

Turf & Grounds Maintenance Education Seminar

**Presented By: MoKan Sports Turf Managers Association
in conjunction with Missouri Park and Recreation Association**

Date: Friday, December 16

Location: Gamber Center, 4 SE Independence St, Lee's Summit MO 64063

Participant Cost: \$50.00 per person

Vendor Opportunities: \$100 including an 8' table for advertisement

Lunch provided along with morning and afternoon refreshments.

To register call Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation at 816-969-1512.

For more information contact Joe Snook (MPRA) at 816-969-1504
or Devin Wetzel (MO-KAN) at 816-719-6603.



7:00-7:45 Registration

8:00-9:05 Dr. Chris Starbuck: University of Missouri, Division of Plant Science

Title: Reduce tree and shrub replacement costs: keep 'em alive

Landscape trees and shrubs face a constant onslaught by pests. In many cases, reducing stress helps them resist the attack. This session will discuss some common, but serious, insect and disease problems and how they can be managed, both chemically, and with stress-reducing cultural practices such as soil amendment, proper planting, mulching, irrigation and fertilization.

9:15-10:20 Dr. Brad Fresenberg: University of Missouri, Extension of Plant Sciences

Title: A more natural approach to sports turf maintenance

Let's ask ourselves why pest exist rather than what do I need to do to get rid of a pest. Focusing on the reasons why pest exist may direct sports turf managers to change up their maintenance practices in order to reduce pest potential. Sports turf managers are under increased pressure to keep athletic fields safe and playable and now the safety aspect includes reduced pesticides. We plan to have an open discussion as we work through the information presented.

10:30-11:35 Paul Beck: Jefferson City Parks and Recreation, Jefferson City, MO

Title: The nuts and bolts of playground inspection

Although you may not be a certified playground inspector, many times you are the best layer of defense of playground injuries. Knowing what to look for will not only extend the life of your equipment but make them as safe as possible while still providing all the positive benefits of a playground.

11:40-12:25 Lunch (Provided at Gamber Center)

12:30-2:15 Robert Oppold: International Sports Turf Research Center, Shawnee KS

Title: Maintaining your parks and fields, a balance of air and water

Growing healthy turf requires a balance of water, nutrients, and oxygen. The turf professional has control over water and nutrition, but soil oxygenation is dependent on the physical properties of the soil. We use aerification and topdressing to modify the root zone. Not all techniques are effective. The seminar will focus on the impact and limitations of hollow tines, solid tines, and various forms of deep aerification.

2:25-3:30 Chuck Dixon: Agronomist at White Mule Organics Inc.

Title: Strategies for managing soil and plant resources with challenging budgets

Budgets for sports and recreational facilities have not increased with the rising costs of inputs and have often been reduced. Patron expectations are the same or greater. Strategic use of native plantings can be used to reduce fertilizer and maintenance inputs while adding aesthetic value to the facility. Storm water collection features add value to the local infrastructure and can reduce the amount of intensive maintenance areas. New approaches to soil fertility and plant nutrition increase efficiency of maintenance inputs.

