

Property at a glance

Location: Duke University,
Durham, NC

Staff: Duke University Grounds
Services

Category: School or university
grounds

Year site built: 1924

Acres of turf: 198

Acres of woody ornamentals: 289

Acres of display beds: 67,835 sq. ft.

Total paved area: 109

Total man-hours/week: 1,848

Maintenance challenges

- ▶ Equipment noise restrictions
- ▶ Student/community activities
- ▶ Continuous university construction

Project checklist

- ▶ Community outreach program
- ▶ University/community gateway landscapes
- ▶ Campus tree inventory/assessment

On the job

- ▶ 45 full-time staff, 12 licensed pesticide applicators

Duke University

A 2000 Grand Award Winner of the Professional Grounds Management Society for School or University Grounds

If it wasn't for basketball, Duke University Grounds Services' job might be a little easier. As it stands, grounds crew members have a blue devil of a time restoring turf left dead from tents pitched by fans who have to camp out in order to get tickets. Then there's the wear and compaction caused by thousands of fans who hold victory celebrations (and build bonfires) on Main Quad. But hey, that's life at a Division I school, and the grounds crew wouldn't have it any other way.

Located in the northeast piedmont of North Carolina only 140 miles east of the mountains and 130 miles from the coast, Duke has a complex mixture of climates that present many challenges. Grounds Services combats snow and hurricanes, yet the prevailing microclimates allow for an abundance of woody ornamentals, annuals, perennials and turf options.

Whether it's hedge-trimming on the 2:1 slope above Campus Street or dodging cars while maintaining a portion of

the 67, 835 sq. ft. of display beds at the traffic circle, Grounds Services works like the devil to ensure fans of the school have more to cheer about than basketball.

Groundskeepers must keep the annuals fresh and colorful at this traffic circle, but they must also be cognizant of vehicular movement.



PGMS
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MANAGEMENT

Editors' note: *Landscape Management* is the exclusive sponsor of the Green Star Professional Grounds Management Awards for outstanding management of residential, commercial and institutional landscapes. The 2001 winners will be named at the annual meeting of the Professional Grounds Management Society in November. For more information on the 2001 Awards, contact PGMS at 120

Cockeysville Road, Suite 104, Hunt Valley, MD; 410/584-9754. Web-site: www.pgms.org

This entry planting to an adjoining hotel was installed by Grounds Services to facilitate the continuity of the gateways.

