



# Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Bi-Monthly Update September/October Volume 33, No. 4

2004

## President's Message



*This month's President's Message was written by my assistant Mike Bogroff. I think I have said enough during my time on the board and I wanted to give him a shot at the front page. Thanks for all of the kind words from many of you regarding my president messages and email updates.*

Turf management! Can it really get any better than this? When you arrive at work each morning, the sun hasn't even begun to break the eastern horizon. Dew is on the grass, and a chill is in the air. Although most people wouldn't choose this path for anything, it's in your blood and it's magic. If only more people felt this way about their jobs! For turf managers, going to work each morning is not just a commute, it's an adventure full of the anticipation of beautiful sunrises, random wildlife sightings, nature at its best, and great camaraderie with co-workers who understand

and share the vision you have for your course and the endless possibilities.

Who among you can recall having a day out on the course or in the office that was exactly the same as the day before? In most professions, it happens all too often. People get stuck in a rut and begin to feel stagnant in their jobs. But a day on the golf course is never boring, and it's never the same. It's full of countless changes in weather, personnel issues, technical challenges, and plans that have to be changed at the last minute. On a typical day, you may have to be a plant pathologist, a weatherman, a mechanic, an environmentalist, a friend one minute and a boss the next, a greens mower, or even a golfer. It's not uncommon to be digging an irrigation ditch one minute and, then, be sitting behind your desk trying to balance your budget the next. Or you might find yourself on a quiet spot out on the course counseling an employee who is having problems at home.

You develop the ability to meet situations head on without having to stop and wonder what to do to fix the latest problem. It's almost like you're in autopilot and you're programmed to instantly know the solution to all problems. In fact, you may be in the company of some of the most well-rounded, multi-faceted managers in the business world today. Turf management! Who could ask for anything more?

Out on the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway you pass 2 wild turkeys feeding on insects in a natural area. On the 12<sup>th</sup> fairway you glance to the south and see a doe with her 2 fawns. Startled, they move quickly, white tails alerted, into the safety of the woods. Near the pond on the 16<sup>th</sup> hole, a flock of Canadian Geese mingles comfortably with a group of assorted ducks. If you're lucky, you may even hear the call of a loon flying overhead in search of it's own water. Although this may sound like a visit to a nature reserve to most, it's actually a typical day out on the course. You live in nature, and you coexist with this wildlife everyday. You make wise environmental choices, and you provide the natural setting that these creatures need to survive.

The day is just beginning. Over on the east side of the course, you take a moment to watch the sunrise. With the amazing colors reflecting off of the clouds, it's almost like the big man up stairs is saying, "you did a great job yesterday and this is your reward for working so hard to take care of this land I've given you." As you continue around the course, you can see the results of your hard work and all you can think is, can it really get any better than this?

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What a privilege it is to be able to work on a golf course in a place as beautiful as this, with so many beautiful lakes and streams, the seasons of the year, and the people and traditions that are so unique to this area. In a month or so things will begin to slow down, leaves will fall, snow will be just around the corner, and we'll have time to relax and reflect on the year just past and the one just ahead.

Mike Bogroff, Assistant Superintendent  
Traverse City Golf & Country Club

## Congratulations are in order for the following people:

- ♦ Paul Galligan, Steve Sump, Mike Normand, Jim Atchison on being elected to the 2004 NMTMA Board of Directors.
- ♦ John Holberton, Cedar Valley G.C. for low gross and Adam Ikamas, Crystal Mountain Resort for low net on winning the 2004 NMTMA Tuck Tate Championship held at Walloon Lake Country Club.
- ♦ Jessica Galligan on winning the 2004 members scholarship. She receives a nice check for \$1000.00.
- ♦ To Dan Bissonette and his wonderful staff at Walloon Lake Country Club for putting on an outstanding event.
- ♦ To all the people that attend the 2004 golf and events and vendors that helped support the events. The association appreciates your continued support
- ♦ To Paul Emling, Golf Course Superintendent at Arcadia Bluffs for his recent article in Golfdom Magazine. Paul received national exposure in the Environmental issue.

### NEW CSA Award

The 2004 NMTMA Board of Directors has decided that it is time to give back to the many people in our organization that give to so many others. The Community Service Award will be presented at the 2005 Mini-Conference to a member of the NMTMA that volunteers their time to a specific organization or community for no monetary value. The award winner will receive a **\$500.00** check made out to the organization of their choice in their name. The simple rules are as follows: 1. The person being nominated or applying for this must be a current member and have been for the past two years. 2. Must not receive payment for services they provide. 3. Must have been volunteering for the organization for two years, one including the present year. If you would like to nominate a person or would like to apply for this yourself, please contact Craig Hoffman @ (906) 493-5658 or Scott Pulaski @ (989) 732-6711 Ext. 2809 for an application.



## Opportunity to do good!

Every once in awhile an opportunity presents itself that just begs for your attention and support. We've got one of those opportunities for you November 10, 2004. Pesticide container recycling especially suited for the larger size pesticide container. Containers like 55-gallon drums all the way down to 4 and 5-gallon containers, even 2.5's will be accepted.

**Where** – Turfgrass, Inc. location in Gaylord, MI

**When** – Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>

**Time** - 9:00am - 4:00pm

**What is going to happen** – The NMTMA, Turfgrass, Inc. and Uniroyal Chemical have made arrangements to set up a site for all containers to be returned for recycling? This is NOT a landfill operation. The containers will be inspected, stacked and sorted on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November and the pick-up will take place late the next week. We need to pool all the containers in one location to have a good idea of what size and number of trucks will be required to transport these containers to St. Louis, MO for grinding.

The containers will need to be **triple** rinsed and **clean**. Pulling off the paper part of the label would be helpful, you can leave the caps on, but the big thing is getting them cleaned out. They will be checked in and checked to make sure they are clean. We will have limited capability to rinse and recapture on site but the hope is your containers come in clean. Your unused pesticide becomes hazardous waste in the hands of the recycler and the sponsor will be billed for the freight plus the cost of disposal if the containers are not properly clean.

**Any** plastic pesticide container can be brought in. No limit as to size, even 250-gallon mini bulks. No restrictions as to whether it contained a fungicide, herbicide, insecticide or other additive so long as its original intention was for use in turf.

This is a great opportunity to clean up your fill station after a long season and right after snow mold applications are done. Get the course sprayed, triple rinse the containers and bring them to Turfgrass, Inc. on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Want more incentive? There will be a grill going so expect a great lunch with many of your friends and go home feeling good about what you've done for the golf industry, your course, yourself and your children. Can we expect you? Mark your calendar now. We'll have the grill on for you!

**November  
10th  
2004**



**Recycle Station  
for Plastic  
Containers**

## **Announcing the Inaugural Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium March 7 & 8, 2005 at Crystal Mountain Resort**

The Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium is a cooperative effort between the MTF and the NMTMA. After all, what better way to celebrate the end of winter than to cap-it-off with a turf conference at Crystal Mountain Resort? Ok, there may be better ways but we think this is a good one.

This first annual event, and all proceeding Ski and Learn Symposium, will be dedicated to addressing a single turfgrass issue. This symposium is also unique in that participants will earmark the funds towards a specified research project and will also vote to pick next year's symposium topic.

Session times are from 8:00 A.M. – Noon on Monday March 7 and Tuesday March 8 with a Vendor Happy Hour from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. on Monday March 7. As you can see we built time into the conference to ski, snowboard, or hang by the fireside one last time before spring arrives.

Lodging at Crystal Mountain includes a breakfast buffet prior to the session and lunch afterward, a lift ticket for the slopes, and dining gratuities. The cost for lodging is \$118.00 single rate and \$79.00 double rate per room, or \$130.00 single rate and \$85.00 double rate for a suite. Additionally, special lift ticket and rental rates will be given to spouses, children, or significant others that share a hotel room or suite with a conference participant.

Now a little bit more info about the symposium. The Inaugural Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium feature Dr. Thomas A. Nikolai of MSU, Mike Morris CGCS Crystal Downs C.C., and Jon Scott PGA Tour Agronomist addressing the topic of green speed. For nearly 25 years industry recommendations concerning the green speed debate has been 1) speed kills 2) get your members to lower their expectations or if all else fails 3) lie to your clientele. For many superintendents these recommendations are about as useful as putting a band-aid on a broken arm. The dream of Eddie Stimpson and Al Radko, key players in the creation and distribution of the Stimpmeter, was that each course would create their "ideal green speed". Unfortunately, no set of instructions came with the Stimpmeter as to the best way to establish an ideal green speed. This class covers problems that have led to golf course superintendents being on the defensive in the green speed debate and offers a proven method for establishing your courses ideal green speed. The role the environment, mowing height, light-weight rolling, fertility, PGRs and other cultural practices have on green speed will be discussed and probably debated. Additionally, Jon Scott's will give advice regarding "The Do's and Don'ts of Tournament Preparation."

Clearly, space is limited in this unique setting. Pre-register by December 1, 2004 and save \$20 off registration by:

Mailing \$100.00 check made payable to Michigan Turfgrass Foundation  
P.O. Box 80071  
Lansing, MI 48908  
Or

Register at [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org) today.

Reserve your lodging by calling Crystal Mountain and mention "Ski and Turf Symposium."

# Items For Sale:

All items can be viewed at [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org)

## Ransome 180

Company: Traverse City Golf & Country Club

Description:

This Ransome 180 is in very good condition. We installed a new engine on it three years ago. We have used it to mow our intermediate cut around the ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Steve Hammon

Email: [steveh@tcgcc.com](mailto:steveh@tcgcc.com)

Phone: 231-947-0487

## Ransome Deck

Company: Lakes of the North

Description:

60" rear discharge mower deck, taken off a 728D tractor. PTO driven. Missing front castor wheels. ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Scott Brown

Email: [lnmaint@avci.net](mailto:lnmaint@avci.net)

Phone: 231-585-6129

## Jacobsen LF100

Company: Eagle Glen Golf Course

Description:

This is a used Jacobsen LF100 for sale. We have replace this fairway mower with a new one and need the space in the shop. This mower does come with ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: George Shepherd

Email: [gshep@glcccomputers.com](mailto:gshep@glcccomputers.com)

Phone: 989-588-6599

## Jacobsen LF100

Company: Private seller

Description:

Complete working unit. Reels w/groomer. 4WD 3,700 hours. Will sell complete, part out reels, or trade for Turf Cat.. Will consider offers or other tr ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Louie Bauer

Email: [ltbauer@ameritech.net](mailto:ltbauer@ameritech.net)

Phone: 419-872-3191

## Irrigation Materials

Company: Walloon Lake Country Clu

Description:

Due to an irrigation renovation project, we have slightly used irrigation materials available for sale at WLCC. We will consider volume discounts.

Contact: Daniel Bissonette

Email: [dan@upnorth.net](mailto:dan@upnorth.net)

Phone: 231-535-2373

## Rainbird Eagle 700 series

Company: Eagle Glen Golf Course

Description:

6 new Rainbird eagle 700's  
Complete bodies with heads

A little dirty but never used ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Dudley Strauch - George Shephard

Email: [dudleystrauch@yahoo.com](mailto:dudleystrauch@yahoo.com)

Phone: 1(989)588-6599

## 1984 Cushman Truckster

Company: Crystal Downs CC

Description:

3 wheel, no dump ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Mike Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241

## Toro Sandpro with Spiker

Company: Crystal Downs CC

Description:

no rake attachment ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Mike Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241

## FMC 300 Gallon Sprayer

Company: Crystal Downs CC

Description:

18' Boom; PTO driven; no foam marker; stainless tank ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Mike Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241

## Peerless 1000 Automatic Bedknife Grinder

Company: Crystal Downs Country Club

Description:

Automatic, pneumatic traverse with coolant system ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Mike Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241

## Foley Manual Bedknife Grinder

Company: Crystal Downs CC

Description:

Very good condition ... [DETAILS](#)

Contact: Mike Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241



*The NMTMA appreciates the support from the following businesses...*

**\*SOD, SOIL, & CONSTRUCTION\***

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(231) 943-7806 / (888) 616-7806

**Huggett Sod Farm**  
*Bent & Bluegrass Sod, Shade & Ornamental Trees*  
(989) 635-7482

**Beck Sod Farm, Inc.**  
David Beck  
(800) 968-2325 / (989) 864-3549

**Great Lakes Golf Construction, Inc.**  
Christopher Furness  
(231) 582-6783

**\*CONTRACT SERVICES\***

**Turf Services, Inc.**  
Matt Heiss  
(616) 842-4975 / (616) 638-5819

**\*EQUIPMENT/IRRIGATION\***

**Spartan Distributors**  
John Read or Jeff Rogers  
(800) 822-2216 / (616) 887-7301

**\*FERTILIZER, CHEMICAL & SEED\***

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*It Pays To Plant The Best*  
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**Rhino Seed and Supply**  
*Next Day Delivery Guaranteed!*  
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**UHS/Verdicon**  
Steve Fent  
(989) 277-4704

**Lesco, Inc.**  
Mark Hensley / Jason Pettus  
(800) 321-5325 / (248) 789-8315

**Tri-Turf**  
*"A Warehouse On Wheels"*  
(231) 943-8343 / (800) 636-7039

**Turf Chemicals**  
Russ Hancock  
(989) 725-7145 / (800) 733-7145

**Cleary Chemical Corporation**  
Tim Keating - *"There When You Need Us"*  
(630) 885-7587

**Lebanon Fertilizers and Seed**  
*Better Technology For Today's Turf*  
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**Kodiak Equipment Company**  
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Jim Atchison  
(269) 685-6828 / (616) 437-2602

**\*TIRES & TUBES\***

**Tire Wholesalers Company, Inc.**  
Dan Cress  
(231) 775-6666

**\*EQUIPMENT, SERVICE & SUPPLIES\***

**WEINGARTZ GOLF & TURF**  
*John Deere One Source*  
(877) 465-9040 / (616) 696-2913

**W. F. MILLER COMPANY**  
Mark Vogler  
(800) 555-8189 / (248) 349-4100

*... and we encourage you to support them...*

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association  
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**NMTMA Executive Committee**

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