Turf Tuesdays was a district-wide evening class series for homeowners involved in managing turfgrass. The information delivered through the class series consisted of practical knowledge to assist homeowners in managing the complex challenges that climate, insect, and disease pose to turf culture. Information from the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program, especially Lawn Best Management Practices, has been used in the development of the curriculum of this series. This series was organized by the Northwest District Horticulture Program Implementation Team with seven counties participating. The series was taught by agents and specialists through videoconference, allowing them to maximize effort and productivity while minimizing travel. Four classes comprised the series. The first class introduced the topic of turf management by focusing on soil pH, soil structure, turf type, and turf selection (Fig. 1). The objectives of second class were to educate the participants on turf fertilization and Integrated Pest Management of turfgrass insect and disease pressures (Fig. 1). Fertilization methods to reduce non-point source pollution were discussed. Lawn weed control through environmentally friendly management techniques was the main focus of the third class. Live examples of local weed species were brought to each site for evaluation. The importance of plant identification in the scope of turf weed management was emphasized. The final class demonstrated the benefits of following UF/IFAS Irrigation Best Management Practices to reduce water use, fertilizer runoff through water, and insect and disease pressures.

Each session had a total of more than 90 participants across the Northwest Extension District. Pre- and post-tests indicated that 90% of participants gained knowledge in turf production techniques with a majority indicating they will change some aspect of their turf management approach.