

## New Turf Conference Format – Register Today!

November 3, 2015

The 2016 Turf Conference will be held from Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. Featured presentations this year include *Extreme PR in the Relationship Era* from **Dr. Bill Withers** of Wartburg College and *Miller Park Grass – The Untold Story* from **Mr. Michael Boettcher** of the Milwaukee Brewers. Additional presentations include “*Business as Usual? Balancing the Art, Science, and Business within Golf Maintenance Operations*” by **Mr. Steve Merkel**, *Flooding at Iron Eagle: One Day at a Time* by **Mr. Chip Carr**, and newly created “*Innovative Superintendent Sessions*” hosted in part by **Mr. Josh Mahar** and **Mr. Corey Crandall**. **Dr. Jared Hoyle** from Kansas State University, **Dr. Lee Miller** from the University of Missouri, and the University of Nebraska faculty and staff will also be leading various seminars.

### New format this year!

The NTA Board of Directors and University of Nebraska Turf Program have decided to reformat the 2016 conference. The goal is to improve the experience for all attendees. The conference will now begin on Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm instead of Wednesday morning.

#### Tuesday Morning – Workshops

There will be three morning workshops Tuesday morning before the official start of the conference. They include an equipment workshop, a soil and water analysis workshop, and an introductory-level lawn care workshop. Full conference registration no longer includes workshop registration. ***These three workshops require an additional cost with two capped to 25 attendees to promote a better workshop atmosphere.***

#### Tuesday Afternoon – Full conference begins

The conference officially begins Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm with sessions tailored to different levels of experience in the turfgrass industry. The trade show will then open at 4:00 pm following the sessions with refreshments.

#### Wednesday

The morning will begin with the general session presentations. They include a UNL research update, the NTA annual meeting, and our keynote presentations from Dr. Withers and Mr. Boettcher. The tradeshow and a provided lunch will follow the general sessions on Wednesday morning. Afternoon presentations will be grouped by area including golf, lawn, and sports turf with the tradeshow, hors d'oeuvres, and refreshments to follow.

#### Thursday

The conference will conclude on Thursday morning with four morning sessions in the areas of golf turf or lawn & sports turf.

### Recertification

We've completely redesigned pesticide recertification at the 2016 Turf Conference. It will no longer be an independent session on Tuesday afternoon. Instead, conference attendees needing pesticide recertification in Nebraska or Iowa will need to arrive at the conference center by 9:30 am on Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup> to cover topics including pesticide safety, laws and labels, drift, etc. After lunch, (on your own) attendees needing recertification can attend either the 'Turf Management 101' or 'Master Class' afternoon sessions to complete their pesticide recertification training. Recertification is still included in the full conference registration or may be attended separately on its own.

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