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Sports Turf Managers Association Renews Partnership with Green Sports Alliance

Fifth Annual Summit Set for Late June in Chicago

(LAWRENCE, Kan.) – <u>Sports Turf Managers Association</u> (STMA) – the professional organization for 2,600 men and women who manage sports fields worldwide – renews its partnership with the 2015 <u>Green Sports Alliance Summit.</u>

More than 800 industry stakeholders, including several STMA members and 300 professional and collegiate sports teams, will participate in the fifth annual Green Sports Alliance Summit in Chicago from June 29 – July 1, 2015. The Summit will create a platform for attendees to engage with peers regarding environmental practices and proven solutions to advance the green sports movement.

STMA and the Green Sports Alliance are committed to improving and protecting the environment by reducing waste, conserving energy and water and eliminating toxic chemicals. The goal is to integrate sustainability into core sports operations, engage fans and save maintenance costs in the process.

"We are thoroughly impressed by the Green Sports Alliance's leadership to increase awareness regarding environmental sustainability," says Kim Heck, CEO of STMA. "Our partnership provides valuable networking opportunities for sharing information and continuing to produce safe and playable sports fields, while supporting athletes to perform at the highest level."

STMA member Jon DeWitt – a Certified Sports Field Manager and Sports Turf Manager at the Georgia Institute of Technology – will present "Innovative Irrigation Solutions During Water Restrictions" at this year's Summit.

"Environmental sustainability is a top priority for our sports turf team at Georgia Tech," says DeWitt, STMA's 2014 "Field of the Year" winner for college baseball. "We work tirelessly to create innovative and renewable practices, such as our cistern-based irrigation systems, and I am excited to share unique tactics with attendees at the annual summit."

Founding partners for the Green Sports Alliance include the National Resources Defense Council and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. There are 274 Alliance members from 129 teams, 138 venues and 7 leagues, including Major League Baseball, Major League Soccer, National Basketball Association, National Hockey League and the United States Tennis Association.

For more info on STMA: www.stma.org, www.twitter.com/fieldexperts, 800.323.3875.

About the Green Sports Alliance Summit

June 29-July 1, 2015 | Chicago, Illinois

The annual Green Sports Alliance Summit serves as a platform for the sports community to unite around sustainability – bringing together more than 800 industry stakeholders to learn from leaders and engage their peers in meaningful dialogue around better environmental practices and proven solutions that help to advance the green sports movement. The 2015 program will cover the day's most critical topics in professional and collegiate sports greening via a dynamic mix of workshops, case study presentations, leadership plenaries, keynotes and venue tours. Held in the tech capital of the world amongst many iconic professional and collegiate sports teams, the 2015 Summit is poised to be a highly informative and influential gathering.

For more details on the 2015 Green Sports Alliance Summit including the program, speaker line-up and registration costs, please visit the website: www.greensportssummit.org.

About STMA

STMA is the not-for-profit, professional association for men and women who manage sports fields worldwide. Since 1981, the association and its 34 local chapters have been providing education, information and sharing practical knowledge in the art and science of sports field management. Its more than 2,600 members oversee sports fields and facilities at schools, colleges and universities, parks and recreational facilities, and professional sports stadiums.

For more information: www.stma.org, 800.323.3875.