

Event Sponsor:  
**Planet Turf**



## Sunday, March 8, 2026

4:00 p.m. Board Meeting, Bud's Broiler  
(Private Room)

## Monday, March 9, 2026

**Meadow Springs Country Club** (no jeans, collared shirts)

7:15 a.m. Please sign in at registration desk. Continental breakfast available and co-sponsored by **TURFSTAR WESTERN, PBI GORDON, and RIDGETOP GOLF**

**AUCTION** begins. Please give your auction donation to Mike Bednar. Online donation form is available on the calendar event.

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.

### Optimizing Fungicide Applications for Turfgrass Diseases

Fungicides are compounds that suppress fungal growth and are applied to effectively manage many turfgrass diseases. However, optimizing their efficacy against diseases is challenging. This presentation will walk turfgrass managers through ways to get more out of their fungicide applications through proper fungicide selection, application timing, and application methods (carrier volume, post-application irrigation, soil surfactants, etc.). The information in this presentation will also delineate the difference in application strategies for foliar vs. root diseases.

**Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas Dept of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR**

9:15 - 9:30 a.m. Break **BID! BID!**

9:30 -10:30 a.m.

### The Ten Things I Wish They'd Taught Me in Turf School

Classroom education can only take a turf manager so far. A longtime superintendent shares the informal, real-world lessons that have helped him achieve sustained success.

**Chris Carson, Superintendent Emeritus, Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield, NJ and Instructor, Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management Program**

10:35 - 11:30 a.m.

### Topsy-Turvy: Fungicides for Non-Disease Management and Non-Fungicides for Disease Management

Turfgrass pests such as weeds, insects, and diseases can be managed in many ways. One of the primary strategies for tackling these turfgrass pests is with pesticides. We typically use fungicides for disease suppression, but, interestingly, recent research has demonstrated that fungicides can be used for much more than just disease control. On the other hand, diseases do not always have to be controlled with fungicides. There are actually many fungicide-alternative approaches that can lead to adequate disease suppression and healthy turfgrass. This two-part presentation will address both topics: alternative uses of fungicides for turfgrass management and fungicide alternatives for disease management.

**Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas Dept of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR**

11:30 - 12:15 p.m. Lunch  
Sponsor:



1:00 p.m.

### Spring Golf Outing

Meadow Springs Country Club  
Host Superintendent: Charlie Jones

**Hole sponsorships available**

## Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Meadow Springs Country Club** (no jeans, collared shirts)

7:15 a.m. **SILENT AUCTION** continues. Continental breakfast available, co-sponsored by **EARTHWORKS CARBON BASED FERTILITY, SYNGENTA and PACIFIC GOLF & TURF**

7:55 - 8:00 a.m. - Golf Wrap Up

8:00 - 8:20 a.m.

### Northwest DryJect

(an allied member auction presentation)

Doug Roberts, Northwest DryJect

8:25 - 9:25 a.m.

### Coming Clean: The mistakes that helped me achieve a successful career

In this discussion, we will explore the mistakes I made over the years of my career. We will examine the reasons behind these mistakes, recount my experiences in overcoming them, and how the knowledge gained from these experiences helped me get all the way to retirement.

**Chris Carson, Superintendent Emeritus, Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield, NJ, Instructor, Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management Program**

9:25 - 9:45 a.m. Break **BID! BID!**

9:45 - 9:55 a.m.

### Distinguished Service Award

Presentation of William Griffith Distinguished Service Award to **Roy Studebaker**

10:00 - 11:20 a.m.

### We Made it Through 2025

**Jeff Gullikson, CGCS, Kalispel Golf & Country Club; Alison Hanson, The Golf Club at Black Rock; Charlie Jones, Meadow**

Springs Country Club; **Jacob Teaford**,  
Manito Golf and Country Club; **Edward  
Wetherell**, Circling Raven Golf Course

**11:30 a.m. Silent Auction ends and  
conference ends. Travel safely!**

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**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

**Reserve by February 12**

(Note this date is earlier than the meeting  
pre-registration date)

**TownPlace Suites Richland  
Columbia Point**

**Tele: (509) 943-9800**

**Call or register online with link  
available from calendar event -  
iegcса.org**

591 Columbia Point Dr., Richland, WA., 99352

Standard King: \$154.00 + tax /  
Double Queen \$164.00 + tax

Specify Inland Empire GCSA

Room amenities include complimentary  
breakfast, complimentary internet,  
a fitness center, and free parking

Specify Inland Empire GCSA when making  
hotel reservations to receive this reduced rate  
— remember to reserve by Feb 12

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**Our Speakers**

**Chris Carson** is the superintendent emeritus  
at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, NJ,  
where he recently concluded a successful  
36-year career. During his tenure, a complete  
master plan rebuild of the course was complet-  
ed, two USGA Championships were held and

11 assistants have moved on to become  
superintendents. He has also spent the last 25  
years teaching Professional Development and  
Budgeting/Planning in the Rutgers Professional  
Golf Turf Management Program. Carson has  
presented over 100 talks and seminars through-  
out the country and is an accomplished writer for  
*Golf Course Management* magazine with over 25  
published articles, twice winning GCSAA's  
Leo Feser Award.

**Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D.**, is an assistant  
professor of turfgrass science in the horticulture  
department at the University of Arkansas. His  
main areas of expertise are turfgrass pathology  
and precision management of turfgrass pests  
using emerging technologies. Hutchens' research  
program is centered around maintaining healthy  
turfgrass and combating turfgrass diseases with  
traditional cultural and chemical practices as well  
as with cutting-edge new technology such as  
drones and GPS-guided sprayers. Hutchens  
received his bachelor's degree in turfgrass  
management in 2015 and a plant pathology  
master's degree in 2018, both from North  
Carolina State University. He received his  
doctorate in plant pathology from Virginia Tech  
University in 2022.

**We appreciate our member volunteers!**

**Thank you to all participants of  
"We Made it Through 2025."**

Jeff Gullikson, CGCS, Kalispel Golf &  
Country Club; Alison Hanson,  
The Golf Club at Black Rock;  
Charlie Jones, Meadow Springs  
Country Club; Jacob Teaford, Manito Golf  
and Country Club; Edward Wetherell  
Circling Raven Golf Course

**Inland Empire GCSA  
March 9 & 10, 2026**

**"Nearly" Spring  
Meeting**

**EDUCATION, GOLF &  
SILENT AUCTION:  
Meadow Springs  
Country Club  
Richland, Wash.**

**Hotel:**

**TownPlace Suites Richland  
Columbia Point**

**Hotel Reservations due Feb 12**

**Event  
Sponsor:**

