

**Why Study  
Turfgrass  
Management  
at the School of  
Environmental &  
Biological Sciences**

(formerly Cook College)

*A World of "Growth Opportunities" Awaits You!*

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THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

**RUTGERS**

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**A world of endless possibilities will open up to you when you pursue a degree in Turfgrass Management at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. As a leader in turfgrass research and education, the College offers a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Turfgrass management. You'll be amazed at all that we have to offer you *and* your future.**

**Here are answers to some of the questions you may have:**

***What is Turfgrass Management and why should you choose this major?***

- ◆ In turfgrass management, students study the grasses, soils, and pests that can affect turf. The many benefits of effectively managed turf include the production of oxygen, enhancing the environment, and a reduction in erosion, noise, and summer temperatures. Turf management is essential for the maintenance of golf courses, parks, athletic fields and aesthetically pleasing landscapes for businesses, homes and communities. This major appeals to people with an interest in environmental enhancement, landscaping, and the design, creation and preservation of quality recreational areas. Students will gain an understanding of the importance of turf in land use and development.

***How important is the turfgrass industry?***

- ◆ In the United States alone, over 450 new golf courses have been constructed annually during the past 10 years. The interest in turf and the need for qualified turf managers in the field is increasing exponentially. Turf is also essential to all field sports (e.g., football, baseball & soccer). However, opportunities in turfgrass management do not stop there; they expand beyond the world of sports into park planning, wildlife preservation, and home and commercial landscape management.

## *What careers are available and what are the salary ranges?*

- ◆ The world of turf is vast and is constantly changing and expanding. Take a look at the Career Wheel below for some of the possibilities!



## *How much money can you make as a turfgrass professional?*

In general, entry-level salaries currently range from \$40,000 to \$60,000, however, experienced career professionals can earn over \$100,000 per year.

Here are a few examples:

- ◆ Golf course Superintendents can make over \$65,000, with high end salaries of well over \$125,000!
- ◆ Research scientists command salaries from \$60,000 to more than \$100,000 annually.
- ◆ Landscape contractors earn \$50,000 to \$80,000 annually.
- ◆ Irrigation contractors earn \$40,000 to \$70,000 annually.
- ◆ Lawn care professionals earn from \$40,000 to \$100,000 or more.

## *Why choose the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences?*

- ◆ We have **world renowned professors and professionals** working in turfgrass science. Right now, there are over 25 faculty members at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences working in this area. This is more than double the number of faculty dedicated to turfgrass management at most universities. Our faculty are accessible and work directly with students to enhance their overall learning experience. Moreover, these educators bring a range of expertise and experience to the classroom that simply cannot be found elsewhere.
- ◆ Most of the faculty are housed in **Foran Hall**, which contains state of the art ‘Smart’ classrooms, laboratories and an extensive agricultural library. The School of Environmental and Biological Sciences also maintains three research farms that contain the largest collection of cool-season turfgrasses in the world! The farms also serve as outdoor classrooms, providing students with unparalleled hands-on experience.
- ◆ The **Geiger Turfgrass Educational Center** is the home of the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory, classrooms, a computer lab, and a small library all dedicated to turfgrass education and research.
- ◆ Our excellent reputation with corporations and golf courses provides an extensive list of student internships. We are also proud to make available over \$90,000 in **turfgrass scholarships** each year to deserving students. The turf program at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences prepares students for a variety of jobs in the field. Students can expect to learn everything from plant biology, entomology, plant pathology, and soil science to maintaining athletic fields and golf courses. Through the challenging curriculum and hands-on experience at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, the program prepares individuals for a successful career in the ever growing “green” industry.

*Think this major is for you? If you have more questions, contact:*

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**Check out our website: [www.turf.rutgers.edu/](http://www.turf.rutgers.edu/)**

*Come see for yourself all that you & the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers University can accomplish together!*