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# TALKINGTURF

## NORTH CENTRAL TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2021

## President's Message

**By Cammi Campbell, Minot Park District**

Greetings NCTGA members,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! So far 2021 is off to a crazy start. Mid-January and we had no snow, 50-degree days, rain and 75 mph wind gusts. I'm sure everyone will be cleaning up in the following weeks after this wind.

Last January the board had a Strategic planning meeting in which we set some goals for ourselves and accomplished quite a few items:

### 2020 Accomplishments:

- New NCTGA mission statement and logo
- North Dakota Golf BMP books printed and mailed out to all golf courses across the state
- Donation of \$5,000 to the Wee One Foundation
- March sent a letter to ND Gov. Burgum
- Website added more content under members only:
  - Discussion forum
  - Member and vendor directory
  - Bylaws and board meeting minutes
- Vendor sponsorship levels
- Post card mailing before our golf tournament
- Exchanged advertising with North Dakota Recreation and Parks Association
- New Legacy scholarship
- Pushed scholarship deadlines back to Jan. 15

With the challenges 2020 held we accomplished a lot and I want to thank everyone, especially Sam for making all our 2020 goals happen.



Thank you to everyone who filled out our conference survey. We had great response and after taking everything into consideration, we decided to hold our 2021 conference virtually. This is a new challenge our organization, and many others, are facing due to Covid-19. We have a great line up of speakers. I am confident that it will be a great conference. It will be held virtually via Zoom. Just register for the conference through our website. Once you are registered, you'll receive a link to participate in the virtual conference. I know we always look forward to getting together, but as times and unforeseen situations arise, we need to adapt and overcome them.

With the circumstances of holding a virtual annual meeting and the importance of holding a strong board during these ever-changing times, the board of directors have all agreed to extend their terms by 1 additional year. Thank you to the board members who have agreed to another year, and for stepping up during...

continued on page 2...

## President's Message continued

continued from page 1...

...the pandemic. I want to especially thank Sam for all the extra work he had to encounter this year and making the virtual conference an option.

We are happy to announce we are planning our Scholarship Golf Tournament on Monday October 4, 2021 at the beautiful Oxbow Country Club in Oxbow ND. We will have more details in our next newsletter. Make sure you save the date for this awesome event. It will be a great opportunity for social networking and our opportunity to get together.

All the best and we look forward to seeing you virtually for the conference.

- Cammi

REGISTER NOW



### 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

*Presented Virtually*

February 22nd-25th, 2021

#### Conference pricing:

*(pricing includes 2021 membership dues)*

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# 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show: *Presented Virtually*

February 22nd - 25th, 2021

Register at: [nctga.net/Virtual-Conference](https://nctga.net/Virtual-Conference)

With over 80 responses on our conference survey, and with much consideration, the 2021 NCTGA Conference will be held in a virtual format. We still have the same great lineup of speakers and have expanded the conference over four days. Please consider joining us for this great educational opportunity!

## Schedule at a Glance

### Monday, February 22nd

9:00am - 9:15am: Opening Remarks (Cammi Campbell, Sam Bauer)

9:15am - 9:45am: North Dakota BMP Program and GCSAA Update (Garrett Schultz, Steve Randall)

9:45am - 11:00am: Soil Physical Properties and Their Impact on Turf Management (Dr. Deying Li, NDSU)

11:00am - noon: BREAK

Noon - 1:00pm: Zebra Mussel Biology and Management (Megan Weber, UMN Extension)

1:00pm - 2:00pm: Emerald Ash Borer Biology and Management (Dr. John Ball, SDSU)

### Tuesday, February 23rd

9:00am - 10:00am: Allianz Field (Ryan Moy, Head Groundskeeper)

10:00am - 11:00am: The Brad and Butter of Sports Field Maintenance (Brad Garrison and Chris "Butter" Ball, Profile Products)

11:00am - noon: BREAK

12:00pm - 1:00pm: A Guide to Artificial Turf Maintenance (Tyler Fitzsimons, FieldTurf)

1:00pm - 2:00pm: Reel and Rotary Blade Maintenance and Adjustment (Kurt TeWinkel, Foley United)

### Wednesday, February 24th

9:00am - 11:00am: Emotional Intelligence (Kit Welchlin, Welchlin Communication Strategies)

11:00am - noon: BREAK

Noon - 1:00pm: The Modernized Forecast Process and Why it Matters to You (Thomas Grafenauer and Chauncy Schultz)

1:00pm - 2:00pm: NCTGA Annual Meeting

### Thursday, February 25th

9:00am - 10:00am: The Mathematics and Art of Tank Mixing (Ben Pease, Iowa State)

10:00am - 11:00am: Compost Use in Turf Establishment/Renovation (Ben Pease, Iowa State)

11:00am - noon: BREAK

Noon - 1:00pm: Work is Hard: Why Not Have Some Fun (Matt Cavanaugh, Rush Creek)

1:00pm - 3:00pm: NCTGA Board Meeting

REGISTER NOW







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## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Monday, February 22nd

#### **Garrett Schultz**

##### **Golf Course Superintendent Mandan Park District**

Garrett Schultz is the Golf Superintendent for the Mandan Park District, where he oversees operations at Prairie West Golf Club and Mandan Municipal Golf Course. Schultz, a native of New Salem, North Dakota, is a 2011 graduate from North Dakota State University with a degree in Sports and Urban Turfgrass Management. Garrett has served on the Board of Directors for the North Central Turfgrass Association since 2017. For the past year, Schultz has taken on the role of Chairperson for the development of a Best Management Practices guideline for the state of North Dakota Golf Courses. The BMP Committee is thrilled to present the finished product, and hopes this guideline can be utilized to improve course conditions and environmental stewardship at golf facilities throughout the state.



#### **Steve Randall**

##### **Director of Chapter Outreach Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America**

Randall, a native of Wahpeton, ND, received his bachelor's degree in business/communications from St. John's University in Minnesota and a masters degree in mass communications from the University of South Dakota. Randall has worked in golf administration since 1993 when he was asked to coach the South Dakota State University men's and women's golf teams while working in the sports information department. Randall also worked for four years at the Minnesota Golf Association in junior golf, media relations and regional affairs and was the executive director of the Sun Country Amateur Golf Association (the regional golf association for New Mexico and West Texas) prior to joining GCSAA.



#### **Megan Weber**

##### **Extension Educator University of Minnesota**

Megan Weber is an Extension educator at University of Minnesota Extension and the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center whose work focuses on aquatic invasive species issues. Megan holds a B.S. in marine biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz and an M.S. in environmental studies from San Jose State University. Prior to her work at the University of Minnesota Megan has held positions helping a water district build their invasive mussel monitoring and response planning for their water distribution systems and conducting field development for a molluscicide used in zebra mussel control.



## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Monday, February 22nd

#### **Dr. Deying Li**

##### **Professor**

##### **North Dakota State University**

I received Ph.D. from Iowa State University in 2001. I have taught "Turfgrass Science and Management", "Sport Turf Management", and "Advanced Turf Science and Management". I am currently teaching "Sports Turf Operation", "Landscape Irrigation Design", and "Landscape Irrigation Installation and Management". My research areas include soil physics, turfgrass physiology, and stress problems in golf and sports turf root zones. I published over 100 peer-reviewed/trade publications.



#### **Dr. John Ball**

##### **Professor**

##### **South Dakota State University**

John Ball is a Professor of Forestry at South Dakota State University where he also serves as the extension forestry specialist and the state's forest health specialist. He previously managed tree care companies in the Midwest and East that contracted with lawn maintenance companies and golf courses for their tree care.



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## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Tuesday, February 23rd

#### **Ryan Moy** **Head Groundskeeper** **Allianz Field**

As Head Groundskeeper for the Minnesota United soccer team, Ryan has been responsible for maintaining Allianz Field since it opened for play in the spring of 2019. With a well rounded background in work experience and education, Ryan is no stranger to maintaining high level turf. Prior to Allianz Field, Ryan was the lead superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club which hosted the Ryder Cup in 2016. Ryan holds a bachelors degree from the Carlson School of Management, as well as a Master's degree in Agriculture from the U of M.



#### **Brad Garrison** **Western Regional Sales Manager** **Profile Products**

Brad Garrison joined Profile Products in January, 2020 as Western Region Sales Manager for Sports Fields and Golf. In this role, Brad serves as a manufacturer's representative responsible for sales and market development covering a western region territory that includes Arizona, California, Colorado, the Dakotas and points in between, working with end users and supporting distribution efforts of Turface Athletics and Profile Porous Ceramics (PPC) product lines. A December, 2000 graduate of Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Management, Brad has held project management roles in both the landscape and agricultural industries, served over five years as a professional fundraiser, and has accumulated nearly 10 years of sales experience in the sports fields and golf course maintenance business.



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#### **Tyler Fitzsimons** **FieldTurf Maintenance Expert** **FieldTurf**

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## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Tuesday, February 23rd

**Kurt TeWinkel**  
**Regional Sales Manager**  
**Foley Company**

With the Foley Company, Kurt collaborates with distribution channel on sales, after-sale service and ongoing customer support throughout the United States and Canada. Conducts seminars and training sessions to groups of golf course and turf maintenance professionals in the areas of best practice reel theory and maintenance. End-user training on the proper use of product lines. Participate in innovative equipment changes/additions to the Foley line of golf & turf industry machines. Always chasing 1/1000 of an inch!



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## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Wednesday, February 24th

#### Kit Welchlin

#### **"Emotional Intelligence: Understanding Yourself and Understanding Others"**

A born public speaker and trainer, Kit Welchlin began public speaking at the age of 9 in 4-H. By 16, he was organizing and facilitating presentations on leadership, citizenship, community service and motivation for the 4-H and Future Farmers of America. Kit Welchlin purchased his first manufacturing company at age 21, and by 26 was CEO and Chairman of the Board of three manufacturing companies in three states. He's been an instructor with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, where he has been repeatedly nominated Outstanding Faculty. He is a Professional Member of the National Speakers Association. Kit has a B.S. Degree in Speech Communication, Business Administration and Political Science. He earned an M.A. Degree in Speech Communication and Business Administration. In 2014, Kit was inducted into the Minnesota Speakers Association Hall of Fame. He has delivered more than 3,000 speeches and seminars to more than 500,000 people over the past 26 years.



#### *"Emotional Intelligence: Understanding Yourself and Understanding Others"*

The most effective people have a high degree of emotional intelligence. The five components that make up emotional intelligence are self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skill. Self-Awareness is taking some time, and reflecting, and objectively considering, our personal and professional strengths, weaknesses, drives, values, and the impact we have on others. Self-Regulation involves self-monitoring our thoughts and feelings. We need to recognize that "little voice" inside, and control or redirect our impulses and moods, and develop the habit of thinking before acting. Motivation is a passion for the work itself, for new challenges, with a strong drive to achieve. Motivation relies on relentless personal energy, with a commitment to improving ourselves, our products, and our services. Empathy is the ability to understand other people's emotional makeup. Emotional Intelligence requires us to possess skill in responding to people according to their emotional state. Finally, Social Skill, which is building rapport with others, and guiding them in desired directions and achieving desired results. Social Skill is having proficiency in managing relationships, building networks, and finding common ground. Here's the bottom line; having negative thoughts and feelings is unavoidable. However, if we understand and expand our Emotional Intelligence capabilities, we will be able to overcome the negative thoughts and feelings, and learn to act in a way that reflects our values, rather than what we are feeling at the moment.

#### Participants will learn:

- how to enhance your personal brand
- strategies for managing negativity, frustration, and anger
- how to understand emotions and respond appropriately
  - how to motivate yourself and others
  - how to incorporate perception checking
  - how to give and receive professional criticism
- how to build a supportive communication climate

## 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Wednesday, February 24th

#### Chauncy Schultz

##### **Science and Operations Officer National Weather Service**

Chauncy Schultz is the Science and Operations Officer for the National Weather Service office in Bismarck, North Dakota. In this role, he leads the office's training, research and technology infusion, and operational workflow. Chauncy was previously a Lead Forecaster in Bismarck, and previously worked at the National Weather Service offices in Billings, Montana, North Platte, Nebraska, and Grand Forks, North Dakota. He grew up in North Dakota and graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2009.



#### Tommy Grafenauer

##### **Science and Operations Officer National Weather Service**

Tommy Grafenauer is the Science and Operations Officer for the National Weather Service office in Grand Forks, North Dakota. In this role, he leads the office's training, research and technology infusion, and operational workflow. Tommy has worked his entire 19 year professional career at the National Weather Service office in Grand Forks. He started with an entry level position and has been promoted within the same office, which is rare within the National Weather Service. Tommy grew up in southeast Wisconsin. He received his bachelor of science degree in Geography from the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse in 1999, and his masters degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2002.

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# 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show

## Speaker Spotlight: Thursday, February 25th

**Ben Pease**  
**Ph.D Candidate**  
**Iowa State University**

Growing up in the Twin Cities metro area, I ran a lawn care business and worked on public and private golf course grounds crews. I received my Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Turfgrass Management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After six years of experience as an Assistant Superintendent, including a year at Whistling Straits, I started my PhD in Turf Mgmt at Iowa State University. My research has focused on bentgrass shade tolerance, Kentucky bluegrass traffic tolerance, and compost use during establishment. In my free time I enjoy dominating the neighborhood lawn wars and doing Ironman triathlons.



**Matt Cavanaugh**  
**Superintendent**  
**Rush Creek Golf Club**

Matt Cavanaugh is the assistant superintendent at Rush Creek Golf Club in Maple Grove, Minn., and a 12-year member of GCSAA. A few turf classes at Kansas State University and the University of Minnesota have provided him gainful employment in the turfgrass industry for 18 years. Matt has been, in his words, “an assistant superintendent, grounds manager for a school district (I don't want to talk about it), sales rep for PBI-Gordon, turfgrass research scientist at the University of Minnesota (I'm not that fancy), and again an assistant superintendent.” He enjoys learning, talking and sharing about turf.



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The questionnaire is easy to complete, and should require 30 minutes of your time. If for any reason you wish to pause in responding, you may use the link provided below to resume later. We have extended the deadline to provide a **\$50 Amazon gift card** to the first 100 respondents that finish the survey by February 26th<sup>th</sup>.

Use the following link to access the survey: <http://bit.ly/surveysod>

Your answers are strictly **confidential** and **anonymous**. If for some reason you think the survey should be filled by someone else in your company, please feel free to forward this email.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me to: Dr. Ariana Torres; Assistant Professor and Marketing Specialist; telephone: 765-494-8781; email: [torres2@purdue.edu](mailto:torres2@purdue.edu).

We sincerely hope that you will accept our invitation to participate in this project. Thank you for considering this opportunity!

Sincerely,

Ariana Torres, Ph.D.  
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# NCTGA Honorary Member Profile

Dr. Deying Li, North Dakota State University

## Job Title

Professor

## Education

Ph.D in Turfgrass Science from Iowa State University

## Years of Service in Your Position

I have been at NDSU since 2002 on 60% teaching and 40% research appointment.

## Favorite Part of the Turf Industry

At the 19th hole having beers with friends.

## Favorite Tool in the Shop, Lab or Research Field

A soil probe and pocket knife.

## What do you like most about turfgrass research and education?

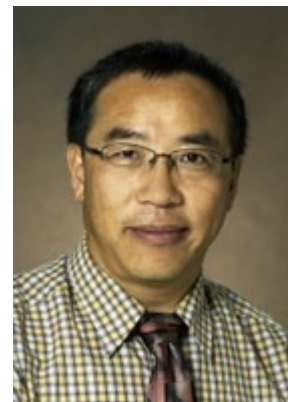
Most exciting part in my research is to see the surprises in the eyes of people when they hear me saying turfgrass management needs research. The best part of education is to convince students that turfgrass management is more than mowing the grass.

## Any Projects, Classes, or Research studies you are excited about this year?

You mean the year 2020? Cannot say excited about the weird year but I managed to do some greenhouse study trying to figure out ways to deal with dog urine damage on home lawns.

## Favorite Hobby

Enjoy jazz music and pretend to be a cowboy.



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# Scholarship Recipients



Congratulations to the 2020 scholarship recipients! August Flick from Southeast Technical Institute received the \$1,000 NCTGA Scholarship. Isaiah Harken from NDSU received the \$1,000 NDGA scholarship. Additionally, the NCTGA is very pleased to award the first \$500 Legacy scholarship to Parker Wood. Parker is the son of David Wood, superintendent at Oxbow Country Club and a 26 year NCTGA member.

## NCTGA Turfgrass Scholarship

### August Flick

Thinking about my career 5 to 10 years from now, there are many jobs I hope to accomplish. I see myself growing in the Sports Turf field by learning more every day throughout my whole career as well as continually challenging myself. With both my Sports Turf Management and Horticulture degree as well as the Jobs I've had leading up to now, I feel I am ready to continue my career path this summer with my first full time job.

In the next year, I see myself as the Head Superintendent of the Cokato Town and Country Club in Cokato, MN. On December 21st I had the opportunity to Interview for this position. The Board President expressed that the Board in general were pleased to see I had applied and that they saw me as a great candidate for the job. A follow up email was sent saying that they planned to hire me as soon as their next meeting. I am glad to have found this job because I will definitely learn a lot. I am excited at the challenge ahead and plan to take advantage of this opportunity by making the 9-hole Cokato Town and Country Club golf course the best it can be.

My second year I will most likely stay at the same course. Taking what I learned in the previous year and the knowledge I continue to gain; I will continue to improve the golf course. After my second year, there are three different ways I see my career path heading. One option is to stay at the Cokato Town and Country Club and continue to improve on the course and my knowledge. Option two is to continue on in the golf industry and possibly look for an assistant or head superintendent spot at an 18-hole course. The third option is to head on the baseball career path. If I were to stay at the Cokato golf course, I would most likely only stay one more year and then move on to an 18-hole course of baseball field.

Moving to an 18-hole course would be a challenge I would love to take on some day. There would be more members, more employees, and more equipment. The challenge of either managing all of the things listed above or being an assistant would be very beneficial to my knowledge and career. This would be very similar work to what I would do at Cokato, except now twice as big. If I were to move to an 18-hole course, I could see myself staying there for the remainder of my first five years.

If I were to take on the baseball career path, I would most likely search for a minor league position. I've always had a passion working on baseball fields and have always dreamed of being the head of an MLB field. I would most likely work with a minor league team or multiple teams for a few years to expand my knowledge even more and continue to become better at the career. In the end, if I could be at an MLB field whether I start at a minor league field or not would be the end goal. Although, If I found an organization that I really enjoyed then I might stay there.

It is hard to plan out my future knowing that at any moment of any day a new opportunity could arise. My hopes for these next 5 years is to expand my knowledge as much as possible and learn new techniques and information every day.



# NCTGA Scholarship Recipients cont'd

## NDGA Turfgrass Scholarship

### Isaiah Harken

For the duration of the 2021 season I plan on going to Mamaroneck, New York to work as an intern at Winged Foot Golf Club. This will be my third internship, the first was in 2019 at the Denver Country Club and I spent the 2020 season here in Fargo at Edgewood Golf Course. I am expected to graduate in December of 2021 and I plan on entering the work force looking for a job on a golf course grounds crew. Right out of college I would like to accept an Assistant in Training position somewhere and continue to learn through work experience. By 2025 I would like to be in the position to be able to begin pursuing Assistant Superintendent or even Superintendent positions. I'd like to work at more well known courses, ones that could even host PGA tour events. The larger budget and ability to do more detailed work and renovations is what attracts me to places like Winged Foot and other PGA level courses. By 2030 I would like to of had my PGA level experience and been an Assistant Superintendent for sometime now and I would be looking to accept a Superintendent position at a public course where I have the freedom to do with the grounds what I think is best. I hope the owner would have the faith in me as a Superintendent with my experience to allow me to do what I see fit for the property that I would manage. I hope to be in this industry for a long time and hope the next 5 to 10 years teach me a lot and allow me to work with a lot of great people.

## NCTGA Legacy Scholarship

### Parker Wood

In 5-10 years, I plan on being a elementary school teacher and a head/assistant coach of a varsity basketball team. As well as I hope to be starting a family.



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# 2021 NCTGA Conference Sponsors

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# Vendor Sponsorship Letter



Greetings NCTGA Vendor,

The North Central Turfgrass Association Board of Directors would like to send a sincere THANK YOU for your support of the association in the past. With your help, we continue to be a healthy association, educating our members and raising money for valuable student scholarships. In addition to these endeavors, we have also recently spearheaded a Best Management Practices Initiative for the state of North Dakota and provided financial support to the WeeOne Foundation and one of our members in need. Without your support, these initiatives would not be possible.

We constantly strive to provide you with the value of being a vendor member and we want your support to be a simple and worthwhile process. With that, for 2021 we are rolling out an uncomplicated, medal-based sponsorship structure. This structure is designed to provide you with the same sponsorship opportunities as in the past, in a simpler, more straightforward form. We have advertised this change in the past two issues of our newsletter, so hopefully you have had some time to think about this. Our first newsletter, which would include your company advertisement, will be sent out on February 1st, 2021. Payment (or a plan for payment) must be received prior to this deadline. We will also need your newsletter advertisement by then.

With the move to a virtual conference, we have modified this year's sponsorship levels by removing the fees associated with in-person booths. These new sponsorship levels are roughly 1/2 the price that was proposed with the face to face conference. The sponsorship levels are outlined below. Each sponsorship is hyperlinked and can be clicked to signup for this sponsorship and complete payment. There is also an option to be invoiced for this. Thank you for your continued support of the NCTGA!

## **Sponsorship Levels**

### **Platinum (\$1,200)**

4 NCTGA vendor memberships, 4 virtual conference registrations, opportunity to submit a video advertisement to be included in the virtual conference (up to 5 minutes), full page newsletter ad, large logo on website, platinum sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

### **Gold (\$800)**

3 NCTGA vendor memberships, 3 virtual conference registrations, opportunity to submit a video advertisement to be included in the virtual conference (up to 5 minutes), 1/2 page newsletter ad, medium logo on website, gold sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

### **Silver (\$500)**

2 NCTGA vendor memberships, 2 virtual conference registrations, opportunity to submit a video advertisement to be included in the virtual conference (up to 5 minutes), 1/3 page newsletter ad, small logo on website, silver sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

### **Bronze (\$250)**

1 NCTGA vendor membership, 1 virtual conference registrations, 1/4 page newsletter ad, small logo on website, bronze sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

### **Virtual Conference Only (\$150)**

1 NCTGA vendor membership, 1 virtual conference registration

### **Membership Only (\$90)**

1 NCTGA vendor membership



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by building up defense against disease before a pathogen is present and extending the length of control



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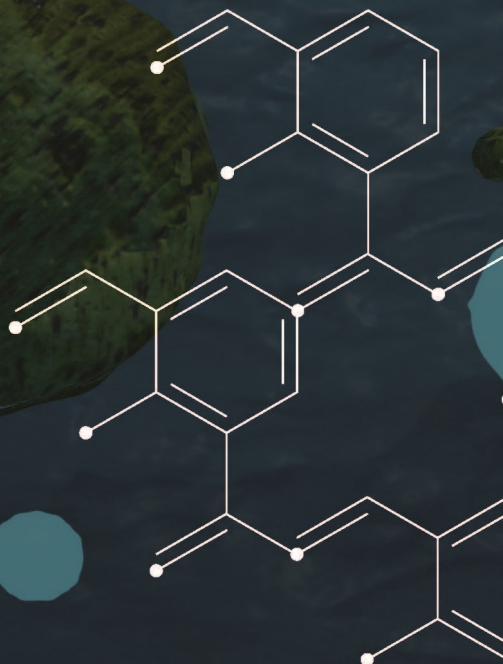
## INCREASE HEAT TOLERANCE

by improving photosynthesis and energy production to maintain turf vigor and color in extreme heat



## QUICKEN RECOVERY AND ENHANCE TURF QUALITY

by activating enzymes for increased energy production and photosynthesis for quicker recovery from stress



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