

Abby McNeal

“Creating an Athletic Field Maintenance Program on a Parks Budget”

Limited resources and increased play on parks and recreation fields creates a challenge to maintain them to a safe level. This talk will focus on safety and creating a sustainable maintenance program focused on using the resources given on a limited budget.

“Event Management Strategies”

Session will discuss a variety of events that have been successful hosted on grass and how to manage for field safety and turfgrass survival. The presentation will include time lapse video of concert to sporting event conversions.

Biography: Abby McNeal currently is the Field Superintendent, City Wide Operations, Denver Parks and Recreation. She has over 22 years of experience in the turfgrass industry. Prior to joining Denver Parks, Abby was the Director of Turfgrass Maintenance for Wake Forest University, Winston Salem North Carolina. She has also worked at Colorado School of Mines, TOYOTA Park in the Chicagoland area, as well as, for the Denver Broncos, at INVESCO Field at Mile High. Abby has been fortunate to participate in the maintenance of the game field and the practice facilities for the 5 Super Bowls.

Abby holds a B.S. in Landscape Horticulture with an emphasis in Turfgrass Management from Colorado State University. She is Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) and a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP).

Involvement in local and national sports turf industry associations has been an essential part of Abby's career. She has been an active member of the STMA since 1992 and has been a board of director for 9 years, including the position of President in 2009. She continues to be actively involved serving on the CSTMA Board, participating STMA committee work, as well as the CPRA park section.

Abby enjoys spending time with her twins and playing ice hockey in her down time.