

Registration for the 2017 Nebraska Turfgrass Conference is open

The 2017 Turf Conference will be held from Tuesday, January 10th to the 12th. Featured presentations this year include “*Forecasting weather extremes*” from Mr. **Matt Serwe** of KETV Omaha and “*Biology and management of emerald ash borer*” from **Dr. Chris Williamson** of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Additional presentations include “*Pythium puzzlement: Linking biology with management*” by **Dr. Jim Kerns** of North Carolina State University, “*Golf course architecture for the superintendent*” by **Mr. Kyle Hegland** of The Sand Hills Club, “*Synthetic turf: Safety and aesthetics*” by **Mr. Jarod Hertz** of Nebraska Athletics, and “*DOT regulations and compliance*” by **Mr. Josiah Cherry** of KJK Lawn Care. Additional topics will focus on the Fair Labor Standards Act and retirement planning.

Same format as last year

Attendee feedback was very positive regarding conference format from last year.

Tuesday Morning – Workshops

There will be three morning workshops Tuesday morning before the official start of the conference. They include a Golf Turf Crash Course, Turf Calibration and Math, and pesticide resistance 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 Mr. Serwe and Dr. Williamson. 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. There will also be a new session hosted by the Nebraska forest service focused on tree care for turfgrass professionals.

Recertification

Pesticide recertification will also follow the new format from last year. It will no longer be an independent session on Tuesday afternoon. Instead, conference attendees needing pesticide recertification will need to arrive at the conference center by 9:30am on Tuesday January 10th to cover the core 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 in the areas of pathology, entomology and weeds. **Recertification is still included in both the full or one-day conference registration (including the morning introductory sessions).**

Register today at <http://nebraskaturfgrass.com> for the early bird rate.

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