

operating greenbelt neighborhoods, calls for a landscape architect from the park department to sit with the subdivision committee in a three-stage review: First, in the schematic stage of planning to see where the developer is heading; second in the finalized preliminary design for general development; and finally, the finished drawings must be signed off by the park department before the developer can appear before the Board of County Supervisors for final approval of his plan.

"If we don't approve it, he doesn't get his subdivision," Sampson said bluntly. "The subdivider must go back and revise his plans."

Ten-Point Checklist

What points in these plans do Sampson and his staff particularly consider? These can be broken down into the ten following steps with site selection receiving primary attention:

1. See that the terrain is a usable piece of property.
2. Check the site's availability to the people it is going to serve.
3. Note the amount of turf space for playfields.
4. Determine what future maintenance costs the terrain, soil condi-

tion, availability of water, and other variables might produce.

5. Know what vegetation is going in, its upkeep, and replacement costs.

6. Suggest—if necessary, for more economical maintenance — where mow strips should be added, trees placed, ground cover and shrubbery minimized.

7. Decide, if the automatic irrigation system is of good standards and adequate.

8. Ask for details of the lighting plan to avoid dark spots and nuisance lights.

9. Consider the walks for aesthetics as well as maintenance.

10. Look into the maintenance financing plan.

"In other words," Sampson sums it up, "it is the tendency of all of us to get rid of culls. We don't want to accept culls. We want to set our standard high so the whole planned community program will remain as tremendous as it set out to be."

American Sod Producers Gather July 28-30

If you want to know more about "The Sod Industry in the United States," then mark July 28, 29 and 30 on your calendar. This subject will be the theme for the fourth annual session of the American Sod Producers Association.

The conference and field day shapes up this way: On July 28, a bus tour, leaving from the Ramada Inn at Dolton, Ill., will be conducted to Warren's Turf Nurseries and Evergreen Sod Farm. The educational session will begin at 9 a.m., July 29, at the Ramada Inn, followed by the annual meeting and banquet. Field demonstrations of sod equipment will be shown on July 30 at the H & E Sod Farm at Mokena, Ill.

Arthur V. Edwards, editorial director of WEEDS TREES and TURF magazine, will keynote the educational session with an updated survey report on the national sod industry. Complementing his presentation will be reports on the "State of the Michigan Sod Industry" and a Chicago accounting firm's survey of "Sod Production Costs in the United States."

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Beck Invents Sod System For Harvesting and Laying

Beck Manufacturing Co., Auburn, Ala., announces development of a revolutionary new sod harvesting and laying system.

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Manual lifting and handling of sod is completely eliminated, so tiring of workers is not a factor.

Sale price of the laying device is expected to be under \$200.

Demonstration of the entire system is planned for the American Sod Producers Association field day in August.

AUGUST
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