



03 WEED CONTROL
A Guide for Professionals



07 FERTILIZATION
Why in Late Fall?



09 TURF TIPS
Gray Leaf Spots in Ohio

fall 2014 / www.ohiolawncares.org

OLCA NEWS



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

A GRATEFUL EMBRACE November 8, The Ohio Lawn Care Association (OLCA), Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association (ONLA) and the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) with the support of the Ohio AgriBusiness Association will partake in the annual community service of beautifying the hallowed grounds of two veterans' cemeteries. The Annual Grateful Embrace will be held on November 8 in Rittman at the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery and in Dayton at the Dayton National Veterans Cemetery. This is an opportunity for lawn care professionals to give back to those who gave. To sign up, contact Lori Landry at lrandry@offinger.com.

CENTS SHOW **Columbus, OH** The Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association (ONLA) will hold its Annual CENTS Show January 7-9, 2015 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Attendee registration will be available soon. Visit www.CentsMarketplace.com for complete event details.

OLCA ANNUAL MEETING **Columbus, OH** The Ohio Lawn Care Association will hold its Annual Meeting Thursday, January 8, 2015 in conjunction with the CENTS Show. Invitations will be mailed in November. The OLCA Applicator of the Year will be announced during the OLCA Annual Meeting. Watch your mailbox for your invitation.

A MESSAGE from your President, Ray Iacobucci, TruGreen



As you read this, it is hard to believe that it is autumn already! This past summer was one of the mildest I can recall and it provided rather good conditions for lawn growth and health. I trust you all had a rewarding season. As you were being good stewards of our environment, creating healthy

lawns and landscapes by the vital services you provided, a few things occurred that are worth noting:

- The Northeast Ohio Lawn Care Seminar was held in Wooster on June 19 at the Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center. We had a very good turnout and attendees learned from the educational topics that included proper soil fertility and pH for optimal growth, lawn weed control options, lawn disease update and means of control, application and equipment calibration, application best practices and an equipment showcase.
- The 20th annual Ohio Lawn Care Outdoor Summer Seminar was held August 7 at the Ohio State Research center. We had perfect weather that set the back drop for a comprehensive range of topics: Pesticide Update – Frequently Misunderstood Rules; Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers Insect and Disease Update; Organics and Synthetic Lawn Care – History, Differences, Results, and Environmental Stewardship; Current Diseases and Lawn Problems – How to Identify and Manage; Lawn Insect Update – Chinch Bugs, Billbugs, and Grubs; Weed Control in the Field – Identify, Manage, and Product Update. Also included was a product and equipment showcase.

We had greater attendance at both of these educational events this year in contrast to previous years – did you take advantage of these opportunities this year?

- Algae blooms in Lake Erie and water quality issues in the Toledo area: The recent Toledo Water Quality episode (or crises) significantly heightened the already important discussion on water quality phosphorus and algae. The Ohio Lawn Care Association is in partnership with the Ohio Pesticide Applicators for Responsible Legislation (OPARR). OPARR was in-tune with the news of the water quality issue and stayed abreast of developments regarding phosphorous sources and the Lake Erie caucus that was formed by the Ohio legislature to address the issue.

Now, about some upcoming events:

- The Grateful Embrace: We invite lawn care professionals to join us on Saturday, November 8 at either the Dayton National Cemetery in Dayton or Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman. Join fellow professionals and show your support to our soldiers and veterans by volunteering to fertilize the lawn acreage. Please consider enlisting to help at this year's event – you can do so at the OLCA Web page and click on the 'Events Calendar' link.
- 2014 Applicator of the Year: The Board of Trustees of the Ohio Lawn Care Association is pleased to announce the Ohio Lawn Care Applicator of the Year Award will be presented again this year. This prestigious award helps illustrate OLCA's mission to improve the environment through better lawn care. Nominations and applications are available at the OLCA website

Finally, a request: We need YOU!

- If you know of other lawn and landscape professionals that are not OLCA members, invite them to join our great organization
- Become a Board Member: We have a strong organization, due in part by its active Board with support from our Executive Director Mark Bennett and Event Manager Lori Landry. We can become even better by having new Board members serve a vital role in our Organization!

Our mission statement: "Serving the lawn care industry by providing essential resources for its members." With increased membership, member input and new board members, we can continue with this quest. Go to the OLCA website at www.OhioLawnCare.org and visit us on Facebook and search for Ohio Lawn Care Association (OLCA).

Also, we'd like to hear from you: You can contact me or one of our board members from our web page by going to the 'About OLCA' link on the home page.

TURF WEED CONTROL – Guide for Professionals

This is an excellent resource for all lawn care managers to keep up to date on the latest products, application techniques and a helpful training tool.



The Purdue University Extension has an outstanding professional weed control publication. This has been compiled by Dr. Aaron Patton, Associate Professor of Agronomy and Turfgrass Extension Specialist Purdue University and has been reviewed by Dr. David Gardner, OSU Associate Professor Department of Horticulture and Crop Science. It is updated each year with the new addition available after the first of the year.

The 2014 edition of Turfgrass Weed Control for Professionals is available. The 96-page publication includes content on:

- Turfgrass Culture
- Weed Types
- Weed Life Cycles
- Developing a Weed Control Program

- Indicator Weeds
- Herbicide Information (use, nomenclature, classification, mode of action, movement, resistance, etc.)
- Control of Tough Weeds
- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers About Weed Control with Herbicides
- Nonselective Herbicides/Fumigants for Turfgrass Renovation
- Nonselective Herbicides for Turfgrass Border Maintenance (Edging)
- Preemergence Herbicides (weed control ratings for preemergence herbicides, turf tolerance information, and more instructions for each product)
- Postemergence Herbicides (weed control ratings for postemergence broadleaf herbicides and turf tolerance, and more instructions for each product)
- Commonly Used Broadleaf Herbicide Combinations for Turfgrass
- Active Ingredients in Commonly Used Herbicide Combinations
- Sedge Control Herbicides (sedge control and turfgrass tolerance ratings, turf tolerance information, and more instructions for each product)
- Plant Growth Regulators for General Turf Use
- Preemergence, Postemergence and PGR Options for Putting Greens
- Postemergence Weed Control in Creeping Bentgrass Putting Greens
- Common and Trade Names of Registered Herbicides and Plant Growth Regulators (278 different products and 103 unique herbicide ingredient combination are discussing in this publication)
- Herbicide/PGR Common Names, Chemical Families and Modes of Action
- Herbicide Math

This is truly a comprehensive guide for those using herbicides in turf regardless of whether you manage athletic fields, a golf course, lawns, cemeteries, sod farms, parks or other turf areas.

Added in 2014 were:

- New Herbicides (six new products)
- Updated weed control recommendations based on label changes and new research
- Revised and updated answers Frequently Asked Questions

A pdf version is for sale for \$10 for those that want an electronic copy. Use this electronic copy on all your devices. The publication is available at https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item_number=AY-336. It is sold for \$12 as a hard copy (paperback). For companies with many employees interested in this information, a 25% discounted bulk order of 25 copies is available for \$225.

2014 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 2014 scholarship is November 10, 2014. Applications are available on the OLCA website at www.OhioLawnCare.org.

2014 OHIO LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Name _____

Social Security Number _____ Birth Date _____

Home Address _____

Phone Number _____

Local Mailing Address _____

Local Phone Number _____ E- mail address _____ @ _____

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: _____

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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

continued on page 10

FROM YOUR Executive Director, Mark Bennett, CAE, IOM



The air has started turning cooler which means winter is just around the corner. As your busy season begins to draw to a close, know that OLCA continues to strive to help you protect and grow your business.

Plan to join us for the Grateful Embrace on Saturday, November 8 either in Dayton or Rittman. Since 1994, OLCA through its generous membership has devoted countless hours and materials to the task of beautifying the hallowed grounds at the Dayton National Veterans Cemetery. In 2011, with the help of ONLA, OLCA added the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman. This annual event is a fantastic way for the lawn care and landscape industries 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 has partnered with the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association (ONLA) to support the CENTS Show in January in Columbus. In addition to helping develop a track of education at the Show aimed specifically at lawn care operators, OLCA will hold its annual meeting on January 8 during lunch. Watch for additional information closer to the date. Additionally, OLCA helped develop a lawn care track of education for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Show, December 9-11, at the Kalahari Convention Center in Sandusky. These are two must-attend events for those in Ohio's lawn care industry.

Be sure you are taking advantage of all of the great benefits OLCA has to offer its members. Did you know that the average OLCA member saves \$2,540 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.

The algae blooms in Lake Erie that affected Toledo residents' drinking water in August were of concern to OLCA as well as how lawn care operators were portrayed in the media contributing to the problem. OLCA is a member of Ohio Professional Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR) and provided research studies to OPARR as its members met with legislators to discuss the issue. We will continue to generate research about the effects fertilizer and healthy turf have on the environment.

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

OHIO LAWN CARE APPLICATOR 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:

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 450 professional lawn care companies throughout Ohio, and its mission is demonstrated every day by its members.

Applications will be accepted until November 10, 2014 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 10. To submit your nomination, please complete and return the application on page 6 or submit online at www.OhioLawnCare.org.



Ohio Lawn Care Applicator of the Year Nomination Form

Mail your completed nomination form and required documentation by November 10, 2014 to:
OLCA Applicator of the Year • 1100-H Brandywine Blvd • Zanesville, OH 43701 • Fax: 740-452-2552

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 Applicator of the Year?
(Leadership, Customer Relations, Knowledge of Job, Job Performance, Problem Solving)

Greatest Achievement?

Best Customer Comment:

Attach any customer letters if available.

WHY FERTILIZE IN LATE FALL?

Compiled from The Ohio State University, Penn State University and Purdue University – J.W. Rimelspanch

Late fall fertilization has been promoted as a means of prolonging turf color of cool-season grasses into early winter and increasing turfgrass health. Improved winter color is more noticeable in regions where winters are warmer (Mid-Atlantic and transition-zone states) and during mild winters. In Ohio this will depend on how soon harsh winter conditions develop after the application and the duration and severity of the winter. Many of the benefits of late fall fertilization are seen the next year as earlier green-up, improved turf density, increased tolerance to spring diseases, and fewer weeds.

A small but potentially important increase in the plant's carbohydrate reserves can occur when fertilizer is applied in late fall. Turfgrasses accumulate carbohydrates in stems and rhizomes during fall. These carbohydrates help turf resist winter injury and aid in environmental stress resistance the following spring and summer. Because carbohydrates are tapped for energy by roots and shoots during periods of rapid growth, forcing excess growth with fertilizer applications at any time can deplete carbohydrates quickly, leaving turf vulnerable to stresses.

Another reported benefit of late fall fertilization is an increase in rooting, though precisely when and how this increase occurs is a source of some debate. Maximum root growth of cool-season turfgrasses occurs in spring and fall. Some root growth will occur in winter if temperatures are above freezing, whereas little if any growth occurs in summer. Fertilizer applications are made in spring and late summer in attempts to promote root growth.

One problem in using this approach is that much of the fertilizer is used by the shoots, sometimes preferentially over roots. One reported advantage of late fall fertilization is that roots are still growing at a time when shoot growth has ceased, thus allowing the roots to make full use of the fertilizer. However, during this period root growth is very slow, and if the soil is frozen, they do not grow at all. Consequently, the benefit of increased root growth in response to fall fertilization is questionable.

One study in Virginia showed that moderate rates of soluble nitrogen (1 lb. nitrogen/1000 sq. ft.) in late fall increased rooting of turfgrass without a noticeable increase in shoot growth. In contrast, a study in Ohio showed no increase in root growth during late fall or winter following late fall fertilizer applications. However, when compared to early spring applications of nitrogen, late fall fertilization allowed more

rooting in spring. Presumably, this benefit was due to early spring green-up from late fall applications.

Late fall fertilization is occasionally blamed for increased winter injury, snow mold, and annual bluegrass encroachment. A few studies have been designed to examine the influence of late fall fertilization on winter injury. None have conclusively demonstrated detrimental effects. Heavy (excessive nitrogen) fertilization in mid-fall when grass shoots are actively growing can enhance snow mold diseases due to increased growth and more succulent leaf tissue. Increased plant growth and succulence should not occur with late fall fertilization. In fact, some research has shown that late fall fertilization may actually reduce winter diseases.

While some studies have shown increased annual bluegrass populations in fall, there is no good evidence to show that this increase is related to late fall fertilization.

When to Apply

Most agree that late fall fertilization should take place when foliar growth stops (or slows to the point that turf no longer needs to be mowed), grass is still green, and before the soil freezes. In Ohio, this period often occurs sometime in November. Application timing may vary from year to year depending on weather conditions and location.

Fertilizer sources and rates

Most late fall fertilization programs focus on nitrogen. Rates vary and may range from approximately 0.75 to 1.5 lb. of mostly soluble nitrogen/1000 sq. ft. The success of late fall fertilization is based on a late summer/early fall application being made for the turf to recover from summer stress and to maximize utilization of the late fall fertilizer. One study at the University of Illinois showed that when nitrogen was applied at moderate rates in late fall (1 lb. of nitrogen/1000 sq. ft.) both urea and sulfur-coated urea provided a better early spring color response than Milorganite. However, when Milorganite or sulfur-coated urea was applied in late fall at a higher rate of nitrogen (2 lb. of nitrogen/1000 sq. ft.), spring green-up was similar to that obtained from applying urea at a lower rate (1 lb. of nitrogen/1000 sq. ft. in late fall).

Slow or controlled-release nitrogen sources may be a better choice than soluble sources on sandy soils because of reduced potential for leaching. Nitrogen fertilizer should never be applied to frozen soil due to the increased chance of nutrient runoff.

Although application timing is not as critical with phosphorus and potassium as it is with nitrogen, these elements can benefit turf when applied in late fall. Phosphorus is important for root growth and maturation of turfgrasses and application rates should be determined according to soil test recommendations.

continued on page 8

continued from page 7

If your soil test report indicates a need for phosphorus, late fall is a good time to fertilize. However, there is no need to apply additional phosphorus if it is present at sufficient levels or if there are concerns about movement off the turf area.

Summary

Late fall fertilization should take place when shoot growth ceases, the grass is still green, and before the soil freezes. Benefits of fertilizing in late fall include better winter color, enhanced spring green-up, possibly increased rooting, improved turf density, increased tolerance to spring diseases, and fewer weeds the next year.

To avoid potential leaching and runoff problems, use slow-release nitrogen sources on sandy soils. Do not apply fertilizer to frozen soils.

Keep in mind that late fall fertilization should be one component of a properly designed fertility plan for the client and to accomplish a sound integrated turfgrass health management program. A healthy dense stand of turfgrass provides many environmental benefits such as: carbon storage (sequestration), soil and water stabilization (erosion control), prevention of nutrient runoff, cooling effect, recreational use, increased property value and an improved environment.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NOVEMBER 8:

A Grateful Embrace

Dayton National Veterans Cemetery – Dayton, OH
Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery – Rittman, OH

NOVEMBER 10:

Applicator of the Year Award Deadline
Scholarship Application Deadline

OLCA SUMMER SEMINARS WERE A SUCCESS!

OLCA held the 12th Annual Northeast Ohio Lawn Care Seminar on June 19 at The Ohio State University/OARDC Fisher Auditorium in Wooster with 132 attendees receiving 1.5 credit hours in Category 8; 0.5 credit hours in Core and 1.0 credit hour in Category 6.

The 20th Annual Ohio Lawn Care Outdoor Summer Seminar took place on August 7 at The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research & Education Facility in Columbus with 197 attendees receiving 1.0 credit hour in Category 8; 0.5 credit hours of Core and 1.0 credit hour in Category 6.

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



TURF TIPS Gray Leaf Spot in Ohio

by Joseph W. Rimelspach, Todd E. Hicks and Francesca Peduto, Hand Department of Plant Pathology

Over the Labor Day weekend and the week prior to Labor Day 2014, Gray Leaf Spot was active. Cases were confirmed in several locations in central and southern Ohio. This can be a very destructive disease to perennial ryegrass. If this disease is suspected and you would like confirmation send samples to the OSU Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic; ppdc.osu.edu.

Gray Leaf Spot is caused by the fungus *Pyricularia oryzae* (teleomorph *Magnaporthe grisea*) and can be a severe problem in the Midwest on perennial ryegrass. It is also a serious disease on rice called blast. Gray leaf spot can occur on ryegrass athletic fields, golf courses, home lawns and parks. Weather patterns that favor Gray Leaf Spot are warm to hot temperatures, excessive moisture and high relative humidity especially at night, and periodic rainfall.

Symptoms:

Gray leaf spot or Blast gets its name from the devastating scorched appearance it causes on the foliage of turfgrass. Quite literally, severe outbreaks look as if the turfgrass leaves have been scorched with a flamethrower! Initially symptoms of Gray Leaf Spot may appear as drought-like symptoms. Check the soil to see if there is adequate soil moisture. The pathogen kills the plant by causing severe leaf blight. Part of the blighting process involves the production of phytotoxic chemicals, which disrupt the normal biochemical and physiological balance within the plant. Initial symptoms often appear as small pinprick lesions, which often go unnoticed or mistaken as a less aggressive leaf spot disease. Under optimal environmental and host conditions, these small spots quickly turn into water soaked spots, which then coalesce into water-soaked leaf tips which then progress rapidly to twisted necrotic leaf tips. Patches of Kentucky bluegrass, fine fescues, bentgrass and many perennial weedy grasses and annual grass will not be affected. In later stages of disease development, the sward may take on a gray color as a result of the mass production

of spores/conidia by the pathogen – hence its name, gray leaf spot. In most cases the ryegrass will quickly die and appears as drought stress however the soil is wet. In years when there are Gray Leaf Spot outbreaks there is a strong correlation to weather patterns of warm days and nights combined with high humidity and rain fall from the remains of hurricanes that trace through the Ohio valley.

Cultural Management Practices:

- Reduce or limit nitrogen fertilizer in the summer. Avoid quick-release sources of nitrogen.
- Irrigate early morning and avoid evening irrigation. Check the soil moisture level because the disease mimics drought stress. Over watering increases the severity of this disease.
- On athletic fields be wary of using rain tarps during gray leaf spot-susceptible times (mid-August through September in the Midwest).
- Replace damaged areas with a resistant type of turfgrass such as Kentucky bluegrass.
- If ryegrass is planted use new perennial ryegrass cultivars that are developed to be less susceptibility to the disease. Check the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) website for results of field testing; ntep.org.

Here are some improved perennial ryegrass cultivars: All Star 3, Dasher 3, Defender, Derby Extreme, Fiesta 4, SR 4600, Harrier, Derby Extreme, Manhattan 5 GLR, Charismatic II GLSR, Palmer IV, Palmer GLS, Paragon GLR, Panther GLS, Protégé, Regal 5, Repel GLS, Revenge GLX, Fusion and Buena Vista.

When selecting seed make sure ALL CULTIVARS of ryegrass HAVE IMPROVED GLS RESISTANCE. If a cultivar is stated to have GLS resistance this does not mean it is immune and over time susceptibility to GLS can change.

Chemical Management:

Chemical management must be timed to prevent damage. Stopping this disease once established in a sward can be extremely difficult and may result in loss of turfgrass. Some of the most effective products are: thiophanate-methyl, azoxystrobin, trifloxystrobin, pyraclostrobin, and DMI's + chlorothalonil.

continued on page 10

continued from page 9

Resistance to fungicides has been reported. No more than two applications of the chemical family's benzimidazole (thiophanate-methyl) or strobilurins (azoxystrobin/pyraclostrobin), for the season, is recommended to avoid the development of fungicide resistance. Read labels carefully for more information. Fungicide programs in most years should be started in mid-July to early August depending on historic patterns of disease development in the area.

Remember disease prevention applications, PRE-DISEASE, are much better and successful than POST disease infection applications.



An athletic field with Gray Leaf Spot (GLS) 2014, Columbus Ohio.



Close-up of infected perennial ryegrass with GLS.

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Please state personal and educational objectives for your future: _____

Indicate other assistance and/or scholarships received: _____

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 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2014. ALL 2014 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



Ohio Lawn Care Association 2015 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 2015 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)
 American Express Discover MasterCard VISA
All payments in US funds drawn on US banks. \$25 fee charged for returned checks.

Credit Card Account # _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____ Amt to be charged \$ _____

Cardholder's Name (Print) _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Authorized Signature _____

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



SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

OTF Conference & Show and Ohio State University Green Industry Short Course Education and Registration is now available!

The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and The Ohio State University Extension Nursery, Landscape and Turf Team (ENLT Team) recently released the education schedule for the newly formed Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference & Show and Ohio State University Green Industry Short Course taking place December 9-11 in Sandusky, Ohio.

The new event combines two of the green industry's most reputable educational conferences into one comprehensive event for professionals who are looking to grow their business and their career. As attendees of both conferences have become accustomed to, this year's event is jam-packed with exceptional opportunities to learn from some of the most respected authorities from across the country.

With nearly 200 hours of education scheduled for this three-day event, attendees will learn about new products and practices that can make an immediate impact in their turf and horticulture programs.

This year's event will be held at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky, Ohio. The new venue provides an opportunity to learn and network (and have fun!) all under one roof.

OTF remains committed to providing resources to the industry through its support of research, education, advocacy and student scholarships. Revenue generated from the annual conference and tradeshow ultimately benefits industry professionals through applied research, extension services, legislative representation and much more!

For more information about the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference & Show and Ohio State University Green Industry Short Course, including exhibitor information, please visit www.otfshow.org or contact OTF at 614.285.4683.

About the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation:

Founded in 1961, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation has become one of the leading organizations of its kind, contributing nearly \$5 million to the industry in the form of research grants, gifts and student scholarships. Each year, thousands of industry professionals attend OTF events including the OTF Conference and Show. OTF strives to provide members and event attendees with value for their investment through industry updates, legislative representation and leading continuing education opportunities. For more information about the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, visit www.ohioturfgrass.org.

For complete details, contact the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation at 614.285.4683 or visit the website at www.otfshow.org.

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 in this newsletter for details on what each level of sponsorship includes. Members are encouraged to support the sponsors who support the organization.

OLCA THANKS THE FOLLOWING 2014 SPONSORS:

- Agrium Advanced Technologies Direct Solutions •
- Careworks Family of Companies • Nufarm • Syngenta •

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

by Belinda Jones, Capitol Consulting Group, Inc.

FALL/WINTER FORECAST FOR CAP SQUARE

As we approach the post-election legislative season referred to as “lame duck”, it is time to try to anticipate or forecast the policy change outlook for the remainder of the calendar year. Of course, anything can happen in lame duck as retiring legislators maneuver, negotiate and cajole to get their pet projects through before the 130th General Assembly recesses “sine die” (forever). Still, amidst the unknown and the unpredictable, there are bills we know are worth watching.

GENERALLY SPEAKING

Recently, when asked to make his own predictions about Senate action in lame duck, Senate President Keith Faber (R; Celina) indicated that he believes his caucus will consider making reforms on gun laws, traffic camera legislation and redistricting. Additionally, Senator Faber stated that the Senate will likely take action on municipal tax reform.

HB 5

Do you remember HB 5, the municipal income tax reform bill? OLCA and other green industry partners lobbied in favor of this bill at our biannual “Green Industry Advocacy Day” event in February of 2013. Since that time, bill sponsor, Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R; Grove City) along with the Coalition for Municipal Tax Reform and its members has participated in countless hearings, meetings, conference calls and high level meetings. The House passed HB 5 before the summer recess. The Senate is expected to act during lame duck. Can’t remember the content of the bill? See: http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/BillText/130/130_HB_5_PH_Y.pdf.

HB 490

One bill likely to be a candidate for the “Christmas tree” is HB 490, the Environment Mid Biennial Budget Review (MBR). The term “Christmas tree” is used for a bill that is likely to pass, thus, it is subject to numerous “ornaments” – amendments that legislators want to slip in before the close of session. As introduced, the bill would not have a major impact on any programs in the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA); however, because it is a “clean up” bill in several provisions of law impacting ODA, OEPA and ODNR, it is “open for business” in any of those areas. As such, we will be watching this bill closely as it moves through the House Ag Committee, the full House and in the Senate. If you are inclined to read through this bill, see: http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/BillText/130/130_HB_490_I_Y.pdf.

HB 453

Another bill we are watching that will likely pass is HB 453. Introduced by Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R; Marysville), HB 453 makes changes to the Ohio Revised Code “to include diseases of concern within the scope of the Animal Diseases Law, and to make changes to the laws governing weights and measures and auctioneers, the membership of the Farmland Preservation Advisory Board, and the pesticide licensing renewal process.” Specific to OLCA, and all pesticide applicator licensees, are the provisions that clarify the pesticide renewal process. In general, under current law, licensees are taking advantage of the renewal grace period and in some cases, wait until the last possible moment to renew, in effect allowing too much time to lapse between the expiration date and the renewal. ODA wants to clean that up and we should, too. Watch for more details and/or check out the bill: http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/BillText/130/130_HB_453_I_Y.pdf.

MEANWHILE ON THE PHOSPHOROUS FRONT ...

Legislation aside, your green industry leaders are keenly focused on the headlines that reference phosphorous and its contribution harmful algae blooms (HABs). Why are we so keenly focused on all of these discussions when phosphorous has been removed from most lawn fertilizers? Because, although WE know that phosphorous has been removed from lawn fertilizers (with the exception of starter fertilizers and maintenance), THE PUBLIC does not know and legislators won’t know unless we tell them. After the Toledo water crises in early August, the “Lake Erie Caucus” of legislators had a public hearing at Maumee Bay State Park. Legislators from the Lake Erie region listened to 28 witnesses in a room of nearly 200 people. We attended that hearing. Here are (paraphrased) some of the comments we heard from elected officials on that day and subsequent to that day:

“We know that agriculture is doing its part, but what about lawn chemicals?”

“How about golf courses? They have to be putting down a lot of phosphorous?”

“OK, so maybe phosphorous is not prevalent in lawn products but there MUST be bad things used otherwise they would not be required to post those little signs ...?”

OLCA, OPARR and others are continually working to be in the rooms and halls of these discussions and you should, too!

Attend any local meetings that you can. Be part of the discussion. One legislator told me (paraphrased), “If you are not in the room defending yourself, you are getting blamed.”

Be vigilant and communicative. What are you hearing? Tell us so we may respond.



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