

I am delighted to advise you that the PGMS Certified Grounds Managers (CGM[®]) professional designation has been trademarked and as such new rules for maintenance of your CGM were required. Primarily PGMS has established a new continuing education reporting system for the maintenance of your CGM[®].

Effective January 1, 2013, all CGMs will only need to report 25 CEUs every three (3) years instead of the existing requirement that they report 50 CEUs every five (5) years.

Inclusive in the new CE requirement is the need to attend at least one PGMS School of Grounds Management during the three year reporting cycle.

There will now be a \$75 CE reporting fee; BUT, for each year in which a CGM is a member of PGMS during the three year cycle, he or she may deduct \$25 from that fee. In other words, if you were a PGMS member during the full three-year cycle you would not have to pay a CEU reporting fee – you would, however, still need to submit your CE report.

Now, let's consider your existing CE status. To help bring about a smooth transition of the process, on December 31, 2012, we will move all CGMs to the new program (meaning your next CE report would be due by December 31, 2015). However, in making this conversion we will ask your support for the following plan. Based on your present anticipated report date (old five-year plan), if your 50 CEU report was due by:

Dec. 2012	You will need to report as expected
Dec. 2013	You should report 30 CEUs by Dec. 31, 2012
Dec. 2014	You should report 20 CEUs by Dec. 31, 2012
Dec. 2015	You should report 10 CEUs by Dec. 31, 2012

If you have more than the above already earned by Dec. 31, 2012, we will apply the difference to your 2013-2015.

One additional change is being made to the CGM program. If a CGM fails to earn and/or report the required 25 CEUs every three years (including attendance to one PGMS School of Grounds Management), he or she will be placed on suspended status for one year and will unfortunately be prohibited from using the registered CGM[®] trademark. During that year, he or she may submit the CE report (with the above cited fee) and be immediately re-activated as a CGM in good-standing. Should a former CGM or a CGM who does not meet the above continuing education requirement wish to re-establish him- or herself as CGM in good-standing, he or she may do so by reporting fifty (50) CEUs including attendance to at least one PGMS School of Grounds Management and a payment of a \$250 reinstatement fee.

As PGMS has been advised by its trademark counsel, this new reporting program will enhance the continued demonstration of the knowledge of a Certified Grounds Manager.

Thank you for your support of PGMS and for the CGM[®] professional designation.

Sincerely,

Marion Bolick, CGM
Certification Chairman