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# TALKING TURF

## NORTH CENTRAL TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2023

## President's Message

By Cammi Campbell, Minot Park District

Greetings NCTGA members,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The month of December wasn't nice weather-wise. We had some snow and strong winds here, which made our Christmas visit short with family. So far, the month of January has been very pleasant with above average temperatures and little snow. Hopefully the weather holds out and spring will be here before we know it.

Looking back on 2022 as an organization, there were some challenges for the NCTGA. A blizzard hit on the first day of our conference, which impacted attendance numbers. We had to cancel our spring event at Dakota Winds, it was just too wet and conditions were less than ideal. We had our fall golf tournament at Vardon Golf Club in Minot, ND, which was not our best turnout with only 32 players. With holding the golf tournament in Minot, we were able to hold the first ever First Green Event in ND. It was a huge milestone for the NCTGA.

Our dear friend and colleague Steve Hamelau with Superior Tech Products passed away December

1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Steve was a great supporter of the NCTGA and he will be greatly missed. His funeral was held January 7, 2023 in Alexandria, MN. Let's keep his family and friends in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. I think my greatest memory, one that perhaps stands out in all our minds- Steve always sponsored a par 3 hole at our fall golf tournament. He would sit on the tee box and visit with us as we teed off. Then he would give away a \$50 cash prize for closest to the pin. He has done this for our organization for as long as most of us can remember. The board decided we will have a memorial hole for Steve with a \$50 closest to the pin prize. The funds from this year's 50/50 raffle will be in memory of Steve, and go towards a hole memorial. We are hoping to generate enough funds to make at least a 10-year memorial.



Continued on page 3...



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## President's Message cont'd

Continued from page 1...

The first part of January the Board of Directors got together in Fargo for our meeting. We were joined by Steve Randell and Randy Robinson from the GCSAA. We sat down and had a productive strategic planning meeting. We discussed our expectations, strengths, challenges, opportunities, risks, and most importantly new goals for the board to complete. These meetings are a huge asset to the NCTGA. It helps the new board members understand the organization a little better and what we need to accomplish in the future. It's helpful for everyone to get their input, and then we can prioritize what we think is most important and can work on improving. We set new goals for our organization to complete by 2024. Our biggest priority is to refinance our CD's and get more interest out of them. We are also working on improving our social media platforms, which include Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We will try and utilize them more and keep them updated. I really want to Thank Steve and Randy for taking the time to have this meeting with us. It really does keep us on track and let us focus on our new goals for the upcoming year. After our afternoon of meetings, the board went out to SuiteShots golf and supper. We had a great time together as a board.

Our conference is coming February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. We have an excellent line up of speakers, including Dr. John Loegering with UMN-Crookston, Dr. Doug Soldat with UW-Madison, and Trent Manning with Ansley & Settle Creek Golf Club, just to name a few. More details can we found on our website [nctga.net](http://nctga.net), under the conference link. I encourage everyone to sign up and join us, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Upcoming for this year we are having a spring event on May 15th at Dakota Winds in Hankinson, ND. We are hoping to hold a round table discussion in the morning and we will have more details in the near future. Huge Thanks to Tyler Foster our Board member for making this event happen. Hopefully we have a nicer spring and it's a huge success! We will have our annual fall scholarship golf tournament September 11 at Grand Forks Country Club. Huge thanks to Collin Cannon, our Board member for making this event happen. We are tentatively planning a shop tour before the tournament. We are also planning another First Green at Grand Forks Country Club on September 12. I am looking forward to 2023, we have some excellent events planned and we will work on completing our goals! - Cammi

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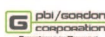
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# 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

Join us for the 38th Annual NCTGA Conference and Trade Show from  
February 28th - March 2nd, 2023 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo, ND

Register at: <https://nctga.net/2023-Conference>

*\*Register by Friday, February 17th to receive the \$50 discounted rate*

## ***Schedule at a Glance***

### **Tuesday, February 28th**

- 8:00am - 3:00pm: Vendor booth setup
- 11:00am - 12:00pm: Registration and Networking
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm: Opening Remarks  
(Cammi Campbell and Sam Bauer)
- 12:30pm - 1:00pm: State of the Industry/First  
Green Program (Randy Robinson, GCSAA)
- 1:00pm - 2:00pm: Managing Nuisance Wildlife  
Around Your Turf and Landscape (Dr. John  
Loegering, UMN-Crookston)
- 2:00pm - 3:00pm: Maintenance on a Budget (Matt  
Cavanaugh, Rush Creek GC)
- 3:00pm - 4:00pm: Turf Fertility: Doing More with  
Less (Dr. Doug Soldat, UW-Madison)
- 4:00pm - 8:00pm: Trade Show/Social

### **Wednesday, March 1st**

- 7:00am - 7:30am: Registration and Networking
- 7:30am - 9:00am: Vendor Seminars (open to all  
vendor sponsors)
- 9:00am - 11:30am: Trade Show/Social
- 11:30am - 12:15pm: NCTGA Annual Meeting
- 12:15pm - 1:00pm: Lunch

### **Wednesday, March 1st cont'd**

- 1:00pm - 3:00pm: Measuring and Managing Putting  
Green Organic Matter & Optimizing Nitrogen  
Fertilization for Golf (Dr. Doug Soldat, UW-  
Madison)
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm: 21st Century Ball Field  
Maintenance (Ben Boeding and Roger  
Weinbrenner, Minnesota Sodding Company)
- 3:00pm - 5:00pm: Leadership Lessons for the  
Green Industry (Bruce Williams, Williams Golf  
Consulting and Roger Stewart, Stewart Golf  
Consulting)
- 5:00pm - 7:00pm: Social/Silent Auction/Raffle

### **Thursday, March 2nd**

- 7:00am - 7:30am: Registration and Networking
- 7:30am - 9:00am: Cutting Unit Setup and Trouble-  
shooting & Tips and Tricks for your Maintenance  
Facility (Trent Manning, Ansley and Settindown  
Creek Golf Club)
- 9:00am - 10:00am: Reducing Turfgrass Winter  
Injury through Remote Sensing (Dr. Eric Watkins,  
UMN- Twin Cities)
- 10:00am - 11:30am: Communication Across  
Generations: Each Different, Each Valuable (Liz  
Carlson, Liz Carlson Professional Development)
- 12:00pm - 3:00pm: NCTGA Board Meeting

# NCTGA Conference Sponsorship Levels

The NCTGA Board will continue with the same vendor sponsorship levels for 2023. The goal is to simplify sponsorships and allow more opportunities for NCTGA to promote our vendors. Newsletter advertisements will begin with the spring issue of our newsletter, which is published in April. The NCTGA will work with you on a case by case basis if you would like to modify your sponsorship level to one that doesn't fit the sponsorships outlined below. All vendor sponsors will have the opportunity to present during our vendor seminars from 7:30am to 9:00am on Wednesday of the conference. These seminars are meant to be promotional and each vendor will have roughly 5-15 minutes, depending on the number presenting. Signup for vendor seminars at [THIS LINK](#).

## Sponsorship Levels

**Platinum (\$2,500):** includes 4 conference booths, 4 conference attendees and memberships, full page newsletter ad, large logo on website, platinum sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

**Gold (\$2,000):** includes 3 conference booths, 3 conference attendees and memberships, 1/2 page newsletter ad, medium logo on website, gold sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

**Silver (\$1,000):** 2 conference booths, 2 conference attendees and memberships, 1/3 page newsletter ad, small logo on website, silver level sponsorship advertised at conference and in all publications

**Bronze (\$500):** 1 conference booth, 1 conference attendee and membership

If you have questions on structuring of sponsorship levels or other comments related to this, please reach out to Sam Bauer (info.nctga@gmail.com) or a NCTGA Board Member. Items have individual dollar values and we can structure a sponsorship to suit you. To sign up for 2023 sponsorship, follow this link:

<https://nctga.net/2023-Conference>

Have a Silent Auction item? Proceeds help support student scholarships. Please fill out this quick form:

## Silent Auction Items



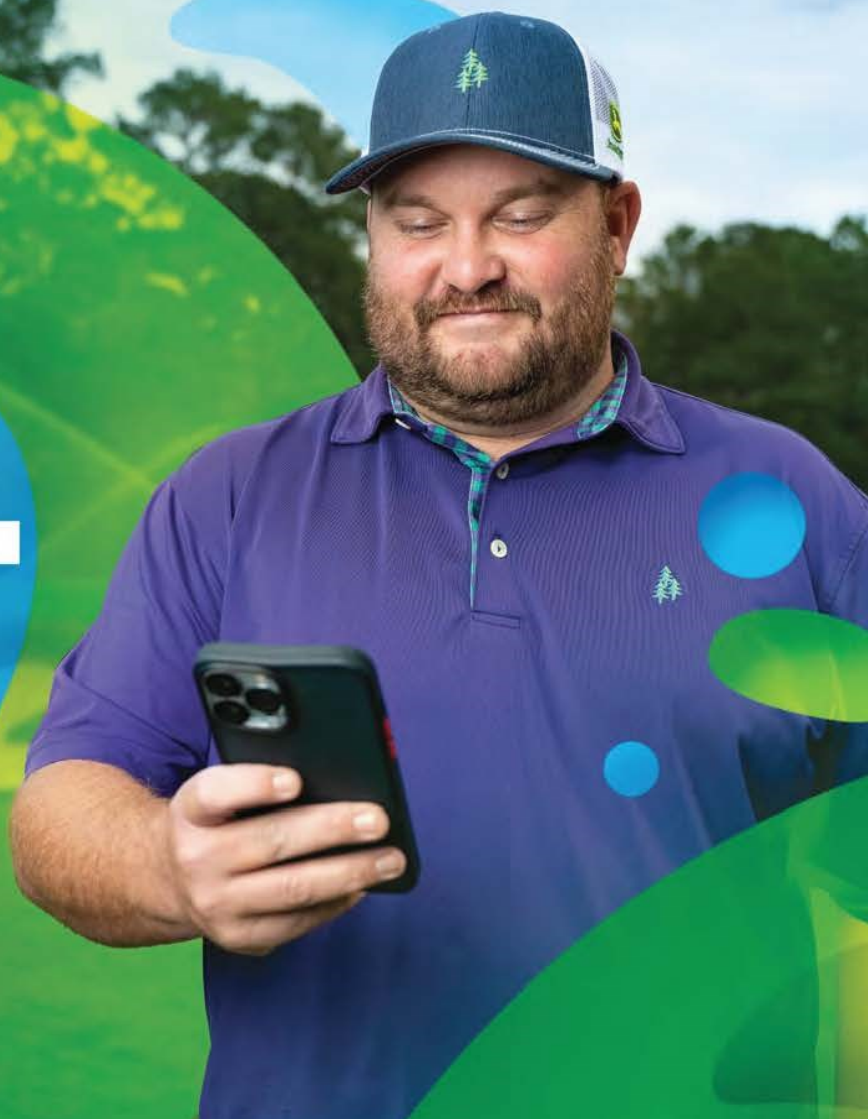


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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Tuesday, February 28th

#### **Randy Robinson**

#### **Central Plains Regional Representative Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America**

Robinson joined the GCSAA staff following six years as executive director of the Iowa Turfgrass Institute. From 2006 to 2015, he was the golf course superintendent at Ballard Golf and Country Club in Huxley, Iowa. He resides in Huxley.



#### **Dr. John Loegering**

#### **Professor and Department Chair University of Minnesota- Crookston**

Dr. Loegering is a Professor of Wildlife Ecology at the University of Minnesota-Crookston and an Extension Wildlife Specialist. Through Extension, John works with the Master Gardener, Master Woodland Owner, Community Science, Pesticide Safety, and Master Naturalist Programs.

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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Tuesday, February 28th cont'd

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

Matt Cavanaugh's spark for the industry started in 1995 at a 9-hole course in Mounds View, MN. This paved the way to Kansas State University and a bachelor's degree in Turfgrass Management. After graduating in 2002, Matt has had roles as Assistant Superintendent at Rush Creek Golf Club, Head Grounds Manager at Stillwater School District (it was terrible), Sales Rep for PBI-Gordon, Research Scientist at the University of Minnesota and now the Superintendent at Rush Creek Golf Club in Maple Grove, MN. Also, during this time and only because of a sense of competition with this wife, Matt also obtained his master's degree at the University of Minnesota in Applied Plant Science. These career choices and changes have resulted in a unique perspective that Matt brings to his superintendent position.



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# 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

## Speaker Spotlight: Tuesday, February 28th cont'd



**Dr. Doug Soldat**  
**Professor and Turfgrass Extension Specialist**  
**University of Wisconsin- Madison**

Doug Soldat is a professor and turfgrass extension specialist in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Doug completed his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Soil Science from UW-Madison and earned a Ph.D. in Plant Science from Cornell University. His research and outreach programs are focused on improving turfgrass nutrient and water use efficiency. Doug advises the turfgrass management students and teaches courses on turfgrass management and general soil science.



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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Wednesday, March 1st

**Ben Boeding, CSFM**  
**Sports Turf Specialist**  
**Minnesota Sodding Company**

Ben is a Sports Turf Specialist with MSC specializing in natural turfgrass maintenance. Ben graduated with a degree in Horticulture, Turfgrass Management from Iowa State University in 2001. He was a park maintenance worker specializing in turfgrass maintenance and eventually Park Supervisor with the City of Eagan. He achieved status of CSFM in 2014 through STMA and has been active with the local MPSTMA chapter since 2012 serving roles as general member representative, community service committee member, vice president, president. Ben also chairs MPSTMA's Annual Fall Workshop which is attended by more than 200 sports turf managers, crew members and commercial partners. He also is a member of the MNLA Northern Green Tradeshow Committee, a recreational bowler and meme enthusiast.



**Roger Weinbrenner, CSFM**  
**Sports Field Specialist**  
**Minnesota Sodding Company**

Roger is a Sports Turf Specialist with MSC specializing in synthetic turf maintenance. He was the Sports Turf Manager at the University of St. Thomas from 2001-spring 2019. He studied Environmental Horticulture with an emphasis in Turfgrass Management at the University of Minnesota. Roger achieved his Certified Sports Turf Manager Certification in 2010 from the Sports Turf Managers Association. He has been employed by the Minnesota Vikings and University of Minnesota in recent years to assist in the TCF Stadium field transformations between NCAA Football and NFL football, and in 2017 from MLS Soccer to NCAA Football. He has been a member of the Minnesota Parks and Sports Turf Manager's Association for 20+ years. Roger has served on the MPSTMA Board of Directors since 2005 as Vice President, President and his current position of Treasurer. He also chairs MPSTMA's Annual Spring Workshop which is attended by more than 220 sports turf managers, crew members and commercial partners.





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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Wednesday, March 1st

#### **Bruce Williams**

#### **Bruce Williams Golf Consulting**

Bruce Williams has been giving presentations to golf and turf groups for over 50 years. Born and raised on a golf course he is the son of a renowned golf course superintendent, Bob Williams. Bruce is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College and also Michigan State University in the Turfgrass Management Program. While at MSU he served as President of the Turf Club and was recognized as the Outstanding Student. He spent 21 years as the golf course superintendent at Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, IL. At that time the course was ranked in the top 40 by Golf Digest. His last 14 years as a superintendent were spent as Director of Golf Courses and Grounds at The Los Angeles Country Club which was ranked #13 in the USA. Bruce has been involved in leadership positions for 4 decades in golf and turf. He has been the president of the following chapters: Midwest, Chicagoland, Southern California and California. In 1996 he was the President of the GCSAA as was his father in 1958. Currently Bruce serves as a Director for the California Alliance for Golf. He serves as a Director of the Asia Golf Industry Federation. He is International Marketing Manager for GRIGG and Brandt in the specialty fertilizer group. Bruce operates several successful businesses with Executive Golf Search, Inc. and Bruce Williams Golf Consulting. He is sought after for presentations to universities, turf conferences, the Golf Industry Show and conferences overseas. He considers his biggest accomplishment as having trained 164 men and women who went on to be superintendents or that obtained their PhD's in the industry.



#### **Roger Stewart**

#### **Roger Stewart Golf Consulting**

Roger has a B.S. Degree in Agronomy from the University of Nebraska and retired after 42 years as a Golf Course Superintendent. He was a Golf Course Superintendent for 21 years with the TPC Network. He is the Past President of four GCSAA Affiliated Chapters. He is a past recipient of the Presidents Award for Environmental Stewardship from GCSAA. Roger has been an instructor for GCSAA since 1983 and has taught turfgrass management courses at the junior college level. Roger has hosted 17 PGA TOUR Champions events and has received the award for the "Highest PGA TOUR Champions Player Rating for Course Conditioning" 5 times. Roger currently resides in Naperville, IL where he has a small golf course consulting business and occasionally does contract work for various companies in the golf course management and turfgrass management business.

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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Thursday, March 2nd

**Trent Manning**  
**Equipment Manager**  
**Ansley and Settindown Creek Golf Club**

Born in North Georgia, Trent Manning, CTEM, has remained close to home as equipment manager at both Ansley and Settindown Creek Golf Club. Manning earned certificates in small engines, electrical and reel theory from Gwinnett Technical College. Manning completed the GCSAA Equipment Management Certificate Program Levels 1 and 2 and is a Certified Turf Equipment Manager. He also completed the EETC certificates in Electrical, Hydraulic, Four Stroke Engines and Diesel Engines during his time as a mobile service technician for a Toro Distributor. Manning has over 25 years of experience in the golf industry and shares his expertise with national and international audiences. He serves his local chapter, GGCSA, developing equipment manager education and has served on the Equipment Manager Task Group for GCSAA. In 2018, Manning was recognized for excellence among golf course equipment managers as the Most Valuable Technician by GCSAA and GCM magazine in partnership with Foley Company. Manning is the creator and host of the Reel Turf Techs podcast.

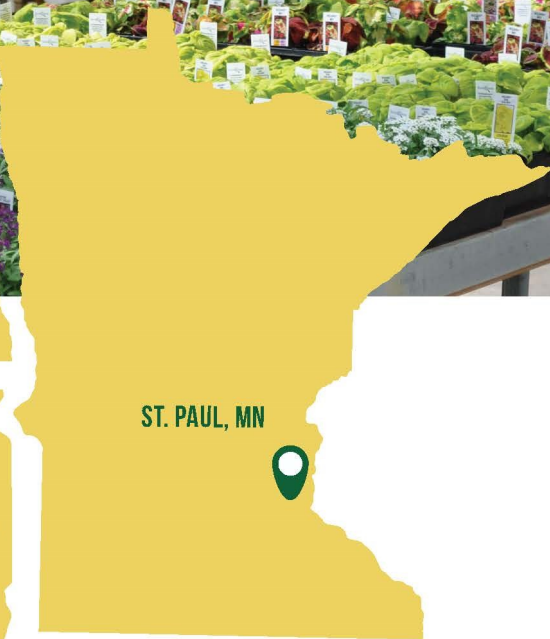
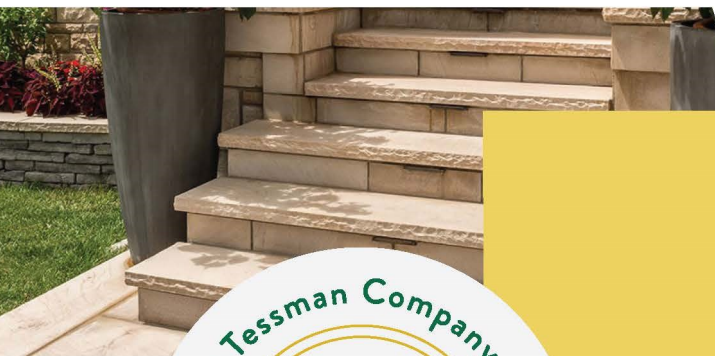


**Dr. Eric Watkins**  
**Professor**  
**University of Minnesota- Twin Cities**

Eric Watkins is a professor in the Department of Horticultural Science and vice provost for distributed learning at the University of Minnesota. Eric received his Ph.D. in plant biology from Rutgers University. Current research activities involve germplasm improvement of several turfgrass species and projects investigating approaches to reduce winter damage on cool-season turfgrasses. He is also involved with cultivar evaluation and other turfgrass science research focused on low-input systems. In his administrative role, Eric provides leadership for online educational programs across the University of Minnesota system.







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## 38th Annual Conference and Trade Show

### Speaker Spotlight: Thursday, March 2nd

#### **Liz Carlson** **Professional Development**



With 20+ years of communication practice, Liz provides actual strategies that you can “take to work tomorrow”. She holds a BA in Communication/Speech and a Master of Business Administration. Her experience includes corporate leadership, sales training, professional speaking, teaching graduate and undergraduate communication courses, radio broadcasting, design of training curriculum, consulting, and writing for executives and entrepreneurs.

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## Board of Directors Positions Available

The NCTGA has three Board of Directors positions available to be voted on at the Annual Conference. These positions offer an opportunity to be involved with a non-profit organization that provides educational scholarships for students, networking and educational events such as the Annual Golf Tournament and Annual Conference and Trade Show. The major responsibilities include:

- Attending quarterly Board of Director Meetings
- Recruiting new members and maintaining relationships with existing members
- Assist with event planning
- Lead an NCTGA committee
- Promote and support the NCTGA as a whole

These are volunteer positions and can be great for your resume.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out [this short questionnaire](#).

# 2022 Scholarship Recipients

## NCTGA Turfgrass Scholarship

**Trace Brayton** received the \$1,000 NCTGA Turfgrass Scholarship. Trace is a senior majoring in Golf and Sports Turf Management at the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

**Spencer Dahlquist** received a \$500 NCTGA Turfgrass Scholarship. Spencer is a senior majoring in Golf and Sports Turf Management at the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

**William Honsa** received a \$500 NCTGA Turfgrass Scholarship. William is a junior majoring in Plant Science with a Turfgrass Management emphasis at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

## NDGA Turfgrass Scholarship

**Hallie Counts** received the \$1,000 NDGA Turfgrass Scholarship. Hallie is a junior majoring in Sports and Urban Turfgrass Management at North Dakota State University.

## Legacy Scholarships

In our third year of offering the \$500 Legacy Scholarship, we had four scholarship winners:

**Jane Hetletved** (daughter of Dustin Hetletved, Valley Golf Association)

**Keagan Neppl** (daughter of Alexis Peltier, The Tessman Company)

**Parker Wood** (son of David Wood, Oxbow CC)

**Alexes Prasek** (daughter of Gordon Prasek, Jamestown Country Club)

## Congratulations to the 2022 scholarship recipients!





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Training Date	Location	Time	Pre-Reg Deadline
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	On a computer at home or place of employment	8 a.m. - 3 p.m. (MT)	
Jan. 25, 2023 Hosted Training	<u>Bismarck</u> , Burleigh County Extension -4H Bldg	Registration 8 a.m.	1/17/2023
	3715 E Bismarck Expressway	Training 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	
	<u>Fargo</u> , NDSU	Registration 8 a.m.	
	Loftsgard Hall Room 380	Training 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	
	<u>Grand Forks</u> , Grand Forks County Extension	Registration 8 a.m.	
	151 South 4th St Suite 302	Training 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	
Mar. 3, 2023 Face-to-Face	<u>Minot</u> , Ward County Extension	Registration 8 a.m.	3/1/2023
	900 13th St SE	Training 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	
Mar. 16, 2023	<u>Harwood</u> , Harwood Community Center	Registration 8 a.m.	3/15/23
	210 Freedland Dr.	Training 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	
Mar. 16, 2023	<u>ZOOM WEBINAR</u>	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	3/15/23 12 NOON
	On a computer at home or place of employment	8 a.m. - 3 p.m. (MT)	



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Introducing the unrivaled insect control of Tetrino™, the one insecticide solution that does the work of many by controlling not only white grub and annual bluegrass weevil but also a wide range of other turf-damaging pests. With flexible application timing, it even allows you to take a preventive or early curative approach to your pest management. Up your game with the new broad-spectrum control and fast-acting flexibility of Tetrino.

Learn how Tetrino can up your game against white grub and ABW at [es.bayer.us/Tetrino](https://es.bayer.us/Tetrino).

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL INSTRUCTIONS. Bayer Environmental Science, a Division of Bayer CropScience LP, 5000 CentreGreen Way, Suite 400, Cary NC 27513. For additional product information, call toll-free 1-800-331-2867. [www.environmentalscience.bayer.us](http://www.environmentalscience.bayer.us). Not all products are registered in all states. Bayer, the Bayer Cross and Tetrino are trademarks of Bayer. ©2021 Bayer CropScience LP.



Two major pests.  
One complete solution.

Take a stand against

## the Frightful Five.



**Nick White**  
Golf Course Superintendent



# Densicor®

## Densicor® controls the fear of turf disease.

Introducing your new advantage against the top five most notorious turf diseases.\*

Densicor® is the ultimate defense against dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot, snow mold and other harmful diseases. Its ultra-low use rate, affordability and strong turf safety profile allow you to spray less while protecting more acres in any climate. Stand up to the Frightful Five with Densicor for exceptional disease control and excellent turf safety across greens, fairways and tees.

Start protecting your turf against the Frightful Five and visit [es.bayer.us/Densicor](https://es.bayer.us/Densicor).

Dollar Spot

Brown Patch

Anthracnose

Gray Leaf Spot

Snow Mold

\*Dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot and snow mold were the five most common diseases according to a national survey among golf course superintendents.

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**SERVE. DEVELOP. PROMOTE.**