



Ohio State HCS News

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Turf Research Facility Under New Management



As Program Coordinator for the OTF Research & Education Facility, Matt Williams will coordinate Ohio State's many turfgrass research programs.

The Ohio State University Turfgrass Science program welcomes OSU alum **Matt Williams** back to the Columbus campus. Williams joins the team as the new Program Coordinator for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Research & Education Facility on North Star Road. He will be responsible for managing all seven turfgrass research programs that occur at the facility.

A part of the Waterman Learning Facility on the northwest side of campus, the 25 acre turfgrass research facility is home to numerous turf plots and also houses Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research & Education Center. The center was built by the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation in 1996 and it has nearly 7,000 square feet of high quality space for turfgrass research and educational efforts.



Matt Williams recently worked with Ohio State sports turf students on the renovation of a local baseball field.

In addition to hosting annual field days and maintaining the facility, Williams will coordinate all the research studies, manage the turf equipment, and oversee student workers. Williams, who studied turfgrass science and earned his bachelor's degree from Ohio State in 2001, brings broad turfgrass management experience to this position. He has worked at Tartan Fields Golf Club, Scioto Reserve Golf & Athletic Club, Cincinnati Reds Great American Ballpark and most recently as [Director of Stadium Grounds at](#)

[Columbus Crew Stadium.](#)

Williams has hit the ground running, particularly with such a hot and dry summer to deal with. His short term goals are to update the irrigation system at the facility, increase student involvement, and work with local and regional vendors/distributors to advance the program.

In addition to his regular jobs, Williams also took on projects with turf construction companies, concert protection system companies and worked with organizations like Premier Soccer Academies. He is a board member of The Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association and serves on the program planning committee for The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation. A respected member of the turfgrass industry, Williams is frequently called upon to speak at state and national conferences.

A true ambassador for Ohio State and the turf industry, Williams will be an asset to turfgrass science faculty, staff and students across the college and the university.

Story by Victor van Buchem and Pam Sherratt. Photo 1 by Karl Danneberger, photo 2 by Victor van Buchem. Web publishing by [Victor van Buchem](#).

Published July 11 2007 - <http://HCS.OSU.EDU>