COAST TO COAST CHALLENGE

JUNE 2021

June 21-27, 2021

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Valley River

Arbor Day Foundation®

Forum®

Grounds Management Forum

MAY/JUNE 2021 | VOLUME 45 NUMBER 3
Table of Contents

President’s Message
Welcome message from PGMS® President Mark Feist. Page 4

Newest CGM® and CGTs
See the newest certified members. Page 6

PGMS® Coast to Coast Challenge Webinar Series
Find out what “stops” we will be taking on our Coast to Coast Challenge! Pages 14 - 15

Interview with David Ott, CGM
Learn more about David Ott, CGM and his work at Harrah’s Cherokee Valley River Casino. Pages 16 - 17

PGMS® Recognizes Volunteers During Volunteer Appreciation Week
See which PGMS® members were nominated this year. Page 21

Here’s How Transforming Your Lawn Into a Native Wildflower Habitat Can Help
Learn more about helping pollinators from Discover Magazine. Pages 22 - 23

PGMS Partners In Professionalism

Platinum
Gold
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As we enter May and June and look in the rear-view mirror at the winter months it is time for a deep breath to literally smell the roses or for that matter anything that may be in bloom. No need to remind you that last year at this time most of us were self-quarantined or working a very different schedule than our normal spring crunch. I never thought being so busy could feel so good.

The PGMS® May/June Forum’s theme is equipment and turf. Taking this into consideration I wanted to reflect on the importance of our management role in taking positive steps during times of adversities such as Covid-19 to make the best of challenging work situations such as the one that I outline below.

During the fall of 2020, the American University campus population was limited to Facility Maintenance staff along with a few student residents and faculty that were utilizing the facilities to broadcast on-line classes. Our grounds team made the best of this decrease in campus population in part through a focus on sports field turf renovations and readying equipment for the upcoming 2021 spring season. Our sand-based Bermuda soccer field responded well to the 2020 fall overseeding aided by a lack of practice and game day traffic. We did not realize at the time that our extra effort would be put to the test as field use doubled in 2021 with both a winter/early spring game day traffic. We have been keeping a steady pace regardless of the situation at hand. In doing so we position ourselves for future unknowns through taking care of the basic maintenance principles while the window of opportunity is open.

I want to update you on the PGMS® Board and Committee’s progress as we have been keeping a steady pace in building and growing our education, certifications, and accreditations.

Education: Education committee (Bruce DeVrou, CGM – chair, Roger Conner, CGM – vice-chair, Jeffrey Bourne, CGM, Jenny Gulick, Ryan McCaughey, CGM, Jeff McManus, CGM, Kevin Mercer, CGM, Gwen Stahnke, PhD., Sandra Obenour-Dowd, Phil Richey, Mark Feist and Stephanie Bruno, CAE)

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School of Grounds Management Annual Meeting – GIE & EXPO - Save the date (October 19-22, 2021) – The education committee put together an outstanding line-up for our School of Grounds Management in Louisville, Kentucky. Registration opens June 14, visit PGMS.org for details.

Washington, DC Regional Summer Meeting – July 2022 – Start planning now for this upcoming opportunity to visit Washington, DC for the PGMS® Summer Regional School of Grounds Management. The program will include visits to the Architect of the Capitol, Smithsonian Institution, and a private behind the scenes tour and dinner at Mount Vernon.

Awards:
Green Star Awards – Applications are now being accepted for the Green Star Awards® through June 15th. The Green Star Awards Program bring national recognition to grounds that are maintained at a high degree of excellence. Visit PGMS.org to complete the on-line application process.

Accreditation:
Congratulations to Western Michigan University and the College of Wooster for the recent achievement of re-accreditation status. Visit PGMS.org for more details regarding the accreditation program.

Certified Grounds Manager (CGM®) and Certified Grounds Technician (CGT):
Look into both the CGM® and CGT programs at PGMS.org – they both provide an opportunity for you to advance your career through professional development.

Today’s forecast: perfect conditions for growing your business.

Commercial Mowers       Fleet discounts       Free loaners

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For complete warranty, safety and product information, consult your local Kubota dealer. For the complete disclaimer, go to KubotaUSA.com/disclaimers and see the posted disclaimer.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CERTIFIED GROUNDS MANAGER

The Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) has announced that Bedia Collins, CGM has become the 185th grounds management professional to successfully complete its Certified Grounds Manager (CGM®) program. Collins currently works at the Oakland County - Facilities Maintenance & Operations in Waterford, MI.

Bedia Collins
CGM #185

PGMS: Why did you want to become a CGM®?
Collins: In April 2016, I attended the Landscape University at the University of Mississippi. I was very impressed with the beauty of their campus as well as the training programs and overall organization of the department. I saw firsthand how having a well laid out landscape training and organizational program relieves some of the day to day stresses on employees. When the employees day to day operation runs smoothly there is a reduction in conflict and lack of efficiency. Upon my return, I immediately began the process of obtaining my Certified Grounds Technician certification. Having the opportunity to collaborate with other Grounds Managers during the 2018 School of Grounds Management Summer Conference in Grand Rapids, MI, I decided to pursue the Grounds Manager certification to further my career in the industry.

Read the full interview with Bedia at https://pgms.org/news/560004/.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CERTIFIED GROUNDS TECHNICIANS

Interested in Getting Your CGM® or CGT Certification?
The Certified Grounds Manager (CGM®) program, developed and offered by PGMS®, is the premier program of its type in the Green Industry. For those interested in becoming a CGM there is a very specific prescribed procedure. Details are posted at https://pgms.org/page/CertifiedGroundsManager.

The Certified Grounds Technician (CGT) certification is for those applicants who are directly involved with performing the day-to-day tasks of grounds maintenance. The CGT test consists of 50 questions based on the overall grounds maintenance field and 10 questions (multiple choice) based on your region. Details can be found at https://pgms.org/page/CertifiedGroundsTechnician.

4 FLOWERING SHRUBS FOR SPLENDID HEDGES

When it comes to planning hedges, consider looking beyond evergreens. Flowering shrubs amplify the interest in a space with their reliable blooms, attractive foliage, or benefit to pollinators. Plus, their durability cuts down on necessary maintenance. Work with your design team to find a supplier near you at www.provenwinners.com/professionals/growers/locate.
PGMS® PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Attention PGMS® Members Submit Your Nominations by June 1

Special Award of Distinguished Service – The PGMS® Special Award of Distinguished Service recognizes outstanding service from a board or committee members, while all board and committee members are hardworking, and committed to our growth and success, this award is given to acknowledge outstanding service for an individual that goes above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Gold Medal Award – The PGMS® Gold Medal is given to an individual or entity in recognition of outstanding and long-term achievements and/or contributions to the green industry.

E. Earl Wilson Award – The E. Earl Wilson Award is given to a PGMS® member for long-term dedication to the Society and the Green Industry.

If you would like to nominate someone, please send a letter that includes the following:

• Nominated individual or company
• The award for which you are nominating them
• Why you are nominating them for the award
• To view a list of award winners, visit: https://pgms.org/professional-awards/

Send your nominations to PGMS® Past President Jeff McManus, CGM at jmcmanus@olemiss.edu.

*Please note that only PGMS® members are allowed to submit a nomination.

The Deadline to submit nominations is Tuesday, June 1.

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Start exploring by clicking on the Tour Guides tab at vec.hunterindustries.com.

May 19, 2021
“Doing More With Less for Successful Grounds Management”
Dr. Michael Goatley, PhD, MS, BS
School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Virginia Tech
Technical Management - Horticulture

June 2 - June 30, 2021
PGMS® Coast to Coast Challenge
5 Webinar Series

July 21, 2021
Insight and Overview for Certified Arborist Preparation
Lindsey Purcell, Urban Forestry Specialist, Purdue University
Technical Management - Non-Horticulture

September 15, 2021
“Presenting Data More Effectively”
Bobbi Nance, CPRP, President, Recreation Results, LLC
Business and Financial Management

November 17, 2021
“Communication, Training & Planning: The "Big Three" When Managing Snow & Ice”
Panel from Purdue University
Technical Management - Non-Horticulture

October 19 - 22, 2021
PGMS® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference & GIE+EXPO
Louisville, KY

Submit your events to us at info@pgms.org.
Industry News

10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL MAYOR’S WATER CHALLENGE PUTS SMART WATER USE AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION IN SPOTLIGHT

Residents from 2,000+ Cities Expected to Participate in Campaign That Encourages Simple Hands-On Actions

Address National Water Issues

Last year, mayors from 39 states encouraged residents to make over 300,000 pledges to promote drought resiliency, protect watersheds, and ultimately reduce stress on aging water infrastructure. Students and teachers can take part in the pledge, too, by accessing a special section of the website. Once there, teachers can download lesson plans relating to water conservation, make the pledge on behalf of their classes and enter to win school prizes, including classroom supplies and gift cards for their school. The foundation has also created a new digital tool called MyVolunteer Water Project, in support of the program, that gives residents a unique way to do hands-on home, community, and workplace projects year-round in support of their city’s sustainability efforts. The more projects residents do throughout the year, the better chance a city wins the mayor’s challenge in April.

The 10-year anniversary campaign kicked off April 1 in Sarasota, Florida. Re-broadcast of the event is available on ZOOM, and will also launch at multi-city U.S. Tour of the Wyland Foundation’s 1,000 square foot traveling Clean Water Mobile Learning Center. The non-profit campaign is presented in association with EPA WaterSense, The Toro Company, National League of Cities, Hobie Surf Shops, and Petal.

JOHN DEERE FOUNDATION TO INVEST $200 MILLION OVER NEXT 10 YEARS

MOLINE, Illinois (March 31, 2021) — The John Deere Foundation announced today it will invest $200 million over the next 10 years in initiatives that will bring to life John Deere’s higher purpose: We run so life can leap forward.

The financial commitment builds significantly on the Foundation’s legacy of philanthropy. Since its founding in 1948, the Foundation has awarded over $340 million in grants.

As part of its 10-year commitment, the Foundation will invest:

$100 million in the families and youth who live, work, and learn in John Deere’s home communities to ensure their inclusive and equitable access to resources and educational opportunities critical for human dignity and self-sufficiency. Annual investments of two million dollars in food banks will provide the equivalent of 100 million meals over the next decade, and investments in youth education will reach at least one million underserved and underrepresented youth.

$50 million in farmers throughout the world to bolster their capacity to make a living, feed a growing global population, reduce inequality, and protect the world around us. Through its work with a range of global partners that serve smallholder and resource-constrained family farmers, the Foundation will help 15 million farmers unlock their enormous potential.

$50 million in John Deere’s extraordinary workforce—its greatest asset—to further mobilize and build on their enormous volunteer talents and generosity to strengthen their communities and improve lives around the world.

“The urgency of running today with the vision of a better tomorrow is John Deere at our core,” said John May, Chairman and CEO of Deere & Company and Chairman of the John Deere Foundation. “The Foundation’s financial commitment holds true to this purpose by investing deeply in the people we serve to overcome the challenges they face today and create for themselves paths to a more prosperous tomorrow.”

The Foundation’s 10-year commitment aligns to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and the Foundation will track and report investments against relevant targets and indicators, said Nate Clark, President of the John Deere Foundation.

In the coming months, the Foundation will announce several key grants that will illustrate how this commitment is being put into action, Clark said.
2021 PGMS® COAST TO COAST CHALLENGE

Join PGMS® as we travel across the country, touring member sites and providing a behind the scenes look at different ground operations.

All tours are streamed at 1 p.m. EDT on each Wednesday in June.

All tours are eligible for CGM®/CGT credit and SGM credit.

JUNE 2: PORTLAND JAPANESE GARDEN - PORTLAND, OR

“The Garden sits nestled in the hills of Portland, Oregon’s iconic Washington Park, overlooking the city and providing a tranquil, urban oasis for locals and travelers alike. Designed in 1963, it encompasses 12 acres with eight separate garden styles, and includes an authentic Japanese Tea House, meandering streams, intimate walkways, and a spectacular view of Mt. Hood.” Portland Japanese Gardens. To learn more, visit: https://japanesegarden.org.

JUNE 9: CHRISTUS TRINITY MOTHER FRANCES HEALTH SYSTEM - TYLER, TX

Mother Frances Hospital opened its doors on the current site in 1937. Now CHRISTUS Trinity Mother Frances, numerous expansions and additions over the last 80+ years have turned the once modest hospital into the region’s largest employer and one of the highest rated integrated health systems in the United States. The health system includes a 60-acre campus in the heart of Tyler, Texas and another 20+ regional hospitals and clinics.

JUNE 16: UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY - LEXINGTON, KY

The University of Kentucky just received its 10th year recognition as a Tree Campus Higher Education (formerly Tree Campus USA) and its second year as a Tree Campus Healthcare institution through the Arbor Day Foundation. Join the UK grounds team as they share how they maintain their special acknowledgements and how they are utilizing them to expand student engagement. From trees, to pollinators, to compost, come see how Big Blue is keeping it green!

JUNE 23: SARAH P. DUKE GARDENS - DURHAM, NC

“More than 600,000 visitors from all over the world visit Sarah P. Duke Gardens annually, enjoying its 55 acres of specialized gardens in the heart of Duke University. With free admission, they are open 365 days a year” To learn more, visit: https://gardens.duke.edu/about.

Join Bobby Mottern, CGM® as he takes you through these award winning grounds, including recognition from the American Society of Landscape Architects and a 2014 PGMS® Green Star Awards® Grand Winner.

JUNE 30: ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL - WASHINGTON, DC


Photos courtesy of: Portland Japanese Garden
Photos courtesy of: CHRISTUS Trinity Mother Francis Health System
Photos courtesy of: Sarah P. Duke Gardens
Photos courtesy of: Architect of the Capitol

Me? Obsessed with trees? Yes. Yes, I am.

Vaughn Chandler champions the trees, landscapes and property investments of the customers in his care. And he’s one of the many reasons we’ve become the premier tree care and shrub care company in the world.

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Great managers through the industry. A great resource as well because it can connect my CGT’s directly to other resources like RainBird, Ewing and SiteOne. The new PGMS® website is a great tool for trade specific training as well as several online membership forums. PGMS® has such a wide variety of members some at locations that most of us probably don’t even think of but most likely frequent with friends and family. Last Forum it was the NFL and this time we get a glimpse of the Casino resort world with CGM® David Ott.

Joe: Welcome Dave and thanks for taking the time to share with us. Let’s start with a bit about yourself, the Casino property, your department and how long have you been there.

Dave: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to sit for a minute and talk. I have been in landscape since 1991, when I started my landscape business, Spring Meadows Lawn & Landscape. We did full-service landscape install and maintenance work until 2010. I have run landscape companies and departments as far away as Indianapolis, IN before settling here at Harrah’s Cherokee Valley River Casino in 2016.

Joe: As a resort and gaming facilities I’m sure COVID affected you much differently than say a Parks department or University campus. Can you go over some of the challenges and solutions you and your team had to go through?

Dave: Yes, COVID has affected us deeply. Our cleaning and sanitizing schedules are extensive both for vehicles, equipment, and public areas. Sanitizing occurs inside and outside on all surfaces daily, scheduling the crew for shifts and tasks is an ongoing battle. Our casino is temporarily nonsmoking inside which sends the smokers outside, where the areas are in constant need of pressure washing in smoking areas and parking lots/decks. We maintain these areas multiple times daily and pride ourselves on the having the cleanest parking lots and landscaped areas in the region.

Joe: Just like universities and park departments differ all over, Casino property management can vary just as much. How much emphasis does your Management/ownership team place on the landscape and how long have you been there.

Dave: We change seasonal color twice annually, Spring & Fall. Currently, I am working on a phased in sustainability plan that is bringing much more diversity to the landscape. This has included adopting more perennial flowers and shrubbery that offers color, variety and changes in texture that bring interest to the landscape.

My favorites are always the Proven Winners varieties of limelight hydrangeas, buddleias, and many of their perennials. My favorite annuals/perennials are Playin’ the Blues Salvia, Angelonia Mouse-eared Coreopsis and Rudbeckia goldsturm. For shrubbery, I am implementing the Little Lime Hydrangea, the Lo & Behold series of Buddleia, SunJoy Barberry and Ninebark into our existing plant material.

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Joe: What are the go-to plants you are using right now, how often do you do seasonal color change outs do you and does your team also do holiday decorations?

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I often encourage landscape guys to make those next steps to grow professionally and be ready to take more responsibility when it presents itself. The CGT and CGM® programs are a great tool to move an individual to stay in the state of constant learning and collaborating. Stay moving, stay learning and stay active…. Comfort is the enemy…

Joe: Lastly Dave and most importantly can my 5th wheel fit somewhere on the property the next time I’m cruising through the Blue Ridge Mountains? Thank you again Dave for taking the time and sharing with the membership.

Dave: We always have room in Western North Carolina for you Joe and whatever you get here in. Tammy and I love to travel as well and your area in on our list. I always say, “it could break out at any minute…”

Joe: What made you decide to join PGMS® and then go on to earn your CGM®? What advice would you share with your fellow members who were thinking about going for the CGT or CGM®?

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2021 GREEN STAR AWARDS®

Bring National Recognition to Your Grounds!

The Green Star Awards® honors the grounds manager responsible for maintaining a well-manicured landscape year round. Grand, Honor, and Merit Awards are offered in 15 categories, covering all types of private, public, commercial, and industrial landscapes. To qualify for entry, a landscape must be at least two years old and under the grounds manager’s continuous maintenance for at least two (2) years.

Green Star Awards® Applications are now available through Tuesday, June 15.

For more information, including eligibility, FAQs, and how to enter, please visit: https://pgms.org/page/GreenStarAwards.

THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR EVERY TASK.

In addition to rear discharge, the Z930M ZTrak™ Zero-Turn Mower puts a few other things front and center. Like a commercial-grade engine. A Fastback™ PRO rear discharge deck. A standard 24” High Back seat. And ComfortGlide™ suspension for all-day productivity. On top of that? Your local dealer cuts purchasing hassles down to size with contract pricing, great service and support, and the kind of selection that looks great from any angle.
THE HISTORY OF ARBOR DAY

Arbor Day 2021 was April 30. Send photos of how you celebrated to info@pgms.org.

As pioneers began moving into the Nebraska Territory, the lack of trees was felt deeply. Not only did the new residents miss the trees they left behind, they were also left without the trees they needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade from the hot sun.

Nebraska newspaper editor — and resident of Nebraska City, NE — J. Sterling Morton had an enthusiasm for trees and advocated strongly for individuals and civic groups to plant them. Once he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, he further spread his message of the value of trees. And on January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree planting holiday to be called “Arbor Day” at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

The celebration date was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for the largest number of properly planted trees on that day. It was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Arbor Day was officially proclaimed in 1874 by Nebraska’s Governor, Robert W. Furnas, and the day was observed April 10 that year. In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal state holiday in Nebraska, and April 22 was selected as the date for its permanent annual observance.

THE SPREAD OF A GOOD IDEA

Many other states also passed legislation to observe Arbor Day each year. By 1920, more than 45 states and territories were celebrating Arbor Day. And the tree planting tradition became prominent in schools across the nation in 1882, with schoolchildren learning about the importance of trees as well as receiving a tree to plant in their own yard.

Today Arbor Day is celebrated in all 50 states. The most common date for the state observance is the last Friday in April — National Arbor Day — but a number of state Arbor Days are at other times to coincide with the best tree planting weather, from January and February in the south to May in the far north.

And while Nebraska City, NE, is the official birthplace of the Arbor Day holiday, communities around the globe gather every year to celebrate trees and plant for a greener tomorrow. Find out when countries all over the world gather together to plant and celebrate trees.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK 2021

Volunteer Appreciation Week was April 19 - 25. PGMS® recognized a few of our volunteers on Facebook. In case you missed it, here is what we had to say about some of our amazing volunteers!

Doug Young

Luckily for the Greater Cincinnati Branch, Doug Young has been a very active member and an almost permanent fixture on the Board. He has single-handedly arranged many of the Branch’s educational programs, including our most fun and popular tours, such as our Segway tours and the Diagnostic Walk-About at Spring Grove Cemetery. The best part is that he always makes sure we have good food at our events! He approaches his leadership responsibilities with a positive attitude, makes time to engage with fellow members, and always has a quick and genuine smile for everyone. Nominated by Jenny Gulick

Michael Gildea, CGM

The success of any organization starts with good communication. The District of Columbia Branch of PGMS® remains a strong local group due the incredible efforts of Michael Gildea, CGM (Horticulturist at Chevy Chase Country Club, Maryland). Each month, Michael organizes and produces the monthly Branch newsletter that includes President’s Message, meeting site/time, industry updates, upcoming events, educational opportunities, job openings, and Branch supporting vendor information. Nominated by Bill Eck

Mike Beaulieu

The Western Washington Branch is lucky enough to have the North West Regional Director, Mike Beaulieu, as a member. If Mike takes something on, you know it is going to be in good hands. Everything he works on, he goes above and beyond with. Our branch board would not be what it is without his cool and calm guidance, positive attitude and ability to make us all laugh. He is a Zoom master and a dedicated advocate for PGMS®. He has been a huge help to me time and time again; I know if I ever need assistance with something I can count on Mike. Thank you for all that you do, Mike. We greatly appreciate you! Nominated by Bri Groeneveeld, CGT

Matt Tobin

If you’re from New England and involved with the Green Industry, then you know the name Matt Tobin. Matt has been involved with many organizations over the years and continually gives back to the industry. Matt’s involvement with PGMS® is only a couple years old but already he has been working to help revitalize the North East Branch, volunteering for national committees and working on building up a great relationship between PGMS and NEPA the New England Park Association. Matt’s involvement with PGMS will only continue to grow and a great addition to the North East region of PGMS. Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

PGMS® Committee Leader Recognition

PGMS® recognizes its committee chairs, whose leadership help the Society’s many programs run seamlessly. To learn more and to volunteer, visit: https://pgms.org/engage/Volunteer.

John Burns, CGM

Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Gene Puleo, CGM

Nominated by Bill Eck

Mark Hoegerman, CGA

Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Jared Rudy, CGM

Nominated by Bill Eck

Brantyn Hale, CGM

Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Andy Morris, CGM

Nominated by Steve Robert, CGM

Bruce De Vou, CGM

Nominated by Steve Robert, CGM

Ryan McCaughey, CGM

Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Jimmy Hogan, CGM

Nominated by Joe Kovolyan, CGM

Mark Hoenigman, CGM

Nominated by Jenny Gulick

Jared Rudy, CGM

Nominated by Bill Eck

Brandon Haley, CGM

Nominated by Jenny Gulick

Groeneveeld, CGT

Nominated by Bill Eck

Andy Moran, CGM

Nominated by Ellen Zelling, CGM

Bruce De Vou, CGM

Nominated by Steve Robert, CGM
Pollinators Are in Trouble. Here’s How Transforming Your Lawn Into a Native Wildflower Habitat Can Help

Biologists are recruiting everyday gardeners to save pollinators, with a little help from a smartphone app.

Anyone can build a tiny habitat amidst the sea of green that is our lawns. Whether it’s a strip of right-of-way outside your urban apartment, your manicured suburban lawn or many mowed acres surrounding your house in the countryside, we’ve all got a little sod we could consider giving back to nature. Researchers have been learning more and more about declines in native pollinators, all while finding out the ways mowed, watered, fertilized and herbicided lawns can negatively affect the environment. That’s why University of Central Florida entomologist Barbara Sharanowski teamed up with ecologist Nash Turley to create the Lawn to Wildflowers program.

They’ve developed an app to coach users on how to turn any patch of lawn into native wildflower habitat; it will also collect valuable data. Discover spoke with Sharanowski about the new project, which launched in May 2020.

Q: Some people might shrunk at the thought of more bugs in their yard. What do you wish people knew about them?
BS: I’m an entomologist, and I love bugs. I think everybody should love bugs. Anyone can go out into their backyard and look at plants and see the interactions that they have with beneficial insects. Not all insects are something that you want to kill or you need to manage. Most of them are just doing their thing, and many are even helping us out, either controlling pests naturally, or pollinating our flowers and crops. So, I want people to go look at them, and be excited about bugs rather than afraid of them.

Q: We know that bees are in trouble. How will Lawn to Wildflowers help?
BS: Even though a lot of people talk about honeybees and colony collapse disorder, that’s a non-native, managed species in the U.S. What we really want to promote are native plants that improve biodiversity and abundance of native pollinators, of which there are thousands of species. Meanwhile, there are so many lawns in the world, and they use a lot of water and provide no resources for biodiversity. It’s kind of a waste, especially when even planting a small 6-foot-by-6-foot pollinator garden can really do a lot for the native insects. So we’re trying to get anyone who is able to convert part of their lawn into a pollinator habitat. That’s the whole end goal of the project: Create something that contributes to the greater health of the environment.

Q: What are some of the biggest barriers to getting people to do this?
BS: We did a big mail-out survey and discovered that the largest barriers are time, and not knowing how to plant a pollinator garden. Time will obviously always be an issue, but we’re hoping the resources we provide in the app — like videos, how-tos and other information — take away that latter barrier. The other persistent barriers are things like homeowners’ associations and local ordinances that might restrict unmowed areas. We can’t do a lot about those, but we’re hoping to motivate people to encourage their homeowners’ associations to provide an allowance for pollinator habitat, because it does beautify things. It doesn’t make it unkempt; it actually makes the neighborhood prettier and better serves biodiversity.

Q: What will you do with the information the gardeners submit?
BS: We’ll use the data to study factors affecting pollinators in the U.S. and Canada. For instance, we want to see how different elements around the neighborhood, like how much natural area is nearby, impact pollinator abundance and diversity [meaning, population numbers and variety of species.]

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Q: What will you do with the information the gardeners submit?
Volunteer

SHORT TERM OPPORTUNITIES

Mentor – Annual Conference: Attend the First Timers’ Orientation and welcome our newest attendees.

Present at the PGMS® School of Grounds Management: Submit your proposal for an education session.

Scholarship Committee: Help review applicants vying for one of PGMS’ scholarships.

Mentor – Certified Grounds Manager Candidate: Serve as a mentor for a CGM® Candidate or volunteer to review a Candidate’s Professional Grounds Manager Evaluation portfolio.

Green Star Awards® – Reviewer: Assist in reviewing the applications received.

MICRO-VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Blog Posts: PGMS® has a blog in our member portal and on our website. Be a guest writer.

Newsletter Articles: PGMS® has a bi-monthly newsletter, The Forum, and we are always looking for valuable articles to share with our members and friends.

Paparazzi: PGMS® has two large events each year and we could always use your help with photographs at our conferences. If you would like to be the designated photographer at one of our events, let us know and we will give you 25% off your registration.

LONG TERM OPPORTUNITIES

Branch Development/Leadership: One of the greatest member benefits is networking. Contact PGMS® for details on developing a branch in your area.

National Committees: Opportunities are available on the Membership, Marketing, and Education Committees.

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

POLLINATOR WEEK 2021
JUNE 22 - 28

Pollinator Week is an annual event celebrated internationally in support of pollinator health. It’s a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them. The great thing about Pollinator Week is that you can celebrate and get involved any way you like! Popular events include planting for pollinators, hosting socially distant garden tours, participating in online bee and butterfly ID workshops, and so much more. However you choose to celebrate this year, be sure to register your event on the map below, and share your story with us by tagging us on social media using the hashtag #PollinatorWeek.

Pollinator Week was initiated and is managed by Pollinator Partnership, and fourteen years ago the U.S. Senate’s unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as “National Pollinator Week” marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown into an international celebration, promoting the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles.

While this year might not be a typical Pollinator Week due to the COVID-19 pandemic, people across the planet have pledged to continue promoting pollinator health and well-being through socially distant and responsible events. Through the numerous virtual gatherings, webinars, responsible planting sessions, socially distant garden and farm walks, and monument lightings, Pollinator Week 2021 is geared to be the busiest and best one yet!

Please visit our Facebook page to learn more about our Pollinator Week events. Follow us at @pollinatorweek to see what others are doing for Pollinator Week 2021.

Information from www.pollinator.org
A LOOK BACK AT PGMS® IN MAY 1977

The Annual Professional Grounds Maintenance Awards Program

PURPOSE
The aims of the Professional Grounds Maintenance Awards program are:

- Bringing national recognition to successfully managed grounds in a high degree of excellence.
- Recognizing individual professional efforts leading to high maintenance standards and quality appearance of the landscape.

ELIGIBILITY
An entrant must be professionally engaged in and responsible for the maintenance of grounds described in ENTRY CATEGORIES and AWARDS which follow.

Grand Award-winning projects in the 1975 and 1976 Professional Grounds Maintenance Awards Program are ineligible to re-enter the program for a period of two years.

ENTRY CATEGORIES and AWARDS
Any size landscape for which the entrant has the major responsibility for the design, construction, and beautification may be entered. The use of old crops for the landscape is not criteria for judging. Rather, the quality, challenge, and performance in maintenance for a period of at least two years of the grounds since construction will be considered by the judges.

There will be two classes of awards: Grand Awards and Honor Awards. Only one Grand Award may be presented in each of the categories listed hereafter. The judges may grant as many Honor Awards as they deem desirable, and they may decide no entries are deserving in a given category. The Grand Award will be in the form of a certificate beautifully mounted under clear, pre-shrinked hectic on solid walnut. The Honors Award will be a certificate of equal quality and suitable for mounting or framing.

JUDGING—A properly panel of judges will be selected by the Professional Grounds Management Society and GROUNDS MAINTENANCE to determine the award winners.

METHODS OF ENTRY
All entries must include:
1. A set of no less than six 8" x 10" black and white photographs depicting areas of difficult and successful maintenance in the landscape.
2. At least six color 35mm slides, from different angles, to show the over-all beauty of the total landscape project under your maintenance.
3. One recent photograph of yourself as the person in charge of the maintenance. The photograph may be of you working in the landscape or a portrait, but the former is preferred.
4. One or two double spaced typewritten pages describing the project, directed exclusively to explaining the year-round maintenance procedures, equipment and materials used for maintenance. Special maintenance challenges, and training and management practices for these challenges.
5. Each entry must have all elements complete in one mailing envelope.
6. Entries must be submitted to:
   Professional Grounds Maintenance Awards
   c/o Professional Grounds Management Society
   19 Hawthorne Ave.
   Pikesville, Md. 21208

7. All entries must be received by July 31, 1977

8. The entry fee is $50 for members of the Professional Grounds Management Society and $40 for non-members of PGMS. There is no limit on the number of entries from the same entrant, but each entry must be separate and accompanied by an entry fee.

9. All entries become the property of the sponsors and may be used for publication in GROUNDS MAINTENANCE magazine. No entry material will be returned.

10. All entries must contain a covering letter releasing the material for publication.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
Awards will be presented during the Annual Conference of the Professional Grounds Management Society, Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, 1977, Southfork Greenway Plaza Hotel, Houston, Tex.

BRANCH NEWS
WESTCHESTER BRANCH: The meeting was held on Thursday, May 19, at R.I. Hospital on Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, N.Y. The host for the evening was Mr. Koontz.

FIRST STATE BRANCH: The branch met on Wednesday, May 11, at the Aegy Hall at the University of Delaware. Dr. Mitchel spoke on Sprays, how to use and care for them. At the April meeting the branch elected a new president—Mr. Jay Jones.

FREE STATE BRANCH: The branch held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 11, at the Meadow Ridge Cemetery. Guest speaker, Mr. Charles Johnson, the Department of Agronomy of the University of Maryland, discussed the problems in Turfgrass Management.

D. C. BRANCH: The members of the branch met early to join a car pool still down to tour sites related to the slides presentation later in the evening. Guest landscape architect James Scott was the resource person for the presentation and discussion, with members and guests meeting for dinner at the Hilton.

HOOSIANS BRANCH: The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 10, at the Redken House, Southgebord in Indianapolis. This was a dinner meeting followed by a business session.

GREATKANSAS CITY BRANCH: The branch met on Wednesday, May 11, with Mr. George Toms of the Kansas City Royals-Chiefs, as the guest speaker.

CONSULTANT'S CORNER
Some time ago we had a question on the age of wisteria.

A. We have documented proof of wisteria planted in 1942 at the Spruce Gate Estate in New York State, and this is still actively growing and beautiful in its original location.
Classifieds

Grounds Manager
Richland School District
Development, oversight, and responsibility for all functions related to the maintenance and repair of District exterior assets (landscape/grounds) including, but not limited to, turf, sports fields, flower/shrub areas, playgrounds and toys, sidewalks, parking areas, access roads, tree care, irrigation systems, and snow removal. Provide direct supervision, direction, and accountability for all Landscape Services (grounds) staff. Apply at: https://richlandjobs.hrmplus.net.

Groundskeeper
Pomona College
Pomona College is looking for a Groundskeeper to perform a variety of duties related to the maintenance of courtyards, entryways, walkways, patios, parking lots, streets, signs, irrigation systems, tennis courts, volleyball courts, and athletic facilities for the college. The Groundskeeper establishes and maintains a variety of plant life; maintains and uses all related equipment; and maintains grounds to ensure clean, orderly, and safe conditions. Apply at: https://theclaremontcolleges.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/POM_Careers/job/Claremont/Groundskeeper_REQ-3027?source=HigherEdJobs.

Groundskeeper
Aramark - Harrisburg School District
The Groundskeeper is responsible for maintaining and improving site grounds. Assigned work such as mowing, trimming, leaf removal, de-icing, etc. may fluctuate by season. Essential functions and responsibilities of the position may vary by Aramark location based on client requirements and business needs. To apply click here.

Sports Turf Technician
Southern Methodist University
This position is responsible for assisting in the daily operations of the turf management department. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: the maintenance, repair, painting, fertilizing, spraying cultural practices and mowing the athletics fields and Intramural fields, fertilization, mowing, irrigation, field painting, and preparation for athletic contests. Day game day set up for Ford Stadium and Wescott Field. To apply please visit: https://smu.taleo.net/careersection/

Grounds Manager
SSC Services for Education
The Grounds Supervisor provides leadership/direction for a multifaceted operation within grounds department. The focus of this job: work hands-on in leading, instructing, and educating various team members, emphasizing good horticulture practices, and provide quality landscape management. Be disciplined and motivated to take stewardship of work responsibilities and remain organized. Coordinate with fellow grounds supervisors and team leaders on projects and special events in a teamwork environment. Provide support to maintenance management operations as requested by Unit Director. Apply at: https://careers.compassgroupcareers.com/main/jobs/530072?lang=en-us.

Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
City of New Carrollton
The City of New Carrollton is seeking a highly-skilled, self-motivated full-time Grounds Maintenance Supervisor to oversee, coordinate, and execute grounds maintenance projects. This individual will directly supervise a team of Laborers and a Crew Chief. The candidate must be a team motivator with the ability to quickly handle personnel matters that may arise; possessing an inclusive and collaborative style of leadership is a must. Apply at: https://newcarrolltonmd.applicantpool.com/jobs/566439.htm.

Landscape Supervisor
The University of Texas at Austin
There is opening on for a Landscape Supervisor at the J.J. Pickle Research Campus. Please visit the UT jobs page to see the position details and submit an application. A resume, letter of intent, and 3 references are required.

Groundskeeper
Waterton
The Groundskeeper will help maintain the physical condition of the community and equipment according to company guidelines and standards, and will protect the community and equipment from damage, loss and deterioration. This position conducts routine cleaning and upkeep of community grounds and buildings, performs preventative maintenance, miscellaneous janitorial duties, landscaping and service requests. Click here to apply.

Arborist II
The University of Texas at Austin
Provide basic tree work to maintain the health and appearance of The University of Texas at Austin campus urban forest. Apply using this to UT-Austin Jobs: https://utaustin.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/UTstaff/job/UT-MAIN-CAMPUS/Arborist-II_R_00010927.
The Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) is an individual membership society of grounds professionals advancing the grounds management profession through education and professional development.

**Key membership benefits include:** 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 visit [https://pgms.org/page/Membership](https://pgms.org/page/Membership).

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](https://pgms.org/page/Partners).