



Leverage the Industry's Transformation

31st Conference & Exhibition

Jan. 13-16, 2020

West Palm Beach, Florida

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Join STMA as a New Member Get a FREE Conference Registration!

If you are not an STMA national member and haven't been since 2000, you are eligible to receive a FREE conference registration. Go to STMA.org and register online in the New First Time Member category. After you have paid for your new membership, go back to the shopping page and click on the Full Conference Registration. The Free Conference

Registration will appear as one of the options. Membership and conference registration must be paid and completed online to receive this benefit. **Already a member? Receive a \$100 credit for each new member you recruit! Recruit 4 members and you have more than paid for your conference registration!**

Schedule at a Glance

Sun., Jan. 12

1 - 6 pm Volunteer Field Rebuild
6:30 - 9 pm Registration Open

Mon., Jan. 13

6:30 - 8 am Continental Breakfast
6:30 am - 5 pm Registration Open
7 am - 5:15 pm Seminar on Wheels
7 am - 5 pm SAFE Golf Fundraiser
1:15 - 5 pm Offsite Education & Demos
6 - 9 pm SAFE Bowling Fundraiser

Tues., Jan. 14

6:30 - 8 am Continental Breakfast
7 am - 5 pm Registration Open
8 - 9:30 am General Session
9:45 am - 12 pm Concurrent Education
12 - 2 pm Break - Lunch on own
12 - 2 pm Women's Forum
2 - 5 pm Concurrent Education
5 - 6 pm Chapter Leadership Training
6 - 7 pm First Timers/International Attendees/
CSFM Reception
7 - 7:30 pm SAFE Live Auction
7:30 - 10 pm Welcome Reception

Wed., Jan. 15

6:30 - 8 am Continental Breakfast
7 am - 5 pm Registration Open
8 - 10:45 am Concurrent Education
11 am - 1:15 pm Keynote, Annual Meeting and Lunch

1:30 - 6 pm

1:30 - 6:30 pm

2 - 4:30 pm

SAFE Silent Auction

Exhibition Open with Reception

Student Challenge

Thurs., Jan. 16

6:30 - 8 am Continental Breakfast
7 - 11 am Registration Open
8 - 10 am Concurrent Education
10 am - 12:30 pm SAFE Silent Auction
10 am - 1 pm Exhibition Open with Lunch
1:15 - 5:15 pm Seminar on Wheels
1:30 - 3 pm Concurrent Education
4:30 - 6 pm Professional Headshots **NEW!**
6:30 - 10 pm Awards Reception & Banquet

Fri., Jan. 17

8 am - 1 pm ASBA Certification Exam

Registration Hours

Sun., Jan. 12 6:30 - 9 pm
Mon., Jan. 13 6:30 am - 5 pm
Tues., Jan. 14 7 am - 5 pm
Wed., Jan. 15 7 am - 5 pm
Thurs., Jan. 16 7 - 11 am

Trade Show Hours

Wed., Jan. 15 1:30 - 6:30 pm
Thurs., Jan. 16 10 am - 1 pm

Logistics & Information

Airports

There are two major airports that serve West Palm Beach. Palm Beach International Airport is three miles from the Convention Center and Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International is 35 miles from the Center.

Antitrust

STMA supports competition and adheres to a policy of strict conformity to the spirit and letter of the antitrust laws. Pricing, sales terms, wages and any other competitive information should never be discussed at STMA's meetings.

Attire

Business casual (slacks and a collared shirt for men and comparable apparel for women) is the preferred conference attire. Coat and tie are requested for the Awards Banquet on Thursday. **Cutoffs, jeans, t-shirts and ball caps are discouraged.**

Banned Activities - Suitcasing & Outboarding

Suitcasing is when an attendee solicits business in the trade show aisles or other public spaces such as a hospitality suite or a restaurant. Also called outboarded events, these types of activities are detrimental to the exhibition. These are unethical business practices and will not be tolerated. To distribute information or conduct business you must be an exhibitor. STMA has the right to remove anyone who violates this policy.

CEUs/Pesticide Recertification

See details on page 11.

Conference Recordings - Free

All full conference registrants receive free access to the education session recordings. Look for an email post-conference with the link and password. *Sponsored by STEC Equipment*



Convention Center

All education sessions and the exposition take place at the:

Palm Beach County Convention Center
650 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Fees

See page 13 for a comprehensive breakdown of costs.

Harassment Policy

STMA prohibits harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment and will take appropriate and immediate action in response to complaints or knowledge of violations of this policy. STMA's policy states that harassment is any verbal or physical conduct designed to threaten, intimidate or coerce a person.

Hotels - Co-Hosts

Rates are honored until Dec. 20 unless the room block sells out earlier. Rooms sell out quickly so book early!

West Palm Beach Marriott
1001 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Phone: (561) 833-1234
\$195 per night

Hilton West Palm Beach
600 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Ph. (561) 231-6000
\$199 per night

Photography/Videography Permission

A professional photographer and a videographer will be documenting the conference events. By registering for the conference, you give permission for STMA to use all photos and videos with your likeness.

Professional Headshots

Thurs., Jan. 16, 4:30 – 6 pm. A professional photographer will be taking headshots for you to use in a resumé, facility newsletters and other media. STMA will send them to you post-conference. Wear professional attire for the best presentation. First come, first served.

Social Media

Follow us at @FieldExperts on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. Use #STMA2020 in all your tweets or posts about the conference.

Weather

In January the average high is 75 degrees and average low is 57 degrees.

Conference Highlights

Sun., Jan. 12, 1 - 6 pm Volunteer Field Rebuild



STMA and Project Evergreen are teaming up again to renovate a field in need in Palm Beach County. All members are invited to participate. Transportation, products and materials will be provided. Please wear closed-toe shoes. The 2019 field rebuild of Lindo Park in Phoenix drew more than 100 participants!

Lindo Park in Phoenix



General Session - Tues., Jan. 14, 8 - 9:30 am Opening General Session – ‘Talkin’ Natural Grass’ Talk Show



Structured like a late night talk show, our host will interview experts from across the nation.
Hosted by Jeffrey Fowler – Penn State Extension;
Sponsored by Turface Athletics and Carolina Green Corp.

Jeffrey Fowler



Tues., Jan. 14, 12 - 2 pm Lynda Wightman Women’s Forum

Honoring Founder Lynda Wightman for her support of this program for 13 years as she retires in 2020. All women at the conference are invited to attend this facilitated education session during lunch. You must RSVP on the registration form to reserve your spot. *Sponsored by Hunter Industries*



Tues., Jan. 14, 5 - 6 pm Chapter Leadership Training

All chapter board members are invited to attend this fast-paced learning session with tips on how to make your chapter more successful and enjoy a short reception. *Sponsored by Hunter Industries*

Tues., Jan. 14, 6 - 7 pm First-Timers/International Attendees/CSFM Reception

We invite all who are new to the STMA Conference, our attendees from outside the U.S. and all Certified Sports Field Managers to join us at a special reception. Appropriate ribbon on name badge required for entry.



Conference Highlights

Tues., Jan. 14, 7:30 - 10 pm Welcome Reception

Reconnect with old friends and make new ones at this must-attend event. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages. *Sponsored by The Toro Company and Covermaster*



Wed., Jan. 15, 11 am - 1:15 pm

(Includes Annual Meeting and Lunch)

Keynote: Rodney Smith, Jr., Founder of Raising Men Lawn Care Service & 50-Yard Challenge



Rodney Smith, Jr.

In 2015, Rodney observed an elderly man struggling to cut his yard in Huntsville, AL and was inspired to begin cutting lawns for people who needed help. From this beginning, he founded Raising Men Lawn Care Service with the goal of helping people and enlisting girls and boys whose parents want them to learn about volunteerism. RMLCS provides free lawn

care to elders, those who are disabled, single mothers and veterans who do not have the time, resources and/or money to take care of their yards.

Sponsored by World Class Athletic Surfaces

Wed., Jan. 15, 1:30 - 6:30 pm

Thurs., Jan. 16, 10 am - 1 pm

Exhibition Open with Receptions/Lunch

See the latest products, equipment and technology for the sports field management industry.



Thurs., Jan. 16, 6:30 - 10 pm

Awards Reception and Banquet



Enjoy excellent food and beverages while honoring STMA's award winners. Coat and tie and comparable attire for women is requested. *Awards Program Sponsored by: Carolina Green Corp, Precision Laboratories and World Class Athletic Surfaces*

SAFE

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields

SAFE Events - Donate & Participate!

All SAFE events raise funds for scholarships, grants, research and educational outreach. SAFE is STMA's charity. Donate an item for our live or silent auctions or for the large item raffle.

Mon., Jan. 13, 7 am - 5 pm

(Lunch and transportation provided. Additional fee required)

Golf Tournament at North Palm Beach Country Club

Enjoy this semi-private, 18-hole, Jack Nicklaus designed course. The entire course was just completely renovated. *Title Co-Sponsored by: Diamond Pro and Tri-Tex Grass. Drinks Sponsored by: Carolina Green Corp.*

Mon., Jan. 13, 6 - 9 pm

(Dinner and transportation provided. Additional fee required)

Bowling Event at Verdes Tropicana Bowl

Join your chapter members or other friends and bowl as teams or as an individual. Win prizes and take part in the crazy-fun bowling contests!

Tues., Jan. 14, 7 - 7:30 pm

Live Auction

Bid on top-of-the-line equipment, technology and coveted items at bargain prices!

Wed., Jan. 15, 1:30 - 6 pm

Thurs., Jan. 16, 10 am - 12:30 pm

Silent Auction

Held on the trade show floor, this auction features new items daily. Take home great merchandise, memorabilia and products! *Sponsored by Pioneer Athletics*

Thurs., Jan. 16, 7 pm

Large Item Raffle

Purchase tickets throughout the conference to be entered to win a SONOS Beam TV Sound Bar, Ring Doorbell, Fire TV Stick with Alexa voice remote and more!

Student Activities

Students are welcome and encouraged to attend all conference events including the student-only activities.

Wed., Jan. 15, 2 - 4:30 pm **Student Challenge - Take home \$5,000!**

Participants receive FREE Conference registration. Only teams of undergraduates in two- or four-year institutions are eligible to compete in teams of up to four people. Graduate students are not eligible. Pre-registration online is required at STMA.org. The two-year team and the four-year team with the highest scores will be awarded \$5,000 each for their schools. *Sponsored by Ewing Irrigation and Hunter Industries*

Thurs., Jan. 16, 12 - 1 pm **Student Luncheon**

Network with CSFMs and other industry professionals and enjoy lunch. The winners of the Student Challenge will be announced immediately following the lunch.



Certification Testing

CSFM Testing

Set an exam time to meet your schedule. The exam is given online during the conference for those who qualify to take the exam and pre-register. To find out if you qualify, call STMA at 800-323-3875 or go to STMA.org, CSFM program. Exam takers who do not pass all four sections of the exam initially may be able to retest on those sections later in the week depending on availability. Pre-qualification and pre-registration are required by Dec. 1.

Fri., Jan. 17, 8 am - 1 pm

ASBA Certification Testing

The American Sports Builders Association (ASBA) offers certification for field builders and will be conducting exams at the conference. Pre-qualification and registration are required by Dec. 15. Go to sportsbuilders.org or call 866-501-2722. Those testing for CFB, CFB-N or CFB-S must register for the STMA conference, purchasing a one-day package at a minimum.

Conference Learning Sessions

Mon., Jan. 13

1:15 - 5 pm

Educational Demonstrations at FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches

Get offsite and outside with educational demonstrations at Ballpark of the Palm Beaches. Pre-conference education will offer attendees the opportunity to experience various sports field management practices in action. Attendees will rotate through stations where they can interact with their peers and learn how to improve field operations.



Tues., Jan. 14

8 - 9:30 am

Opening General Session - 'Talkin' Natural Grass' Talk Show

Hosted by Jeffrey Fowler - Penn State Extension

Kick off the STMA Conference with an interactive discussion where our host will interview experts from across the nation. Structured like a late-night talk show, pertinent issues such as herbicide bans, pesticide legislation and new technology will be discussed.

9:45 - 10:45 am

Overcoming Challenges in Your Career

Speaker: Abby McNeal, CSFM, CPRP - Denver Parks and Recreation

This presentation will discuss ways to tackle the challenges sports field managers face throughout their career as they become the expert at their field/facility. Discussion will include inequities that are experienced at all levels of the industry and ways to manage these with the least impact to your career path.

Growing Bermuda in the North

Speaker: Kevin Mercer, CSFM, CGM, LICM - Denison University

Barclay Thompsen varsity soccer field at Denison University was renovated in 2017 and became the first collegiate bermudagrass field in Ohio. Come listen to the challenges and successes from our 2017 grow in and how we manage the seasonal inputs for the warm season grass in the colder parts of the US.

Topdressing Sports Fields: What's Right for Your Facility?

Speaker: James Murphy, Ph.D. - Rutgers University

This presentation will assist in determining whether topdressing is economically feasible and how to approach the logistical and agronomic issues needed to design a sound program. Delivery, storage and application of large volumes of topdressing

material, understanding the agronomic reasoning behind material selection, and the timing, frequency and material-quantities applied will be discussed.

Being Positive About Increased Field Usage

Speaker: Zack Holm, CSFM - New York Red Bulls

In today's world our fields continue to see more usage with little to no input from the turfgrass manager. This session will help attendees understand how to have difficult conversations about field usage, be better prepared for event/extra usage planning and generate ideas for low impact events that can help them and their organization.

Athletic Field Soils and How to Manage Them

Speaker: Barry Stewart Ph.D. - Mississippi State University

Soil properties are not always well understood by many athletic field managers. Soil properties directly determine grass properties and playing surface properties that affect player performance and player safety. This presentation will present a review of basic aspects of soils. Soil physical, chemical and health properties will be highlighted.

Back to Basics: Troubleshooting Your Irrigation System's Electronics and Hydraulics

Speaker: Brad Jakubowski - Penn State University

Attendees will interactively learn the fundamentals of troubleshooting an irrigation system. Attendees will use multimeters to identify electrical problems with controllers, solenoids, common wires, and valve control wires. Attendees will also learn step by step methods to troubleshooting hydraulic problems in irrigation lines, valves and sprinklers.

11 am - 12 pm

So, What is the Deal with Calcium?

Speaker: Nick Christians, Ph.D. - Iowa State University

The session will include some basics of soil science as it relates to calcium and its use on turfgrass. It will also include a discussion of recent research on the topic.

Integrating Assessments into a Municipal or School Grounds Management Program

Speaker: Victoria Wallace - University of Connecticut

Changes in environmental legislation have caused grounds managers in CT to rethink how they manage facilities. This presentation will discuss how the need for assessments of municipal and school grounds and landscapes have evolved in CT, integration of assessments into an IPM plan, and how their use can support management protocol and school grounds purchasing decisions.

Lessons Learned in 35 Years in Turf

Speaker: Dale Getz, CSFM, Ret.

This presentation will follow the career of Dale Getz and the important agronomic and life lessons learned during 35 years in the turfgrass industry. The objective of the presentation is to show the various paths a career can take and to use lessons learned in the most productive way.

Recent Traffic Stress Tolerance Research at Rutgers University

Speaker: Brad Park - Rutgers University

The Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science continues to assess the wear and traffic tolerance of existing tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass cultivars and new experimental selections. The presenter will describe research results generated from wear and traffic stress trials and the practical implications of this research relative to the challenges faced by sports field managers.

Conference Learning Sessions

Dotmocracy

Moderated by Jeremy Tredway

This session will brainstorm a variety of topics from industry problems to hot topics. Each topic will be taped to the wall and attendees will vote on the topics they wish to discuss during the session by putting a colored dot sticker on that topic. The highest rated topics will be addressed.

More Pop per Drop: Smart Irrigation

Speaker: Bryan Hopkins, Ph.D. - Brigham Young University

How do we get more of a “pop” of green per drop of water? Water shortages are increasing in frequency and severity. Water and root zone oxygen management innovations will be discussed using case studies and hands-on demos.

2 - 3:15 pm

Beginners Guide to Bluemuda

Speaker: Megan VanArsdale - Boyle County Schools

This presentation will explain the concept of bluemuda and its benefits. Attendees will learn about the conversion of an existing bermudagrass field to bluemuda and its maintenance.

Breaking the Barrier: Communicating with Coaches and Administration

Speakers: John Corbin and Marc Moran, CSFM - Atlee High School

This presentation will focus on communication with coaches as well as administration to develop a working plan that facilitates reduction of wear in high wear areas, improved player and team performance and a stronger connection with the coach and the sports field manager. This will be explained from a sports field managers perspective as well as that of a coach.

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz Comes Alive

Speaker: John Mascaro - Turf-Tec International

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz article has appeared monthly in SportsTurf Magazine since 2006. The live version of the Photo Quiz is an interactive presentation with questions on what caused a turfgrass problem and answers that tell what the problem was and how it was solved. The Photo Quiz is a favorite feature in the magazine, and the live version focuses on “the rest of the story”.

Professional Baseball Field Renovation

Speaker: Wes Ganobcik - Columbus Clippers

This presentation will describe the design and construction process of a professional baseball field renovation from the perspective of the groundskeeper. It will describe areas of focus during the design and construction stages of a renovation project, the most important details of this specific renovation, as well as how to justify costs as defined by a cost/benefit analysis of different aspects of the project.

Utilizing a Diagnostic Service to Dial in Sports Turf Disease Management Programs

Speaker: Philip Harmon, Ph.D. - University of Florida

We will review turfgrass disease problems and the resources that managers have to diagnose problems. We will review tips to getting the most out of a diagnostic sample and how to interpret the results. We will also review some of the most common warm season turfgrass diseases and management strategies, including fungicide options.

Synthetic Turf Maintenance: Sports Turf Managers Needed

Speakers: Brian Hill - Brigham Young University - Grounds Department; Michael Wear - Perfect Pitch Turf Solutions

An in depth look at the daily, weekly, monthly and annual maintenance required to properly maintain synthetic turf fields. Including a discussion of the tools, methods and reasons behind the maintenance procedures.

3:30 - 5 pm

So You're Thinking About a Career Move...

(Repeated Thurs., Jan. 16, 1:30 - 3 pm)

Speakers: Marcus Dean, CSFM - Advanced Turf Solutions; Jeff Salmond, CSFM - United Turf and Track; Brian Winka, CSFM - Advanced Turf Solutions

Three CSFM's give a presentation based off their experiences of working in various STMA membership categories, then transitioning to the commercial side of the industry. The presentation is designed to answer questions for those who may be thinking about a career move but are not sure what they can expect.

Get with the Program: Developing Your Own Weed Control Strategy

Speakers: Jim Brosnan, Ph.D. - University of Tennessee; Gerald Henry, Ph.D. - University of Georgia

An effective weed control program allows field managers to maintain weed-free turfgrass (or as closely as possible) of optimal quality from January-December. Effective programs use different herbicide technologies varying in mode of action and implement effective cultural management practices. This session will teach attendees how to build effective weed control programs for both the northern and southern United States.

Work/Life Balance

Speakers: Lisa Goatley, M.S., L.P.C. - The Cascade Group; Mike Goatley, Jr., Ph.D. - Virginia Tech

Careers in the sports field industry present challenges in maintaining an appropriate balance between work and family life. Jobs are prone to long, unpredictable hours under stressful mental and physical conditions which can cause family relationships to suffer. This presentation will detail skills and strategies that one can implement to achieve healthy relationships both at home and with work.

Improved Cool-Season Grasses Perform Well and Require Fewer Inputs

Speakers: Cale Bigelow, Ph.D. - Purdue Turf Science Program; Gregg Munshaw, Ph.D. - University of Kentucky

This presentation will highlight new cool-season turfgrasses that have been bred specifically for aesthetics and reduced inputs and will focus on how to select and choose these improved cultivars to use less fertilizer, chemicals, and water.

Does Your Athletic Field Pass the Test? Field Testing Overview

Speakers: Kyley Dickson, Ph.D. and John Sorochan, Ph.D. - University of Tennessee

The presentation will cover the importance of testing natural and synthetic athletic fields and what data these different tests provide. Attendees will also learn how to use this information to improve athletic field performance, playability, and safety as well as effective ways to communicate the information collected to administrators, coaches, athletes, parents, city council members, etc.

Turfgrasses Do Not Eat Cookies!

Speaker: Haibo Liu, Ph.D. - Clemson University

This seminar will provide thorough reviews of turfgrass soil fertility, nutrition, environmental soil chemical concepts, updates of new trends, and challenges for sports field managers. The audience will gain hands-on experience to deal with challenging soil and chemical subjects with improvements for future management practices.

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am

Research and Real-World Review of Natural & Synthetic Hybrid Turf Systems

Speaker: Pamela Sherratt - The Ohio State University

Hybrid turf systems comprised of natural and synthetic turf, combined to give the end user a stable and high quality playing surface. This presentation will include a summary of research findings to date and look at how these systems are installed and maintained.

Fertility Fact, Myth and Legend - Sports Turf Edition

Speaker: Beth Guertal, Ph.D. - Auburn University

We've all heard them: 'apply potassium for traffic stress', 'no late season N - it causes winterkill', and, 'adding gypsum alleviates traffic stress'. But is any of this true, or is it as mythical as unicorns? Come join in for a discussion of the facts, myths and legends that surround fertilization and soil management, and see which are supported by research.

Understanding, Assessing, and Managing Shade Stress Problems in Stadiums

Speaker: John Sorochan, Ph.D. - University of Tennessee

This seminar will teach you to accurately diagnose shade stress on turfgrass and help you develop management practices to successfully manage turfgrass under shade conditions.

Mentoring/Training the Next Generation of Sports Turf Managers

Speakers: Nina Carter and Tomas Silvani - Buffalo Agency

Sports field managers need to be able to communicate their story in a compelling, authentic tone and engage with the media to promote the industry's vital work. Come learn tips, tricks and techniques on how to efficiently become a "story seller" and be considered a thought leader in your community. With the proper tools and training, you'll communicate your ideas coherently and effectively to any audience.

Chemical (Glyphosate, Fertilizer, etc.) Exposure: Health Concern?

Speaker: Bryan Hopkins, Ph.D. - Brigham Young University

Recent legal actions have resulted in alarming concerns regarding chemical use. Pesticides and fertilizers (most notably glyphosate or Roundup®) are being scrutinized by the public, insurance companies, etc. What are the real facts? What precautions are needed? What resources are available to help alleviate founded and unfounded concerns?

Do I Pull the Tarp? Having the Tools and a Plan for Making Game-Time Weather Decisions

Speakers: Brad Jakubowski - Penn State University; Matt Neri - State College Spikes Baseball

Having reliable weather-based knowledge and developing lines of communication needed to make the most dependable game-time decisions

possible is critical. The seminar will focus on what weather information is most effective for making game-time decisions and how to develop well-implemented plans and effective lines of communication to minimize unplayable field conditions.

9:30 - 10:45 am

Revisit / Develop Your Elevator Speech

Speaker: John Fech - University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Being able to simply and succinctly tell someone you just met about what you do for a living is an excellent way to get the word out that there are people in town who truly value community resources and whose job it is to ensure they are properly cared for. A quality elevator speech serves the sports field manager well when meeting vendors, event coordinators and potential future employers.

Tracking Every Drop: Irrigation Audits and Troubleshooting for Success

Speakers: Charles Fontanier, Ph.D. - Oklahoma State University; Chrissie Segars, Ph.D. - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

This presentation will describe the process of performing irrigation audits and troubleshooting your system for efficient watering practices. Speakers will go over step-by-step how to perform an audit, how to perform key calculations, and how to interpret your results to fine tune your system.

Improving High School Sports Fields: Educating & Connecting with Coaches

Speakers: Brandon Hardin and Michael Richard - Mississippi State University

Our newest Extension program: Sports Turf Management Coaches' Clinic was established to educate high school coaches on field maintenance practices that provide safe playing surfaces for student athletes. We will also discuss how a consultant/company can build a relationship with a school to provide key services, all while growing their business.

Improving Biological Control of Turfgrass Pests in the Wake of Public Opinion

Speakers: John Inguagiato, Ph.D. - University of Connecticut;

Joseph Roberts, Ph.D. - University of Maryland

Fertilizer and pesticide use in turfgrass has become a public concern resulting in state and local laws mandating the use of these products. With a growing public concern for both human and environmental health associated with turfgrass management, there is a growing need for alternative management strategies. Turfgrass researchers are developing new research in this area, particularly with how it relates to turfgrass microbiology.

Avoiding Pitfalls with Synthetic Turf Specifications and Project Management

Speakers: Dave Anderson PE - DA Hogan & Associates Inc.; Andrew McNitt, Ph.D. - Penn State University

Installing a new synthetic turf field? This presentation will discuss important aspects of the technical specifications and the project management approach that will help avoid pitfalls that can occur with the procurement and construction of synthetic turf field projects.

Cost of Ownership, From Turf to Dirt (Repeated Thurs., Jan. 16, 1:30 - 3 pm)

Speaker: Luke Yoder - DuraEdge Products, Inc.

There are many options when deciding what playing surface makes the most sense for your facility. We will discuss how to avoid buyer's remorse while preparing to implement best practices moving forward for the long haul. We

Conference Learning Sessions

will discuss all aspects that help determine what the best long-term solution is for your field or complex.

11 am - 12 pm

Keynote Presentation - RMLCS Giving Back to The Community

Speaker: Rodney Smith, Jr. - Raising Men Lawn Care Service

This presentation is about Raising Men Lawn Care Service and how one simple act of kindness started it all. Using lawn care, youth are inspired to get out and make a difference in their community one lawn at a time through our 50-yard challenge.

Thurs., Jan. 16

8 - 10 am

Informed Decision-Making Leads to Successful Sports Field Management

Speakers: Mike Goatley, Jr., Ph.D. - Virginia Tech;

Jeffrey Krans, Ph.D. - Mississippi State University; Jim Puhalla - Retired

The authors of "Sports Fields: Design, Construction, and Maintenance" apply over 100 years of their combined experiences in field designs, consultation, and university teaching/research in presentations emphasizing the points they feel are most critical to the success of a sports field and a sports field manager.

Bermudagrass: All the Latest on Cultivar Performance and Management

Speakers: Cale Bigelow, Ph.D. - Purdue Turf Science Program;

Gregg Munshaw, Ph.D. - University of Kentucky;

Barry Stewart Ph.D. - Mississippi State University

Attend this seminar to discover how to make the most informed decisions and maximize operational resources related to bermudagrass management.

Although bermudagrass has many strengths, it can also come with major limitations. Explore and learn the effects of various management inputs like nutritional programs, mowing, cultivation, and plant growth regulators.

Work Life Balance: How to Spend Less Time at Work

Speakers: Wes Ganobcik - Columbus Clippers; Corbin Merriman - Columbus Clippers; Christo Wallace - Cincinnati Reds

Turfgrass Management is a career path in which certain months require you to live at your facility more than your own home. Several approaches will be discussed which should help improve people's work/life balance, reduce the amount of time they spend at work, and create an overall more pleasant work environment. This will include staffing, scheduling, and field maintenance techniques.

Baseball Construction - The Science Behind the Builders

Speakers: Steve Bush, CFB, CSFM - Bush Sports Turf; Eric Holland, CSFM - Precision Turf, LLC; Nolan Thomas, CSFM - Nolan Thomas and Company, Inc.

The presentation will discuss the science and technology used in the design and construction of baseball fields. It will highlight recent projects and processes, how technology has changed building and maintaining baseball fields, and how to maximize your time with planning and efficiency.

1:30 - 3 pm

Welcome to Our World

Speaker: Nicole Sherry - Baltimore Orioles

In this Q & A/Roundtable discussion, Nicole will provide insight on her past experiences as a major and minor league head groundskeeper. The presentation

will cover how she got started in professional baseball groundskeeping, the toughest and most rewarding situations she has encountered, as well as key pieces of advice she has for those entering or trying to move up in the profession.

So You're Thinking About a Career Move...

(Repeated from Tues., Jan. 14, 3:30 - 5 pm)

Speakers: Marcus Dean, CSFM - Advanced Turf Solutions; Jeff Salmond, CSFM - United Turf and Track; Brian Winka, CSFM - Advanced Turf Solutions

Three CSFM's give a presentation based off their experiences of working in various STMA membership categories that have transitioned to the commercial side of the industry. The presentation is designed to answer questions for those who may be thinking about a career move but are not sure what they can expect.

Cost of Ownership, From Turf to Dirt

(Repeated from Wed., Jan. 15, 9:30 - 10:45 am)

Speaker: Luke Yoder - DuraEdge Products, Inc.

There are many options when deciding what playing surface makes the most sense for your facility. We will discuss how to avoid buyer's remorse while preparing to implement best practices moving forward for the long haul. We will discuss all aspects that help determine what the best long-term solution is for your field or complex.



Seminar on Wheels

Mon., Jan. 13, 7 am - 5:15 pm

Preregistration and Additional Fee Required

See **Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens**, one of the most unique stadiums in the U.S. Home of the Miami Dolphins, University of Miami and the Orange Bowl, it will be the site of Super Bowl LIV, just 20 days after the tour! The 65,326-seat stadium underwent a privately funded \$350 million renovation in 2015. You will see the Superbowl field preparation, unique behind-the-scenes areas, and hear Sports Turf Manager Tom Wilson speak about the many different and diverse events it hosts. You will also hear from the NFL Superbowl event team about the field preparation and challenges. Next, you will tour **FAU Stadium in Boca Raton**, home of the Florida Atlantic University football team, and visit its new practice football fields at the Schmidt Family Complex. The tour includes the recently renovated FAU softball field, with Latitude 36 Bermuda Grass and Dura Edge skinned area. The final stop is the **Palm Beach Gardens North County District Park**, which opened on June 29, 2019. It spans 81.9 acres including 21 acres of Latitude Bermudagrass grown in by the county's Parks and Grounds Division. Featuring seven lighted multi-purpose fields, two playgrounds, walking trails, green space, a maintenance building, and a splash pad, this \$13.7 million-dollar project was paid for by a one-cent sales tax fund. *Sponsored by Bush Turf*



Thurs., Jan. 16, 1:15 - 5:15 pm

Preregistration and Additional Fee Required

First stop is Roger **Dean Chevrolet Stadium**, a 90-acre complex in Jupiter, FL. The Spring Training home to the Miami Marlins and St. Louis Cardinals, the complex also hosts both clubs' Advanced A and Gulf Coast League affiliates. The Town of Jupiter (JTAA) uses the complex for its recreational leagues from April through mid-December. The final tour stop is the **FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches**, located in West Palm Beach. It is the Spring Training home to the Houston Astros and the Washington Nationals. The site also hosts baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and other sports. The facility's layout centers around the 6,500-seat stadium field and features 12 full-size baseball fields, 2 half-sized fields, 5 multipurpose fields, and 2 artificial agility fields as well as clubhouse spaces. The City of West Palm Beach operates a public park adjacent to the complex and a 2-mile jogging trail encompasses the entire property. *Sponsored by Bush Turf*



Conference Tracks

Professional Development

Turfgrass Management

Soils

Water

Pest and Environmental Issues

Tues., Jan. 14

9:45 - 10:45 am
Overcoming Challenges in Your Career
Abby McNeal, CSFM, CPRP

11 am - 12 pm
Lessons Learned in 35 Years in Turf
Dale Getz, CSFM

2 - 3:15 pm
Breaking the Barrier: Communicating with Coaches and Administration
John Corbin, Marc Moran, CSFM

3:30 - 5 pm
So You're Thinking About a Career Move...
Marcus Dean, CSFM, Jeff Salmond, CSFM, Brian Winka, CSFM

3:30 - 5 pm
Work/Life Balance
Lisa Goatley, M.S., LPC, Mike Goatley, Jr., Ph.D.

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am
Media Training 101: Enhance Your Brand
Nina Carter, Tomas Silvani

9:30 - 10:45 am
Revisit / Develop Your Elevator Speech
John Fech

9:30 - 10:45 am
Improving High School Sports Fields: Educating & Connecting with Coaches
Brandon Hardin, Michael Richard

Thurs., Jan. 16

8 - 10 am
Work Life Balance: How to Spend Less Time at Work
Wes Ganobcik, Corbin Merriman, Christo Wallace

1:30 - 3 pm
So You're Thinking About a Career Move...
Marcus Dean, CSFM, Jeff Salmond, CSFM, Brian Winka, CSFM

Sponsored by John Deere

Tues., Jan. 14

9:45 - 10:45 am
Growing Bermuda in the North
Kevin Mercer, CSFM, CGM, LICM

9:45 - 10:45 am
Topdressing Sports Fields: What's Right for Your Facility?
James Murphy, Ph.D.

11 am - 12 pm
Recent Traffic Stress Tolerance Research at Rutgers University
Brad Park

2 - 3:15 pm
Beginners Guide to Bluemuda
Megan VanArsdale

2 - 3:15 pm
John Mascaro's Photo Quiz Comes Alive
John Mascaro

3:30 - 5 pm
Improved Cool-Season Grasses Perform Well and Require Fewer Inputs
Cale Bigelow, Ph.D., Gregg Munshaw, Ph.D.

Thurs., Jan. 16

8 - 10 am
Bermudagrass: All the Latest on Cultivar Performance and Management
Cale Bigelow, Ph.D., Gregg Munshaw, Ph.D., Barry Stewart Ph.D.

Sponsored by BRANDT Consolidated

Tues., Jan. 14

9:45 - 10:45 am
Athletic Field Soils and How to Manage Them
Barry Stewart, Ph.D.

11 am - 12 pm
So, What is the Deal with Calcium?
Nick Christians, Ph.D.

3:30 - 5 pm
Turfgrasses Do Not Eat Cookies!
Haibo Liu, Ph.D.

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am
Fertility Fact, Myth and Legend - Sports Turf Edition
Beth Guertal, Ph.D.

Tues., Jan. 14

9:45 - 10:45 am
Back to Basics: Troubleshooting Your Irrigation System's Electronics and Hydraulics
Brad Jakubowski

11 am - 12 pm
More Pop per Drop: Smart Irrigation
Bryan Hopkins, Ph.D.

Wed., Jan. 15

9:30 - 10:45 am
Tracking Every Drop: Irrigation Audits and Troubleshooting for Success
Charles Fontanier, Ph.D., Chrissie Segars, Ph.D.

Sponsored by Hunter Industries

Tues., Jan. 14

11 am - 12 pm
Integrating Assessments into a Municipal or School Grounds Management Program
Victoria Wallace

2 - 3:15 pm
Utilizing a Diagnostic Service to Dial in Sports Turfgrass Disease Management Programs
Philip Harmon, Ph.D.

3:30 - 5 pm
Get with the Program: Developing Your Own Weed Control Strategy
Jim Brosnan, Ph.D., Gerald Henry, Ph.D.

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am
Chemical (Glyphosate, Fertilizer, etc.) Exposure: Health Concern?
Bryan Hopkins, Ph.D.

9:30 - 10:45 am
Improving Biological Control of Turfgrass Pests in the Wake of Public Opinion
John Inguagiato, Ph.D., Joseph Roberts, Ph.D.

Tues., Jan. 14

2 - 3:15 pm
Professional Baseball
Field Renovation
Wes Ganobcik

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am
Do I Pull the Tarp? Having the Tools
and a Plan for Making Game-Time
Weather Decisions
Brad Jakubowski, Matt Neri

9:30 - 10:45 am
Cost of Ownership, From Turf
to Dirt
Luke Yoder

Thurs., Jan. 16

8 - 10 am
Baseball Construction - The
Science Behind the Builders
Steve Bush, CFB, CSFM, Eric
Holland, Nolan Thomas

1:30 - 3 pm
Welcome to Our World
Nicole Sherry

1:30 - 3 pm
Cost of Ownership, From Turf
to Dirt
Luke Yoder

Tues., Jan. 14

9:45 - 10:45 am
Being Positive About Increased
Field Usage
Zack Holm, CSFM

11 am - 12 pm
Dotmocracy
Moderated by Jeremy Tredway

2 - 3:15 pm
Synthetic Turf Maintenance:
Sports Turf Managers Needed
Brian Hill, Mike Wear

3:30 - 5 pm
Does Your Athletic Field Pass the
Test? Field Testing Overview
Kyley Dickson, Ph.D., John
Sorochan, Ph.D.

Wed., Jan. 15

8 - 9:15 am
Research and Real-World
Review of Natural & Synthetic
Hybrid Turf Systems
Pamela Sherratt

8 - 9:15 am
Understanding, Assessing, and
Managing Shade Stress Problems
in Stadiums
John Sorochan, Ph.D.

9:30 - 10:45 am
Avoiding Pitfalls with
Synthetic Turf Specifications
and Project Management
Dave Anderson PE,
Andrew McNitt, Ph.D.

Thurs., Jan. 16

8 - 10 am
Informed Decision-Making Leads
to Successful Sports Field
Management
Mike Goatley, Jr., Ph.D.,
Jeffrey Krans, Ph.D., Jim Puhalla

CEUs & Pesticide
Recertification Credits

CEUs have been approved by ASBA, GCSAA, NRPA and PGMS. CEUs are pending with NALP. Pesticide Recertification credits are approved for Florida. If you are attending from another state and need pesticide recertification credits, you are responsible for contacting your state's Department of Agriculture for approval.



COMPANY NAME	COMPANY NAME	COMPANY NAME
ABI Sports Turf	GreensGroomer	R&R Products, Inc.
Advanced Drainage Systems	HARCO Fittings	Rain Bird
Aer-Flo, Inc.	Harper Turf Equipment	Redexim North America (BLEC N.A.)
Aeroform Athletics	Harrell's	Redox Chemicals
AgPro Technologies, Inc.	Harrod Sport	Royse Green Technologies (RGT, Inc.)
Air 2G2/GT Air Inject, Inc.	Helena Agri Enterprises, LLC	Salsco, Inc.
Andersons (The)	Hellas Construction	Schiller Grounds Care, Inc.
Anuvia Plant Nutrients	Horizon Distributors	Seed Research of Oregon
Aqua-Aid Solutions/Imants	Hunter Industries	Shaw Sports Turf
Aquatrols	Hydraway Drainage Systems	Sidekick USA, LLC
Arborjet/Ecogel Solutions, LLC	HydroPoint	Signature Systems Group
Avant Tecno USA	IntegraTurf, Inc.	Smithco, Inc.
Bannerman, Ltd.	Iowa State University, Dept. of Horticulture	Sod Production Services
Barenbrug USA	Jacklin Seed Company	Sod Solutions, Inc.
Beacon Athletics	Jaypro Sports, Inc.	Soil Tech Corp.
Billy Goat Industries	John Deere	Spectrum Technologies, Inc.
BioSaphe, Inc.	Kifco, Inc.	SportsTurf / EPG Media
Bowcom	Kromer Co., LLC	Sports Venue Padding
Brandt Consolidated/Grigg Brothers	Kubota Tractor Corporation	SportsEdge®
Buffalo Turbine	Kwik Goal	Sportsfield Specialties, Inc.
Bulldog Field Equipment	Land Tek Group, Inc. (The)	Sprinturf, LLC
Bush Turf	Landmark Turf & Native Seed	Spyker Spreaders
Buy Sod, Inc.	Landscapes Unlimited, LLC	Stabilizer Solutions, Inc.
BWI Companies	LASCO Fittings, Inc.	Stadium Grow Lighting (SGL)
C&H Baseball, Inc.	Laser-Grader Manufacturing	STEC
Calcium Products, Inc.	Lebanon Turf	Sunbelt Rentals, Inc.
Campey Turf Care Systems	Left Hand Robotics	Sustane Natural Fertilizer, Inc.
Carolina Green Corp.	Lely NA, Inc.	Syngenta
Columbia Seeds	Linemark International	Target Specialty Products/Turf Fuel
Corteva Agriscience	Magnation Water Technologies	TLS Turf Lighting Solutions
Covermaster, Inc.	Mar-Co Clay Products	Toro Company (The)
CoverSports USA	Matrax, Inc.	TranPak
Covia (formally Fairmount Santrol Sports & Recreation)	Mid-America Sports Construction	Tri Tex Grass
Dakota Peat & Equipment	Missouri Turf Paint	Trimax Mowing Systems
Dennis & SISIS	Motz Group (The)	Tru Turf
Diamond Pro	Mountain View Seeds	True-Surface® by Turfline, Inc.
DLF Pickseed	MTD Products / Cub Cadet Specialty Turf	TruMark Athletics
DryJect, Inc.	Newstripe, Inc.	Turf & Soil Diagnostics
Dura Edge Products	Nordic Plow, LLC	Turf Robotics, LLC
Dura-Trac Flooring, Ltd.	PBI-Gordon Corp.	Turf Tank
EarthWorks	Pearl Valley Farms	Turf-Tec International
Echo, Inc.	Pennington Seed, Inc.	Surface Athletics
ECOLawn Applicator	Perfect Mound (The)	Turfco
EPS America	Performance Nutrition	TurfGrass Group, Inc. (The)
Evergreen Turf	Perry Weather	TurfTime Equipment
Ewing Irrigation & Landscape Supply	Pioneer Athletics	Turfware, Inc.
Field Wall Pads - Division of Sports Graphics, Inc.	Plant Food Co.	U.S. Specialty Coatings
FIELDS	Platinum TE	United Turf and Track
FieldTurf	Port Industries, Inc.	Varicore Technologies, Inc. (Multi-Flow)
First Products	Power Turf Renovation	Ventrac by Venture Products, Inc.
Fisher Athletic Equipment	Precision Laboratories, LLC	Vescio's Sports Fields, Inc.
Fleet US	Precision Turf, LLC	Watertronics
Floratine Products Group, Inc.	Precision USA.com	Waupaca Sand & Solutions
Foliar-Pak/Advanced Turf Solutions	Pro-Tech Turf Pusher	Wessex International
g2 turftools, inc.	Pro's Choice/Oil Dri Corp. of America	Whitlam Paint Company
General Paint & Manufacturing	Profield Consulting Latam	Wiedenmann North America, LLC
Gill Athletics	ProTea Botan	Winstead Turf Farms, Inc.
Graco, Inc.	Pure Seed	Wood Bay Turf Technologies
Graden	Quality Event Flooring Systems	World Class Athletic Surfaces, Inc.
GreenJacket	R.A.D. Sports & SIS Pitches	World Sports USA

Registration Event/Fees

Full Conference Registration

Includes admission to all Education Sessions (except optional activities with fees), Welcome Reception, Awards Banquet, Trade Show, online access to all of the education session recordings, and all meals provided during the conference.

Registration	Online by: 1/3/20	Fax/Mail by: 12/13/19	Fax/Mail by 12/14/19 – 1/3/20	Onsite Only after 1/3/20
1st Member from facility	\$375	\$400	\$450	\$525
2nd or more Member same facility	\$325	\$350	\$400	\$475
NEW STMA Member (online only*)	FREE			
Non-Member (or Chapter only member)	\$505	\$530	\$580	\$655
Student National Member **	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$200
Student Non-Member (or Chapter Only)	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250

* New 1st time members must register online

** Student Members who participate in the Student Challenge receive FREE conference registration. Pre-registration is required and is only available on-line at STMA.org.

One Day Packages

Each day's package includes all events for the day(s) chosen. Does not include Optional Activities, which have additional fees.

Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

\$150 each day

Trade Show Only Pass

Wednesday and Thursday

\$50

Non-Industry Spouse/Companion Registration

Registration must accompany a Full Conference Registration and are for Non-industry employed spouses, significant others or companions.

Guest Full Conference Registration

\$150

Optional Activities

Event	Online by 01/03/20	Prior to 01/03/20 by fax/mail
Volunteer Field Rebuild: Sunday 1 - 6 pm	FREE (registration required)	FREE
Full Day Seminar on Wheels: Monday 7 am - 5:15 pm	\$65	\$90
Half Day Seminar on Wheels: Thursday 1:15 - 5:15 pm	\$35	\$60
SAFE Golf Tournament: Individual: Monday 7 am - 5 pm	\$135	\$160
SAFE Bowling Tournament Individual: Monday 6 - 9 pm	\$75	\$100
Additional Awards Banquet Tickets: Thursday 6:30 pm	\$85	\$110

Members: to Register, go online to STMA.org

Click Member Log in at the top of the page and log in. Select the Membership, Merchandise and Registration link on the left navigation bar. Select the 2020 Conference Registration item; choose your registration type; complete steps to add it to your shopping cart and follow the instructions for payment. You will be sent a receipt electronically.

New Members: If you are a **new member** (never been a member or haven't been a member since 2000) who joined STMA during 2019, you qualify for a **FREE** Conference Registration. Follow procedure above, and select the Full Conference Registration (fee may show) Once selected, you will see reg options, select the Full Reg - New 1st Time Member (no fee) and continue through the form. New first time members must register online.

Non-Members & Former Members: go online to STMA.org

Click on Member Log in at the top of the page. At Log in, select New Visitor and put in your email address. It will indicate if you are already in our system. If not, fill out the contact information required, and click on Create Account. Now, new members can join STMA as a New First-Time Member to get the Free Conference Registration. Former members are not eligible for the Free Conference Registration. **NOTE:** You must add the New First Time Member to your shopping cart **and pay for it** before you can register for your free conference registration. Follow the Member registration process noted.

Important Information

Pre-registration is only available until Jan. 3, 2020. After that date, all registrations will be on-site. Fill out a form in advance and bring it, or fill one out at STMA Registration located in the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Please do not have your office fax it to STMA HQ after Jan. 3. It cannot be processed, and you will need to register on-site at the higher onsite rate. If you have any special accommodation, needs or meal requests, please contact STMA by Dec. 13, 2019.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be in writing and received by Dec. 13, 2019. All written cancellations are subject to a \$50 processing fee. NO refunds will be issued on requests received after Dec. 13. Refunds will be issued within 30 days after conference. Mail cancellations to STMA, 805 New Hampshire, Ste. E., Lawrence, KS 66044 or fax to (785) 843-2977. If the conference and exposition is cancelled for any cause beyond STMA's control, registration fees will be refunded at a pro rate basis based on the expenses incurred at the date of cancellation. STMA holds event cancellation insurance that will be used to provide the most equitable refunds possible. Refunds will NOT be provided to registrants who are unable to attend due to weather or other non-health related issues.

Hard Copy Registration Forms - download from STMA.org
Questions? Call STMA at 800-323-3875.



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STMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

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- Sports Field Managers, Assistants & Crew
- Students
- Stadium & Facility Managers
- Coaches & Athletic Directors
- Architects, Engineers & Field Builders
- School Business Officials
- Public Works Managers
- Physical Plant Administrators
- Directors of Parks & Recreation
- Suppliers to the Industry

What You'll Learn:

- Innovative techniques to save time and money
- Up-to-date research and how you can apply it
- Best Management Practices for sports fields
- Features and benefits of new industry products/equipment
- Communication strategies to help you succeed with your user groups
- Professional development & career advice

To exhibit, call: 866-847-8623

For all other Questions, call:
800-323-3875

Thank you to our Conference Sponsors!

