coach or athletic director can make the difference between success and failure.

Effective written communication in the workplace will position you as a professional to your peers, your employer and your staff. To extend that recognition to a broader audience, consider writing articles for your chapter newsletter, regional turf publication or the STMA *Sportsturf* Magazine. You have excellent experiences to share about your work and help others learn. Use these five easy tips to help you put together the right message for strong writing.

5 Tips to Write it Right

1. Use the three "S" structure. Keep your sentences Simple, Short and Succinct. Shorter sentences are easier to read and understand.
2. Use "Active" voice rather than passive. **Better** - Ex: Our field management program uses IPM to provide healthy turf and safe playing conditions. **Not as good:** Ex: IPM was used as a management program to provide healthy turf and safe playing conditions.
3. When possible, use "Action" verbs, which communicate authority, a solution orientation, and allow you to highlight accomplishments. **40 verbs for stronger writing include:** Accomplish, Achieve, Advise, Analyze, Complete, Control, Create, Conduct, Design, Develop, Direct, Evaluate, Execute, Facilitate, Generate, Identify, Implement, Improve, Increase, Innovate, Introduce, Launch, Manage, Monitor, Negotiate, Organized, Overhaul, Plan, Prepare, Prioritize, Recommend, Research, Resolve, Restructure, Specify, Streamline, Strengthen, Supervise, Train, Upgrade.
4. Write down the three specific messages you want to communicate through your writing at the top of your document. Three is a magic number. People can remember and comprehend messages and ideas in groups of three. Make certain that each sentence you write supports one of the messages, and that you are not including miscellaneous, non-essential information. Be sure to delete your outline before you send your document.
5. Set your memo, article or other written communication aside for at least an hour -- a day if possible. Go back and reread it to catch errors in spelling and grammar and rework weak sentences.

Sports Turf Managers Association, Lawrence, KS

Calendar of Events

Sports Turf Managers Conference & Exhibition January 17-20, 2022

Savannah, GA
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www.stma.org

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May 2, 2022

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R

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WITH ANY
QUESTIONS



New and Renewed SFMANJ Members for 2021

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Phillipe Roux
DJ Salvante
Debbie Savard
Chris Schenck
Brian Shanley
Daniel Shemesh
Gary Shupper
Neal Sitzman
Glenn Toepert
Mark Troyer
Chris Tufano
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AHOY YE OLDE CRITTERS

Continued from page 6

back of the property. It was here where I learned the patience, resilience and engineering capabilities of a beaver. Wondering why the retaining basin never drained even in the summer was realized after some investigation. Next is classic beaver stuff.

A beaver has moved into town. Gnawing on saplings and progressing to larger trees it methodically cleared the basin of anything worthy of construction. It made its domicile along the shore line that was barely visible. Being the resourceful beaver that it was, the dome stayed under water for the most part. To keep the water in the basin it dammed-up the cement spillway with the aluminum grates on the top. Then it worked its way across the trail and dammed-up the discharge. When we finally figured out what was going on, the little rascal had his main basin of water and secondary basin of water and was working on a third. After a few phone calls and explanations no one wanted to come out and trap the little fellow excuse me... the rather large fellow ...when jumping from the shore line it made quite a splash. Here's where out-smarting ... No, it's not that at all ... Outlasting a beaver starts. The retaining basin by this time was just about overflowing. Now mind you, this is about a 5-acre basin. A plank had to be built from the shoreline to the cement intake so that we could get to the aluminum grate to clear it so the water would start flowing again. This went on for a very long time. At first once a week, it would be rebuilt every time. The process would start over to the point where it became a morning routine. We went as far as to jump up and down on its house (yes it was that large and that sturdy) just to watch it shoot out of there like a rocket. It actually made a wake in the basin we would then go about our task of dismantling its night's work. While doing this it would be swimming in the middle of the basin with its head out of the water watching us. It reminded us of a shark. After several weeks of this routine, the beaver built a second house about 100 feet from the first one and it would alternate houses. If it didn't come out of one after jumping on its house it would come out of the other when jumped on. It was a smart beaver. I mean why wouldn't it be? It took up residence on school property! To say a beaver is busy is an understatement. They are engineering marvels. If you miss a day they start getting ahead of you. They are relentless. This took months. Then one week it just stopped. Whether it worked itself to exhaustion or just left, who knows? Well that's my tale of the beaver. If it was a family of four we would have lost.

There have been bear sightings in the vicinity of the property, for some reason never on the property. Maybe in the daytime they scoped it out from the woods and came to the conclusion they were safer roaming the highways. possibly our bears are smarter than the average ones.

Until next time enjoy your wildlife!

Bernard Luongo is a retired sports turf manager, past-President, SFMANJ, current member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors, and 2021 recipient of the SFMANJ Henry Indyk Award



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TURF AND A BLANKET

By Bernard Luongo

Turf in a Blanket sounds like a meal, "Pigs in a Blanket". "Grubs in a Blanket".

When I first started in this business I knew absolutely nothing. I watched as fields we tried to take care of get utterly destroyed. What do I do now? I thought to myself, "Look at this mess".

So I attended classes at Rutgers and read how other turf managers managed their fields. In addition, I also attended Field Day events, while there I picked-up some great tips from vendors, contractors and turf managers. I was instructed how to aerate and fertilize.

So what about all those worn spots your fields have? I learned to overseed and when the best time to do so.

What about late season sports? For example, football that sometimes extends into early December and can really destroy a field. Growing grass in the northeast in the extreme winter months without help was truly impossible. I tried for two years without any success. Although, the birds that were still around relished in it. In the spring the grass that was there grew but the bare spots were overtaken by clover and weeds; another sub-par year for our football field.

Five years ago I attended the Green Expo in Atlantic City and found my magic cure, "Growth Blankets". I asked the Rep many questions and got the answers I to which I was looking. I felt awesome on the drive back home - but that was the easy part. I was convinced that it would work but I now had to sell it to "The Powers to be," to invest the money. This took another year!

Finally after another sub-par football field season and many field visits by the "Powers to be", they finally were willing to give it a shot. Not the whole field mind you, just between the hash marks (considerably less costly this way). Since it was an experiment, they were not going to invest a lot of money. But no pun intended, "the seed was planted,".... I got my turf blanket. I was excited!

We core aerated that football field, tore-it-up some more, laid the seed down, covered it with the blanket and secured it with the

sod staples that came with the blanket. We were all very proud of ourselves that we were going to grow grass in the winter. However, the following week I was on the phone with the factory to order the heavy duty stakes, since, we had to gently pull one of the blankets out of the bleachers and one out of the woods. Hey, it was our first year with them, still experimenting... what did we know? Also, we didn't know that we would have to deal with snowmobiles which damaged a section of one of the blankets. So FYI, for your first purchase order the heavy duty stakes, another learning experience.

So, through the winter we would take a peek under the blankets and it was amazing, it felt like we were beating nature, it just grew and grew. During this time, we did take the blanket off once to mow it put the blanket back on and it grew even more. We left the blanket on until late March at which time we brought the facilities director and business administrator to view the results, it sold itself, solid turf.

After that it was easy. Now we have two full football fields covered, a third field covered between the hash marks, and on a fourth field we have certain areas targeted. Yes, we have four football fields all being utilized. Also, we purchased smaller blankets for our goal mouths for soccer, lacrosse and field hockey. It's great, it takes the pressure off seeding during that small window of opportunity that you have to seed. Also, depending upon the seeder you have it sometimes disrupts the playing surface and it can look a little messy with Coaches, kids, parents, and even geese complaining.

Ultimately, you can see that I am a huge fan of Turf Growth Blankets, they really work and it takes a lot of pressure off your grounds crew. Let's face it, we are all very busy between August and October. These blankets buy you an awful lot of time and a jump start on a healthy and safe athletic field. We are now into our fourth year of purchases, implementation and successes. Again, it all started with a trip to Green Expo. Till next time.....Keep Your Turf Warm.

Bernard Luongo is a retired sports turf manager, past-President, SFMANJ, current member of the SFMANJ Board of Directors, and 2021 recipient of the SFMANJ Henry Indyk Award.

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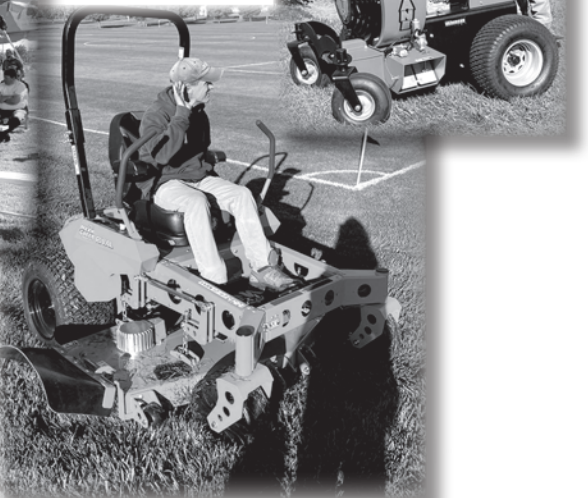
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The Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ) is a group of individuals committed to enhancing the professionalism of athletic field managers. The organization's main goals include improving the safety, playability, and appearance of athletic fields at all levels and the education of our sports field managers through seminars, field days, publications and networking with those in the sports turf industry.

We welcome anyone having a sincere interest in athletic field safety and playability. Our members come from K-12 schools, higher education, professional facilities, parks and recreation, academia, youth leagues, commercial contractors, and vendors from several states.

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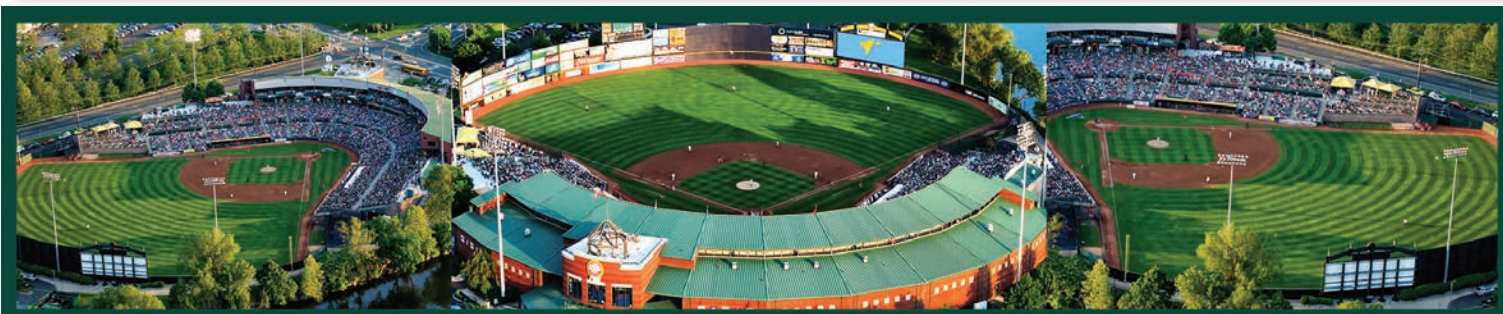
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