NTGCSA North Texas Golf Course Superintendent's Association Recertification

Scottish Rite
Meeting Room
2222 Welborn Street
Dallas, TX 75219

Agenda
September 26, 2024

8:30am to 9:20am	A Review of TDA Pesticide Laws and Regulations – Henry Krusekopf, Texas Department of Agriculture
9:30pm to 10:20pm	Fundamentals of Wetting Agents – Dr. Mike Richardson, University of Arkansas
10:30am to 11:20am	Golf Course Pond and Stream Management – Larry Cofer – Pondology
11:30pm to 12:30pm	Lunch
12:30pm to 1:20pm	Driving Revenue: The Golf Course Superintendent's Strategic Role in Profit Maximization – Tommy Witt CGCS, Witt Golf
1:30pm to 2:20pm	Maintaining Healthy Turfgrass in the Shade Environment – Ben Wherley, Texas A&M University
2:30pm to 3:20pm	Agronomic Approaches to Dealing with Poor Water Quality on the Golf Course – Ben Wherley, Texas A&M University

Expanded Course Descriptions

Fundamentals of Wetting Agents
Dr. Mike Richardson

This seminar will cover some basic fundamentals and even misconceptions about soil surfactants (wetting agents). Examples will be presented on how they can be used in an overall program to manage water and soil hydrophobicity on golf course putting greens. Updates on the latest research regarding the use of wetting agents will also be presented.

Golf Course Pond and Stream Management
Larry Cofer

This presentation will cover challenges and solutions in golf course water features. These include the value of golf course ponds and streams - turning "hazards" into assets; weed classification categories, ID and control options (mechanical, biological and chemical); IPM solutions - environmental, biological, mechanical (shoreline deepening, grass carp, dyes, aeration); TDA aquatic category rules; Aquatic herbicide modes of activity, labels, and calculating pond volumes and herbicide/algaecide dosages; Fertilizer and herbicide application issues - nutrient recycling, timing, risks (fish kills, drift, economic); Record keeping- legal and functional; Animal issues (fish, rodents, insects); and stream issues - erosion control and riparian buffers.

Driving Revenue: The Golf Course Superintendent's Strategic Role in Profit Maximization
Tommy Witt, CGCS

Join us for this career impacting & insightful seminar delving into the pivotal role of Golf Course Superintendents as revenue generators. We will explore the myriad of cutting-edge information that will transform the Superintendent from being viewed as the manager of an expense center into that of a valued, strategic and contributing partners in driving the financial success of their golf facilities.

This seminar promises valuable insights and actionable strategies to share the full revenue-generating impact of the Golf Course Superintendent's role with employers. Join us to discover how embracing this pivotal role can promote your contribution to your golf facility and elevate your value in the eyes of your employers.

Maintaining Healthy Turfgrass in the Shade Environment
Dr. Ben Wherley

The goal of any IPM program is maintaining a strong, healthy turfgrass stand capable of withstanding/recovering from stress, pest, or disease damage, and this can be especially difficult in shaded environments. Shade from trees and vegetation limits the ability of the plant to produce energy, but also restricts airflow, producing a more humid microenvironment conducive to fungal disease. This presentation will highlight integrated pest management strategies aimed at minimizing disease pressure and reducing the need for fungicides in shaded conditions, with practical strategies offered for modifying the growing environment and improving plant health.

Management factors including proper nitrogen fertility, irrigation timing, leaf wetness period, mowing heights, and promotion of airflow in relation to disease management will all be highlighted. Approaches to quantifying/assessing the shade environment through use of new tools and technologies will also be discussed. Research-based data on comparative shade performance of cool-season turf species and cultivars will also be presented.

Agronomic Approaches to Dealing with Poor Water Quality on the Golf Course
Dr. Ben Wherley

The quality of water available for use on golf courses has decreased considerably in recent decades. Less than optimal irrigation chemistry has become especially problematic across the southwestern US, where recycled water is one of the primary irrigation sources. These waters often contain high levels of salts, sodium, dissolved solids, hardness, and possess elevated pH, which can create challenges for the turfgrass manager in maintaining properly functioning soil and plant health. This talk will highlight the importance of water chemistry testing, both for irrigation suitability as well as spray tank compatibility. Interactions of chemical factors such as water hardness and pH on efficacy of commonly used pesticides and half-life of various active ingredients in spray mixtures will be discussed, with strategies provided for ameliorating these issues and improving pesticide efficacy.