



CHIPS & PUTTS

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October Meeting

Glenmaura National Golf Club

Host: Jeff Koch, CGS

The final meeting of the 2017 golf season took us to one of our favorite host sites at Glenmaura National Golf Club. The Club opened in 1995 and plays nearly 7,000 yards from the back tees. Glenmaura National was designed by the architectural team of Hurzdan-Fry. They created something truly unique by incorporating several natural fescue areas, along with natural features such as large rock outcroppings and the waterfalls throughout the property. It is a delicate balancing act between providing a tour level challenge with a member friendly day-to-day playability. That balance proved to be successful, as Glenmaura National has hosted numerous events such as being an annual PGA Nationwide Tour stop from 2000-2008, hosting the NCAA Eastern Regional, and having hosted multiple U.S. Open Qualifiers.

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President's Message.....

Gino Marchetti

Editor's Notes.....

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and great 2017, as we look forward to having an even better 2018.

See you all next year!

Les Lear



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Study Could Debunk Claims That Glyphosate is a Carcinogen

By: John Reitman

Ask experts whether the active ingredient in the world's most widely used weed killer causes cancer, and you're not likely to receive a definitive answer.

"Maybe," "probably" or "perhaps - in very high doses" seem to be the most popular answers when experts are asked whether glyphosate, the active ingredient in RoundUp, is a carcinogen. Until now.

A recent study, published in the November issue of Journal of the National Cancer Institute concluded there was no relationship between glyphosate and cancers including "any solid tumors or lymphoid malignancies overall, including non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and its subtypes."



The study also concluded there is "some evidence of increased risk of acute myeloid leukemia among the highest exposed group", but that the association was "not statistically significant".

The research is part of the Agricultural Health Study that has been tracking the health of farmers, farm workers and their families in Iowa and North Carolina.

In a summary of the results, the researchers, led by Laura Beane Freeman, principal investigator of the Agricultural Health Study at the U.S. National Cancer Institute, said that among 54,251 pesticide applicators studied, 44,932, or 82.9 percent, used glyphosate.

"Glyphosate was not statistically significantly associated with cancer at any site," researchers wrote in the summary.

The results of the study are almost certain to impact a host of pending legal proceedings against Monsanto. Currently, nearly 200 plaintiffs have claimed that exposure to glyphosate is responsible for them getting cancer, according to published reports.

Concerns about the safety of handling and working with products containing glyphosate have circulated for years in 2015 when the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded that the active ingredient in RoundUp was "probably carcinogenic."

As a result of that report, California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, in July, added glyphosate to its list of cancer-causing agents and the state will require all products containing the chemical to carry a cancer warning on their label by next year.

Since the results of the Agricultural Health Study research have been published, Monsanto, as well as advocacy groups from the agricultural industry, have filed suit against the California agency to stop the amended warning labels.



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Another unique and defining aspect of Glenmaura National is that it only 1 of 3 courses in the world that has a truly gravitational irrigation system that does not require the use or assistance of a pump station to power its irrigation system. The system is fed entirely by a large reservoir located approximately 65' above the course from its highest point and creates natural water pressure through gravity and designed pipe sizing as it flows down the mountain.

Our host superintendent, Jeff Koch, has been at Glenmaura National since 1998, serving as the Assistant Superintendent prior to accepting his first head superintendent role at neighboring Wyoming Valley Country Club back in 2002. While there, he was offered his "dream" position in 2004 as the Golf Course Superintendent at Glenmaura National where he still can be found today. Jeff is a 1997 Penn State University graduate under the late George Hamilton.

GCSAA Providing New Educational Opportunity for Asst. Superintendents

By: Chase Rogan

Within any industry, continuing education is an important asset in professional development. Our industry is no different, and superintendent positions are as competitive as ever. For assistant superintendents looking for their first opportunity, this education could be a key factor in separating themselves from the pack. Particularly, it should be highlighted and leveraged on a resume to show potential employers that you are engaged in actively trying to improve yourself beyond the degree you may have previously earned.

To help you reach your educational goals, GCSAA has been developing and will soon be releasing education certificates for assistant superintendents. The certificates will cover 4 competency areas including: principles of golf course agronomy, business, communications/leadership, and environmental management. Although these certificates are geared toward assistants, any member or non-member can take the exams (cost is cheaper for members) to help improve their skills.

The first two exams, agronomy and business, are scheduled to be released in January 2018 with an associated study guide, and each exam will be between 70-75 questions. The remaining two exams will be developed and released later in 2018.

For assistants or others looking to hone their mechanical intuition, GCSAA also has 8 competency exams for equipment managers and covering: cutting units, drivetrain systems, electrical systems, engine technology, hydraulic systems, metalworking and fabrication, spray systems, and fundamentals of turfgrass operations. These certificates are currently available for any member or non-member, and can be found at gcsaa.org.




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October Meeting Results



Superintendents

1st Place
Chris Boyle

2nd Place
Greg Boring

Affiliates

1st Place
Chuck DeAngelo

2nd Place
T.J. Hart

Closest to the Pin

#2 Chuck DeAngelo - 11'4"
#7 Chuck DeAngelo - 14'5"
#11 Chuck DeAngelo - 15'6"
#13 Jim Ghigarelli - 6'2"
#16 Chris Boyle - 6'6"

Longest Drive
Chuck DeAngelo

Photo of the Month

We all see interesting things every day....wildlife (like bald eagles and bears), strange turf problems (like a lightning strike), an employee who stayed out too late the night before, etc. So if you have a great photo, send it to me (leslear@turf-equipment.com) and share it for everyone to enjoy (or laugh at).

Send in those Photos!!



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A graphic advertisement for 'Winter Blast' premium ice melter. The background is dark blue with white snowflakes and icicles. On the left, the words 'WINTER BLAST' are written in large, bold, red and blue letters with a snow effect. Below this, it says 'PREMIUM ICE MELTER WITH CMA'. On the right, there is a circular inset showing blue granules of the product. Next to it is a thermometer with a red liquid level, showing a temperature of -25 degrees. A red banner across the thermometer reads 'EFFECTIVE DOWN TO -25°'. At the bottom left, there is a list of three bullet points.

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Growth Products	Craig Lambert	973-601-3303
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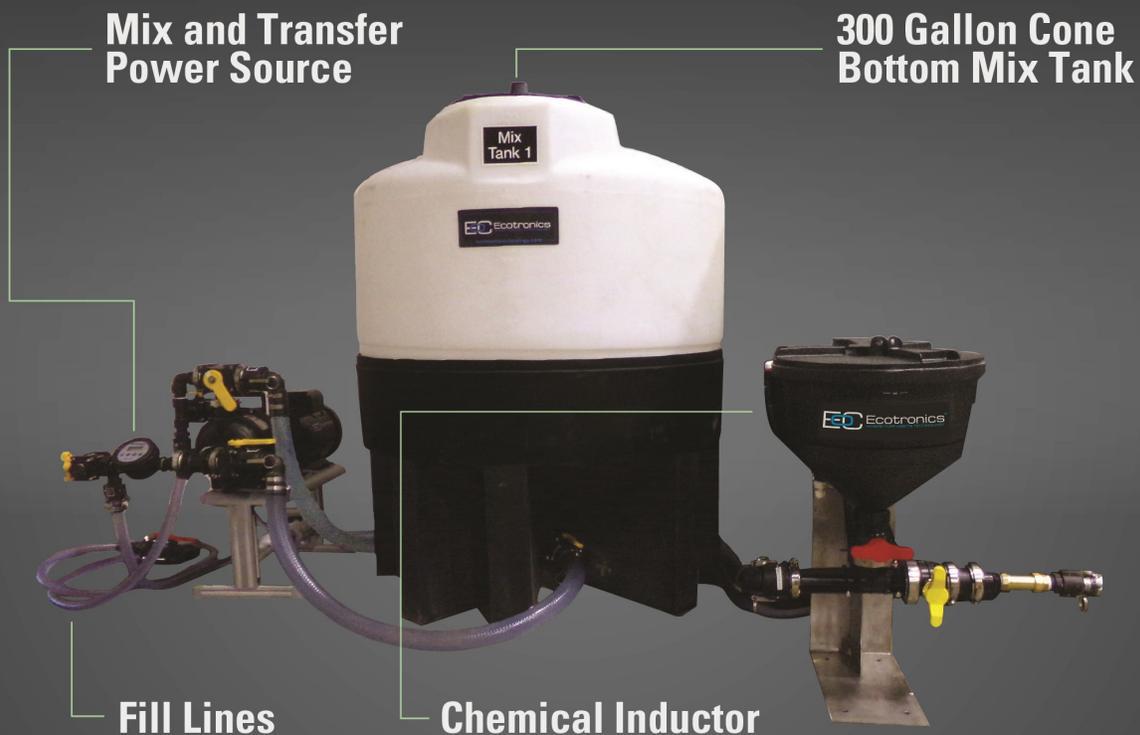
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POCONO ROUNDUP

Updates

Please be sure to keep us updated with any changes you may have, such as address, telephone number, email, new job, etc. We can't keep you informed of what is going on with the Association if we don't have your current information. Thank you!

PA BMP (Best Management Practices) Manual link will be available on the website in the coming weeks.

PTGA SCHEDULE

- Jan. 25** Northeastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show @ The Woodlands Inn & Resort
- Feb. 3-8** Golf Industry Show (San Antonio, TX)

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