

Turf, Trees, and Seasonal Color Grounds Management Symposium

August 26–28, 2009

Longwood Gardens

Kennett Square, Pennsylvania



The APGA 2009 Grounds Management Symposium, “Turf, Trees, and Seasonal Color” is a two-and-a-half-day program created especially for supervisors, managers, gardeners, horticulture staff, technicians, and grounds management staff. Participants will learn the latest techniques from leading authorities in the field of tree care and turf management. You will also learn how to maintain seasonal color in public gardens, arboreta, parks, and green spaces while keeping the public and special events in mind.



Longwood Gardens

Opening Reception and Keynote Address at Longwood Gardens

Breeding for the Future of Landscape Plants

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Michael A. Dirr, PhD
President
Plant Introductions

Since retiring from the University of Georgia in 2007, Mike has focused his efforts on plant breeding for the future of the landscape industry. In his keynote address, he will cover some of the projects that his company, Plant Introductions, is undertaking. With a focus on mining for genera that may have future landscape potential, he is working on the development of new *Hydrangea*, *Gardenia*, *Lagerstroemia*, and *Distylium* that will appeal to the masses.

Session I

Choose 1 of the 2 tracks below.

Tree Track: Developing and Maintaining Strong Structure in Shade Trees

Trees can be pruned to prevent problems from occurring; this is more efficient than trying to fix trees following storms. New developments in tree biology and recent advancements in the science of tree structure provide a practical basis for delivering efficient preventive treatments. These can provide for healthier, long-lived trees. You will see preventive arboricultural pruning strategies known to improve tree health and increase longevity.

Dr. Edward F. Gilman

Professor, Environmental Horticulture Department
University of Florida

Turf Track: Toro Equipment Demonstration

This hands-on program includes equipment demonstrations by Turf Equipment and Supply Company, a full-line Toro distributor. Participants will learn about the Toro Workman MDE electric utility vehicle, Toro Groundsmaster 7200 zero turn rotary mower, Toro Groundsmaster 5900 16' rotary mower, and a Toro ProCore 864 aerator.

Turf Equipment and Supply Company

Serving golf and grounds customers in Maryland, Northern Virginia, Delaware, Washington DC, Southern New Jersey, and Eastern Pennsylvania, they have been in business for 25 years and recently purchased Philadelphia Turf Company, a Toro distributor for 81 years. Their facilities are located in Jessup, MD; Kennett Square, PA; Fairfax, VA; Frankford, DE; and Frederick, MD.

Session II

Tree Care from the Ground Down: A Detailed Look at How to Improve Health by Managing Roots

Trees last for decades or longer when roots grow correctly. In part one of a two-part series, Dr. Gilman will explain how to grow a strong root system in the nursery using the correct liner trays, containers, and field techniques. There are brand new methods to eliminate root defects in containers, and proven field production methods that ensure good roots. You will learn the newest techniques for removing root defects at planting. Proper planting includes irrigation, soil management, and root management strategies that reduce transplant shock and improve health on established trees. Participants will be ready to go back to their gardens with new techniques that can be implemented right away.

Dr. Edward F. Gilman

Professor, Environmental Horticulture Department
University of Florida

Session III **Sustainable Turf: Making the Unsustainable, Economically and Environmentally Sustainable**

This talk will focus on identifying turfgrass quality and performance expectations for issues such as visual appeal and traffic tolerance, and then increasing management precision to meet these expectations while reducing costs and improving environmental quality. Issues such as grass selection to reduce mowing needs, developing fertilizer programs that maintain quality, and reducing costs are examples of topics we will cover.

Frank S. Rossi, PhD

“Turf Guy”

*Associate Professor Turfgrass Science
Cornell University
Department of Horticulture*

Session IV **Balancing Special Events**

Part I

Everyday is a Special Event at the Nation’s Capital

The nation’s capital welcomes over 25 million visitors per year, so every day is like hosting a large special event. The Smithsonian and National Capitol host some of the world’s largest special events and still manage to maintain exceptional historic and ornamental display gardens and grounds. The key is good planning and having qualified staff who understand the game. Several examples of a diverse array of large scale events will be discussed in detail with lessons learned highlighted along the way. Events such as the 2009 Presidential Inauguration, the 4th of July Fireworks and performances, Folklife Festivals, Labor Day celebrations, Cherry Blossom Festivals, and National Museum openings will be showcased and discussed.

Nancy Bechtol

Director

*Office of Facilities Management,
Facilities Engineering and Operations
Smithsonian Institution*

Ted Bechtol

Superintendent

U.S. Capitol Grounds

Part II

Balancing Horticulture and Special Events

Franklin Park Conservatory is the backdrop of over 200 weddings and 100 other events each year. Hear how horticulture staff manages to keep plants green and growing while keeping the brides and their mothers happy. This entails garden design, plant and color selection, installation, and finally careful calendar maintenance.

Christopher Lowe

Horticulture Director

Franklin Park Conservatory

Day Two



Session V

Choose 1 of the 2 tracks below.

Tree Track: Developing and Maintaining Proper Root Structure in Shade Trees

This workshop will show you the techniques described in Thursday's Session II. See how the techniques can be applied in the field through demonstrations by Ed Gilman and the Longwood arborist staff.

Dr. Edward F. Gilman

*Professor, Environmental Horticulture Department
University of Florida*

The Arborist Staff

Longwood Gardens

Color Track: A Behind-the-Scenes View of Longwood's Color Displays

Join Longwood Gardens' display and production staff as they go through the details of their seasonal displays for the outdoor gardens. With a focus on the 600-foot-long Flower Garden Walk, staff will share the tools, techniques, and processes that they have learned and use to make sure that the displays are at their best.

Display and Production Staff

Longwood Gardens

Session VI

Seasonal Color Plant Selection: Developing your Display MVP's through Garden BMP's

Dan and Rodney will explain what Chanticleer Gardens and Longwood Gardens are doing to continue the colorful horticultural displays of their gardens while conforming to the culture of environmental and economic sustainability. By looking at replacing some traditional seasonal color displays with more long-term displays utilizing perennials and permanent plantings, each share how the practice is better for the environment, conserves resources, and can provide more impact for your guests and customers. Additionally, some techniques utilizing annual displays with an inherently more sustainable nature will be highlighted.

Dan Benarcik

*Horticulturalist
Chanticleer Garden*

Rodney Eason

*Display Division Leader
Longwood Gardens, Inc.*

Session VII

Environmentally Conscious Turf Management

Maintaining quality turfgrass requires inputs such as mowing, fertilization, pest control, irrigation, etc. Dr. Linde will share how these inputs can impact the environment and suggest some common-sense and research-based approaches to further minimize their impact.

Dr. Doug Linde

*Professor of Turf Management
Delaware Valley College*

Session VIII

Panel Discussion

A panel of speakers from the symposium will be on hand for a moderated discussion on topics covered over the last two days. Bring your questions and comments as well as ideas for the next Grounds Management Symposium.

MODERATOR

Dr. Casey Sclar

*Plant Health Care Division Leader
Longwood Gardens*

Schedule at a Glance



Wednesday, August 26, 2009

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Keynote and Reception
Keynote Speaker

Longwood Gardens
Dr. Michael Dirr

Thursday, August 27, 2009

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Hands-On Session I

Tree Track: Developing and Maintaining
Strong Structure in Shade Trees

Turf Track: Toro Equipment
Demonstration

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Session II

Tree Care from the Ground Down

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lunch

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Session III

Sustainable Turf: Making the
Unsustainable Economically Sustainable

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Session IV

Balancing Special Events

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Break

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Tour and Dinner at Longwood Gardens

Friday, August 28, 2009

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Hands-on Session V

Tree Track: Developing and Maintaining
Proper Root Structure in Shade Trees

Color Track: A Behind-the-Scenes View
of Longwood's Color Displays

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Session VI

Seasonal Color Plant Selection:
Developing Your Display MVP's through
Garden BMP's

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lunch

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Session VII

Environmentally Conscious Turf
Management

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Session VIII

Panel Discussion

About Longwood Gardens

Longwood Gardens, located in Kennett Square, PA, is one of the world's great gardens, offering 1,050 acres of woodlands and meadows; 20 outdoor gardens; 20 indoor gardens within four acres of heated greenhouses; 11,000 different types of plants; spectacular fountains; extensive educational programs including classes, horticultural career training and internships; and 800 horticultural and performing arts events each year.

Registration Form

**Grounds Management Symposium
August 26–28, 2009**



APGA Individual Members save \$100 on registration. If you are not an Individual Member, you can join today for a special rate of \$65. Space is limited to 90 participants. Register now to guarantee your spot!

Personal Information

Name	Name for Badge	
Job Title		
Institutional Affiliation		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone	Fax	
E-mail		

Membership Status

Please check the appropriate box.

- Individual Member Student Member
 Corporate Member Non Member
 I would like the special \$65 Individual Membership

Symposium Refund Policy

All requests for cancellation refunds will be subject to a cancellation fee of \$95 and must be received by July 30, 2009. No refunds will be given after that date for cancellations or no-shows.

Lodging Information

*Hilton Garden Inn
Kennett Square
815 E. Baltimore Pike
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610.444.9100*

*Special conference rates
\$119 per night plus tax
Includes a full breakfast buffet
Block Code – APG
Reservation deadline is 8/5/2009.
We cannot guarantee room rate
and availability after this date.*

Fee Schedule

Please check the appropriate box.

- Individual Member \$299 by 7/26 \$399 after 7/26
 Student Member \$279 by 7/26 \$379 after 7/26
 Non Member \$399 by 7/26 \$499 after 7/26

Questions?

Contact Sharon Malgire, APGA Meetings Manager, at 302.655.7100, ext. 18, or email smalgire@publicgardens.org.

Special Needs

We will accommodate special needs to the best of our ability.

- Vegetarian
 Special needs

Please choose a track for the following sessions:

- Sessions I Tree Track Turf Track
Session V Tree Track Color Track

Tally Your Registration

Registration Fee	\$
Membership Dues	\$
Total Amount Due	\$

Payment Information

Check MasterCard Visa

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Register on-line today at www.publicgardens.org or mail or fax the completed form with payment to:

American Public Gardens Association

Current address
100 West 10th Street, Suite 614
Wilmington, DE 19801
Tel 302.655.7100
Fax 302.655.8100

New address beginning 6/1/09
351 Longwood Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Tel 610.708.3010
Fax 610.444.3594