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Associated Landscape Contractors of America, 12200 Sunrise Valley Dr., Suite 150, Reston, VA; (703) 620-6363.

American Association of Nurserymen (National Landscape Association), 1250 I St. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 789-2900.

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, 1421 Research Park Dr., Lawrence, KS 66049-3859; (913) 841-2240.

International Society of Arboriculture, P.O. Box 908, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 328-2032.

International Turfgrass Society, Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences, VPI-SU, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0403; (703) 231-9796.



National Arborist Association, The Meeting Place Mail, P.O. Box 1094, Amherst, NH 03031-1094; (603) 673-3311.

National Golf Foundation, 1150 South U.S. Highway One, Jupiter, FL 33477; (407) 744-6006.

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, OH 43210; (614) 292-2601.



Professional Grounds Management Society, 120 Cockeysville Rd., Suite 104, Hunt Valley, MD 21031; (410) 584-9754.



Professional Lawn Care Association of America, 1000 Johnson Ferry Rd., NE, Suite C-135, Marietta, GA 30068-2112; (404) 977-5222.

Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment, 1155 15th St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 872-3860.



Sports Turf Managers Association, 401 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611-4267; (312) 644-6610.

Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association, 421 West Travelers Trail, Burnsville, MN 55437; (612) 894-2414.



Even from the Arch, Gateway landscape looks like a winner

Going to the top of the Gateway Arch is almost a must for anybody attending the Green Industry Expo in St. Louis.

You climb into this small, white, eggshaped compartment. It's rimmed with five plastic seats bolted to the wall in, approximately, a semi-circle. You're packed so tightly that everyone's knees form a ring in the center of the pod.

Want to know what the compartment looks like? Remember the "egg" that transported Mork (Robin Williams) to earth in "Mork and Mindy"? Only slightly larger.

National Park Service employees direct the loading of visitors into maybe a dozen of these curious conveyances at a time. When they begin ratcheting their way to the top of the Arch, it doesn't take a lot of imagination to picture them as a string of pearls being dragged through a slightly larger pipe. This is the biggest rainbowshaped chunk of stainless steel pipe you're ever going to pass through.

There's no other way for you to get to the top. You certainly wouldn't want to climb the zig-zagging steps, glimpses of which you see out the small window of your egg as it rises to the top. For me anyway, the climb would be terrifying, assuming I didn't keel over from exhaustion first.

You're 630 feet above St. Louis, and sometimes above the clouds. Gingerly you walk to the small rectangular windows. Look east and the Mississippi River appears no larger than a muddy oreck; look west and the city spreads in all directions.

Unless you're more than moderately frightened of high places—go up in the Arch!

Since I've already paid my \$5 and ridden the egg, I'll confine further explorations to the grounds there.

Earlier this fall I walked the grounds in the Arch's huge shadow. Maybe it was the balmy sunshine of a perfect early autumn day. Or the hamburger, beer and friendly conversation I'd just had in Dooley's Pub. I was feeling as right as a person can feel.

St. Louis had cooled, and the previous week's rain commanded the turfgrass to stand straight and fresh. Rows of ash trees, their leaves getting the first hints of golden color, framed the dark green vista which opened to the Arch. Under the cloudless sky, it sent reflected sunlight dancing in every direction.

Several top landscape business owners in St. Louis told me to telephone and visit Jim Jacobs at the Arch. They described him as an excellent grounds superintendent and a fine person too.

When I returned to Cleveland I telephoned him. That's one reason why I'm eager to return to St. Louis for the 1994 Green Industry Expo. Jacobs says he'll show me around the grounds at the Gateway Arch while I'm there

Jim and I probably won't be walking the grounds. We'll probably ride in a utility vehicle or something. Jim damaged ligaments and muscles in his leg playing soccer two months ago. He was on the team with the other parents and coaches versus the kids.

"I probably tripped over the ball. I had so many kids on top of me I really don't know what happened." he says over the telephone

Jim tells me his crew takes care of just over 47 acres of turfgrass and 2650 trees.

I'm also looking forward to learning more about "The Flood" of 1993. The Mississippi River filled the railroad tunnels almost at the Gateway Arch's base.

Ronttall