



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

58 Val Halla Road, Cumberland, ME 04021, 207.838.6613

President's Message:

Dear Members,

Welcome to the latest edition of Mainely Green! One of my goals as President was to reestablish our newsletter to keep our members more abreast of the happenings of the MGCSA. It just so happens that the opportunity presented itself for Board Member Paul Richmond to chair the Newsletter Committee. Paul's tech savviness is a perfect fit for what will be exclusively digital editions of Mainely Green. I encourage anyone with an idea for an issue to reach out to Paul.

I do believe that 2017 can and will be a strong year for MGCSA. It started with what was the best Turf Conference I've been involved with. I don't mean financially. I mean the number of people who were engaged. Part of our vision is "Providing high quality, affordable, and modern education", and that's what we strive to do with the turf conference for the largest number of members possible. I feel like we accomplished that in January. Thanks to Board Members Mike Guibord and Joe Fourre for organizing that event. Rick Lewis has got some excellent monthly meetings lined up this year and I hope many of you will take some time to attend those meetings. I can't spill the beans yet but Michael Smith is organizing what will be an epic Scholarship and Research Tournament! Stay tuned for that.



The more challenging part of 2017 may be the local ordinances restricting pesticide use in the state. Portland, Falmouth, and York at this very moment are exploring the possibility, and Jesse O'Brien recently informed me of a bill just introduced in Augusta restricting Neonicotinoid use. It's going to take a group effort to overcome these proposals. I know and you know the professionalism and judiciousness in which these products are used in our field. We need to get out and tell our side of the story. If not, the activist groups will tell it for us. I hope you will consider joining me and our colleagues in getting out there and telling the decision makers what we do. It will help.

Finally, the success of our organization wouldn't be possible without the countless volunteers from the board members down to the committee members and of course vendors who do so much for our association. Volunteering has been a tremendous benefit and joy for me. I've made many friends, traveled all over the country, and learned so much from so many people. Consider making 2017 the year to get more involved with the association, you won't be disappointed!

Best wishes for a successful 2017 season. See you soon at a MGCSA event!

Bob Searle


MGCSA President

MGCSA Mainely Green Newsletter
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BMP Planning Guide & Template Announced



Golf Course Superintendent Association of America

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BMP Planning Guide and Template offered by Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

Golf industry groups, including the USGA and PGA Tour, collaborate to proactively demonstrate golf course *superintendents' environmental stewardship*

Lawrence, Kan. (Feb. 14, 2017) – A comprehensive national planning guide and template for best management practices (BMPs) in golf course management that states can easily adapt to their needs is now available online through the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The BMP program is funded through the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), the philanthropic arm of GCSAA.

The BMP Planning Guide and Template is a big step toward the initiative to have golf courses in all 50 states adopt science-based agronomic practices that support proactive environmental stewardship of the land. The template, covering key areas such as nutrient use, drought and water management, integrated pest management and others, is available at www.gcsaa.org/bmp.

“It is vital to the long-term success of this profession that we proactively work with legislators, regulators and consumers to build full trust for superintendents and the work they do to provide quality playing surfaces while protecting the environment,” said Rhett Evans, GCSAA CEO.

The planning guide is funded and supported by the U.S. Golf Association (USGA), which began funding turfgrass research in 1920. The USGA has also invested generally to ensure sustainability for the game.

“We are committed to doing all we can to help bring best management practices into play across every state and at every golf course,” said Mike Davis, executive director and CEO of the USGA.

GCSAA-affiliated chapters in Florida, Georgia, Michigan, New York, Oregon and Virginia already provide successful examples of the value of adopting BMPs. And nine more affiliated chapters from other states have been awarded grants to get started, through funding from the PGA Tour.

One of those chapters is the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, whose effort is being spearheaded by Pete Gorman, the golf course superintendent at Pine Orchard Yacht and Country Club in Branford, Conn., and the secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut association.

“We want Connecticut to be at the forefront of the BMP project,” said Gorman, whose state includes 179 golf courses. “We want to be a resource for other states and other industries going forward. GCSAA is taking the lead in helping all of us be leaders in best management practices, such as water conservation and all environmental topics. It’s a commitment to our profession.”

The BMP Planning Guide and Template was initiated by GCSAA leaders working with professional turfgrass and horticultural scientists at the University of Florida and further vetted through a task group consisting of superintendents, university scientists, environmental professionals, golf course architects and other industry representatives.

About GCSAA and the EIFG

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is a leading golf organization in the United States. Its focus is on golf course management, and since 1926 GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the U.S. and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to nearly 18,000 members in more than 78 countries. The association’s mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org or find us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

The Environmental Institute for Golf is the philanthropic organization of the GCSAA. Its mission is to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. Visit EIFG at www.eifg.org or find us on Facebook or Twitter.





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Upcoming Events

Annual Lobstah Stew Meeting

March 23rd 10:00a.m.

Hosted by Michael Smith of Sunset Ridge
Westbrook, ME

UMASS Snow Mold Trials

Date TBD (April)

Hosted by Toby Young of Val Halla
Cumberland, ME

Maine - New Hampshire Joint Meeting

Date TBD (May)

Hosted by David D'Andrea of Sable Oaks
South Portland, ME

Superintendent - Vendor

June 14, 2017

Hosted by Michael Lewis of Lake Kezar
Lovell, ME

Scholarship & Research Tournament

Date September 11, 2017

Hosted by Shaun Osborne of Sugarloaf Golf Club
Carrabassett, ME

Crew Fun Day

Date October 17, 2017

Hosted by Paul Richmond of Wawenock
Walpole, ME

Annual Membership Meeting

December 5th 10:00 a.m.

Hosted by J.B. Christie of Portland Country Club
Falmouth, ME