



# The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 28 Issue 7

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Winter Edition 2021/2022



*Happy 2022  
to you  
and your family  
from the  
CPGCSA  
Board of Directors*

## 2022 CPGCSA Annual Elections

Ballots for the 2022 CPGCSA Annual election will be emailed on March 15th. The board has decided to postpone the Winter Educational Meeting this year, and our voting will be done by email.

Nominations are as follows:

**President - Pete Ramsey, Range End Golf Club**

**Vice President - Chris Martin, Crossgates Golf Course**

**Secretary/Treasurer - George Manos, Overlook Golf Club**

**Director - Kristen Dull, Bent Creek Country Club**

If you are interested in serving on the CPGCSA Board of Directors, please contact Wanda at [cpgcsa@hotmail.com](mailto:cpgcsa@hotmail.com).



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### Networking

No other single event attracts more experts and innovators from every aspect of the golf course management industry. From the Opening Reception Monday night to the Closing Celebration on Thursday night and everything in between, there are so many opportunities to make connections.

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## David Rafferty Dedication, Leadership, & Service Award

The Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the 2021 Rafferty Award. This award recognizes dedication, leadership and service to CPGCSA and its members. The award will honor the memory of Dave Rafferty.

- Current or previous members attaining a minimum of 14 years association membership. This is the number of years Dave was a CPGCSA member.
- All classes of membership shall be eligible to receive the award although superintendent or retired superintendent nominees will receive favored consideration. The award is dedicated to an individual who worked hard for our association. Other classes of membership will not be ignored but must show outstanding dedication, leadership and service.
- Friend of the association that has demonstrated dedication to the organization and to the growth of the profession.

**[Nomination Form](#)**

## Presidents Message

I hope this message finds everyone well. Hopefully you were able to take some time off over the holidays and spend it with family and friends. Sounds like 2021 was another record for just about everyone in the golf industry. Hopefully the enthusiasm for the game continues and some of this growth is sustainable. If the demand for golf equipment is any indication, next year should be good again. I recently tried to schedule a fitting for new clubs at one of those nationwide retailers and couldn't get an appointment for over a month. I guess that's a good sign.

Thank you to Steve Ehrhart and the staff at Bent Creek for an incredible day to wrap up our season. The course was in excellent condition and the staff was very helpful to honor Wanda and her service to Central Penn and our industry. The October meeting was the single most well attended event in Central Penn history. Given all the challenges of 2021, we had a great year. Thank you to all who hosted meetings. The board is working on the 2022 schedule and looking forward to another record year. If you are interested in hosting a meeting or participating on the board please reach out to us. Our association is going strong and growing once again!

See you in May!  
Pete Ramsey

## American Golf Industry Coalition

### Rebranded 'American Golf Industry Coalition' Focused on Addressing Golf's Collective Priorities, Led by *Make Golf Your Thing* DEI Initiative

**ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (Jan. 24, 2022)** – Today, the organization formerly known as “We Are Golf” announced that it has rebranded as the [American Golf Industry Coalition](#). Representing a partnership among golf's leading organizations, the coalition is committed to addressing the collective interests of the industry.

A primary area of focus centers around helping to facilitate the industry's diversity, equity and inclusion initiative, known as [Make Golf Your Thing](#). Through those efforts, the coalition also provides support to the six cross-industry work groups dedicated to making golf accessible to all (education & skill development, talent acquisition, procurement, human resources, youth & adult player development, and marketing/communications). Additionally, the coalition contributes to advocacy efforts for legislative and regulatory issues of importance to the industry.

“The golf industry is comprised of more than two million people who wake up every day giving their all to a game that is growing and evolving,” said Rhett Evans, Chairman, American Golf Industry Coalition Executive Leadership Committee & CEO, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. “I am proud of the platform and vision the newly-branded coalition provides for addressing golf's collective issues on behalf of the industry it represents.”

For more than a dozen years since its founding, the American Golf Industry Coalition has become a banner under which golf's collective priorities can be addressed. The coalition assembles industry representatives annually in Washington, D.C., to meet with elected officials and advocate on behalf of golf's \$84 billion economy, \$4 billion charitable impact and two million jobs throughout the U.S. The industry came together virtually for ‘National Golf Day’ in 2021 due to the coronavirus, and details on 2022 National Golf Day will be made available soon.

The coalition also works to amplify tangible examples of key initiatives at both the grassroots and industry workforce level and advocate in support of issues that impact the industry at the state and federal level.

#### About the American Golf Industry Coalition

The American Golf Industry Coalition (formerly “We Are Golf”) advocates on behalf of golf's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts; environmental and sustainability initiatives; contributions to the economy (local and national); health and wellness benefits, as well as charitable giving. The organization unites the golf industry in pursuit of goals designed to enhance the vitality and diversity of both the business and recreational levels of the sport. The American Golf Industry Coalition is a division of the [World Golf Foundation](#). To learn more, visit [www.golfcoalition.org](http://www.golfcoalition.org).

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Alan FitzGerald  
Chad Oxenreider  
Brian Ahrens  
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## Membership News

The following individual has applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, she will be accepted into CPGCSA at the next meeting.

Kristen Dull ..... Class C  
Assistant Superintendent, Bent Creek Country Club

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Wanda at 717-279-0368 or [cpgcsa@hotmail.com](mailto:cpgcsa@hotmail.com).

*Please see a list of our Association Sponsors on Page 18*

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Membership information is also available on the Central Penn website at: [www.cpgcsa.org](http://www.cpgcsa.org)

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### *Our sincere thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Kenny Dietrich*

Kenneth R. Dietrich, 80, of Mount Joy, passed away at home on Thursday, January 6, 2022. He was a 1959 graduate of Cocalico High School and continued his education at Penn State University with a degree in Turf Grass and Agronomy. Kenneth proudly served in the United States Army as a tank driver. He was the Golf Course Superintendent of Lancaster Country Club for 44 years before retiring in 2004. Kenneth was a 32nd degree Mason at Ephrata Lodge, #665, a member of the Lancaster and Reading Lodge of Perfection, Lancaster Scottish Rite, Reading Rajah Shrine, Lancaster Liederkrantz, Garden Club of Lancaster County, National Audubon Society, and the American Legion. Kenneth was also a Certified Golf Course Superintendent for 52 years, Past President of PA Central Golf Course Superintendent Association, and Past President of PA turf grass Council. Loving and devoted husband of Bertha (Good) Dietrich since 1965. Amazing father of Sherry (Mark) Yoder, Brian, and Christina (Eric) Knoedler. Ken was very proud of the accomplishments of his grandchildren, Samantha and Matthew Yoder. He made sure to play an active role in their lives. Ken's devotion to his family was always a priority. His generous smile jokes, and stories about the good old days will always be remembered. His accountability and selflessness will be kept alive and missed by all who knew him. Our family will miss his gentle soul, intelligence, kindness and thoughtfulness. Ken loved putting in his workshop and taking care of his property. With his wife, Bertha they traveled to all 50 United States, and also to Canada, Mexico, Europe and the Caribbean.

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## FMC's 'Give Back to Local Chapters' Totals \$33K in Donations

*Thirty GCSAA chapters benefited from funds given by the program in 2021. Chapter leaders share just how those gifts have made an impact for their members.*

January 20, 2022 | FMC Corp.

Local GCSAA chapters on the receiving end of donations awarded through FMC's "Give Back to Local Chapters" program are overwhelmingly focused on bettering the lives of their members — and bettering the golf industry — through education and benevolence.

In December, FMC Professional Solutions dispersed \$8,000 in Give Back checks to 13 GCSAA chapters. FMC Give Back funds donated in 2021 totaled \$33,000 and benefited 30 chapters. Many of the chapters that received the latest round of donations were previous recipients of Give Back donations earned after participating in activities at the 2021 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show (formerly the Golf Industry Show) that were tied to FMC's Kalida Fungicide launch earlier in 2021.

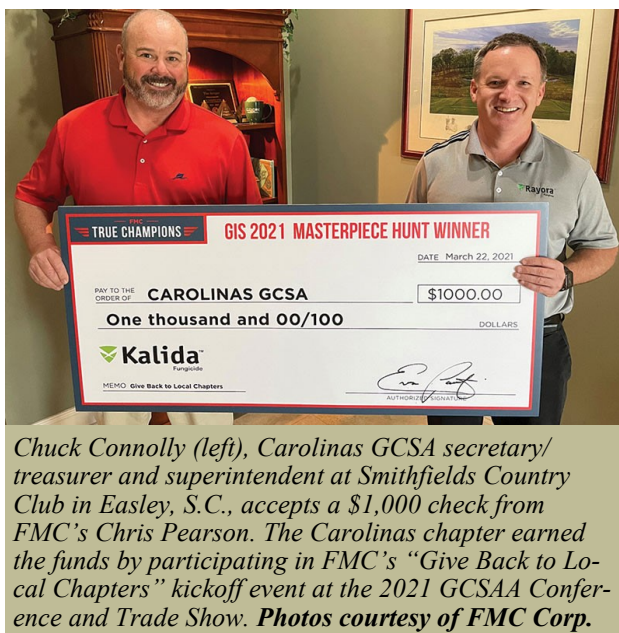
One major observation regarding the chapters that participated in FMC's 2021 Give Back initiative is that they're striving to "give back" with their Give Back.

### The heart of giving back

"The local chapters we support can benefit in numerous ways from the FMC 'Give Back to Local Chapters' program," says Evan Parenti, FMC golf and lawn care market manager. "These are unprecedented and challenging times. To learn that our support is paid forward by a chapter to support a member facing a health or family crisis is humbling."

Some reports indicate that donations to some charitable causes are up across the country and that attitudes toward giving to those in need have been positively impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

FMC found this to be the case with the Utah GCSA, which directed its Give Back funds to its own charitable cause. "Our chapter has allocated the funds to our local Riley L. Stottern Benevolent Fund," says Utah GCSA Chapter Executive Natalie Barker. "The goal of the fund is to do as much good as possible for all Utah GCSA members and their immediate families who may be burdened by a serious illness, a death or other hardship. The money is greatly appreciated and will help our members in need."



*Chuck Connolly (left), Carolinas GCSA secretary/treasurer and superintendent at Smithfields Country Club in Easley, S.C., accepts a \$1,000 check from FMC's Chris Pearson. The Carolinas chapter earned the funds by participating in FMC's "Give Back to Local Chapters" kickoff event at the 2021 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show. Photos courtesy of FMC Corp.*



*FMC's Matt Carroll (left) presents Florida GCSA President Andy Neiswender with \$750 earned through the company's "Give Back to Local Chapters" program.*

According to Florida GCSA Executive Director Jennifer Bryan, "The Florida GCSA put our funds into our Benevolent Account. This year, we contributed \$2,500 to support one of our members whose son is battling leukemia. We are very grateful that we have the funding available when our members are in crisis or have a need that would not otherwise be met. FMC's contribution had an impact."

### Education for a stronger industry

In an industry with continuous advancements in management practices, plant science, regulations and even equipment, golf course superintendents need to have a broad knowledge base and multidisciplinary approach to their work. It's thus easy to see why so many GCSAA chapters look to foster education and choose to spend any extra funds on it.

"We truly appreciate those companies that see value in the local chapters and try to help them out," says Carolinas GCSA Executive Director Tim Kreger. The Carolinas GCSA earmarked the \$1,000 FMC Give Back check it received to provide an additional scholarship in 2021.

Like the Carolinas GCSA, other local chapters that earned funds in the Give Back program overwhelmingly plan to apply the donations toward education initiatives in the form of scholarships, training, seminar hosting and workshops for their members or turf students. A few built full-scale educational events that took place in late 2021 or are in the works for the early part of 2022, depend-

ent on COVID-19 restrictions across the country.

“Thanks to FMC’s support of the Minnesota GCSA, we used this money to support scholarships to attend the Great Lakes School of Turfgrass Science online educational courses,” says Minnesota GCSA Executive Director Jack MacKenzie. “Each year, the MGCSA sponsors up to five individuals who complete the 10-week program. It is a win-win for the industry and the student. The ‘Give Back to Local Chapters’ program helps make this opportunity possible.”

“We want our members to thrive, and education is an investment in their success,” says GCSA of New Jersey Executive Director Maureen Sharples. “Our industry is constantly evolving, and continuing education is critical to keeping current with the latest research advancements, best management practices, regulations and product releases.”

A number of GCSA chapters have set aside their Give Back donations for future participation in GCSAA’s First Green program, which connects golf courses with local schools for unique STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) educational opportunities for students.

Adds Parenti, “To see the FMC donations fostering educational initiatives is especially rewarding, as that knowledge only makes the industry better and stronger.”

#### For the love of the game

And then there’s the GCSAA chapter that allocates any extra funds simply toward the love of the game. Don Hearn, executive director of the New England GCSA, says the chapter is looking to highlight the work of superintendents and emphasizes what all of these efforts are really about: the game of golf. “We plan to use the funds to assist with the production costs of a video highlighting the work of superintendents who help make



*Members of the Georgia GCSA received \$2,500 through FMC’s “Give Back to Local Chapters” initiative. Pictured from left are Tim Busek, superintendent at St. Ives Country Club in Duluth, Ga.; Tommy Hewitt, superintendent at Windermere Golf Club in Cumming, Ga.; Joey Brown, superintendent at Georgia National Golf Club in McDonough, Ga.; Brad Tremmier, superintendent at River Pines Golf Course in Alpharetta, Ga.; and FMC’s Mike Kellum.*

golf an enjoyable experience for those who play the game,” Hearn says.

The FMC “Give Back to Local Chapters” initiative was driven by [FMC True Champions](#), a program launched in spring 2019. A key feature of the program is support of industry associations such as GCSAA chapters, We Are Golf and RISE. Superintendents can enroll for free, and FMC will track purchases of qualified products throughout the season and then submit their Give Back donation directly to their local GCSAA chapter. Qualified products include Fame SC, Rayora and Kalida fungicides.

FMC will kick off its 2022 Give Back initiative at the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show, Feb. 5-10 in San Diego. Visitors to FMC’s booth (#1537) on Feb. 9-10 will be able to take drives on a golf simulator, and FMC will make Give Back donations to participants’ chapters based on the yardage of their drives.

#### FMC True Champions

The [FMC True Champions](#) program is a source for golf course superintendents and managers to access valuable Product Rewards and Product Assurances. It also has a third pillar, Industry Support, that highlights industry initiatives and associations like GCSAA, We Are Golf and RISE.

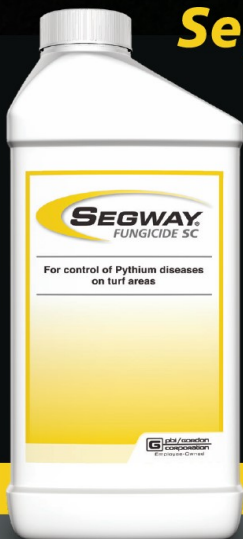
**FMC is proud to continue our commitment to giving back to local GCSAA chapters as they kick off the 2022 FMC Give Back to Local Chapters program at the 2022 GCSAA Conference in San Diego. Since its inception in 2020, FMC has donated nearly \$80,000 to local chapters nationwide. Join FMC at Lou & Mickey’s on Tuesday, February 8th from 6pm-10pm for an evening of networking, storytelling, and prizes (including Big Green Egg outdoor grill, 10” DJI Mini 2 Quadcopter with remote controller, Sonos Gen 2 Beam sound bar, Callaway MVRİK driver) as they commend what local GCSAA chapters do every day to grow and develop the golf industry. Please RSVP at this link: <https://info.fmctruechampions.com/gcsaa2022-rsvp>**

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# Bill To Convert Municipal Golf Courses to Affordable Housing Killed In Assembly Committee

*AB 672 fails after large public outcry*

By Evan Symon, January 21, 2022 11:55 am

A bill that would have created a grant program to convert municipal golf courses into housing and public lands, died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on Thursday, ending a nearly month-long threat to effectively remove municipal golf courses across the state.

**Assembly Bill 672**, authored by Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia (D-Bell Gardens), would have created a program funded by \$50 million from the state's General Fund under the Department of Housing and Community Development to create a grant program to entice cities and local governments to convert publicly owned golf courses in urban areas into areas for housing and open public space.

In order to make it happen more effectively, AB 672 would have removed golf courses from protections of the Public Park Preservation Act, would get a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption to more easily build denser housing, and make it easier to rezone golf courses to residential zoned areas.

Assemblywoman Garcia wrote the bill to create more housing and parks, as well as to increase more affordable housing units in urban areas in California. She also **claimed** a decline of golf in California, low to middle income Californians not being served by golf courses, and how municipal golf courses had disproportionate land usage compared to denser housing nearby.

"In my district, the City of Bell Gardens, one of the most densely populated and park-poor cities in LA County, is expected to build hundreds of new housing units in the near future," said Garcia earlier this year. "AB 672 is a sensible and creative public policy answer to the housing and open space crisis and puts our tax dollars to better use in communities like mine."

However, as the California Globe **pointed out last month**, Garcia's arguments for converting the golf courses are either deeply flawed or outright wrong, such as municipal golf courses being the exact courses catered to meet the needs of lower-income players. Garcia also ignored the positive economic effects that golf courses had on areas, how they are an extremely effective green area in between urban areas, how they provide vital emergency services such as an open area for small planes to land for an emergency, and how the public can still use much of the land surrounding the courses for leisurely activities.

**Numerous golfing organizations came out against the bill**, including the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA) and the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), as well as a highly diverse field of people ranging groundskeepers to pilots to inner city high schools that rely on the courses for athletics.

"I'd love whoever came up with this to be the one to tell a Latino construction worker relaxing on his day off playing golf that she wants to get rid of one of his only forms of leisure," said Muhammad Kamal, an inner-city activist in Los Angeles who has fought to keep various athletic areas available within reach for minority citizens of the city, to the Globe on Friday. "I'd love her to tell a high school golf club from the poorest part of the city hoping to be the next Tiger Woods that she wants to remove their only course they can get to. I want her to tell the mom who uses a park bench near the course, a rare place filled with trees here, that she wants to remove it for more buildings."

"We do have a housing shortage, but my God, we also have a shortage of green space, for kids to play sports that otherwise only wealthier families would enjoy. These places give kids, minority kids especially, a good place to start the sport. We need someone to give this more than ten seconds of thought to make these bills. Whoever wrote this doesn't have a clue on what these places really mean."

## **A bill to convert municipal golf courses killed**

The golf groups also noted the positive economic and environmental effects of golf courses.

"The fees and charges at municipal golf courses routinely cover all the costs of operation, all the costs of replenishing the infrastructure," said SCGA governmental affairs director Craig Kessler earlier this month. "\$12 million every year goes into the coffers of County Parks and Recreation, which subsidizes those swimming pools, trails, picnic areas, and soccer fields that don't pay for themselves."

"Golf courses preserve open space, sequester carbon, provide habitat, promote biodiversity and allow rainwater to get into groundwater basins," added the NCGA in a statement. "Municipal golf courses provide these benefits almost entirely in densely packed urban environments where they are most needed, and in communities disproportionately identified as 'park poor.' Con-

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verting them to hardscape exacerbates both problems.”

Last week, the bill moved forward through two Assembly committees, but faced a fair amount of opposition, with multiple Assembly members voting against the bill. Despite increased opposition, it moved to the Appropriations Committee, where it was finally voted down on Thursday. The votes from those committees are shown below.

“We dodged a bullet,” noted Kamal. “I can’t believe people ever thought this was a good idea. Whoever tried to make this happen really needs a reality check and a history lesson on what the real damage of this. Without municipal and public courses and courts and fields and parks for sports like this, you’re basically condemning generations of black and Latino kids. Shame on them.”

While it didn’t pass on Thursday, and is now officially dead as it didn’t pass in the past two years, a new version of the bill can be introduced in future legislative sessions.

[Bill To Convert Municipal Golf Courses to Affordable Housing Killed In Assembly Committee - California Globe](#)



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- February 8, 2022**  
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## 2021 CPGCSA Family Scholarship

Dear Board of Central Penn,

I want to express my gratitude for being awarded the Central Penn Golf Course Superintendents Association Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity. I also wanted to personally thank you for investing in my dreams and ambitions, this type of scholarship will greatly contribute to my career as a psychiatric nurse practitioner.

I am currently a senior studying Biobehavioral Health at Penn State University. I will be graduating from Penn State this May and pursuing the 11 month accelerated nursing program at Drexel University during fall 2022. I intend on becoming a traveling nurse for a few years then obtaining my graduate degree as a nurse practitioner. My ultimate goal is to leave a positive impact on the lives of my patients and help individuals optimize their health through guiding them through the implementation of preventative lifestyle behaviors. With this scholarship, I am one step further to accomplishing this goal and owning my own practice someday.

I have great aspirations, thank you again for being a contributing factor of that process.

Best,

*Madaket Chassard*

*John Chassard is a Past President and has been a member of Central Penn GCSA since 1984. John is currently Director of Grounds at Lehigh Country Club and has been employed there since 1983.*



John and Madaket Chassard

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\*\*Dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot and snow mold were the five most common diseases according to a national survey among golf course superintendents.

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**Wanda S. Fry**

## DSL Presentation - October 27, 2021 at Bent Creek Country Club

First of all, I am going to start off with an advertisement, nominations are now being accepted for the 2021 DSL Award. Also, thanks to everyone for attending today! We had 93 golfers which is phenomenal! Our last highest attendance was a Tri-Meeting at Lehigh in 2002 with 114 golfers and then again in 2002 with 88 golfers at Moselem Springs.

I can honestly say that I have been dreading this day for the past year, just ask Pete! It is very humbling to say the least and I am honored for the recognition. But as most of you

know I am so much more comfortable behind the scenes. I have been working remotely--before COVID made it cool to work at home.

I have to tell you that the significant honor in receiving this award is that Dave Rafferty is the 1<sup>st</sup> president that I worked with 28 years ago. He called and asked if I would be interested in working with Central Penn – he said I would be responsible for billing membership dues, mailing membership information and maintaining board records – but the main qualification is that I was a spouse of a Central Penn member. Only a spouse can truly understand the grueling life of a superintendent as Tracy Fantuzzi and Patti Wall had done before me. It was a pleasure knowing and working with Dave – he was a kind and generous person. After a few years and many meetings, the position grew into the management position it is today. I still remember sitting at my dining room table with Sam Snyder and Tony Goodley as we developed and defined the Secretary-Treasurer-Executive Director positions. I also remember another meeting scheduled in my dining room on September 11<sup>th</sup> – Pete Ramsey came flying in my door and told me to turn on the tv immediately. We didn't get much work done that day – but what a reminder for us to appreciate those around us and live everyday to the fullest. Board members that I call the “young ones” as Jeff Green, Chris Martin, Kevin Mark, Chris Martin, George Manos and Pete Ramsey have continued on the board many years to keep your association stable.



DSL Recipients -  
Greg Fantuzzi, Jeff Fry, Wanda Fry,  
Pete Ramsey, Faron Stoops.



DSL Committee: Jim Jones, Greg Fantuzzi, Jeff Fry, Wanda Fry, Abbey Fry, Pete Ramsey, Faron Stoops

The most attractive part of this job as described by Dave, was that “it is flexible”. This has allowed me to be at home as our children grew up, to drive them to school activities, volunteer when needed, watch countless soccer games and a few golf matches (sorry Abbey – I was there in spirit!) Dave and all who followed understood that my family commitments always came first! Ask Faron – he always enjoys my 2:00 am emails! And now you never know if I am at home, working at Abbey's home in Maryland or at Thomas and Emily's home in Minnesota.

In the past 10 years, I have started managing a few other groups as well. The nice thing is that the 3 groups all share members. I started working with the Lawn Care Association of PA about 10 years ago and the Pennsylvania Golf Owners about 2 years ago. Now when I get a call for

example from Don Dodson, we change our hats at least 3 times during our conversation.

It has been a pleasure getting to know all of you and to say that many of you have become close family friends. As your manager and a “Central Penn Member” wife, I have a great deal of respect for all of you with the daily demands of this profession.

Lastly and obviously not least, I want to acknowledge Jeff who encouraged me to try this position “many boards ago” and my kids over the years for their support. And to all of you, “my friends”, I have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy working with you!

Thanks again for this honor!

*Wanda S. Fry*



Jeff, Wanda and Abbey Fry



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## Which Ice Melts are Safest for Turf?

January 21, 2022

John Daniels, agronomist, Northeast Region

Keeping clubhouse sidewalks and parking lots clear of snow and ice at this time of year typically falls on the shoulders of course maintenance personnel. The repeated plowing, shoveling and applying salt is something that all of us are very familiar with. What is less intuitive, however, is deciding which ice removal product to use. Not all salts are the same in their performance and their potential to cause harm to surrounding landscapes. Going with one product versus another could be the difference between burnt or green turf along the edge of treated areas come spring.

**Sodium chloride**, sometimes referred to as rock salt, is generally the least expensive ice melt product and therefore is commonly used on roadways and parking lots. Although it is effective down to 20 degrees Fahrenheit, it is typically not the best choice for areas of your property where overthrow or runoff are possible given its potential to severely damage plants. Take extra care if this is all you have available so that you don't injure your turf or landscape plants.

**Magnesium chloride** is another common ice melt that can work well down to 0 degrees Fahrenheit. It is less harmful to plants than sodium chloride. However, it can cause significant damage to concrete and result in flaking, crumbling and fracturing. Therefore, many transportation departments have stopped using it so take extra caution with this material.

**Potassium chloride** is another option that can work down to 25 degrees Fahrenheit. It does not cause as much damage to concrete as magnesium chloride but can cause plant injury if overapplied. When delivered appropriately it generally has a low impact on vegetation. Corrosion to metal is typically of greater concern. Sometimes it is blended with sodium chloride to help lower the product cost and improve the ice melting performance.

**Calcium chloride** is typically the best choice because it melts ice at very low temperatures, all the way down to -25 degrees Fahrenheit, and is a relatively safe choice for lawns and landscapes when applied appropriately. However, similar to magnesium chloride and potassium chloride, overapplication can result in plant injury. Another thing to keep in mind is calcium chloride is also corrosive, so make sure to rinse those metal banisters.

**Calcium magnesium acetate** is a fairly safe option for plants that performs best at temperatures of 20 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. On the downside, it is one of the pricier options and can negatively impact aquatic life. Most of the time it is sold as a blend.

Regardless of which salt option you choose, I recommend pretreating your sidewalks and parking lots so you don't have to use as much material. This will reduce costs and lessen the risk of damage to turf and other plants. Trying to melt ice after things have been compacted and frozen is difficult and can require much more salt.

Finally, if you are looking to use the safest after-the-storm material for turf, stick with sand. The particles will aid in traction without causing any harm to plants. Plus, it's a great way to get rid of that old bunker or topdressing sand you have lying around.



There are many different salt options when it comes to ice melts, some are safer than others.

### Northeast Region Agronomists:

Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education – [amoeller@usga.org](mailto:amoeller@usga.org)

Darin Bevard, director, Championship Agronomy – [dbevard@usga.org](mailto:dbevard@usga.org)

Elliott Dowling, agronomist – [edowling@usga.org](mailto:edowling@usga.org)

John Daniels, agronomist – [jdaniels@usga.org](mailto:jdaniels@usga.org)

[Which Ice Melts are Safest for Turf? \(usga.org\)](https://www.usga.org/which-ice-melts-are-safest-for-turf/)

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Kevin Mark, Pete Ramsey

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### Begin the inquiry »

If you have any issues, please call AHP at 888-450-3040, but only GCSAA members can inquire about available products.

<https://www.gcsaa.org/about-gcsaa/membership/membership-benefits/health-insurance>





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Scott White, Golf Course Superintendent, Urbana Country Club



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