

Prepared by Chuck Klafka – Douglas Co. Parks, Littleton, CO

Chuck Klafka is in his 17th season as Parks Supervisor for Douglas County Parks, Trails and Building Grounds Division. He started out in an entry-level position and now has 22 years of service in the Parks Division.

Klafka, 41, is responsible for all construction, quality control, maintenance, renovation, and upkeep of 11 park facilities. 13 natural turf fields (56 acres), and seven synthetic fields (15 acres),

Klafka has lived in Douglas County since February of 1979 in the Castle Rock area. He is married and has two children who are currently attending Douglas County High School. His hobbies in his free time are hunting, camping and coaching.

His vision for STMA would be focused on new members. Expanding our base membership to include the thousands of turf professionals we all see every day but don't recognize them as a Sports Turf Manager. The practices we use every day are the same ones these turf guys are out there teaching their staff and I feel we should all be on the same page and striving for the same goal. Secondly, with the new trends toward synthetic turf, and the constant changing opinions of the user groups and or teams we work for, keeps us as turf professionals, busy learning and expanding our field of expertise to conform to these requests. I have seen a lot of changes to our industry in the past 22 years, but I don't think we've even scratched the surface as to what's to come. We must be prepared, and the best way to do that is to help one another advance into the future.