



**02 SUMMER SEMINARS**

A Huge Success!



**09 LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

Important Steps to Take



**11 LOBBYIST ARTICLE**

Don't Blow off the off  
Year Election

fall 2015 / [www.ohiolawncare.org](http://www.ohiolawncare.org)

# OLCA NEWS



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**A GRATEFUL EMBRACE** On November 7, OLCA, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, Ohio AgriBusiness Association and the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association will once again partake in the annual community service to beautify the grounds of the Dayton National Cemetery in Dayton and the Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman. This event is our industry's way of giving back to those who gave all. You can register online by visiting [www.OLCA.org](http://www.OLCA.org) or contact OLCA at [lldry@offinger.com](mailto:lldry@offinger.com).

## IT'S GOOD BUSINESS TO DO BUSINESS WITH OLCA SPONSORS!

OLCA offers great annual sponsorship packages to supplier members who are interested in constant visibility while supporting Ohio's lawn care operators. See the Sponsorship Application on page 15 for details on what each level of sponsorship includes. Members are encouraged to support the sponsors who support the organization.

### OLCA THANKS THE FOLLOWING 2015 SPONSORS:

Advanced Turf Solutions, Agrium Advanced Technologies Direct Solutions, CareWorks, Crop Production Services, Nufarm

## A MESSAGE from your President, Gina Zirkle, The Scotts Co.



Fall is upon us! This past spring and beginning of summer was one of the wettest we have seen in a while. The wet weather brought along some lawn maintenance challenges. Many had a hard time finding a break in the rain to get out there and treat lawns, not

to mention disease and other issues that popped up due to heavy rainfall. One of the benefits provided by OLCA is receiving advice on how to tackle some of the current and prolonged local industry issues. Whether you are a member or not, there are several ways you can stay up to date on information including, but not limited to:

- Lawn Care Seminars. Every year OLCA holds seminars in two locations, Northeast Ohio in Wooster and a central Ohio location in Columbus. We have a very good turnout and attendees learn from the educational topics that are tailored to local priorities. Discounted rates are available for members.
- A link to TurfTip videos, presented by Joe Rimelspach and Todd Hicks from The Plant Pathology Department at OSU, provide tips on topics relative to the season. These videos are always available through a link on our website.
- OLCA News provides articles and information on pertinent topics in the industry.

These are just a few ways we continue to provide the industry with up-to-date information. If you're interested in learning more about what OLCA has to offer, please visit [www.OLCA.org](http://www.OLCA.org) or visit us on Facebook.

Also, we'd like to hear from you and any ideas you have to better the association. Please contact me or one of our Board members any time

## OLCA SUMMER SEMINARS WERE A HUGE SUCCESS!

OLCA held the 13th Annual Northeast Ohio Lawn Care Seminar on June 18 at The Ohio State University/OARDC The Arden Shisler Center in Wooster with 131 attendees receiving 1.0 credit hour in Category 8; 1.5 credit hours in Core and 1.0 credit hour in Category 6A.

The 21st Annual Ohio Lawn Care Outdoor Summer Seminar took place on August 13 at The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research & Education Facility in Columbus with 218 attendees receiving 2.0 credit hours in Category 8; 0.5 credit hours of Core and 0.5 credit hours in Category 6A.

These events were sponsored by Advanced Turf Solutions, Agrium Advanced Technologies Direct Solutions, CareWorks, Crop Production Services and Nufarm. Thank you for your continued support!



# 49TH ANNUAL OHIO TURFGRASS FOUNDATION CONFERENCE & SHOW, December 7-10, Columbus Convention Center

By Brian Laurent, Executive Director, Ohio Turfgrass Foundation

What does a greener future look like to you? Does it include being more efficient? Maybe incorporating products and practices to become more environmentally friendly? How about an improved bottom line?

Whatever a greener future looks like to you, take your first step toward it by attending the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference & Show and the Ohio State University Green Industry Short Course. This year, we will be returning to the Greater Columbus Convention Center and as indicated by the event name, we will be partnering with Ohio State Extension once again to bring you the OSU Short Course.

The same OSU Short Course that many of you have attended in January is now a part of the OTF Conference. This means that you can still get the cutting-edge turfgrass management and business strategies that you've come to expect at the OTF Conference, but can also get the education you need to maintain the rest of the landscape at the same time. It's two conferences for the price of one!

For the 49th year, the tradeshow will feature companies whose products and

services can help make an impact on your programs. From spreaders and mowers to fertilizer and pesticides, take a walk around the show floor to see the latest and greatest for the green industry.

Speaking of exhibitors, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank those that exhibit in the tradeshow. Their investment to participate is truly an investment in you and your peers. These companies support organizations such as OTF, OLCA and more and are instrumental in our ability to provide for research, education and advocacy. I hope that you'll take note of these exhibitors and support those that support you.

Take a moment to visit [www.OTFShow.org](http://www.OTFShow.org) to see the educational lineup and agenda for the week. It includes presentations from some of the industry's leading educators and advocates including Tom Delaney of NALP, Dr. Doug Karcher from the University of Arkansas, the Ohio State turf and ornamental team and many more.

The OTF Conference & Show and OSU Green Industry Short Course is an opportunity for you and your team to get the latest information you need to succeed, close to home and at an affordable price. Take advantage of

our group pricing to bring your entire crew! Groups of four can register at a discounted rate and if you come with more than four, the discounts get even greater.

We hope that you'll choose to join your peers from throughout the Midwest at the event this year to take your first step towards a greener future. For more information, visit [www.OTFShow.org](http://www.OTFShow.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### OCTOBER 22

OLCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Zanesville, OH

### NOVEMBER 7

A Grateful Embrace  
Dayton National Cemetery and Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman, OH

### NOVEMBER 13

Lawn Care Technician of the Year Award Deadline  
Scholarship Application Deadline

### DECEMBER 10

OLCA Annual Meeting  
Columbus, OH

## 2015 OLCA Scholarships

OLCA is committed to serving lawn care professionals by educating, promoting, protecting our environment and the lawn care industry. One of the best ways to foster this commitment is by providing scholarships to students pursuing a career in the green industry. OLCA will award \$2000 in scholarships to highly-deserving students around Ohio.

OLCA members are asked to recommend any of their student employees, interns, friends, or family who are qualified. The deadline to apply for a 2015 scholarship is November 13, 2015. Applications are available on the OLCA website at [www.OhioLawnCare.org](http://www.OhioLawnCare.org).

# 2015 OHIO LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Local Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Local Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

University or College \_\_\_\_\_

Curricula:  Science  Agriculture  Industry

Class (beginning of current quarter):  
 Freshman  Sophomore  
 Junior  Senior

Hours completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Record (you must include a copy of an official transcript or most recent grade report):

Accumulative point-hour ratio:  
All Subjects: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

All Subjects for the last two quarters: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTIVITIES

Membership and committee work in student organizations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Offices held: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other student activities: \_\_\_\_\_

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**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Work Experience (list chronologically; attach separate sheet if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

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Please state personal and educational objectives for your future: \_\_\_\_\_

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Indicate other assistance and/or scholarships received: \_\_\_\_\_

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**I PLEDGE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

**PLEASE NOTE: RETURN APPLICATION ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015. ALL 2015 OLCA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND THE OLCA ANNUAL MEETING.**

Return to: OLCA Scholarship Committee  
1100-H Brandywine Blvd.  
Zanesville OH 43701-7303  
Fax: 740-452-2552  
Phone: 800-510-5296

## FROM YOUR Executive Director, Mark Bennett, CAE, IOM



We appreciate your continued support of the Ohio Lawn Care Association (OLCA) this year. As your season begins to slow, know that OLCA continues to strive to help you protect and grow your business and we invite you to join OLCA at association events this fall.

Plan to join us for the Grateful Embrace on Saturday, November 7 in Dayton or Rittman to help beautify two veterans' cemeteries. Since 1994, OLCA through its generous membership has devoted countless hours and materials to the task of working on the hallowed grounds at the Dayton National Veterans Cemetery in Dayton. In 2011, OLCA added the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman. This annual event, sponsored by OLCA, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, Ohio AgriBusiness Association and the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association, is a fantastic way for the lawn care industry to give back to those who gave all. Please contact the OLCA office if you are interested in helping us this year by providing employees or fertilizer.

OLCA will hold its annual meeting on December 10 during lunch at the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference & Show. Watch for additional information closer to the date. This is your opportunity to have lunch on us and hear about what your industry's association has done in the past year to help your business.

Be sure you are taking advantage of all of the great benefits that OLCA has to offer its members. Did you know that the average OLCA member saves more than \$2,500 annually on its workers compensation premium? That's a more than \$20 return on investment for every dollar you spend on OLCA membership dues! Additionally, OLCA offers its members additional discounts on lead generation, plant/pest diagnostics and soil sample analysis. Visit the website or call the office for additional information on any of these member benefits. Taking advantage of these benefits can significantly help your company's bottom line.

OLCA continues to promote the interests of its membership through its participation in the Ohio Professional Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR). In addition to meeting with legislators to promote the positive effects a healthy lawn can have on the environment, we have been involved with discussion at the Ohio Department of Agriculture as they are working through a new rule which would create insurance requirements for faulty workmanship. The good news is that by most estimates, the additional insurance premium should only cost lawn care operators from one to five dollars per customer.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 800-510-5296 x 3187 or [mbennett@offinger.com](mailto:mbennett@offinger.com).

## LAWN CARE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award will convey and illustrate the mission statement of OLCA and serve the mission of the organization: *"Improving the environment through better lawn care"*.

Past Recipients include:

**2014 – Robert Conklin**  
TruGreen, Lexington, OH

**2013 – Grant Birchfield**  
Ziehler Lawn & Tree Care, Centerville, OH

**2012 – Matt Tyler**  
Grass Master, Inc., Canal Fulton, OH

**2011 – Robert Sobe**  
Brookside Lawn Services, Inc., Medina, OH

**2010 – Matt Kingrey**  
Ever-Green Turf and Landscaping, Troy, OH

**2009 – Christopher Guerra**  
Highpoint Lawn Service, Stow, OH

OLCA represents nearly 300 professional lawn care companies throughout Ohio, and its mission is demonstrated every day by its members.

Applications will be accepted until November 13, 2015 and the winner will be announced by email prior to the Ohio Lawn Care Association Annual Meeting.

To apply, you must be a member company of the association and may only nominate one employee per company. Applicators may only be nominated by a company owner, manager or supervisor. Nominees must have proof of a state of Ohio license with a minimum of 2 years experience. Applications must be received in the OLCA office before November 13. To submit your nomination, please complete and return the application on page 7 or submit online at [www.OhioLawnCare.org](http://www.OhioLawnCare.org).



**Ohio Lawn Care Association  
Lawn Care Technician of the Year Nomination Form**

Mail your completed nomination form and required documentation by November 13, 2015 to:  
OLCA Lawn Care Technician of the Year  
1100-H Brandywine Blvd • Zanesville, OH 43701 • Fax: 740-452-2552

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**Rules and Regulations:**

- Must be a member company of OLCA
- Must be recommended by company owner, manager or supervisor
- Can only win the award one time
- 1 employee submission per company
- Must have proof of State of Ohio License
- Minimum 2 years experience

**Nominated By:**

Company Name, Person and Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Manager (if nominating self) \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Applicators Name, Years of Experience \_\_\_\_\_

Applicators License \_\_\_\_\_

Describe why you think this person deserves the honor and recognition from his/her peers as Ohio Lawn Care Technician of the Year?

(Leadership, Customer Relations, Knowledge of Job, Job Performance, Problem Solving)

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Greatest Achievement?

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Best Customer Comment:

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*Attach any customer letters if available.*



# IMPORTANT STEPS TO TAKE

## When a Workplace Injury Occurs

Workplace safety is a high priority and concern for employers and employees alike. A workplace injury can affect a worker's life, health and ability to earn an income. Workers' compensation claims also have a direct impact on an employer's bottom line. Claims can result in higher workers' compensation premiums, affect worker moral and create labor shortages that affect completing projects on time. Despite our best efforts, accidents happen, and when they do it is very important to manage the claim effectively from the moment it occurs. All employees should be trained and familiar with injury protocols and procedures so when an incident occurs they know what is expected of them. This is especially important for businesses with employees who perform their duties off site without supervisors present. It should be company policy to immediately report all injuries to their supervisor or manager and all supervisors should be trained on the steps they need to take once the incident is reported to them. Most injuries are minor but, regardless, all incidents should be reported and an Incident Investigation Report completed and kept on file even if the employee refuses or does not require medical attention.

### 1. Obtain immediate medical attention if needed and report incident to supervisor/employer

- Employer should have a Managed Care Organization (MCO) card or injury packet available to send with the injured worker to the medical provider.
- Injured worker should be accompanied by his/her supervisor to the medical provider.

### 2. Secure the accident site and preserve evidence

- This is especially important when there is a serious injury and equipment is involved.

### 3. Investigate and gather facts as soon as possible

- The supervisor should complete an Incident Investigation Report which includes associate, supervisor and witness incident statements.
- The report should include who was involved, date

and time of the incident, what duties were being performed, what equipment was being used, what were the work conditions, was personal protective equipment (PPE) being used and witness list and statements.

- Supervisor to conduct one on one witness interviews.
- Witness statements should include what they saw, heard, where they were at the time and should be notarized if possible.
- Take photographs or make drawings of accident scene if necessary.
- Determine if the incident was work related.
- Injured worker should complete First Report of Injury (FROI), if possible, in his/her own handwriting.

### 4. Notify your Managed Care Organization (MCO) / Third Party Administrator (TPA) and OSHA (if reportable)

- Report all claims to your MCO Case Specialist as soon as possible.
- Contact your TPA claims examiner if you suspect fraud or a serious or potential lost time claim to discuss claim management strategies.
- Contact OSHA if it is a reportable claim.
- Stay in frequent contact with your MCO Case Specialist and TPA claim examiners/the employer's input is important.

### 5. Evaluate findings and identify the root causes of the incident

- Was PPE not used or improperly used?
- Faulty equipment?
- Distractions?
- Failure to follow safety protocols/unsafe work practices?
- Lack of experience or inadequate training?
- Fatigue or rushing to get the job done?
- Unsafe work conditions?

### 6. Report findings / implement corrective actions / evaluate effectiveness

- Are new policies and procedures necessary?
- Do you need to amend existing policies and procedures?
- Is new equipment needed?

continued on page 10

**It could not look this good without you  
(and a little help from us).**



Advanced Turf Solutions is a green industry distributor with a deep commitment to servicing customers better than anyone in the industry. ATS offers, not only the best selection of herbicides, insecticides, and ice melt in the market today, but also offers professional quality turfgrass seed mixes and blends for any situation.

**Central Ohio**

3700 R Parkway Ln.  
Hilliard, OH 43026  
Phone: 866-998-8873

**Northern Columbus**

9032 Cotter Street  
Lewis Center, OH 43035  
Phone: 740-201-1018

**Cleveland Area**

6780 Southpoint Pkwy  
Brecksville, OH 44141  
Phone: 440-740-0303

**Cincinnati Area**

8975 Empire Connector Dr.  
Florence, KY 41042  
Phone: 859-283-1172

**Youngstown Area**

603 N Meridian Rd  
Youngstown, OH 44509  
Phone 330-793-3775



continued from page 9

- Is better safety training needed?

**Important Changes to OSHA's Recordkeeping Rule Effective January 1, 2015**

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has implemented changes to both reporting and recordkeeping guidelines effective January 1, 2015.

As of January 1, 2015, all employers covered under the Occupational Safety and Health Act must report:

- All work-related fatalities within 8 hours.
  - All work-related inpatient hospitalizations, any amputation or loss of an eye within 24 hours.
- Employers can report to OSHA by:
1. Calling OSHA's free and confidential number at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)
  2. Calling their closest OSHA Area Office during normal business hours

3. Using the new online form that will soon be available.

Only fatalities occurring within 30 days of the work-related incident must be reported to OSHA. Further, for an inpatient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye, these incidents must be reported to OSHA only if they occur within 24 hours of the work-related incident. Previously work-related fatalities and hospitalization of 3 or more employees required reporting.

OSHA has also updated the Recordkeeping Rule. Employers with ten or fewer employees at all times during the previous calendar year are still exempt from routinely keeping OSHA injury and illness records unless OSHA or the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) asks them to do so. However, the rule updates the list of industries that are exempt from the requirement to keep OSHA injury and illness records due to relatively low occupational injury and illness rates.

The employers listed below are newly required to keep records. For a complete list of all employers required to keep records, go to OSHA's Recordkeeping page at: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

## DON'T BLOW OFF THE OFF YEAR ELECTION

By Belinda Jones, OLCA Lobbyist

With no major statewide or national candidates on the ballot, many voters simply stay home on “off year” elections. In fact, generally, voter turnout in off-year elections barely breaks 40%. Even in years with major statewide ballot initiatives (such as 2009’s casino proposal), there were nearly 2.4 million fewer voters than in 2008, when President Obama won his historic election. Further, off year elections also trend republican whereas Presidential and Gubernatorial election years are decidedly more evenly split. Besides the occasional ballot measure, off year elections are typically reserved for local government elections, however municipal and county races rarely drive voter turnout. This year’s election will be historic for Ohio since it will not only feature competing issues pertaining to marijuana legalization, but also a significant proposal that would dramatically change the process for drawing state legislative boundaries.

The goal of this article is merely to inform you (not persuade you) of what you can expect to see on the ballot relative to the initiatives.

### Issue 1 – Redistricting Reform

State Issue 1 was placed on the ballot by the General Assembly (House Joint Resolution 12). The measure would replace the existing apportionment board with a new bipartisan commission that would draw legislative boundaries for the Ohio General Assembly. The goal of this new commission is to replace the existing process which often results in heavily gerrymandered districts with a new format that will lead to more competitive and compact districts. At least one member of the minority party must vote to approve the maps. The issue of redistricting reform is a priority for many elected officials and advocates in Columbus. *Proponents:* So far every major elections advocacy

organization (League of Women Voters, ACLU, Common Cause, etc.) along with both the Ohio Republican Party and the Ohio Democratic Party have endorsed issue 1. Fair Districts for Ohio, the organization backing the measure, is chaired by former State Representatives Matt Huffman and Vernon Sykes. Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted, a longtime advocate for redistricting reform, has also endorsed the measure.

*Opponents:* As of now, there is no opposition to issue 1. It is unlikely that any serious, organized opposition will emerge to challenge issue 1.

*Analysis:* The biggest challenge for issue 1 won’t come from any organized opposition; rather, it will come from voters who simply do not understand the issue. Many voters will be more fixated on Issues 2 and 3. Further, supporters of the measure will likely have less than \$1 million to spend on the campaign. History shows that ballot issues that confuse voters often results in a no vote. Fair Districts for Ohio will be hard pressed to cut through the clutter.

### Issue 2 – Anti-Monopoly Amendment

A second ballot initiative added by joint resolution of the General Assembly (House Joint Resolution 4) would make several changes to the existing initiative process aimed at prohibiting individuals and corporate interests from proposing amendments that would grant a monopoly or other protected economic structure. Issue 2 would require a second question to be placed on the ballot anytime an amendment is proposed establishing a monopoly that would require voters to authorize the creation of the commercial monopoly. In addition to the anti-monopoly piece, issue 2 also includes language that prohibits issue 3 from being enacted should it also pass.

*Proponents:* Issue 2 is being supported by Ohioans Against Marijuana Monopolies, which is also opposing issue 3. A full description of OAMM is provided under the issue 3 discussion.

*Opponents:* The organization pushing marijuana legalization in Ohio, ResponsibleOhio, will be the chief opponent of issue 2, since it would block their amendment from being enacted.

continued on page 12

continued from 11

*Analysis:* Issue 2 is a preemptive move by the General Assembly to halt ResponsibleOhio and other organizations seeking to create a marijuana monopoly (or other monopoly). If both issues 2 and 3 pass, then it creates a legal challenge. While most pundits believe that if issue 2 receives more votes than issue 3, then marijuana legalization is effectively halted; some constitutional experts have disputed this assertion. Thus, depending on the outcome, the battle will likely be in the courts.

### **Issue 3 – Marijuana Legalization Proposal**

Issue 3 would legalize both medicinal and recreational marijuana, making Ohio the fifth state to fully legalize the drug. Many observers have compared this to 2009's casino ballot measure, which granted two companies (Rock Ohio Caesars and Penn National Gaming) control of four casinos in Ohio's major cities.

*Proponents:* Issue 3 is backed by ResponsibleOhio, an organization representing investors and land owners who stand to benefit should issue 3 pass. This organization led the signature collection drive and has committed \$20 million to the campaign. Other pro-marijuana groups have yet to support Issue 3.

*Opponents:* A broad coalition called Ohioans Against Marijuana Monopolies has formed to oppose issue 3 (and to back issue 2). Members include the Ohio Hospital Association, Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufacturers Association, Ohio State Medical Association, Council of Retail Merchants, Ohio School Boards Association, Buckeye State Sheriff's Association, and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. While opponents will not have the financial assets of Responsible Ohio, they will benefit from the wide array of organizations opposing the measure.

*Analysis:* ResponsibleOhio needs to have issue 3 pass but also needs to either defeat issue 2 or, at the very least, ensure that issue 3 gets more affirmative votes. Recent polls

indicate that, by a small margin, Ohioans generally support marijuana legalization but there is still an uphill battle for proponents. Many voters who likely would support issue 3 also don't normally vote in off year elections. Further, since it grants a small group of investors a commercial monopoly, many marijuana supporters are actually opposed to issue 3. ResponsibleOhio does have a significant cash advantage, which will force opponents to focus more on grassroots outreach. Both sides will be vying for early votes and will be targeting low-propensity voters to drive up turnout in their favor.

### **THE SPEAKER HAS SPOKEN; What/Who is next?**

In a stunning surprise, US House Speaker John Boehner announced his retirement effective the end of the month. By all counts, not even insiders saw the announcement coming. Generally, the Speaker cited his concerns for protecting the institution of the US House. Boehner said repeatedly in his statement he has known for some time that he would step down this year; however, he woke up one morning and said "today is the day". His reference about his concern for the institution stem from the angling that Tea Party Republicans have been initiating relative to a eliminating Planned Parenthood funding verses an overall government shut down. Boehner is wholly opposed to a shut down and the extremely detrimental effects it would have on the economy.

While we wait to see what Boehner's next move is, is southwest Ohio, there is a scurry to see who will run for his Congressional seat. Among the potential contenders is State Senator Bill Beagle (R; Tipp City), Butler County Auditor Roger Reynolds, Rep. Tim Derickson (R; Oxford) and others. Also eligible could be Sen. Chris Widener (R; Springfield) who is term-limited and Senate President Keith Faber (R; Celina) (also term limited). The 8th Congressional district is comprised of all of Butler, Clark, Darke, Miami, and Preble counties, and the southernmost part of Mercer County. Butler County is the largest voting population in this district, so, whoever can win Butler County will likely get the nod in the special election.

## **ODA PASSES POSTING RULE CLARIFICATION; INSURANCE RULE UP FOR COMMENT**

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has been working on a number of changes and clarifications to their rules as found in Title 9 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). Among them are rules dealing with pesticide applications.

One rule clarification that passed recently dealt with the signs lawn care applicators use to post after a treatment. Since 1989, the rule has stipulated the sign size and the information that has to be included on the sign. While by and large there has been general compliance throughout the years, ODA wanted to clarify the parameters. Apparently some (a few?) lawn care companies have liberally interpreted the sign rule and have instead posted larger signs that allegedly advertise more than inform the public of the required information. OLCA was informed about this rule change when ODA staff met with the OLCA board some time ago. While there was at least one company who protested, the rule as filed by ODA passed. You can see the new rule by navigating the ODA website.

Meanwhile, ODA has continued to wrangle with the rule pertaining to insurance requirements. OCLA Executive

Director Mark Bennett has attended a number of interested party meetings and participated in conference calls on this complicated subject. Recently, ODA released a new draft rule for your review and comment.

**We urge all of you to review the rule with your insurance carrier so that you know specifically how this rule will impact you.**

You may email me at [bjones@capitol-consulting.net](mailto:bjones@capitol-consulting.net) and I will send you a pdf of the draft rule or you can access it online by visiting:

[http://www.agri.ohio.gov/public\\_docs/ProposedRules/2015.09.25%20-%20AMR%20-%20Pesticide%20Insurance.docx.pdf](http://www.agri.ohio.gov/public_docs/ProposedRules/2015.09.25%20-%20AMR%20-%20Pesticide%20Insurance.docx.pdf)

COMMENTS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 27, 2015.

## **Just Take a Look Around You** by Doug Hague, TruGreen Lima/Findlay

Just take a look around you. Each and every day brings a fresh reminder as to why we as Americans are the most fortunate people on earth. We live in a country where freedom is the foundation of our existence. Often times we take those freedoms for granted. Simple things like going on a weekend vacation or taking in a football game seem so normal for most of us. Daily activities like going out to dinner or spending the day working in the garden can seem almost mundane at times.

For our nation's veterans, life was anything but mundane as they fought the wars and did what was required of them no matter the cost to ensure that we can be called Americans, the freest people on earth. Without that commitment to duty, we might just be living out the nightmare that so many others throughout our troubled world face daily with no end in sight.

I know quite a few veterans myself and am very proud to

call these remarkable individuals my friends and yet I have never once been asked for a thank you or any kind of special recognition from even one of them. Our men and women of the military, both active and retired, both living and dead find their purpose to be justified by a need to remain free and to preserve that freedom for all without accolades or fanfare.

No, my friends, the job of accolades and thankfulness lies squarely on those of us who benefit from their dedication to purpose and sacrifice. When was the last time you walked up to a soldier or veteran in McDonalds, shook their hand and thanked them and then bought their lunch. Believe me it makes for a pretty special moment for both of you.

On Saturday, November 7, 2015, we need your help more than ever in Dayton at the Dayton National Cemetery and in Rittman at the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery. Please plan to be a part of OLCA's premiere event that captures the essence of that small token of appreciation that we have come to know as "A Grateful Embrace".

Visit [www.OhioLawnCare.org](http://www.OhioLawnCare.org) for more information or call 800-510-5296.



**A GRATEFUL EMBRACE  
November 7, 2015  
Dayton National Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio  
The Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery, Rittman, Ohio**

We invite all lawn care and landscape professionals to join us on Saturday, November 7 at the Dayton National Cemetery in Dayton and/or Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman for "A Grateful Embrace". Show your support to our soldiers and veterans by giving back to those who gave all. Please fill out the form below and fax it to the OLCA office at 740-452-2552 by November 3.

Here is a brief summary of the day's events:

- Arrival and check in times for each event will be 7:45 am
- Donuts and coffee will be served and you will be assigned your area.
- We will have a short ceremony at 8:30 am at each venue capturing the spirit and humbleness of the event that includes guest speakers, Honor Guard and Benediction.
- Work commences at the conclusion of the ceremony
- Most of the materials (fertilizer) will be provided through the generous donations of our industry suppliers.

However, we are asking that those who can donate 5 bags of fertilizer to the cause.

- You'll need to bring spreaders, blowers and all the manpower you can muster to help us get 160 acres of turf fertilized on that day.
- Lunch is also provided!

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to honor those men, women and their families, both living and deceased, who provided the ultimate sacrifice that we might remain a free nation.

We promise that after participating in the Grateful Embrace, you will never be the same again – just ask anyone that has participated in this event!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION: \_\_\_DAYTON \_\_\_RITTMAN NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

EQUIPMENT YOU CAN BRING:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Spreaders, Blowers, Ride-ons, Brooms, etc.)

ITEMS TO DONATE: \_\_\_\_\_



## Ohio Lawn Care Association 2016 Sponsorship Program

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Main Contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Gold Level Sponsorship - PRICE = \$1,299** (more than 25% savings)

Includes:

- Full Page Ad (black & white or color) in 2 newsletters (\$300 value)
- 5 minutes upfront face time with attendees at both field days and annual meeting to promote company and new products (\$100 value)
- Event Sponsor of both Field Days. Sponsorship includes logo placement on promotional materials, signage, handouts and equipment/product display space (\$600 value)
- Main Sponsor for podcast.
- Complimentary Registration to both Summer Seminars (\$80 value)
- Annual Meeting Sponsor – Includes table display space (\$125 value)
- Website logo and link to sponsor site (\$500 value)
- One-year Supplier Membership (\$150 value)

**Silver Level Sponsorship - PRICE = \$999** (more than 30% savings)

Includes:

- Half Page Ad (black & white or color) in 2 newsletters (\$150 value)
- Event Sponsor of 2 Field Days. Sponsorship includes logo placement on promotional materials, signage, handouts, 5 minutes to talk about your product at lunch and equipment demonstration space (\$600 value)
- Complimentary Registration to 2 Summer Seminars (\$80 value)
- Annual Meeting Sponsors – Includes table display space (\$125 value)
- Website logo and link to sponsor site (\$500 value)
- One-year Supplier Membership (\$150 value)

**Bronze Level Sponsorship - PRICE = \$650** (more than 40% savings)

Includes:

- Event Sponsor of 2 Field Days. Sponsorship includes logo placement on promotional materials, signage, handouts, 5 minutes to talk about your product at lunch and equipment demonstration space (\$600 value)
- Annual Meeting Sponsors – Includes table display space (\$125 value)
- Website logo and link to sponsor site (\$500 value)
- One-year Supplier Membership (\$150 value)

**To confirm your participation as a 2016 OLCA sponsor, please check the appropriate box above and return to:**

**OLCA**  
**1100-H Brandywine Blvd**  
**Zanesville, OH 43701**  
**Fax: 740-452-2552 Phone: 800-510-5296**  
**www.OhioLawnCare.org**

**PAYMENT:**

Check (Make check payable to **OLCA**)

To pay by credit card, please visit [www.OLCA.com](http://www.OLCA.com) and **Sign In** (located in the upper right corner). OLCA currently accepts the following credit cards: Discover, MasterCard and VISA. OLCA is unable to accept credit cards by phone, fax or by mail.

If you do not remember your Username or Password, use the Reset Your Password on the OLCA web site by entering the email address associated with your member record. Please contact the OLCA office at 740-452-4541 if you have any questions or have trouble logging in. We appreciate your support of the Ohio Lawn Care Association.

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Rcvd.	_____
Amt.	_____
Ck #	_____
Ackd.	_____



1100-H Brandywine Blvd  
Zanesville OH USA 43701-7303

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# OHIO LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION

Phone: 800-510-5296 • Fax: 740-452-2552 • [www.OhioLawnCare.org](http://www.OhioLawnCare.org)

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