

Turf's Up in the Inland Empire



Summer 2021

2021 Northwest GCSA Turfgrass Expo!

Where will you be when that “ah-ha” moment grabs your attention? On the trade show floor? In the conference room? In the hallway? On the golf course? Over that beer? Gathering with your peers at an event-filled opportunity, you will hear something that will cause you to pause and rethink at the Northwest GCSA Turfgrass Expo, **October 11 & 12, 2021**, at **The Coeur d’Alene**. This conference is open to all who love turf, and is hosted by three chapters: Peaks & Prairies GCSA, Inland Empire GCSA, and the Idaho GCSA. The host superintendent is **Tom Walker**.

Our chapter is fortunate to have such incredible education hosted in our regio — easily accessible to our Inland Empire GCSA members!

All of our speakers were thoughtfully selected for their interaction and rapport with an audience, in addition to their wealth of knowledge of their respective presentations. The expo will be moderated by Gerald Flaherty, CGCS, The Valley Club, Hailey, Idaho. Flaherty is a great choice to represent the three associations. He is

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Chapter Room Block Open - San Diego 2022

February 2022 is right around the corner and we look forward to an in-person GCSAA Conference and Trade Show!

Our chapter room block for the 2022 conference in San Diego is now open. We have two properties to offer you — depending on your budget/needs:

The Hotel Solamar is across the street from our Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room at The Blind Burro. While we haven't utilized this property for our chapter block in the past, it received high marks as a conference hotel at the 2018 GIS. It is in the desirable Gaslamp District and walkable to the convention center.

Our second property is the Horton Grand Hotel. This is our

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Two Opportunities to Earn Pesticide Recertification Credit

If you are looking for pesticide recertification credit — we can help you! Two IEGCSA 2021 events will offer Idaho and Washington recertification credit.

Attend the October Northwest GCSA Turfgrass Expo and earn (4) Washington and (3) Idaho recertification credits. In November, the annual Pesticide Short Course will earn a minimum of (6) recertification credits for Idaho and Washington. Our timing of the event has offered a little challenge with filling our speaker slate and we are not sure at the time of this writing if this will be a one-day event, or carry into Tuesday morning for a total of (10) credits.

For each of these events, registration is found by clicking on the calendar event on our home page, iegcsa.org.

In addition to pesticide recertification credit, these events will offer GCSAA EDUs.

Gullikson to *Finally* be Presented with Distinguished Service Award

Third time is a charm! In September 2020, it was announced the Board of Directors of the Inland Empire GCSA unanimously agreed Jeff Gullikson, CGCS, Kalispel Golf & Country Club, Spokane, Wash., was a deserving recipient of the 2020 honor. A long-time superintendent, Gullikson's accomplishments include helping to create First Green — a program now rooted deep in the industry. COVID has caused havoc twice in our attempts to present the award at the fall 2020 and spring 2021 meetings. The award will be presented to Gullikson during the Northwest GCSA Turfgrass Expo, October 11 & 12, at The Coeur d’Alene.

The award is named for an icon in our chapter who has tirelessly volunteered over the years to both improve the chapter and mentor our members — Bill Griffith, Retired Director of Agriculture Center of Excellence.



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P.O. Box 5003,
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(406) 273-7779
iegcsa@iegcsa.org

2021 Northwest GCSA Turfgrass Expo

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a well-respected superintendent who will offer an ease to a responsibility few would care to tackle. The event offers a wide range of educational topics. Regardless of your industry experience, we offer something of value. One presentation description should appeal to all — regardless of length of experience, budget size, or level of responsibility. In fact, it can apply to any profession. “Your career performance will be judged based on what you promise and how you say it.” Check out **Improving Your Communications** by Henry DeLozier, GGA Partners.

Brian Horgan, PhD, returns in 2021 after speaking at the 2017 Expo. Horgan is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences at Michigan State University. His current research interests focus on developing and integrating sustainability metrics for golf facilities. Specifically, his research seeks to position golf courses as urban greenspaces that provide economic and community value through ecosystems services. His presentations continue to resonate with our members and he is one of the most frequently requested speakers among the three associations.

In addition to improving communications, Henry DeLozier, Partner, GGA, will share ways to hire and retain the right team members and create a culture to inspire and motivate top performers. The pandemic has changed the workplace and it’s time to put those lessons to work. DeLozier has been recognized as one of the “Most Influential People in Golf” by Golf Inc. magazine. We

manage golf courses — including reduced input strategies for disease control, fertilization, and irrigation.

The pandemic turned the world upside down before we all had a chance to meet Cory Isom, our regional agronomist with the USGA Green Section, who came on board in 2019. He is based out of Washington and was still able to make course site visits during COVID. Isom enjoyed a distinguished career as a golf course superintendent in California and Colorado before joining the USGA. Isom is ready to offer the kind of presentation you have been missing the past couple of years — tales and pictures shared from regional site visits.

Educational opportunities come in many formats — especially on the trade show floor. Allied partners from all over the region will be in Coeur d’Alene to not only support your association and profession, but to share their extensive knowledge of products and services that can make a difference at your course. Make new contacts, renew and strengthen previous relationships and take advantage of the wisdom on the floor as so many professionals gather under one roof.

We can safely say the wind will not blow as hard as in 2017 while you enjoy playing the renowned Coeur d’Alene Golf Course. “Lightning” won’t strike twice in that hurricane-like gale force wind — right? Golf course superintendent, Tom Walker, and his team are ready to share their hard work with their peers. This beautiful course never ceases to showcase its beauty and always offers an exceptional experience.

Whether your value is derived from the educational opportunities, talking turf with peers or allied partners, or hearing what is new in the market, we have you covered. Attending such an event can be energizing after a long season, or simply a time to step back and consider the past season and prepare for the next. See you there.

Melrose Leadership Academy

Applications are due Sept. 15

The Melrose Leadership Academy supports the professional development of GCSAA member superintendents and equipment managers by providing individuals the opportunity to attend the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show. The program provides up to 20 scholarships every year.

Applications for the 2022 Academy:

<https://www.gcsaa.org/foundation/education>

are honored to have DeLozier participate in the event; his insights will benefit everyone present.

When the name Mike Richardson, PhD, is mentioned, an immediate response from someone in the room is, “I can listen to him all day.” While Richardson’s research can be specific to regions of the country, **50 Shades of Trouble** offers a huge value to the Northwest. His extensive research addresses not only how the amount of light affects healthy turf, but how cultural and chemical practices such as mowing practices and plant growth regulators can alter shade tolerance of turfgrasses. We should have allocated more time to this presentation, which simply means Richardson will need to return. Richardson is a professor at the University of Arkansas, Department of Horticulture.

Paul Koch, PhD’s extensive research focus includes snow mold — extremely applicable in the northwest region. In fact, Koch is presently conducting snow mold research in Idaho. Koch excels at keeping his audience engaged. His second presentation, **Practical Applications for the Turfgrass Microbiome on Golf Courses**, will share the findings on their most heavily researched topic at this time. Research into the turfgrass microbiome has the potential to change how we



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Northwest GCSA TURFGRASS EXPO

An event tailored to solve today's golf course challenges!

Sunday, October 10, 2021

7:00 p.m. - Bushwood Briefing - meet your fellow conference attendees and see old friends while you join for a no-host gathering at Coeur d'Alene Taphouse Unchained.

Monday, October 11, 2021

Education presented in the Convention Center

6:30 a.m. Registration desk is open.

7:45 - 8:05 a.m. Welcome

Event moderated by **Gerald Flaherty, CGCS, The Valley Club, Hailey, Idaho**

8:10 - 9:05 a.m. Sustainable Turfgrass Systems

Brian Horgan, PhD, Professor and Chairperson Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, Michigan State University

9:10 - 10:05 a.m. 50 Shades of Trouble

Mike Richardson, Professor, University of Arkansas Department of Horticulture

9:30 - 11:20 a.m. Convention Center -

Equipment Distributors move in first as overhead door will be shut at 11a.m. to allow booths along wall to set up.

10:05 - 10:25 a.m. Break

10:25 - 11:20 a.m. Improving Your

Communications **Henry DeLozier, Partner, GGA Partners, Phoenix, Arizona**

11:00 - 1:30 p.m. Trade Show individual booth move in - Convention Center (overhead door will be closed by 11a.m. to allow set up along wall) (Must be ready to show by 2 p.m.)

11:20 - 11:40 a.m. Business Meeting PEAKS & PRAIRIES GCSA

11:20 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch

12:30 - 1:20 p.m. On the R.O.A.D. in the year 1 A.C. **Cory Islom, Agronomist, Green Section, USGA, Puyallup, Washington**

1:20 - 1:40 p.m. Break

1:40 - 2:40 p.m. Snow Mold Solutions for Your Course **Paul Koch, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, Molecular and Environmental Toxicology Center, University of Wisconsin - Madison**

2:45 - 6:15 p.m. Northwest GCSA TRADE Show - Take advantage of this opportunity to talk to leading supporters at a unique event. You must be registered to attend.

October 11-12, 2021

The Coeur d'Alene
on the shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

6:00 - 9:00 a.m. Trade Show Exhibitor move out - Convention Center

6:45 a.m. Continental breakfast

7:20 - 7:40 a.m. Business Meeting IDAHO GCSA

8:00 - 8:55 a.m. Community Value of Green Spaces: Golf Courses as Natural Capital **Brian Horgan, PhD, Professor and Chairperson Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences Michigan State University**

8:55 - 9:15 a.m. Break

9:15 - 10:00 a.m. Practical Applications for the Turfgrass Microbiome on Golf Courses **Paul Koch, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, Molecular and Environmental Toxicology Center, University of Wisconsin - Madison**

10:05 - 11:30 a.m. Hiring the Best Team Possible **Henry DeLozier, Partner, GGA**

11:30 - 11:45 a.m. Business Meeting INLAND EMPIRE GCSA

12:30 p.m. Northwest GCSA Golf Challenge The Coeur d'Alene Golf Course.

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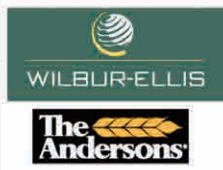


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Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series

David Phipps, GCSAA Northwest Field Staff



By now I'm sure you have all heard of the GCSAA's Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series (ASCS), but never given it much thought. If you're an assistant and you are reading this newsletter, I hope I can at least pique your interest enough to continue reading. If you're a superintendent, I implore you to read further and discover a way to help your assistant develop personally and professionally.

My only regret in my career was waiting until I was a superintendent to become a GCSAA member. Today GCSAA offers so much in terms of education and opportunities for the assistant. All it takes is a career mindset and the sky is the limit. When I first met Mitch Savage, he was the assistant at Green Valley Ranch Golf Club in Colorado. Mitch wasted no time connecting with me and soon became a highly engaged member. In no time he was traveling to make presentations as an assistant and he eventually landed a role on the GCSAA Assistant Superintendent Task Group. From there he helped develop the Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series. Soon after, Mitch became the superintendent at the Broken Tee Golf Course in Englewood and is now superintendent at CommonGround! Golf Course in Aurora. I would say Mitch is one of those exceptions out there. But to my point, as an assistant you can tap into the ASCS and it will put you on the same track as Mitch. All you have to do is put your mind to it.

Today there are almost 3,400 Class C members in our association, most of who are aspiring to become a superintendent. GCSAA is dedicated to advancing the profession of assistants and helping them prepare for the next step in their career. So far, there have been 78 individuals who have completed the ASCS and who are well on their way to bringing a higher level of professionalism to their facility.

The ASCS is composed of certificates covering key competency areas of:

- Agronomy
- Business
- Leadership and Communications
- Environmental Stewardship

The certificates are golf-centric, available to GCSAA members and non-members, and can be completed in any order. It is strongly recommended the candidate has at least two years of work experience in the job duties of an assistant superintendent before beginning any of the ASCS certificates. However, the certificates are available to all and not limited to assistants.

The Principles of Golf Course Agronomy and Principles of Golf Course Business certificates are earned by passing exams of the same name. These exams are online, open-book, and do not require a proctor. Candidates will have three hours to take the exams, which are administered in two sections. A five-minute break will be offered between part 1 and part 2. The cost of each exam is \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members. You will have two attempts with each purchase of the exam.

For both, Principles of Golf Course Leadership & Communications and Principles of Golf Course Environmental Stewardship certificates, candidates must watch a series of webinars and will then need to pass the quiz associated with each of the required webinars.

Additionally, the Principles of Golf Course Leadership & Communications certificate requires the candidate to demonstrate proficiency in the competencies covered in the certificate by completing two of the following ancillary activities:

- Work with a mentor and document the experience.
- Write and have published an article for a chapter newsletter or GCM.
- Volunteer on a GCSAA, chapter, or golf organization task group or committee or participate in hosting a GCSAA First Green event at your course.
- Give a presentation and document the experience.

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The Principles of Golf Course Environmental Stewardship certificate also requires the candidate to demonstrate competency proficiency by completing one of the following ancillary activities:

- Complete the GCSAA IPM exam.
- Participate in your state's process to develop BMPs.
- Complete the facility BMP template for your course.

The fees for these two certificates are:

- GCSAA members: \$50
- Non-members: \$75 for the certificate plus an additional \$60 per webinar

There are 14 webinars in the Leadership & Communications certificate, and 10 webinars in the Environmental Stewardship certificate.

The ASCS would not be possible without the generous support that GCSAA receives from John Deere Golf. John Deere is providing \$100 gift certificates to the first 50 participants and \$50 gift certificates to the next 50 participants who complete the program in 2021. There are still gift certificates available for you to qualify to earn.

I would like to congratulate Kalman Zaranec, Circling Raven



Kalman Zaranec

position of assistant superintendent. We can all get into our own routines of daily tasks and managing employees and kind of lose sight of the big picture. I liked how the program covered such a wide array of topics allowing me to evaluate all the aspects of my position and how I was performing in each one."

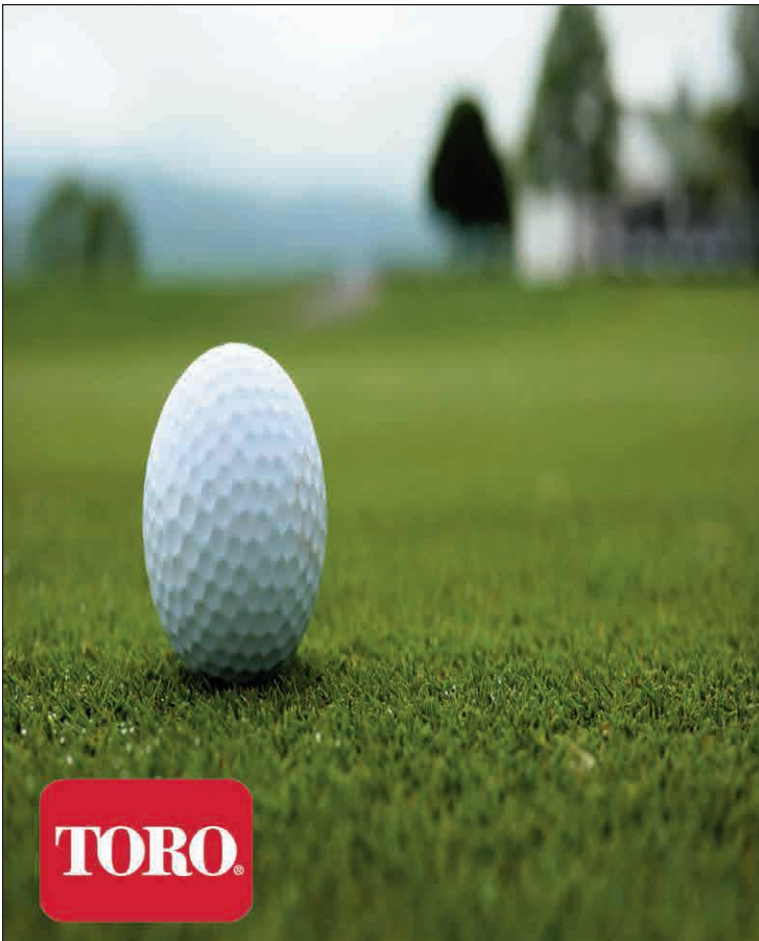
Kudos to both Kal and Mark for taking the initiative and completing the program. Who's next?!

Golf Club, for being the first to complete the program from Idaho, as well as Mark Lyon, Teton Pines Resort & Country Club for being the first from Wyoming! Mark offered the following comment from his experience in completing the ASCS:

"The ASCS program worked well for me because it was so adaptable. Once you identify the areas where you have weaknesses, or less experience, you can choose your elective courses specifically to help build those skills. I also like how the program lets you kind of zoom out and get a more macro perspective on the



Mark Lyon



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Chapter Room Block Open - San Diego 2022 continued from page 1

third return to this property, which consistently offers a lower price point. The Horton is a grand, older hotel located in a bustling part of the Gaslamp. Enjoy antique furniture in the smaller-sized rooms and the classic reflection of the 1880s. Free wireless connection is available. It is within walking distance as well, but near the opposite side of the convention center.

To reserve one of these properties in our room block, please use the link provided via email blasts. The Horton Grand Hotel is \$191 a night for a single/double. The increase in rates is only \$48 total more over a three-night stay, compared to our visit three years ago. The Hotel Solamar is \$261 for a single/double — \$6 total more over a three-night stay — compared to our visit three years ago (at the Residence Inn). The rooms within the block are expected to be a mix of one and two beds, and are available on a first-come basis.

When you book your hotel, please make note of any cancellation fees that could be applicable with either GCSAA Housing or the property. As always, it is important to read the fine print when making your reservation.

Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room

We have selected a pretty cool location for the Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room held in conjunction with the 2022 GCSAA Conference and Show in San Diego.

Join us February 9 at The Blind Burro, which specializes in Baja Mexican cuisine. The Gaslamp location is walking distance from the convention center and our chapter room blocks.

This evening is made possible by the generosity of our allied partners and is hosted by five chapters - Inland Empire GCSA, Peaks & Prairies GCSA, Idaho GCSA, Oregon GCSA, Utah GCSA and Western Washington GCSA.

To help sponsor the event, please contact Lori.



Sharing an event at a Wyoming course...

First Green Event

Ryan Franklin, Superintendent
Fossil Inland Golf Club, Kemmerer, Wyo.

Fossil Island Golf Club held its First Green event for the local kindergarten classes on May 10. About 60 students participated from four separate classes. Our focus for this year's event was how the golf course provides homes for local animals, native wildflowers, and native trees. We had four stations and three volunteers helping with our event. We merged Arbor Day and First Green together. We planted a maple tree on the golf course for the kids and dedicated it to their class so they can come back and see how it has grown.

Our four stations included native birds, native wildflowers, trees, and the history of Arbor Day. To keep the learning interactive, we offered a hands-on activity at each station. Once they finished learning about some of our native birds that frequently stop by the golf course, they made pine cone bird feeders. As for the wildflower station, they made native flower bombs. This is when you take a peat/clay mixture and combine it with native seeds then throw them into our native area on the golf course. For the tree station, we reviewed the lifecycle of a tree, as well as CO2 exchange and how it works in a tree. We then played a guessing game about what tree products are included in certain products. This included aspirin, chewing gum, sponges and, of course, maple syrup. Since we merged Arbor Day and the First Green, the fourth station included a presentation about the history of Arbor Day and an intro to the First Green. As a gift from us, we gave every kid a small flower pot and sunflower seeds for them to take home and grow.

The kids loved the hands-on part of the learning at each station and helping to bury the tree. It was some work to put this event on, but the most enjoyable part of the experience for me has been hearing reports about how their sunflowers are growing.

We are looking to continue this event and expand it to provide opportunities for the 5th and 6th grades. We consider it to have been a great opportunity for us to host a First Green event and I would encourage anyone to reach out to their local schools and create an event at your own facility.





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