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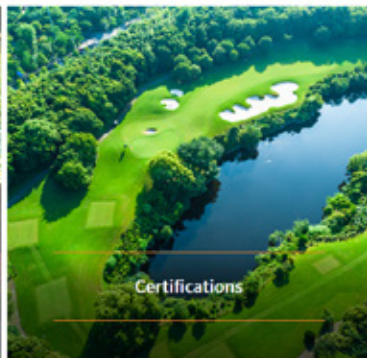
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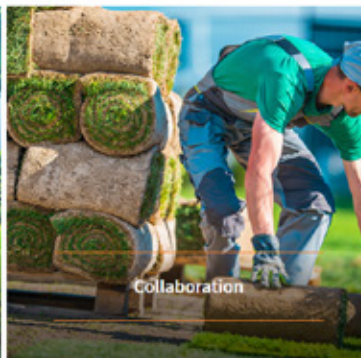
Leaders For A Sustainable Future



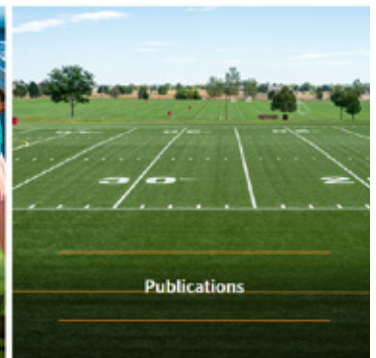
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

“PGMS® INVOLVEMENT GOES TOGETHER WITH FAMILIES, CAREERS, INTERESTS AND BUILDING UPON CORE VALUES.”

At a moment like this I find myself asking “What motivated me to make a leadership commitment to become President of the Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®)”? The answer goes back almost 40 years when I was first introduced to PGMS®. Before I knew about the local PGMS® Washington DC Branch an advertisement about a landscape award program in the Grounds Maintenance Magazine caught my eye. The program was called “The Professional Grounds Maintenance Awards” currently known as the “Green Star Awards® Program”. The year was 1982 and I worked on Constitution Ave., NW Washington, DC at the National Academy of Sciences as Grounds Manager. I applied for the PGMS® award and to my surprise walked away with a Grand Award for my small institutional site. Traveling to San Diego, California to pick up my award plaque at the 1982 PGMS® Annual Meeting I was again surprised as I joined a group of PGMS® Washington, DC branch members at the awards dinner program. The friendly DC group at my table quickly educated me on the rewards and benefits of PGMS® membership and the great resources that were available to me both at the national and local branch level. One of the DC branch members remarked “You really do not have a good excuse now for not attending a DC branch meeting since you traveled all the way to California to meet us”. He made a good point and from that moment forward I started to learn about the PGMS® organization taking advantage of educational benefits and resources to grow my career. The greatest benefit and resource gained has been the lifelong friendships that grew from attending meetings, seminars, getting involved in committees, and offering some of my time to help others in the PGMS® organization. Although it sounds a little “corny” PGMS® became family. This was particularly apparent at the DC PGMS Branch annual picnics where over the years together we watched our children grow to be adults.

Through attending the yearly PGMS® annual meetings I was introduced to PGMS® Board members and transitioned from local branch involvement to serving on the national board, executive board and today serve as the 2021 President of PGMS®.

I know first-hand that our families, careers, and outside interests compete for our investment of time however I believe your involvement with PGMS® can be accomplished without taking time away from your core values. In fact, PGMS® involvement goes together with families, careers, interests and building upon core values.

Our next steps together will require your help, your investment of a little time. Over the past year the PGMS® board has been working hard in creating a new strategic plan for our organization. The plan outlines a Top Ten (10) Actions for 2020-2021 along with the need to recruit committee members to participate in growing PGMS®.

Over the next few months, I will be sending you via e-mail a series of short (2-3 minute) video message that will outline each of the ten (10) PGMS® actions for 2020-2021 along with our committee structure.

My hope is that something will “catch your eye” as it did for me in 1982 and you will be inspired to help us grow our PGMS organization to benefit our profession during these turbulent times of Covid-19 and beyond.

Interested? You know where to find me ... I am here serving you and the Professional Grounds Management Society family.

Mark Feist
PGMS President



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

By: Stephanie Bruno, CAE, PGMS Executive Director



PGMS® Members,
Thank you for your continued support and volunteerism this year. Your support has helped the Society grow this year and on behalf of the PGMS® Board of Directors, I am pleased to be able to share the following with you:

First, the Society's expansion of the institutional membership from 4 to 8 total members has allowed more crew members' access to PGMS® educational programming and member benefits. The Society launched bi-monthly webinars this year and with the forced cancellation of our in-person meetings, the Society quickly added more webinars to provide our members with additional education and continuing education opportunities. By the end of 2020, PGMS® will have provided 19 webinars, with our initial 2020 goal being 6 webinars – an incredible feat! A special thank you to the webinar taskforce, led by **Jeff McManus, CGM** and 2020 Vice President **Joe Kovolyan, CGM** for developing an incredible education line-up.

The future of the Society is the continued focus of the Board of Directors and the cancellation of our in-person March strategic plan required the Board to creatively regroup and conduct our plan virtually, which was accomplished this July. Thank you to the 2020 Board of Directors for their preparation, flexibility and participation to make this a success. As a member of PGMS®, get involved and help continue the positive growth of the Society. The 2020-2022 strategic plan offers many engagement opportunities for members and you can learn more at the bottom of this page and on the pgms.org website.

The Society also launched a new membership portal and website to better provide our members with the tools they need to be successful grounds managers. This includes discussion boards, blogs, and communities of interest, which can be accessed anytime by logging into your member portal.

Another accomplishment of 2020 was the release of the Society's Landscape Management Guidelines series. The first handbook in the series “Maintenance Management Guidelines” includes an overarching look at the many areas of grounds management, with subsequent handbooks providing more details based on maintenance and management requirements. Thank you to taskforce chair **Ryan McCaughey, CGM** and taskforce members **Sandra Obenour-Dowd, Roger Conner, CGM, Brandon Haley, CGM, and Kevin Mercer, CGM** for their hard work and continued dedication to providing members with updated educational materials. If you are interested in getting involved in the development of future handbooks, please email info@pgms.org.

Finally, one of the largest positives seen in 2020 was the collaborative and supportive nature of our members during this tough year. Our members were happy to lend a helping hand wherever possible and their volunteer efforts in 2020 have helped to build a strong foundation for an even more successful 2021. We encourage you to get involved, even if you only have an hour or two to spare. From something as simple as providing an article for the Forum newsletter to volunteering on the Green Star Awards® committee to review award submissions, giving back to your industry will help us further the PGMS® mission and continue the Society as *Leaders for a Sustainable Future*.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and successful 2021!

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

PGMS® is committed to cultivating a Society that:

- Increases access to educational content and products to the industry
- Highlights the diversity of our members and the grounds management industry
- Creates meaningful partnerships with Supplier Partners and allied groups
- Increases engagement opportunities for existing and potential members
- Builds and supports our dynamic Branches
- Promotes rising stars in the Green industry
- Creates leadership development programs and pathways for current and emerging leaders

PGMS® ANNOUNCES 2020 - 2021 BOARD



Mark Feist (pictured on left) of American University in Washington, D.C. was elected and installed as the new president of the Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) during a virtual board meeting held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020.

The 99th grounds management professional to hold the office, Feist succeeds **Gerry Dobbs, CGM** as the chief elected officer of the over 100-year-old green industry organization.

In addition to Feist, PGMS® members elected **Joe Kovolyan, CGM, CSFM** of Richland School District in Richland, WA as their president-elect. **Bruce De Vrou, CGM** of Spectrum Health Hospitals in Grand Rapids, MI was elected vice-president and **Roger Connor, CGM** of Duke University in Durham, NC was elected as treasurer.

The Regional Directors are as follows: North East Regional Director, **Ryan McCaughey, CGM** of The Pennsylvania State University in University Park, PA;

North Central Regional Director, **Kevin Mercer, CGM** of Denison University in Granville, OH; Northwest Regional Director, **Mike Beaulieu** of Central Oregon Community College in Bend, OR; South East Regional Director, **Brandon Haley, CGM** of Moody, AL; South Central Regional Director, **Philip Dierker, CGM** of Rice University in Houston, TX; and Southwest Regional Director, **Sandra Obenour-Dowd** of the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ.

Directors-at-Large include: **Jenny Gulick** of Urban Canopy Works, LLC in Union, KY; **Donna Hibbs, CGM** of Masonic Homes of Kentucky in Masonic Home, KY; and **Michael Gildea, CGM** of the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, MD.

Warren Gorowitz of Hunter Industries in San Marcos, CA and **Joel Spies** of Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements in Minnetonka, MN will serve as the Supplier Member Representatives. **Dr. Gwen Stahnke** of Walla Walla Community College in Walla Walla, WA is the Educator Representative.

PGMS® leaders are already at work planning the 2021 Annual School of Grounds Management, which will take place in Louisville, KY, Oct. 19 - 22, 2021 in conjunction with the GIE+EXPO.

PGMS® PROFESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) honored two grounds professionals with awards as part of its 2020 Week of Excellence, October 19 - 23.

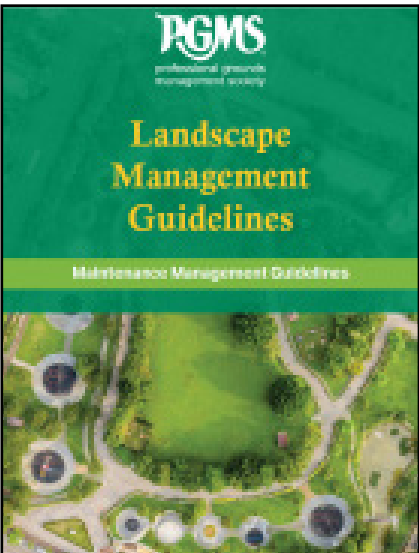
PGMS® Gold Medal

PGMS® recognized **Pioneer Athletics** with the PGMS Gold Medal Award. The PGMS® Gold Medal is given to an individual or entity to recognize them for outstanding and long-term achievements and/or contributions to the green industry. PGMS® salutes Pioneer Athletics for its leadership and dedication to the grounds management industry. From its inception, Pioneer has been committed to learning from stakeholders and sharing the knowledge gained for the betterment of the green industry. Their tagline “ingredients matter” means more than simply the chemical composition of their paint or seed. It embodies their commitment to excellence for every customer experience, no matter how small, which in turn provides a great product for the customer and the environment. Pioneer is well versed in the demands of the grounds management industry and has embraced these challenges by creating and providing stakeholders with detailed manuals and literature, all free on their website.



PGMS® President’s Award

Each year the PGMS® President is asked to give a President’s Award to a member or members they feel have shown outstanding service and contributions to the Society. This year, President Gerry Dobbs, CGM honored **Ryan McCaughey, CGM** of The Pennsylvania State University in University Park, PA. For several years, the Board has engaged in several discussions to develop and offer a useful tool to PGMS® members with regards to best management practices of grounds management. When Ryan first came on the Board of Directors and heard about the goal, he offered to chair the book taskforce and he became the driving force behind the development of the Landscape Management Guidelines series, including topic selection, writing and editing. Since beginning his term as the North East Regional Director this past year, he has brought new collaborative opportunities to the PGMS® Board and is highly engaged with the development of educational material. Ryan shares his knowledge with grounds professionals across the country through webinars and by hosting meetings at The Pennsylvania State University, where he serves as the Manager of Equipment and Grounds.



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PGMS® CALL FOR 2021 PRESENTERS

Interested in sharing your expertise at a PGMS® School of Grounds Management event?

Do you know someone who you think would make a great speaker?

If the answer is "Yes" to either question, we would love to hear from you! We are currently seeking speaker proposals for the coming year for both virtual and in-person education. Fill out the PGMS® School of Grounds Management Speaker Proposal Form found at https://cdn.ymaws.com/pgms.org/resource/resmgr/documents/pgms_school_of_grounds_manag.pdf and send it back in to us at info@pgms.org.

About the School of Grounds Management

Designed to provide grounds professionals with the hard-to-find opportunity to gain knowledge, ask questions, and network with their peers, the PGMS® School of Grounds Management provides goal-oriented education and experience to expand knowledge in four (4) core-competencies:



For more information on the School of Grounds Management visit: <https://pgms.org/page/Education>.

INTRODUCING THE NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR MARIA DONOVAN, QAS

Maria has a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Bonaventure University in New York, is a certified Qualified Association Specialist (QAS) and is currently pursuing the Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential.

Maria began her career as a Membership Manager with the Broome County Chamber of Commerce & Convention Bureau in Binghamton, NY. At Stringfellow Management Group Maria has worked for the Chesapeake Human Resources Association and Synthetic Turf Council.

Originally from Binghamton, New York, Maria has lived in the Washington DC/Baltimore area for the past 25 years and currently resides in Forest Hill, MD with her husband and teenage son.

A committed fan of baseball and baseball analytics, Maria has visited ten (10) Major League ballparks on an ongoing quest to visit all thirty (30). She enjoys cooking and baking, herb and rose gardening and is currently learning to navigate the Chesapeake Bay as a student at the Annapolis Sailing School.

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PGMS® RELEASES NEW WEBSITE AND MEMBERSHIP PORTAL

PGMS® is excited to announce the launch of your new website and member portal! Everything was designed with our members in mind, with the primary goal to streamline navigation and expand the functionality for both events and membership communications. New features include:

Profile Management

- Easily maintain and update your information
- Adjust notification preferences and settings
- Review and pay your renewal invoice online
- Track continuing education credits
- Enhanced job postings

Online Community Engagement

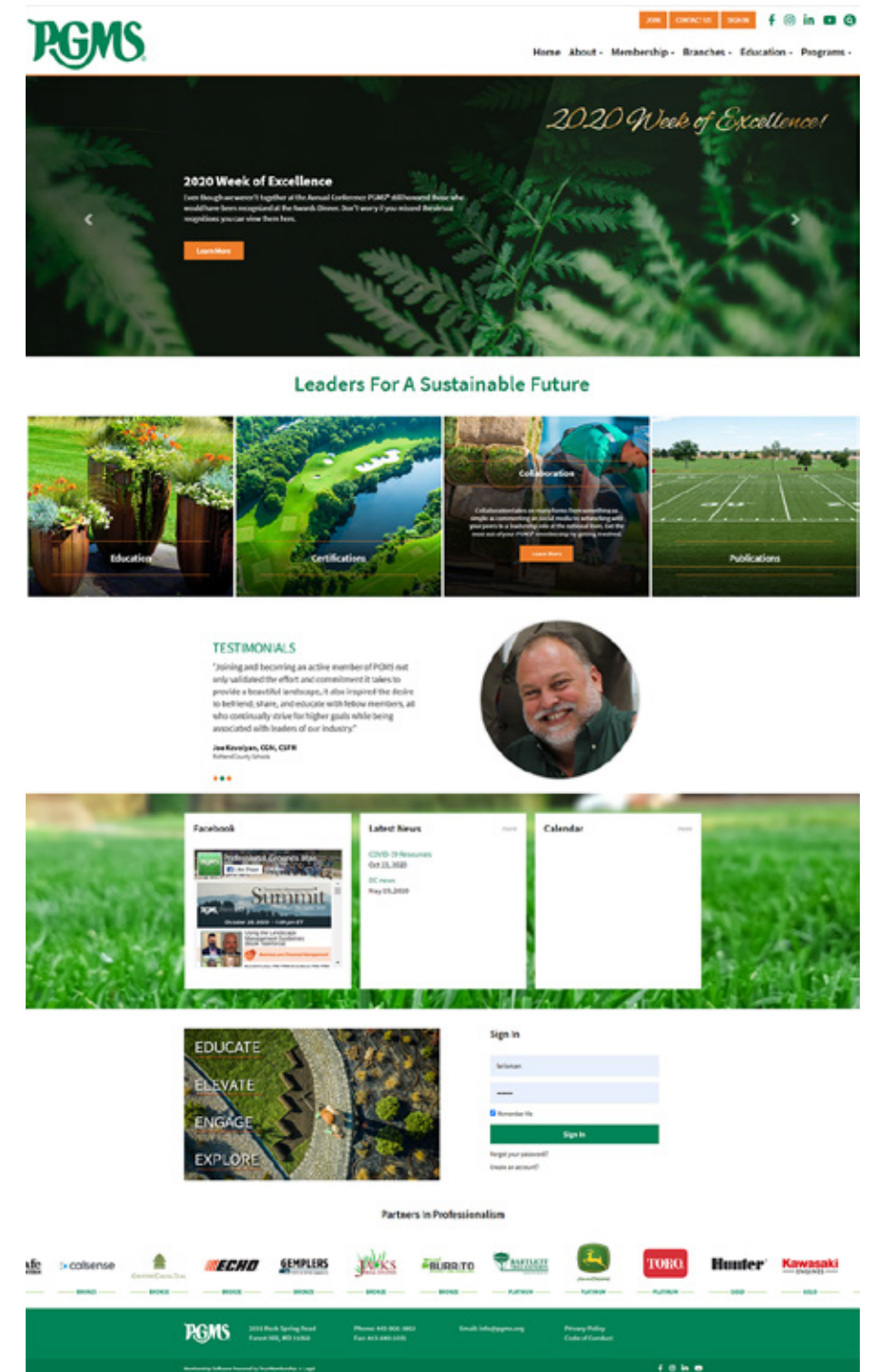
- Review your news feeds
- Visit your Branch and Region for up to date events and information
- Connect with peers
- Send direct messages
- Search our directory of members using relevant and industry specific criteria
- Review member spotlights
- Read current issues of the PGMS® Forum
- Browse photos from current and past events

Additional Features

- View and Register for online and upcoming in person conferences and events
- View historical events and webinars
- Browse the online store
- Sign up for the Green Star Awards® and Certification Programs
- And much more...

You should have already received an email from PGMS with instructions on how to access your member portal and update your information. If you have any questions please contact us at info@pgms.org.

We will continue to offer guidance in the coming days as our members begin to get acquainted with this dynamic and integrated website and hope you will enjoy using it as much as we have enjoyed creating it for your benefit! Welcome to your new and enhanced online PGMS® - let us know what you think!



PGMS 2020 GREEN STAR AWARDS® RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following 2020 Green Star Awards® Recipients...

Athletic Fields

Honor Award – Florida State University
Honor Award – Southern Methodist University

Hospital or Institute

Honor Award – Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine

K – 12 School Grounds

Honor Award - The Bolles School
Honor Award – Virginia Episcopal School

Small Site

Grand Award – The Leach Teaching Gardens at Texas A&M University
Merit Award – Texas Tech University

University and College Grounds - Small (0-199 acres)

Grand Award – Aurora University
Honor Award – Greensboro College
Honor Award – Texas A&M Corpus Christi

University and College Grounds - Mid-Size (200 - 499 acres)

Grand Award – Utah State University
Honor Award – McDaniel College
Honor Award – University of Rochester
Honor Award – University of Wisconsin – Whitewater Campus
Merit Award – Texas Woman's University – Denton Campus

University and College Grounds - Large (500+ acres)

Honor Award – University of Central Missouri
Honor Award – University of North Carolina Charlotte

Urban University Grounds

Honor Award – George Washington University
Honor Award – The University of Tampa
Merit Award – Bethune Cookman University



2020 Green Star Award Sustainability Recipient The Leach Teaching Gardens at Texas A&M University

PGMS members have always applied best practices of being responsible stewards of our environment and based on their Green Star Award submittal The Leach Teaching Gardens at Texas A&M University was recognized for taking a lead in the implementation of initiatives that sustain our environment. Examples of their commitment include: a student led and maintained garden, using Earth-Kind principles, native and adapted plants, smart watering and other sustainable practices.

2021 GREEN STAR AWARDS

The application for the 2021 Green Star Awards will open in the Spring of 2021. Start thinking about your presentation now by taking pictures of your grounds throughout the seasons.

The goals of the Green Star Awards® program are:

- To bring national recognition to grounds manicured with a high degree of excellence.
- To recognize individual professional efforts leading to high maintenance standards and high quality appearance of the landscape.
- To challenge those responsible for maintenance of grounds throughout the country to achieve a higher level of excellence. In sponsoring this awards program, the Professional Grounds Management Society® wish to extend its mission in promoting well-maintained landscapes throughout the country.

2020 GRAND AWARD WINNERS



Small Site

The Leach Teaching Gardens at Texas A&M University

Named for Dr. Cotner '64, former head of the Horticulture department at Texas A&M, The Memorial Floral Border and Event Lawn hosts annual flowers that are changed four times per year. The beds include 'Forest Pansy' redbud and Knockout roses and the large trees aligning the horizon are native Post Oaks. In the background, the sand capped AgriLife event lawn measures 60,000 square feet and is used for the College of Agriculture Tailgate during football season.



University and College Grounds - Small Aurora University

Built in 2003, the Institute for Collaborative Education is lined with Serviceberry which add for a dramatic entrance when the white flowers are blooming in the spring. Red decomposed granite is used under the Serviceberry for a splash of color and to reduce mulch. The color of the large flower pots were chosen to accent the building colors and the permeable pavers.



University and College Grounds - Mid-Size Utah State University

Utah State is located in the mountain desert, which has four very different seasons, from 100-degree dry hot summers to below 0 freezing cold winters with deep snow. Totalling 400 acres, 100 acres of the campus are covered in turf, with 42 acres covered in trees, shrubs, and flowerbeds. 50,000 to 60,000 annual flowers are grown in the campus greenhouse each year and are used for the 5 acres of annual flowers. The campus also features over 6,800 trees on its main campus, including 38 State champion trees.

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GREEN TRAILER

UNPLUGGED: STUDENTS BUILD GREEN TRAILER TO ENERGIZE TOOLS

By Blaine Friedlander

Around campus academic quads and residential areas, in the thick of autumn's red and yellow leaves, soon there'll be something green: a new tool-toting, solar power-generating trailer.



Members of the Cornell University Sustainable Design (CUSD) student group have delivered to the Grounds Department a 7-by-12 foot trailer that will cart and energize electric string trimmers, hedge clippers, chainsaws and an electric heavy-duty commercial mower.

Designed and created by CUSD's Solarize team, the trailer will help Cornell reduce carbon emissions while raising awareness of Cornell's environmental initiatives, aimed at helping the campus achieve carbon neutrality by 2035, said **Dan Schied**, CGM director of the Grounds Department.



Said Adam Poluka '19, the Solarize team's first project director: "It's a humble trailer with a lot of good engineering in it."

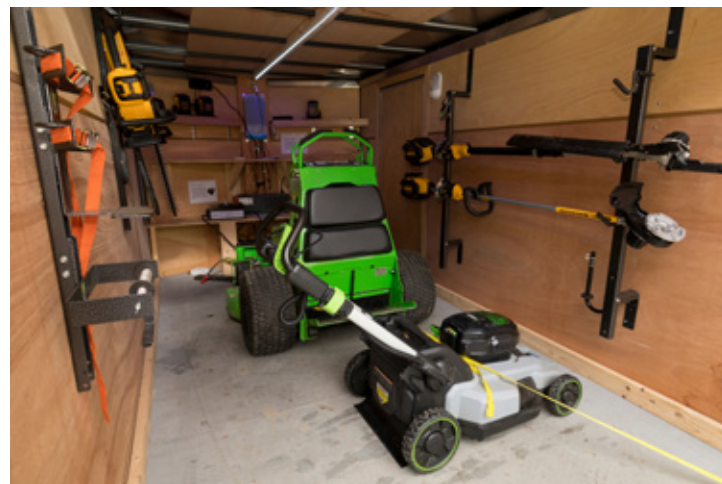
Four solar panels on the trailer's roof can generate 1,151 kilowatt hours of electricity over the course of a

year – enough energy to power a 60-watt lightbulb for 19,187 hours or 2.2 years, said Dan Pyrek '20, the team's second project director.

"If all the energy is used every day, that is roughly equal to 33 gallons of gasoline or diesel," Pyrek said. "Using solar energy as a sustainable power source in the trailer offsets annually about 660 pounds of emitted carbon dioxide of gasoline or diesel fuel."

As a groundskeeping professional, Schied had seen similar tool trailers and approached the CUSD group to see if they would build a solar trailer sturdy enough to withstand rigorous campus requirements.

In 2017, inspired by Cornell's "living laboratory" concept, CUSD students formed a team, meeting with Schied and his crew to determine specifications. Over four semesters, the team conducted research, secured grants and created an interior design to fit the Grounds Department's needs.



"The trailer's system was designed to achieve enough solar power generation to run for hours," Poluka said, "as well as provide ample electricity storage in the likely event there is a string of cloudy days."

Ithaca-area engineering firms lent a hand in outfitting the trailer: Taitem Engineering donated the trailer's solar panels, and TetraTech senior electrical engineer Aaron Abb showed the students how to install components and provide proper electrical grounding.

Team members liked the trailer so much, they

decided to market it. In summer 2019, members of Solarize participated in the local Life Changing Labs startup incubator, which works closely with Entrepreneurship at Cornell. Pyrek and Tameem Jahan '20, the Solarize team's third director, spent eight weeks learning about marketing and brand management to bring the trailer's concept to the marketplace.

"Transportation is a large contributor to humanity's carbon footprint," said Jahan. "We are a team of engineers and other professions who are passionate about sustainability and we want to develop this untapped market of mobile solar. We believe that solar is a good solution."

Current and former students on the Solarize project are: Julia Adler '23; Leah Balkin '19, M.Eng. '19; Azhir Barodawala, M.Eng. '18; Connor Bayne '21, the team's current lead; Rikki Chiba '23; Francesco DeMare '20; Evan Halloran '18; Kenneth Harlley '21; Erin Huang '22; Ada Lian '22; Simon Liu '22; Owen MacDonnell '20; Ellie Month '21; Ken Park '18; Shivani Poddar '21; Teddy Reiss '19; Mahima Shah '19; and Jessica Wojnicki '18.



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2020 Certification Accomplishments

Three distinguished individuals successfully completed PGMS® rigorous Certified Grounds Manager (CGM®) program in 2020 and now hold this industry recognized certification.

Taking roughly a year to complete, candidates must first meet one of three criteria before submitting their application. After submitting their application they must pass a two part examination process. Part One, the Application Test, covers a core of principles of grounds management in a series of multiple choice and true/false questions and must be passed within 30 days of being accepted into the program. Part Two is the Professional Grounds Manager Evaluation (PGME). This extensive portfolio is compiled by the applicant based on his or her personal experience and the local situation. Candidates have one (1) year to complete the PGME and are provided a CGM® as a mentor. It covers topics such as Site Inventory, Turf Management, Irrigation, Management Skills, Budgets and Finance, in addition to Safety Standards and Regulatory Compliance.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 CGMS

- #182 William Douglas, CGM of City of Alexandria in Alexandria, VA
- #183 Eric Andrews, CGM of Bucks County Community College in Newtown, PA
- #184 Mark J. Baldwin, CGM of Oakland County - Facilities Maintenance & Operations in Waterford, MI

For more information on the CGM® program please visit <https://pgms.org/certifications/certified-grounds-manager/>.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 CGTS

Twenty-one individuals successfully completed PGMS® Certified Grounds Technician (CGT®) program in 2020 and now hold this certification.

- #193 Trevor Laliberte, CGT
- #194 Mandy Rothmeyer, CGT
- #195 Gregory Meyer, CGT
- #196 Jacob Matthew Cody, CGT
- #197 R. Michael Tinkham, CGT
- #198 Stephen Moore, CGT
- #199 Patrick Scott Rutledge, CGT
- #200 Trevor Lancaster, CGT
- #201 William Campbell, CGT

For more information on the CGM® program please visit <https://pgms.org/certifications/certified-grounds-technician/>.



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2020 PGMS LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS RE-ACCREDITATIONS

Texas A&M University managed by SSC Services for Education

"Initial accreditation requires organizations to successfully complete a robust process to prove the knowledge, understanding, and the implementation of grounds management best practices. To obtain reaccreditation, those organizations must document their continuing adherence to the attainment levels of the best practices. The Grounds Management Leadership Team at Texas A&M University did exactly that in exemplary fashion. Not only did they provide evidence of the on-going maintenance of demonstrated best practices, they also showed exceptional improvements across the board in the evaluation process which merited an accreditation rating upgrade," Accreditation Facilitator Joe Jackson, CGM stated.



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4-Star Accreditation

Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine



★★★★
4-Star Accreditation

The Accreditation recognizes the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine's forward thinking approach to seeking and setting standards and expectations, as demonstrated with their Campus Tree Inventory, Forest Management Plan, Native Planting and Maintenance Strategies, Campus Stormwater Study, and the Landscape Master Plan. It also recognized the institution's sustainable maintenance activities, which include reforestation, planting of native materials, composting, pervious pavements, rain gardens, green roof gardens, and the use of battery and electric equipment and vehicles. "The grounds operation not only presented evidence of the on-going attainment of many best practices on the campus but also provided an abundance of proof validating an increased mastery and execution of each of the program's best practices," Accreditation Facilitator Joe Jackson, CGM stated.

The PGMS® Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation program is a dynamic evaluation tool that can be utilized by facilities and organizations that have a landscape services or grounds component. Through peer expertise, the program evaluates strategic grounds management principles and practices that produce and guide the delivery of properties to an attractive, healthy, sustainable and high quality state. The PGMS® Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation verifies and recognizes an environmental management systems approach applied to a grounds management template.

How Can I Get More Information?

Phone: 443-966-3852 x 1146 | E-mail: info@pgms.org



MEMBER PROFILE: BRI GROENEVELD, CGT

By: Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Spotlight on the president of the Western Washington Branch

As we head into fall, I thought it would be a good time to catch up with the President of PGMS® Western Washington Branch Bri Groeneveld, CGT.

improve our marketing strategy. We try to stay positive and focus on the quality responses we do receive and attendees we do reach because we really appreciate them, and their input is very valuable to our branch and the board.

Joe: So, you have hosted a Summer Conference, what advice can you give to another branch that is interested in hosting in the future?

Bri: I couldn't have done it without the support of the Western Washington Branch board and the University of Puget Sound Grounds crew. Having great help is so important. Follow that up with lots of to-do lists and a timeline schedule of things you need to accomplish. I made a schedule of which volunteers needed to be where, when they needed to be there and what they were doing at that time, over the course of the two-day conference and asked them to look it all over beforehand so everyone was prepared the day of. They all did such an amazing job to help me prepare.

Joe: Bri - Can you share with the membership a bit on your background and what you are currently doing besides presiding over the Western Washington Branch.

Bri: Sure, Joe! I started my outdoors career working as a trail crew member of the Washington Conservation Corps in Issaquah, Washington before moving on to join the prestigious Grounds crew at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. It was there where I really developed a love for trees, and recently, I just landed my dream job as an Arborist with the City of Cheyenne in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Joe: So how long have you been a member of PGMS® and how did you get started? (For most of you, this is a trick question for Bri!)

Bri: Yes everyone knows the great and infamous Joe Kovolyan, CGM recruited me to become a member of PGMS®, and I started out as Secretary and Treasurer of the Western Washington Branch in January 2017. I can't believe it's been almost four years!

Joe: Pandemic aside what do you find to be the biggest challenges of trying to keep a Branch moving forward?

Bri: Our board has trouble reaching members and non-members alike. We have tried to send out membership surveys to find out what topics members are interested in hearing about and what event sites they are interested in touring and only a small percentage responds. We then organize site tours, volunteer events and Member-Get-A-Member events to low turnouts. It has been frustrating and I am not sure how to

Joe: Attending The School of Grounds Management & GIE+EXPO in Louisville for the first time, what impressed you the most and any advice you can share with other future first-time attendees?

Bri: The magnitude of the conference! The Convention Center was full of indoor supplier booths, where you could talk with representatives and look over equipment. Then, walk outside to find demo areas where you can test out everything you saw indoors! I also enjoyed the variety of courses offered by the School of Grounds Management.

It was a bit overwhelming to meet a lot of new people, absorb a lot of new information and take in everything offered by the GIE at the convention center. If I could go back I would try to enjoy myself more, relax and take it all in without putting so much pressure on myself to be everywhere and see everything.

Joe: Lastly can you share any thoughts on earning your CGT, continuing education in general like CGM® or ISA certification? Do you think it helped in the hiring process with employers?

Bri: Studying for the CGT exam really helped expand my knowledge of grounds maintenance, and I think it is really valuable to have certifications like the CGT or CGM® as part of your resume to set you apart from other applicants. Especially if you are applying for a

position in a highly competitive area, like the Seattle-Tacoma metro area. I can't speak for my employers but I personally feel like these certification programs and hands-on experiences are the most attractive part of my resume when I apply for a position.

Joe: Thank you so much Bri for taking some time out of your schedule to share with the membership. Your contributions to PGMS both nationally and the branch are greatly appreciated.

Bri: Not a problem, thank you for all you do for PGMS®! Go Blue!!



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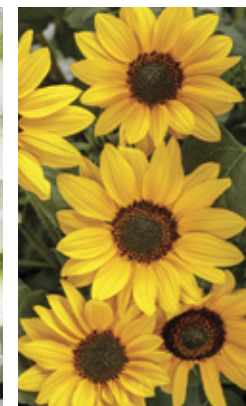
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JOHN DEERE CELEBRATES THE EVOLUTION OF THE ZTRAK™ ZERO-TURN MOWER LINE

The landscaping industry is highly competitive, making it critical to select the right tools and partners to ensure success. Since launching the Z900 Commercial ZTrak™ Zero-Turn Mowers in 2013, John Deere has consistently improved its lineup to provide solutions for every operation. The Commercial ZTrak line now features a full range of products including 11 gas models, two diesel models, and three deck options, including the 7-Iron™ PRO, Mulch On Demand™ and Fastback™ PRO rear-discharge.

The 7-Iron PRO deck is stamped from 7-gauge steel, minimizing the number of welds and providing a smooth underside, with fewer sharp corners where material could build. With rounded corners, the potential for damage is reduced if the deck should contact trees, rocks, curbs or other fixed objects.



In 2015 the introduction of the MICHELIN® X® TWEEL® TURF airless radial tire fully embodied that commitment, providing an innovative option that directly addressed machine downtime. The X TWEEL TURF airless radial tire arms landscape contractors with a solution that virtually eliminates flats and is nearly maintenance free. The X TWEEL TURF airless radial tire minimizes the cost and time spent on repairs and maintenance of traditional pneumatic tires.

Fast forward to 2018, John Deere expanded its electronic fuel injection (EFI) solutions with the Z955M EFI model, and later the Z955R EFI model in 2020. With the EFI models, John Deere directly addressed a growing desire for fuel saving solutions. The EFI-equipped machines use less fuel, resulting in fuel savings of up to 25%, positively impacting customers' bottom lines.

John Deere then took operator comfort and productivity to the next level with the introduction of the ComfortGlide™ suspension on all Z900 seat options. With ComfortGlide, the seat can travel up to two inches fore and aft, absorbing bumps to enhance ride comfort.

New for 2021, John Deere expanded its lineup with updates to the machine design, new attachment offerings, and the addition of the Fastback™ PRO rear-discharge mower deck. In October John Deere rolled out design enhancements, including spoked rims, cast-iron spindles housings and quick-release belt covers, improving durability and simplifying maintenance. In addition to the machine updates, John Deere expanded its exclusive Mulch On Demand™ (MOD) deck lineup with a 54-inch option for the Z950M. MOD enables the operator to switch between mulching and side-discharging without ever leaving the seat. A new Dump-from-Seat Material Collection System – compatible with all Z900 models – features a new design to improve operation and efficiency. Three new attachment options, including a string trimmer rack, cargo tray and tool carrier, further enhance productivity.



Most recently, John Deere unveiled its 60- and 72-inch Fastback PRO rear-discharge decks. The rear-discharge deck features the heavy-duty, commercial-grade design customers expect, and is built to enhance productivity and performance, while providing a high quality of cut.

Since launching, John Deere has continuously listened to customer feedback and delivered new solutions to boost productivity and uptime. Customers can learn more about the evolution of the ZTrak line by visiting the John Deere Virtual Pavilion, live beginning November 9th!

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Industry News

JOHN DEERE CELEBRATES THE RESILIENCY OF FARMERS

Benefit Concert headlining Dustin Lynch, Maddie & Tae, Mickey Guyton, Travis Denning and Tyler Farr

MOLINE, Ill (October 29, 2020) — Deere & Company (NYSE: DE) announced today further commitment to Farm Rescue, a nonprofit partner, by hosting a virtual country music benefit on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. EST. Since its inception in 2005, Farm Rescue has helped hundreds of farmers suffering from major illness, injury or natural disaster to plant, hay or harvest their crop.

Today, among the U.S. population of 330 million, there are 3.4 million farmers—just one percent of the population. Those few rise to the challenge of providing food for each of us every day. On average, each farm feeds 166 people, so even one missed planting season or one missed harvest due to an unexpected event has a ripple effect.

Farm Rescue does just what its name implies. When a farmer faces an unforeseen crisis, the organization and its volunteers step in to help farmers get their crops planted or harvested, ensuring food on tables across the country, and the livelihood of that family. Farm Rescue's mission is more important today than ever.

"The impact of COVID-19 has been felt by everyone throughout the country and around the world. Farmers are no exception," says Bill Gross, President and Founder of Farm Rescue, which provides the necessary farm equipment and volunteer manpower to farmers in need. "COVID highlights the vulnerability of family farms—when something unpredicted happens, not only is the family carrying that health burden, but also the pressure to produce, and the stresses of maintaining a viable operation."

The Farm Must Go On by John Deere virtual benefit concert, open to the general public, will honor how innovative, industrious, and resilient farmers are—a side most have never seen—while shining a spotlight on all that they do for our country.

"John Deere and Farm Rescue share something special—our work is driven by a commitment to empower the livelihoods of farmers. For John Deere, it's about the machines, technologies and services that enable farmers to become more profitable and sustainable, despite the challenges and uncertainty they face," says Nate Clark, president of the John Deere Foundation. "For Farm Rescue, it's providing a rich system of support including machines and volunteers that lend a hand when

farmers and their families face an unexpected situation that threatens their very livelihoods."

"We are excited to host this event which allows us to celebrate and amplify the important work of farmers, their families, and Farm Rescue," added Clark.

The experience will broadcast live from the Brooklyn Bowl in Nashville featuring a musical lineup of Dustin Lynch, Maddie & Tae, Mickey Guyton, Travis Denning and Tyler Farr. It will be live streamed on YouTube, at no cost to viewers. Donations are encouraged. For more information on how to livestream the concert, as well as to make a donation and support farmers in need, visit TheFarmMustGoOn.com.

ABOUT THE FARM MUST GO ON BY JOHN DEERE

John Deere is committed to ensuring all farmers have access to the vital resources they need to leap forward and sustain their farms for generations to come. John Deere's work with Farm Rescue, a nonprofit organization that serves farmers and ranchers who have experienced a major illness, injury, or natural disaster, has helped many overcome adversity and continue their farming and ranching operations.

The Farm Must Go On by John Deere will broadcast on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. EST and will be streamed to the general public on YouTube. All proceeds from the event will go directly to Farm Rescue to provide its volunteer workforce with meals and lodging, as well as putting fuel in vehicles and machinery to allow them to do what they do best: support those who can never push pause. The concert lineup includes Dustin Lynch, Maddie & Tae, Mickey Guyton, Travis Denning and Tyler Farr.

More information can be found at: <https://www.deere.com/en/our-company/news-and-announcements/news-releases/2020/corporate/2020oct29-john-deere-celebrates-resiliency-of-farmers/>.

EPA RECOGNIZES TORO FOR INNOVATIONS THAT HELP CUSTOMERS SAVE WATER, MONEY

The Toro Co. recently was named one of several winners of the Water Sense Partner of the Year awards.

The awards, which were announced Oct. 7, are presented annually by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that "help consumers and businesses save water, energy and money by producing and promoting water-efficient products, homes and programs."

One of 28 award recipients across three categories, Toro was named a winner in the Water Sense Excellence category.

According to the EPA: "The Toro Company has continued its tradition of promoting WaterSense and water efficiency, winning another Excellence in Outreach and Training Award for its work in 2019. Throughout the year, Toro showcased its WaterSense-labeled products at 35 home expos and trade shows, reaching several thousand homeowners and industry professionals. Toro conducted several training sessions in a variety of locations to educate attendees on water management trends, share best practices, demonstrate WaterSense labeled irrigation products, and provide hands-on product experience. "Toro once again sponsored the Irrigation Association's E3 Program that provides scholarships to professional irrigation students; the program awarded students a record number of scholarships last year. The Toro Company also continued its sponsorship and production of the weekly WaterZone radio program focused on outdoor water efficiency best practices and products. Since the show has been available on iHeart Radio, it now has up to 19,000 listeners per month!"

WaterSense honored The Toro Company as Manufacturer Partner of the Year in 2016 and an Excellence Award winner in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Since the program was initiated in 2006, winners of the award have helped their partners save 4.4 trillion gallons of water and \$87 billion, according to the EPA.

Originally published at: <https://www.turfnet.com/news.html/epa-recognizes-toro-for-innovations-that-help-customers-save-water-money-r1454/>.

‘GEARED TO GIVE’ BACK ON NATIONAL FARMER’S DAY: COUNTRY SUPERSTAR BRANTLEY GILBERT JOINS KUBOTA AND FARMER VETERAN COALITION TO EMPOWER FARMER VETERANS WITH TOOLS TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS

GRAPEVINE, Texas (October 12, 2020) – Kubota Tractor Corporation today announced the selection of five new farmer veteran recipients of new Kubota equipment as part of its 2020 “Geared to Give” program in partnership with the Farmer Veteran Coalition (FVC). In recognition of their current and past U.S. military service and their continued service to their communities through farming, country music singer and songwriter Brantley Gilbert helped Kubota and FVC honor each veteran, inviting those nearby to his farm to bestow the gift of Kubota equipment that will help them achieve self-sufficiency and take their farming operation to the next level.

“It truly is the American dream for many – and certainly those returning or starting a new career in farming – to become a self-sufficient farmer, with the right mix of equipment, drive and determination to make tending to the land your life’s work,” said Alex Woods, Kubota senior vice president of sales operations, supply chain and parts. “Kubota is proud to work with FVC and with Brantley and his team to recognize the 2020 recipients and help us power and empower them with the right equipment to help them achieve their dreams.”

Kubota’s Geared to Give program has provided equipment and grants to 36 farmer veterans since 2015 through FVC’s Fellowship Fund, which matches veterans’ needs with donated resources to help them further their agriculture careers.

“Helping veterans achieve self-sufficiency in farming communities across the country is one of the greatest joys of our work,” said Jeanette Lombardo, executive director of FVC. “We’re extremely grateful to continue working alongside Kubota to deliver the right mix of much-needed equipment to take our veterans’ farms to the next level; it’s truly the greatest gift, particularly for farmers just starting out.”

Gilbert, a strong supporter of efforts to honor active duty military and veterans’ organizations, wanted to get involved and invited this year’s honorees to his farm in Alabama for a special ceremony and private performance in celebration of National Farmer’s Day. “We wouldn’t have the abundance, or variety of food we have today without our nation’s farmers,” said Gilbert. “I’m honored to be able to share in this effort with Kubota and FVC, and to pay tribute to all our active military and especially to these five veterans who have served

our country once in the armed forces and who continue serving their communities today through farming.”

The 2020 recipients were carefully selected from each one of Kubota’s five operating divisions: Midwest Division: Cody Miller of Thayer, Iowa, is a U.S. Army veteran who served more than 16 years with one deployment to Afghanistan from 2009-2010, and was raised on his grandmother’s family farm, the same one he is currently operating. Cody farmed up until the day he joined the Army and resumed once he separated from service, tending to 40 acres of row crops, raising ducks and chickens, and learning about horses. He also rents another 200 acres for raising cattle, hay and row crops, mostly soybeans, and sells his products to local co-ops and plans to sell his calves at local livestock market. Cody plans to finish his Ag Business degree, purchase his grandmother’s farm to keep it in the family, and purchase more cattle. Kubota will award Cody with a 250-hour lease on a Kubota M7 Ag tractor with a loader and baler to handle virtually every agricultural job for his row crop, hay and cattle operation. To learn more about Cody Miller and Full Moon Farms, visit his www.facebook.com/Full-Moon-Farms-107260121126562/.

Northern Division: Joshua Nelson, of Ripley, West Virginia, is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and currently serving as a pilot in the West Virginia Air National Guard with deployments to Kuwait flying combat missions into Iraq and Syria. Josh is a first-generation farmer who turned a hobby farm start up in 2015 to an approximately 300-acre owned and leased organic grass-based ranch and farm, raising poultry, cattle, pork, bees and other livestock following regenerative ranching practices. The Nelsons sell their products through a store he co-owns called Farm House Naturals as well as through direct farm sales. To help him achieve his future plans to build ponds for irrigation and water sources for his cattle, as well as develop a full line of grocery and local goods to sell at their farm store, Josh will receive a Kubota MX mid-size tractor, with a cab and loader, and versatile enough to handle almost any application. To learn more about Joshua and Nelson Family Farms, please visit www.instagram.com/theflyingrancher/.

Southeast Division: Kara Rutter of Aiken, South Carolina, retired from the U.S. Army this year after more than 23 years of service. She last served as the Army Central Food Service Sergeant Major overseeing subsistence operations in the Middle East. Her husband, Matt, also retired this year as a Command Sergeant Major after 22 years of service and now serves as president of the FVC South Carolina chapter. Together, they own Project Victory Gardens, a 20-acre farm with chickens, ducks,

turkeys, goats, pigs, beehives, fruit trees, berry bushes, a 1,000-foot greenhouse, raised bed and traditional vegetable gardens. Kara has plans to be fully operational in the next 12 months with an aquaponics facility and training lab and teaching kitchen. Her future goals include improving veterans’ mental health and helping them gain employment in agriculture. Kubota will award Kara with an LX Series compact tractor with a cab and loader designed to easily tackle any needed job on the farm. To learn more about Kara and Project Victory Gardens, please visit www.projectvictorygardens.org.

Western Division: Bodhi Anderson of Honomu, Hawaii, is a U.S. Navy veteran who served five years on active duty as a Corpsman for the Marines with deployments to the Adriatic Sea during the Bosnian War and the Middle East. Bodhi was also commissioned as a Navy Reserves MSC Officer (Physician Assistant) providing medical support to the 4th Force Recon Battalion in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Bodhi grew up on an organic vegetable farm and now he and his wife, Brittany, own Sugar Hill Farmstead, a 15-acre farm that specializes in sustainably raised regenerative meats, sold direct-to-consumer for Hawaii Island families. Cattle, sheep, pigs, rabbits, and meat chickens are all processed on-farm and sold as part of a meat CSA. Bodhi will be awarded a Kubota Sidekick RTV-XG850 utility vehicle, built for durability to move up to 1,000 lbs. in its cargo bed, to more easily distribute feed and spent produce currently hand-carried across the farm. He will also receive a \$10,000 grant to assist in the expansion of his pastured poultry production to reach his goal of feeding 100 families each month. To learn more about Bodhi and Sugar Hill Farmstead, please visit www.sugarhillfarmstead.com. Central Division: Andrew Edelen of Alice, Texas, served five and a half years in the U.S. Marine Corps as an aviation equipment mechanic. As a second-generation farmer, he has taken over his family’s 350-acre farm, Edelen Farms, where he produces grass-fed beef, pastured poultry, free range eggs and vegetables to sell at local farmers’ markets. Andrew has future goals, which include starting an additional farmers’ market, building new greenhouses, and expanding his products to include pork and goats. To assist in these efforts, Andrew will be awarded a Kubota L Series tractor to replace his ailing 40-year-old tractor to meet his most pressing needs on the farm. To learn more about Andrew and Edelen Farms, please visit www.edelenfarms.com.

Each year, farmer veterans can apply to the FVC Fellowship Fund in order to be considered for donated Kubota equipment through the “Geared to Give” program. For more information on FVC’s 2020 application process, visit www.farmvetco.org. For more information on the “Geared to Give” program, visit Kubota Cares.

BILLY GOAT® CELEBRATES IT ANNUAL CLEAN-UP SPECTACULAR, GOATOFEST, WITH SPECIALS THAT OFFER LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS GREAT DEALS FOR FALL

LEE’S SUMMIT, MO (September, 2020) – Billy Goat is pleased to celebrate its annual Goatoberfest* campaign, a Fall Clean-up Spectacular providing combo deals plus finance options that support contractors through the optimal leaf season.

Through participating dealer stores, Goatoberfest specials will be offered on any combination of blowers (starting at 9 gross hpt) with any Billy Goat 13.0 – 37.0 gross HP† debris loader! When combined with our “Recovery Financing**” Special of up to 120 day deferred and zero down or low interest options up to 4 years, landscape contractors benefit from serious Goatoberfest savings with the lowest financing ever offered by Billy Goat. Billy Goat offers the largest line-up of blowers on the market from 6.0 to 35.0 gross HP†. Force wheeled blowers are up to 34% lighter and have up to 52% more debris blowing force and up to 55% more air velocity than others on the market. Aim n Shoot™ technology directs air flow where it’s needed, directly from the blower’s handle. The award-winning Hurricane X3000 and Z3000 zero turn stand-on blowers boast unprecedented commercial leaf and debris clean up from seamless operating controls to directional blowing options including left, right and center. The Patented Quad Control Handle System™ provides seamless forward / reverse direction, automatic return to neutral, integrated operator presence control and a self-activating parking brake. The Patented Dual Deflector Air Flow System™ allows the operator to change angle of air flow for deeper more efficient cleaning of leaves and debris.

The award-winning Next Gen Debris Loader series feature a square 10 gauge steel discharge chute that not only spreads to load but also has a 63% thicker back plate for added

durability, extended life and ease of service. The poly housing liner features a non-counter sunk bolt pattern that has equal to or better life compared to quarter-inch steel liners in accelerated testing. These composite liners won’t cause secondary failures to engine shafts like a failed steel liner may.

The 13.0 – 37.0 gross HP† truck loaders offer Billy Goat’s exclusive dual shredding system with Piranha™ blade for extra shredding and best debris reduction, maximizing trailer loading across multiple properties, saving time and dump fees.

Electric start is featured on the 14.0, 18.0, 29.0 and 37.0 gross HP† models, with Vanguard® EFI†† power on the 37.0 gross HP† loader — the only Vanguard® EFI powered unit on the market. EFI delivers easy automotive-type cold weather starting as well as fuel savings up to 25 percent over carbureted equivalents†. And the 14.0 gross HP† unit is the only electric start on the market.

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Get 10% off any purchase combination of a 9 gross HP - 18 gross HP† Force or Hurricane Blower with a Debris Loader†
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†Vanguard: All power levels are stated gross horsepower at 3,600 RPM per SAE J1940 as rated by Briggs & Stratton®

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Grounds Management Summit

Virtual
Wednesdays 1:00 EST

JULY 26 - 28 2021



PGMS® School of Grounds Management Summer Conference

Washington, D.C.

OCTOBER 19 - 22, 2021



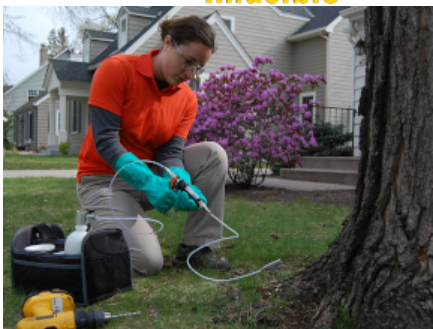
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BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS – WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN HIRING A TREE CARE COMPANY

From weeping willows to towering oaks, one of the best investments you can make for your property is trees. Not only do trees provide the vitality and energy of a lush landscape, they add value to land, reduce cooling costs in the summer and heating in the winter, and help produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide in our environment. Trees grow with families, often providing a safe, natural place for play and relaxation.

To maintain the health of your trees from the roots up, it's important to provide more than just space to live, but to hire an expert to monitor and treat them. Too many unfortunate accidents occur when homeowners take arboricultural care into their own hands or hire uncertified tree care providers. When looking for a tree care company, it's essential to consider exactly who you are hiring to tend to your trees.



Certification is Important

The first thing to look for is a certified arborist on staff. These professionals must pass certification testing and maintain credentials with the International Society of Arboriculture, a worldwide organization dedicated to trees and the professional practice of arboriculture. Additionally, membership in organizations like The Tree Care Industry Association, which addresses all aspects of arboriculture from insurance to licensing, or the American Society of Consulting Arborists, is also important. Always check to see if your state requires a special license or certification for tree services and that the company you've hired can show you this documentation.

Ask Questions

Just as you'd interview a prospective employee for a job, it's important you ask questions of your tree care provider. First and foremost, find out how long they've been in business. Then ask for references and be diligent about checking them.

Ask about safety training and find out how much time is spent educating workers on job safety. You don't want to leave your landscape in the hands of a poorly trained worker who can cause irreparable damage to trees and unnecessary accidents.



Confirm Safety

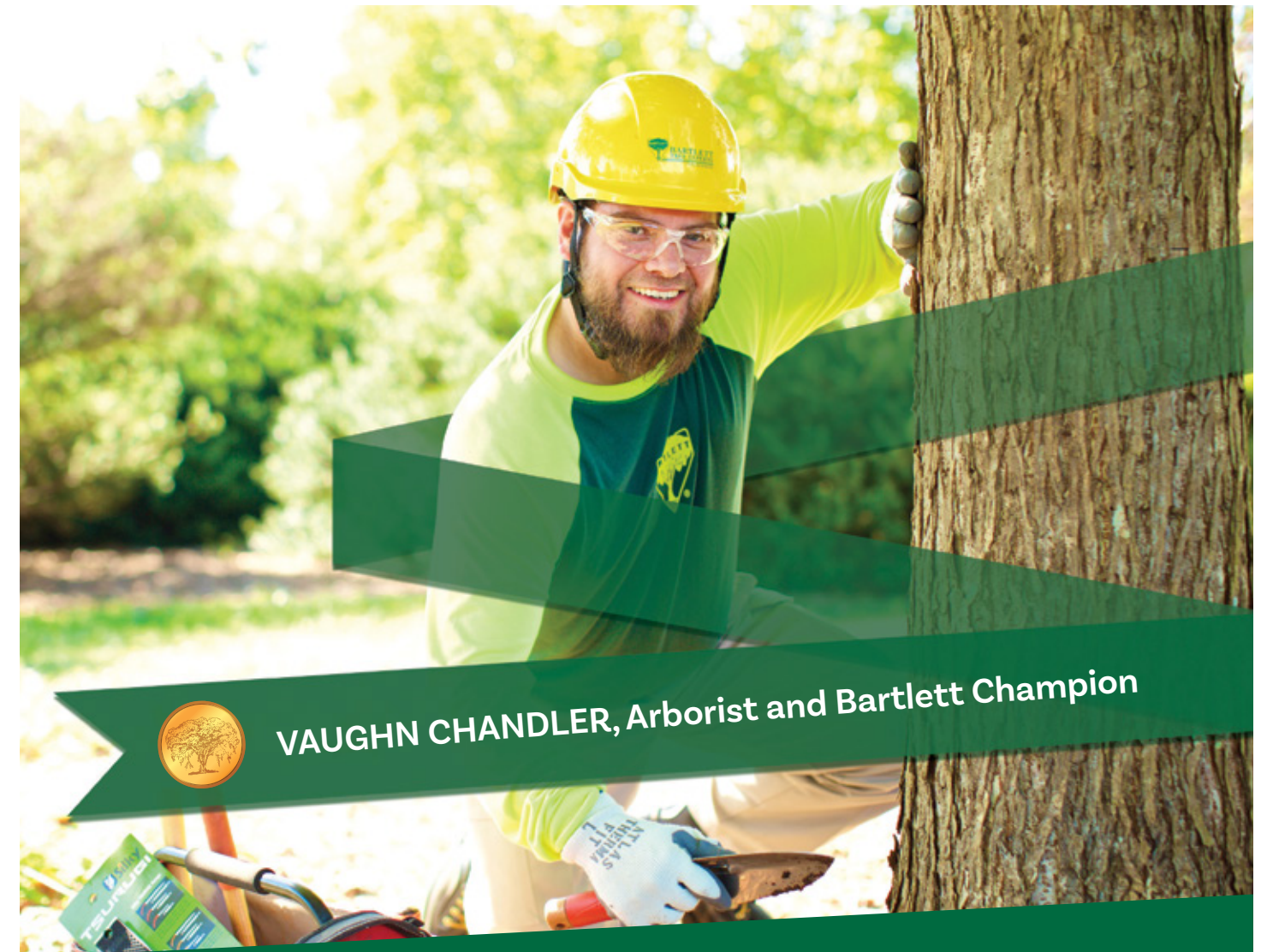
Do a visual check of the provider's crew. Tree experts, especially when they use chainsaws and other dangerous tools, should be fully equipped with protective gear such as goggles, hard hats, ear plugs, and protective clothing. If workers aren't properly protected, this could be a hazardous to your property and family.

Know the History

As far as background information, ask the provider to verify they have both personal and property insurance. Inquire about worker's compensation, too.

In general, your tree care provider shouldn't hesitate to answer any of these questions. If it seems that there is something your provider is hiding or glazing over, you may be seeing clues that will lead to poor service. Trusted, established names in the arboricultural industry, such as Bartlett Tree Experts, work openly and directly with clients and have earned a reputation for their honest and professional service.

For more information about certified arborists in your area, visit www.bartlett.com.



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WELCOME

PGMS New Members

New Members since August 26, 2020

Brian Hamlin American University	Teresa Van Court City of Maitland
Omar Lewis American University	Joe Workman City of Maitland
Michael Mastrota American University	Noel Gonzalez City of Rockville
Jorge Morales American University	Steve Mader City of Rockville
Marcus Zito American University	Dennis E Trantham City of Troy
JR Williams Berea College	Clark Bartholomew Duke University
Michael Gene Underwood Blue Marble Landscape	Ian Christie Duke University
Brian Nelson Central Oregon Community College	Cheryl Lewis Duke University
Charles Mabry Chicago Public Schools	Scott Thompson Duke University
Taurean Jamar Allen City of Alexandria	Mark Tidwell Duke University
William Douglas City of Alexandria	Keith Updyke Duke University
Joshua Krug City of Alexandria	Stephen Hayes Jr. Hayes Arboretum
Michael Reid City of Alexandria	Ryan Steiner Hershey Medical Center
Jimmy Roland City of Alexandria	Sarah Norris Kansas City Medical Center
Michael Simmons City of Alexandria	Lori Hayden Kansas State University
Chris Watson City of Alexandria	Donna Barton Longwood University
Bob Williams City of Alexandria	Mark Dennee Longwood University
Parrish Guidry City of Maitland	Colin Haislip Longwood University
Chris Kennedy City of Maitland	Burt Hurdle Longwood University

Wayne Marshall Longwood University
Frances Moore Longwood University
Scott Callahan Masonic Homes Kentucky
Allen Flynt Masonic Homes Kentucky
Bryan Kirk Masonic Homes Kentucky
Joshua Neimann Masonic Homes Kentucky
John Addison Medxcel Landscaping
Prince Arnold Medxcel - Sacred Heart Hospital
Vince Billafana Medxcel Landscaping
Bryce Brown Medxcel - St. Francis Regional Medical Center
Cody Courtney Medxcel - Sacred Heart Hospital
Pete Day Medxcel - St. Vincent's Medical Center - Southside
Adam Farmer Medxcel Landscaping
Wade Ferrell Medxcel - St. Francis Regional Medical Center
Kevin Frack Medxcel - St. Francis Regional Medical Center
Stephen Gaar Medxcel Corporation
Kevin Hamilton Medxcel - St. Vincent Hospital Kokomo

Brent Hayes Medxcel Landscaping
Jason Hisch Medxcel - St. Vincent Hospital Evansville
Jonathan Hodges Medxcel - St. Vincent's East Hospital
Andrew King Medxcel - St. Vincent's East Hospital
Jake Lucas Medxcel - CSM Ozaukee Hospital
Christian Osborn Medxcel - Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital
Chris Payne Medxcel Corporation
Matt Richardson Medxcel - St. Vincent's Medical Center - Southside
Bret Schmidt Medxcel Landscaping
Rebecca Smith Medxcel Corporation
Stephen Smith Medxcel - Sacred Heart Hospital
Ken Stein Medxcel Landscaping
Justin Stevens Medxcel Landscaping
Cannon Todd Medxcel - St. John Medical Center
Scott Usry Medxcel - St. Vincent's East Hospital
Tim Wettstein Medxcel - St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Jesse Zuelsdorff Medxcel - Good Samaritan Hospital
James Fraley Millikin University
Jonathan Pokrzywinski Millikin University
Chris Haugen Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements
C.J. Carley Richland School District
Kevin Johnson Richland School District
Jimmy Laposi Richland School District
David Lee Richland School District
Ray Murphy Richland School District
Charles Richardson Richland School District
Ed Thomas Richland School District
Dee Ulrich Richland School District
Jim Wilson Richland School District
Zack Schwartz Riverside Plastics, Inc
Dean Higham Shore Regional High school
John Lesperance SSC Services for Education
Justin Liszka SSC Services for Education
Donald Newsome The Barstow School

Melvin Morgan The Bolles School
Matthew Kerns The Episcopal Academy
Peter Goodling Turf Star
Greg Coxson University of Calgary - Facilities
Michael Dallaire University of Calgary - Facilities
Beau Barnett University of Nevada - Las Vegas
John Pagan University of Nevada - Las Vegas
Mike Blatt Vortex Granular Systems, LLC
Kyle Parker West Long Branch School District
Mark Frever Western Michigan University
Jim Haun Western Michigan University
Darrell Junkins Western Michigan University
Steve Root Western Michigan University
Tom Sauber Western Michigan University
Rick Spuck Know someone who isn't a member? Help spread the word about joining PGMS! Membership details can be found on the PGMS website at www.pgms.org .

TORO PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTOR PRODUCTS EXUDE HIGH-PERFORMANCE FROM START TO FINISH

Toro® GrandStand® MULTI FORCE® attachments, SprayMaster® series and Z Master® 7500 models deliver next-level efficiency

Built for ultimate productivity and multi-season usage, Toro continues to deliver innovative high quality products built to reduce labor time for maintenance professionals. From the latest additions to the GrandStand® MULTI FORCE® family of any task, any season attachments to the highly-efficient Z Master® models and high-performance solutions for spraying, next-level productivity is what these products aim to deliver. Some noteworthy professional contractor products from Toro include the following:

GrandStand MULTI FORCE Attachments

The GrandStand MULTI FORCE attachments are engineered for year-round versatility such as dethatching and aerating in the spring, and fall cleanup and plowing in the winter, the MULTI FORCE attachments do it all. The newest attachments to the GrandStand MULTI FORCE family include:

- Leaf Plow — Once fall comes around, facilities can turn their GrandStand MULTI FORCE into a leaf plow to clear large areas of leaves in a short time. The high-strength galvanized steel construction not only ensures long-term durability, but it also provides the strength to push heavy, wet leaves. Plus, the stainless-steel tines won't damage grass or turf.
- Snowblower — To conquer the cold, unruly winters, users can transform their GrandStand MULTI FORCE into a snowblower. The snowblower attachment is 48" wide and is ideal for sidewalks but also big enough to make quick work of driveways and parking lots. The blower also features a unique urethane trim edge that softens any contact with obstacles such as uneven pavement, cobblestones and more. The lift and chute rotation are controlled by low-flow hydraulics for easy adjustments, and the blower is powered by high-flow hydraulics to ensure there's plenty of power to throw piles of snow.
- BOSS® 48" Plow — For the snow, the GrandStand MULTI FORCE is also compatible with the BOSS 48" snowplow (in addition to the 60" plow already available). The 48" BOSS snowplow clears standard sidewalks in one pass while providing users the versatility of getting snow out of tight spaces. Lifting the blade and adjusting the angle on the fly is easy thanks to the low-flow hydraulics and features a 44" width at full angle.

Other attachments for the GrandStand MULTI FORCE include an EZ Vac Powered Bagger, Pro Force Blower, BOSS 60" Plow, Power Broom, Tine Rake Dethatcher and a Hooker Aerator.

SprayMaster

Gone are the days of uneven applications, thanks to the Toro SprayMaster® series. Users will experience precision applications with consistent liquid flows, and the industry-first electronic smart controls ensure precise liquid and granular spreads on the Lean-to-Steer model. The SprayMaster features easy controls and allows users to check the fluids at a glance due to the transparent white tanks. Designed to work seamlessly on any property size, the SprayMaster is the ultimate in precision and productivity. The Toro SprayMaster series includes several models, including the Stand-On Spray Master Lean-to-Steer, Stand-on Spray Master Junior, Stand-On Spray Master Intermediate, Stand-On Spray Master Max and the Stand-On Spray Master Max XL.

Z Master Mowers

The Toro Z Master 7500 is designed to get more work done in less time. The unit comes in two configurations — gas and diesel. The Z Master 7500 series mowers come in a variety of deck sizes, including a 96" deck that folds to 75 inches for easy transport on most standard trailers. The wings flex up to 20 degrees and down to 15 degrees, which hug the ground as users mow, giving the operator a pro-quality cut on uneven terrain. And when the engine isn't on, users can still lift and fold the deck with the 40-amp charging system. Operators can adapt to changing terrain on the fly automatically by choosing the right operating mode for the conditions with Toro's Horizon™ technology.

Top-notch performance, productivity and reliability are the cornerstone of every Toro product for every task, no matter how challenging it is. From Start to Finish, Toro's commitment to innovation and designing products that meet customers' requirements is what every Toro product stands for.

Professional Grounds. Count on it.



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Toro is committed to creating the most durable, reliable and productive equipment for grounds professionals. With a wide range of innovative products to choose from, Toro has the right solution for any season. Contact your local Toro distributor today.

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Join the conversation
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COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING ON THE RIVER CAMPUS

Update Submitted by: John McIntyre | Manager, University Horticulture & Grounds | University of Rochester

We hosted a socially distanced tree planting event in recognition of Arbor and Earth day. We planted 16 native trees, 3 different species in the Susan B. Anthony bowl. The group planting the trees were professors, doctors, students and staff. Right now it is so important to bring our community together safely and do something we all agree helps, planting trees to shade the next generation. Volunteers came from the student body, faculty, staff and Emergency room doctors, of which went to NYC for a few weeks to help treat covid positive patients. Our Horticulture and Grounds team prepped the holes and added compost made from leaves collected two years ago. We set cloves at each hole for planting as we did not have 16 shovels.

Is was a great event and people truly felt good about what we did over that 1 hour period.



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WE ASKED YOU DELIVERED!

PGMS® asked members to send in photos highlighting the beauty of their institution for the new website and the photos do not disappoint! Here are just a few of the photos we received. It's not too late to submit! We will be switching the photos out periodically and giving you the credit. Submit photos to info@pgms.org and please make sure that they are high resolution.





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PARTNER PROFILE: BOB BUCKLEY

By: Joe Kovolyan, CGM

EarthPlanter is a Silver Partner of PGMS, and the products have become well known with a large part of our membership.

Joe: Bob, first thank you for your support and to all our Partners in Professionalism support of PGMS®!! Can you share with us a little about yourself and Earth Planter?

Bob: Hi Joe and thanks for reaching out. Well my background is in sales and marketing with a specialization in new product development and launches. In 2012 I was introduced to the EarthPlanter product by Tom Herbert, a friend and owner of Bo-Mer Plastics. Within a month I knew it had great potential. Later that year we launched the company...we had no customers and only a few models. Today we're the leading commercial self-watering brand in North America with over 40,000 installed...go figure!

Joe: So how did you hear of PGMS® and decide to join as a Partner?

Bob: That's an interesting path and one I will always be grateful for. PGMS® Member Dan Schied, CGM who was at Univ. of Rochester at the time accepted my offer to try a few EarthPlanters. 4-6 weeks later we received our first order. Dan and I hit it off right away and he gave us a lot of feedback on the product. Many of those suggestions made it into the line. It was also at that time when he introduced me to PGMS®. We joined shortly after and we've been with group ever since. So, thank you Dan... friends for life!

Joe: What advice would you give to someone that was thinking about becoming a partner of PGMS® in the future?

Bob: I've been asked this before and it's pretty straight forward. If you value a professional community built on respect, sharing, and friendships, you'll find none better than PGMS®.

If anyone has ever visited your web page, or other social media they will see its packed with bright colorful photos, how to videos, customer testimonials I dare say you have even become an Earth Planter celebrity yourself!!

Joe: What advice can you share with the membership if they want to stand out make a better impression on their property's social media platforms?

Bob: If you're the leader of any organization you need to put yourself out there. And that can be uncomfortable for a lot of people. But think of it this way...if I was a recruit who was considering joining your grounds crew, do I want to see a fancy video of your property or a personal message from the ground's leader? Having a passion for what you do is contagious... so be prepared to make it personal if you want great results from these platforms.

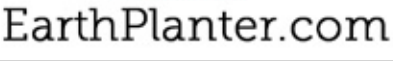


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Joe: Lastly any insights you can share and advice you can give to our membership on dealing with industry suppliers during these uncertain times?

Bob: A little-known secret that may serve to make my point on this one. When I'm not running EarthPlanter I own Kelly's Irish Pub in Geneva NY. Talk about rough...owning a bar during a global pandemic is not an ideal scenario. So how do we survive until the tide turns? Loyal customers who care about us and our business. Whether they spend \$10 or \$200, everything counts. My message in support of all PGMS® Suppliers, don't forget we are out here and don't think you need to spend a fortune to make a difference.

Joe: Thanks again Bob, we will all be looking out for the next how to video or member customer testimonial showcasing there awesome flowers thriving in your Earth Planters.

Bob: My pleasure an thank you to all PGMS® members!

PGMS® IS LOOKING FOR A LOCATION FOR OUR 2022 SUMMER CONFERENCE!

PGMS® School of Grounds Management Summer Conference brings education and exclusive tours to a new city each Summer.

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PGMS® School of Grounds Management 2021 Summer Conference

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Mount Vernon | U.S. Botanic Gardens | American University
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Classifieds

Groundskeeper II Kent State University

Under general supervision, performs a variety of routine to skilled grounds maintenance work to include irrigation work for the purpose of maintaining an attractive landscape for students, staff, and public; may instruct assigned grounds crew. Reports to designated supervisor. For a complete description of this position and to apply online visit our jobsite at <https://jobs.kent.edu>.

Grounds Manager SSC Services for Education - Green Bay, WI area

Grounds Manager responsibilities include creating operational and safety procedures, hiring workers, and drafting budgets. They determine the equipment and services required for jobs and submit cost estimates to clients. These jobs and services can include the care of lawns, shrubs, and trees, in addition to the maintenance and repair of outdoor features, such as irrigation systems, fences, or benches. They are also responsible for snow removal operations. Grounds managers train or coordinate the training of new hires, handle service or employee records, create worker schedules, and prioritize services. They are expected to work in the field as needed during the working day. For more information, contact: Brandon Haley, Project Manager – Grounds at Brandon.haley@sscserv.com.

Landscape Manager The Episcopal Academy

The Episcopal Academy has an immediate opening for a Landscape Manager who will be an integral part of the Facilities and Operations team and will report to the Grounds Superintendent. We are looking for a detail-oriented candidate with a can do attitude to perform routine care of plantings, trees, container plants and other campus features. Interested candidates are welcome to apply by emailing their cover letter and resume to jobs@episcopalacademy.org. Resumes and cover letters should be submitted in PDF format.

Gardening Specialist Bentley University

The physical demands of this position range from LIGHT to MEDIUM. This position involves planning, planting, and maintaining ornamental flower beds, planters, and all herbaceous plant material. Also schedules and maintains all campus interior plants and may assists in planting, maintaining, and pruning ornamental shrubs and trees. These are completed in accordance with all applicable OSHA regulations and established schedules and procedures at Bentley University. Standing, walking, lifting, carrying and reaching are performed on a frequent to constant basis. Bending, pushing, pulling, climbing, kneeling and twisting are performed on an occasional to frequent basis. The heaviest physical demands are required during handling

of furniture, heavier equipment, irrigation pipe, fertilizer, seed bags, etc. These activities require handling of 25-50 pounds of load resistance on an occasional to frequent basis. Heavier tasks may require the assistance of (2) or more co-workers. Apply Here: <https://www.click2apply.net/ozOydATQ5gAqSP5wHIDQz>.

Groundsperson Bentley University

The physical demands of this position range from LIGHT to MEDIUM-HEAVY. This position involves planting and transplanting shrubs, removing and installing sod, watering both cultivated ground and new plantings. Seasonal grounds maintenance including: lawn mowing, trimming, edging, mulching, lining roadways and parking lots, surface trash clean-up, snow removal, and installation of traffic signals, sign posts, barriers, etc. These are completed in accordance with all applicable OSHA regulations and established schedules and procedures at Bentley University. Apply Here: <https://www.click2apply.net/xWbVdNUKje71fZ4Dcx6J4>.



Recruiting a new member helps to grow the Society and establish a better foundation for professionals in the green industry.

Questions about becoming a member? Visit our website at www.pgms.org or contact PGMS at info@pgms.org.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Horticulture Department Summer Intern

Chevy Chase Club
With over 12 acres of gardens plus extensive meadows and woodland trails, Chevy Chase Club offers members and their guests' relief from the hustle and bustle of daily life. The gardens reflect an estate design philosophy that both respects the Club's history and fosters interest for generations to come.

The Horticulture team strives to consistently exceed the expectations of members and guests. They accomplish this by balancing creativity and innovation with high standards of horticulture, responsible environmental stewardship, and efficient use of resources.

Horticulture interns work alongside staff to complete various tasks that enhance and maintain the landscape and gardens. The areas of emphasis include an herb and vegetable garden, rose garden, native woodland gardens, herbaceous perennial borders, two acres of turf and an extensive collection of trees, shrubs, annuals and tropical plants.



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2331 Rock Spring Road
Forest Hill, MD 21050

PGMS® MEMBERSHIP

The Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) is an individual membership society of grounds professionals advancing the grounds management profession through education and professional development.

Annual conference and Green Industry Expo, bi-monthly newsletter, membership certificate, certification programs (Certified Grounds Manager® and Certified Grounds Technician), free educational manuals, local branch meetings, "Who's Who in Grounds Management" membership directory, site awards, free industry magazine subscriptions, etc.

The Society believes that there are four (4) essentials to remaining a professional in the industry:

1. Being a member of the appropriate membership organization or organizations.
2. Attending educational conferences in the field.
3. Reading industry publications.
4. Becoming certified at the level you wish to operate.

Other Key facts About PGMS®:

- It is the only membership organization for institutional grounds managers.
- It is the only membership organization serving the breadth of the service arm of the Green Industry which professionals can join as individuals.
- It is the oldest individual membership organization for grounds professionals.
- For membership categories and to sign up as a member please click [here](#).

We offer Green Industry Suppliers the opportunity to meet their marketing needs by becoming a **PGMS® Partner in Professionalism**. For more information visit <https://pgms.org/page/Partners>.