

THE GREENERSIDE

July - August 1992 Volume 15 Number 4

Fire! A pre and post action plan

Carl W

You hope it never, ever happens to you. It's perhaps the most intimidating event that an individual ever has to face. But when it is a pesticide storage facility that catches on fire, it becomes more than just a fire. As a superintendent, you can do a lot to pre-plan and avoid a catastrophe. Pesticide fires can be dangerous, including the possibility of poisoning, which must be considered, in addition to the usual fire hazards.



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy regulations require that you send your pesticide inventory list to the local fire department on an annual basis. Keeping inventories down and ordering from vendors on an "as needed" basis will help keep potential problems to a minimum.

A pre-fire plan for handling pesticide and fertilizer fires is relatively simple to prepare and can be of enormous benefit to those who have to fight the fire. Start at the beginning by getting a few blank pages together. Fight the writers block by writing down the course's name and the location of the pesticide/fertilizer storage facility. Include the main phone number and emergency day or night numbers as well.

The superintendent's name, assistant and any alternates with day and night phone numbers listed should also appear on this first page. If the course has a physician who should be notified, include that number as well. The other important number is the CHEMTREC number, (800) 424-9300. Most chemical companies are equipped to provide emergency information on their products. Manufacturers can be contacted through the CHEMTREC number.

The purpose of this plan is to share it with the local fire department. Since it should be updated on an annual basis, you should have the fire department official sign the pre-plan update and revise it annually or after any important change.

Take out another blank page. If you have some graph

paper, that would be all the better. Draw a map showing the golf course site and immediate surroundings. Show the outline of buildings, type of construction, permanent interior walls, building openings and major fixed equipment. Provide elevation views if more than one story is involved. Locate all fixed outside equipment. Show perimeter fences, gates, floor drains, etc. Also show access routes and approximate distances to important buildings.

Select a suitable scale and identify areas of the facility dedicated to pesticides, flammables and oxidizers including bulk storage tanks. Fire departments use standard symbols for fire protection equipment including

(Please turn to page 4)

In this issue



Editorial	2
President's Message	3
GCSANJ NEWS	7
Reflections	9
Three grassy reads	11
Yours in turf	12
Professional partners	13
X marks the spot	15
Fancy facts from Fenwick	16
The back nine	18

THE GREENERSIDE

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EDITORIAL



Palettes and pallets

It's been twenty-two years between Turfgrass Science monographs from the Agronomy Society. The latest edition is highlighted elsewhere in "The Greenside." The question for this editorial, however, is, in the field of golf course turf management, where does science end and art begin, or where does the art end and science begin?

Both begin with the objective of developing a playing surface that is durable enough to support thousands of rounds of golf, subtle enough to be an influencer of the game, but not the main challenge of a course, and, all the while, holding that elusive quality of being pretty. A lot of players expect that not only should the course play well, but it should look good too.

Understandably these objectives come in conflict with one another throughout the playing season.

How frequently to mow and at what height, how much to water, fertilization programs, cart rules, threat of fungus attack, cool springs, torrid summers, grubs, skunks, divets not replaced, the putting green conditions, the fairway, use of ornamentals, trees, turf varieties, labor availability, equipment and, of course, the budget! Now, maybe if we all had a super parallel computer from the Cray corporation or IBM, we could program all these variables (and some that have been left out), and the ideal solution for an overall program would appear. But even with that added resource, I doubt that enough is known about turf grass to guide the entire season.

Throughout the season, there are instances where artistic instincts become necessary. This is when the experienced superintendent shifts gears from scientist to artist. Call it intuition, gut feel or just being instinctively correct, the superintendent calls the program to save the season. Sometimes this call is placed directly on the superintendent and sometimes it's made after counciling with their mechanics, with the assistant superintendent, with company sales representatives, with top talent from Rutgers and with other superintendents.

This summer will again challenge both the artist and the scientist for turf management. So get out your palettes, brushes, easel and the classy French beret hat, and pack them with the mower and spreader equipment!

A lot of players expect that not only should the course play well, but it should look good too.

**Ilona Gray
Editor**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The right thing to do

Dave Pease
President, GCSANJ

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy has developed a Pesticide Control Research Program. In our efforts to be responsible turf grass managers in regards to pesticide use, it behooves all of us to take an active roll in supporting research on all levels. Working together with research facilities, chemical companies and government agencies will allow us, in the golfing industry, the clout and responsible reputation we have worked so diligently to obtain.

Research on how our plant protectants are used and their relationship to the environment to which they are applied, is of great concern to all who apply these materials. To obtain factual information about our pesticide use, we must take an active roll in researching the use of such materials.

That is why I think it is important to get involved with the gathering of information as it pertains to the use of pesticides on our golf courses. The Pesticide Control Program, which was developed by Roy Meyer, collects and gathers data. This information will be used to assess the potential environmental impact of pesticides and to aid in the development of management practices for pesticide use on our golf courses.

The NJDEPE Pesticide Control Program is a volunteer program to assess pesticide use on golf courses. Applications to "get involved" with this program can be obtained through our office at 66 Morris Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081. For those who would like to participate, further information can be obtained through NJDEPE Pesticide Control Program, c/o Roy Meyer, CN 411, Trenton, NJ 08625.

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Calendar

- July 30** Turfgrass Management for Athletic Fields, Golf Courses and Landscapes, Sarasota Sod Farm, Stillwater, NY. Contact the New York State Turfgrass Association, (800) 873-TURF.
- August 3** District #1 Meeting, Darlington Golf Course. Host: Andy Schuckers, (201) 327-8770.
- August 6** Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day, Hort Farm, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Ed Milewski, Morris County Agricultural Agent, (201) 285-8300.
- August 10** District #2 Meeting, Madison Golf Club. Host: Mark Sinto, (201) 514-1434.
- August 18** Golf Course Design/Construction and Golf Day, SUNY Delhi, Delhi, NY. Contact the New York State Turfgrass Association, (800) 873-TURF.
- August 20** District #3 Meeting, Deal Golf Course. Host: Angelo Petraglia, (908) 531-8911
- August 26** Landscaping for Wildlife, Cook College/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- September 3** Invitational, Knickerbocker Country Club, Host: Sam Juliano, (201) 385-1996.
- September 12** 17th Annual Home Gardener's School, Cook College/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- October 2** Championship, Somerset Hills Golf Course, Host: Bob Dwyer, (908) 766-2307.
- Oct. 5-Dec. 11** Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School (new Fall Session), Cook College/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- October 6** 28th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day, Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course, Piscataway, NJ. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.

Fire! Pre fire plan

(Continued from page 1)

these letters in a circle: **H** (fire hydrant), **B** (sprinkler booster connection), **G** (main gas shutoff) and **E** (main electrical shutoff). Also **FD** (fire door) and **FW** (fire wall).

One of the immediate concerns with a pesticide fire is runoff. A map showing the surrounding area for about one mile in all directions could be useful in predicting runoff. Extend the map in the direction of site drainage so that drainage can be traced until it reaches the nearest large body of water. If runoff can be impounded on or off site, show the location and approximate number of gallons that can be contained. Locate where and how runoff may be blocked by dikes, dams, shutting off pumps, etc. Show surrounding land use (residential, industrial, agricultural). Show places of public assembly such as schools, churches, etc. Use an arrow with **N** to orient North on your map.

The maps are the hardest part of the plan. To help with them, you can use these Legend markers:

FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Fire Hydrant
Sprinkler Booster Connection

Main Gas Shutoff
Main Electrical Shutoff

WALL CONSTRUCTION

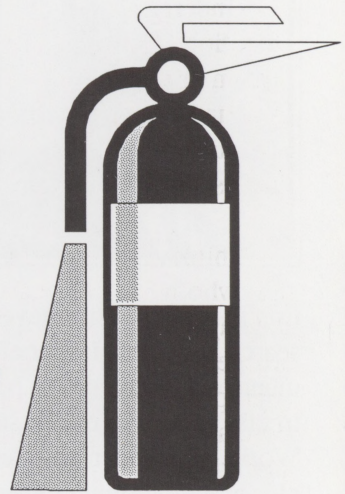
Concrete
Masonry
Metal
Wood
Fire Wall (add to wall symbol)

BUILDING

Pedestrian Door
Sliding Door
Overhead Door
Fire Door (add to door symbol)

EXTERIOR

Fence
Gate
Railroad
Drain Inlet
Manhole



(Please turn to page 5)

A detailed black and white line drawing of a golfer in mid-swing on a golf course. The golfer is in the foreground, and the background shows a line of trees and a flag on a green in the distance.

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Fire! An action plan



(Continued from page 4)

Well

Drain Lines or Culverts (with direction of flow)

Surface

Underground

Direction Ground Slopes

Stream or Creek

Impoundment Location

Lift Pump

Proposed Dike or Berm

Think this part through. If you had a pesticide storage fire, who would you have to notify? Start with the local and state agencies. If a public road or railroad would be blocked, even temporarily, try to have the names of the appropriate people to contact and their phone numbers. Give a written description of the immediate land use around your storage facility. This should cover out to about 1/4 to 1/2 mile in each direction, for example: North - commercial district 1/4 mile; residential 1/4-1/2 mile out; a hospital is located on Randolph and Main Streets.

Where do you keep any emergency equipment and supplies? Earth moving equipment? Portable water pumps? Street barriers? Sand bags? Other equipment that might be useful? These should be thought through and written down as well.

The location and types of water supplies including hydrants, ponds, irrigation canals, fresh or salt water, etc. should be included in the pre-fire plan. Verify hydrant thread compatibility and water pressure and flow rates if they are not part of the municipal system.

Fire departments will apply certain tactics to a fire involving pesticides and fertilizers. Do not attempt to do it yourself. It can be dangerous. The drill basically goes like this:

1. The fire department will contact the facility operator

(the superintendent) and determine the type, quantity and hazards of products involved. They will determine if the fire should be fought after weighing fire fighting and post fire hazards versus possible salvage.

2. Physicians will be notified and poison control information obtained.

3. Manufacturers will be notified.

4. People downwind will be evacuated and the area isolated. Patrols will be set up to keep out spectators.

5. Personal protective equipment will be used: rubber boots, neoprene gloves, turnouts and hats. If contact cannot be avoided (such as entering an unventilated building for rescue), self-contained breather apparatus will be used. These are called air packs.

6. The fire will be fought upwind and from a safe distance. Bottles, drums, metal and aerosol cans are not vented. They pose an explosion hazard.

7. To prevent the spread of the fire, nearby combustibles will be cooled. Burning chemicals cannot be salvaged.

8. The fire department will attempt to use as little water as possible to contain runoff. Contaminated runoff can be the most serious problem. Water spreads contamination over a wide area. Dikes may be constructed to prevent the

(Please turn to page 6)

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Fire!

(Continued from page 5)

flow to lakes, streams, sewers, etc. The cooling effect of water retards high temperature decomposition of the chemicals.

9. Water will be fog sprayed and not straight streamed. Fog spray is a more effective control method. It avoids breaking of bottles and bags which can add to the fuel for the fire. Straight streams spread contamination.

10. In the case of poisoning from smoke, runoff or mist, the individuals should be removed from the site and given prompt medical attention. Any feeling of discomfort or illness may be a symptom of poisoning. Certain pesticide poisonings are not felt until up to 12 hours after exposure. After exposure, wash your face and hands before smoking, eating or using the toilet. Do not put your fingers to your mouth or rub your eyes.

It's not over until the clean up. This is called "Post-Fire Clean Up." You may consider shopping in advance for a clean up firm that is available 24 hours a day for emergency containment and final disposition of the burned material. These firms are also available to handle underground storage tank emergencies.

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The future of turf management



Any contaminated protective equipment and clothing is impounded upon leaving the site. Once the fire fighters return to their station, they will shower, shampoo thoroughly and change into clean clothing. Contaminated equipment and clothing will be decontaminated in an isolated area. Cotton jacketed hosing may have to be destroyed. Most are weakened by strong detergents.

The fire site will be isolated and secured to keep the curious away. Waste and runoff may be toxic. Federal, state and local authorities will be contacted for disposal instructions and approvals. Waste and runoff will be handled the same way as a product spill. Personal protective equipment is required.

Let's hope no one in the GCSANJ ever has to face this event. A little preparation can perhaps avoid a larger problem. Inspect where you store pesticides and fertilizers and eliminate potential fire hazards. Make certain that you have a pre-fire plan in place and that you have an up-to-date set of material safety data sheets on hand. These are critical documents and your knowledge and preparedness in this area demonstrates your professional approach to being a superintendent. A brushup course on first aid, especially dealing with pesticides, would be of benefit as well.

You should get to know your local fire marshall. If he happens to inspect your facility and suggests (or requires) your changing items, correct them quickly. Call him back and ask to be reinspected. Your concern with safety and complying with the fire codes will go a long way in establishing a professional rapport with your local fire marshall.

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GCSANJ NEWS

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Years ago **Mark MacDonald** won the Canadian Amateur by a putt. He took very little time, and he banged it into the back of the hole. The victory was his, and he was a national hero. Unfortunately, Mark never really made that putt to win the amateur. It really was made on the putting green where he had made the other putts that brought him glory. He is one heck of a golfer, but there were too many **Brian Minemiers** placing pins where only the **Jay Antonelli's** of the world can make them. Mark, therefore, decided upon our end of the business. Everything and everyone since then has been better for his contact.

Medford Village CC is one of those places that has improved because of him. This course is located in the southern part of our state. After playing, we all wished New Jersey was even smaller so this wonderful course

would be closer. It is a great design that is being maintained at a very high level. Within the last three years, it has hosted a Philadelphia superintendents' meeting and now one of ours. This club and everyone involved with it are certainly deserving of our thanks and admiration.

The day of our meeting was a little cool, but perfect for golf. **Jay Antonelli** and **John Farrell** celebrated their new membership in our association by playing very well. Jay had five birdies for a 75 and John posted a 78. Not bad when most of the field had trouble breaking 90. **John Carpinelli** was the low net winner in the A flight, and he also killed one to win the long drive. **Dick LaFlamme** came out of retirement (welcome back) and won the B flight low gross, while **Jeff Theibault** and **Bob Leslie** took first and second low net. **Marty Mantell** and **Brad Simpkins** won the closest to the pin contest. **Alan Beck** had two skins and **Bill Amerman**, **Mark Kriews**, **Dave Mayer** and **Jay Antonelli** had one each. 1992 is off to a fine start.

Shaun Barry

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A SUBURBAN TREAT

Last April, **Pat Campbell** and I sat down and put Suburban Country Club on our schedule for May 1992. Pat moved to Panther Valley GC and Suburban hired **John Ruzsbatzky**. John had been an assistant at Winged Foot CC, and this was to be his first head job. Shortly after the season started, I went to see if John felt comfortable hosting our meeting. He had already thought about this, and so, without hesitating, answered "yes" to my question. In his shoes I might have said "no," but between John and **Ken Givens**, I knew everything would be great. It was and our thanks go to everyone involved.

Suburban is another one of the great creations by A.W. Tillinghast. It does not challenge you with great length or penalties. It just keeps charming you while you make bogeys. Well, at least I was making bogeys.

Like our first meeting, **Jay Antonelli** and **John Farrell** set the standard. Jay shot a 75 and John had a 76. This seems even better when you consider that most people could not find the hole with their putters. The team event was won by **Rich Brandel**, **Joe Conner** and **Dennis DeSanctis**. Low net honors went to new member **Wendell Beakley**, while another new member won one of the closest to the pin contests. This was **Chris Zelley**, who next time will (?) get into the skins game. **Dennis Smaldone** was the closest on the hole, while **Scott Carpenter** captured the long drive honors. Eight skins held up. Jay Antonelli (sounds familiar!) had two, while **Ed Casteen**, **Bob Dwyer**, **Harry Harsin**, **Dennis Smaldone**, **Gene Stiles** and **Jim Waniak** had one each.

Congratulations to everyone who had a chance to play Suburban. This experience makes us all winners. This day also marks the date when John Ruzsbatzky became a GCSANJ member. It is a day he will never forget.

Shaun Barry

TWO MEMBERS GET TOGETHER IN SANTA FE

Chris Gaynor and **Ron Ruppert** have joined forces to tackle a large project five miles from Santa Fe, New Mexico. With Ron as superintendent and Chris as his able bodied assistant, the LAS CAMPANAS DE SANTA FE development project is sure to be a success.

The Jack Nicklaus complex will consist of thirty-six holes of golf on five thousand acres of land. Well, it will not be all golf. A residential development will also be included.

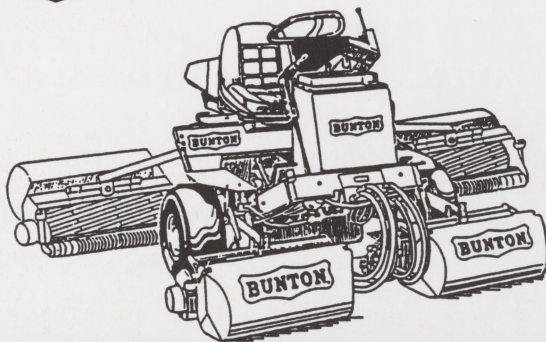
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Dr. Engel's reflections

"The Greener side," through Dave Pease, received a letter from Dr. Ralph Engel, who retired from Rutgers in 1986. Dr. Engel was the recipient of the 1991 GCSANJ Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Engel stated in his letter, "No one was a bigger believer than I that golf course superintendents should be used in educational programs. This was, and still is, very important on 'how to do' turf subjects. It also is one of the best readouts on a new procedure or how a new product works."

Starting out at Rutgers, Dr. Engel had detractors. He was threatened by zoysia enthusiasts who thought he should be making zoysia the number one grass of New Jersey. He had teaching duties, extension duties, research and had to raise grant money for himself and his students.

Thirty-nine years later, all his work at Rutgers has resulted in a broad and long list of accomplishments. Dr. Engel took the time to write us on six of these that would be of interest to those working with fine turf.

"**Nitrogen Fertilization of Bentgrass.** In my early years, I recognized from research plots and observations that too much nitrogen was being used on bentgrass. I heard Leonard Strong make this point. When Al Radko moved to New Jersey, I found he had the same feeling.

Smaller nitrogen totals in smaller and more frequent applications has become a way of managing bentgrass in New Jersey and the Northeast. I must admit, the golf course superintendents' "beloved tool," the stimpmeter, helped some.

Preemergence Herbicides. All modern day preemergence (Dacthal through pendimethalin) were tested formally during this period. Several received first testing at Rutgers, New Jersey. Of course, many more were tested that never reached the marketplace. Mercuries, phenoxyes, hydrocarbons, arsenicals, analine and others were used in earlier years. In telling my dear wife that most chemicals must be safe in the environment if I tested all of them safely, she replied that maybe they were what caused me to be the way I am.

(Please turn to page 10)

GCSANJ NEWS

should be played in one year. The Jack Nicklaus organization is working with Worthington construction. With those two companies building the course and Ron's and Chris's expertise, this course will be a magnificent place to play, and, who knows, I hear that Santa Fe is a great place to retire to.

"The Greener side" wishes all the luck in the world (with a project this size, they will need some luck) to Ron and Chris.

If you are ever in Santa Fe, contact Chris for a tee time at !@#-%&*. Actually, Chris assured me that he will contact us with his new address, although it is too late for the new membership directory.

Ken Krausz, CGCS

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Dr. Engel reflects

(Continued from page 9)

Postemerge on Seedling Crabgrass. With all the work on preemerge herbicides, I realized the near total control required for some weeds such as crabgrass and goosegrass on greens was difficult to obtain with preemerge in many situations. This is not surprising with the delicate preemerge process with the plant conditions and timing involved. I had been trying herbicides repeatedly through my early years for kill of the small crabgrass seedlings. One of the real pleasures for me came in 1982 when the formulators of fenoxaprop made us one of the first trial areas, and when I first saw the effectiveness of this type of chemical on the little weed seedlings. This gave turf a chemical that can be used alone or combined with many preemerges to give a two phase type of control on a difficult weed like goosegrass.

Root Studies. My graduate students and I spent more time washing and studying roots than most turf researchers. Groveling to remove the roots was not fun, but the results were most rewarding. This enabled me to issue some guidelines on use of 2, 4-D that reduce root injury, especially to bentgrass. In the early stages of preemerge crabgrass development, we were able to show that most of

these herbicides were root inhibitors, some inhibited roots into the next season or longer. We learned that soils can be too wet for best rooting of bentgrass, a grass that has considerable tolerance of wet soils. These findings on turf rooting are helpful to better root systems and species survival. Learning causes and the grief of root failure taught us something about watering.

Mist Watering. Mist watering is a development that I have been highly involved with. The work of one of my graduate students, Rich Rathjens, and my work showed soil moisture content of continuous FC (field capacity and one-half FC) was too wet for optimum root development. Mist treatments were found to be a great plus for bentgrass quality and an aid to plant survival with wetness that appears to have injured or interfered with the root system. Mist systems are being installed and have become a popular tool in bentgrass watering programs.

New Grasses. Naturally, I often collected interesting grass types. When Dr. Funk started his program, I had several selections of ryegrass. These were from two New Jersey golf courses and the Washington, D.C. mall. One of these ryegrasses was used by Dr. Funk with others he

(Please turn to page 11)



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Reflections

(Continued from page 10)

collected for the polycross known as Manhattan. As you know, this release started a torrent of turf-type ryegrasses that have revolutionized turf.

One of the Kentucky bluegrasses I collected and planted in the era was selected by Al Caravella and me while we were walking a sodium arsenite treated fairway at Echo Lake Golf Club. This grass grew and spread far beyond its plot borders at a height of three-quarters inch and became known as Mystic.

I have collected many tall fescue types for Dr. Funk. It has been a pleasure to see the improvements he has made with this species. Working with him in his great success and with his great character was a special joy to me.

I worked with Dr. Funk on the bentgrass variety improvement project. Everyone collected bentgrass types (approximately 800 selections). My graduate students, my technician and I were among the collectors and the nursery planting crew. Then we became raters of selections in the test plots. The New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents helped instigate the project by giving Rutgers \$300 a year for a few years. At the start, some said this was a waste

and others said it did not pay the cost of mowing. Whatever, Cobra bentgrass is a polycross from these selections and came into seed production under the supervision of Dr. Funk and the seed grower's agronomist. Some of the better selections from this big collection will probably find their way into other bentgrass releases.

Thanks for your time. Other items might have been included, but I have concentrated primarily on things of interest to fine turf. I have written often on the role of such things as liming, earthworms, seed mixtures and Canada thistle on lawns and utility turf."

Sometimes it takes a lifelong dedication to a science to make progress. But dedication is only half of it. The other half is the willingness to share the knowledge and experience with others and to help make them advocates of new ways of thinking and doing. A big "Greenerside" thank you goes to Dr. Engel for all of his efforts in turf science.

Three grassy reads

The American Society of Agronomy has recently published Monograph number 32. This is an update of the original Turfgrass Science, Agronomy Monograph 14 which was published over 22 years ago in 1969.

The new monograph reflects the tremendous information explosion that has occurred in this field over the past two decades. Back in 1969, the lawn care industry was only in its beginning. Golf courses represented the major turf acres treated and maintained in a high tech fashion.

There are five sections in the **Monograph 32: The Turfgrass Industry; Turfgrass Physiology; Soils and Water; Management and Research Methods.** The participating authors read like a who's who in turf science

(Please turn to page 12)



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Yours in turf

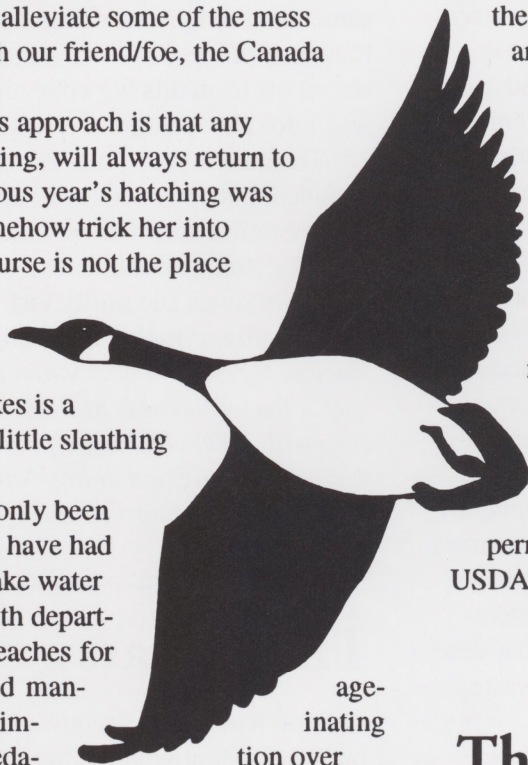


Are you ready for another approach to Canada Goose control? We at the Packanack Golf Club have initiated this spring what we hope will alleviate some of the mess commonly associated with our friend/foe, the Canada Goose.

The theory behind this approach is that any migratory bird, when nesting, will always return to the same area if her previous year's hatching was successful. If you can somehow trick her into thinking that your golf course is not the place to nest, then you will, over time, be goose free. This is done by what is called Depredation, and all it takes is a permit, record keeping, a little sleuthing and heroic teamwork.

Our problem has not only been aesthetic but sanitary. We have had high fecal counts in our lake water causing the township health department to close down the beaches for swimming. This prompted management to look into ways of eliminating the geese. We chose Depredation because Wayne township prohibits the discharge of firearms (permits can be obtained for migratory bird control with shotgun).

Depredation involves applying for and receiving a permit from the USDA. As with all permits, there is not only paperwork involved but also paperwork. Once authorized, you must watch the geese as they pair up and find their nests. This sometimes is not as easy as it sounds. We had one nest in a whiskey keg flower planter that was so obvious that we almost missed it. After finding the nest, you must take the eggs out of the nest. Teamwork is



aging
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township prohibits

essential. One person takes the eggs while the other stands guard as the gander takes offense to this action. We find the use of a McGuire bamboo rake fends off just about any gander that challenged us.

After retrieving the eggs, you must choose from one of the four approved methods of tomfoolery. We chose chilling as opposed to puncturing, oiling or addling. Be sure to mark the eggs before putting them back in the nest because she will have already made more and you will have to run through the procedure again. She will now be sitting on eggs that are essentially duds. Once she realizes they are not going to hatch, she will think twice about coming back again next year. At least that is the theory and next year we will let you know if the theory works.

For more information on bulletins and permits, you can contact Janet Sillings, State Director USDA APHIS/ADC at (201) 425-4106.

Douglas A. Vogel

Three grassy reads

(Continued from page 11)

including Drs. Watschke, Beard, DiPaola and many others. The co-editors are D.V. Eaddington, R.N. Carrow and R.C. Shearman.

The hefty book (828 pages) is available in hardcover at \$42 per copy to non-members and \$35 for the first copy to an ASA member. You can order this through ASA Headquarters Office, Attention: Book Order Department, 677 South Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53711-1086.

The USGA of Far Hills, New Jersey has announced the availability of two key summaries. The first is the 1991 Turfgrass Research Summary and the second is the 1991 Environmental Research Summary. The USGA Green Section and the GCSAA teamed up in 1983 to fund a ten-year turfgrass research effort that would reduce water use, pesticide use and maintenance costs by a significant amount. The 1991 Turfgrass research summary reports on the important progress made by sponsored project investigators. In the environmental summary, the first year's progress on 20 projects funded in this \$3.2 million three-year study is discussed. This research covers the fate of pesticides and fertilizers in the environment, alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on golf courses, and the

(Please turn to page 18)

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Professional partners

Assistant superintendents are usually full professional partners in the management of larger golf course facilities. We were curious to find out why some courses managed with an assistant, and how assistant superintendents were attracted to this field. We also asked about their personal objectives for the 1992 season. This "Greenside" article spotlights the unique role of the assistant superintendent through interviews with **Bill Amerman** from Marriott's Seaview Golf Resort, **Forrest Arthur** from Hominy Hill Golf Club, **Nancy Kelly** of Preakness Country Club and **Joe Fricovsky** of Canoe Brook. A big "Greenside" thank you for their support and interest in this article.

The golf courses that have assistant superintendents do so because they provide a service that is worth the expense. Bill Amerman points out that an assistant superintendent handles much of the direction and control of the staff as well as trouble shooting situations when they arise. With increasing administrative demands being placed on the superintendent, having a "second set of eyes" on the course can be invaluable. "Some assistants supervise the daily chores, while other courses want a dependable, conscientious person to operate sprayers, change cups, maintain the

irrigation system, etc.," according to Joe Fricovsky. He feels that the assistant relieves some of the pressures of the on-going course operations, allowing the superintendent to concentrate on other areas.

Forrest Arthur elaborated that "nowadays, superintendents must spend valuable time dealing with off course priorities such as public relations, pesticide hearings and a host of other new responsibilities." He feels that "to have a trained competent individual on site to carry through the daily roster is essential."

Nancy Kelly expressed the opinion that, "budgeting and the overall quality of the golf course is often the determining factor in whether a course has an assistant superintendent." She says courses with a small budget generally have smaller crews and may select to use a foreman instead of an assistant.

Like most of us, the choice of a profession is very personal. Our interviewees shared their stories with "The Greenside." Nancy Kelly and Bill Amerman both entered the profession through the Rutgers Turfgrass Management Program. All of them enjoy the outdoors, with Bill, Nancy

(Please turn to page 14)

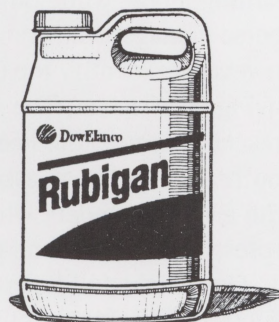
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Professional partners



(Continued from page 13)

and Forrest highlighting their interest in the game of golf and a desire to stay close to the course and nature. Several of the assistants also mentioned that the position is an excellent place to learn how to be a superintendent.

Bill Amerman started working on golf courses as a high school student. After college he became a foreman and the assistant for Seaview. Nancy started working at Suburban GC while in college. She's since been an assistant at White Beeches CC and last year went to Preakness Hills. Joe Fricovsky pointed out that the job is extremely satisfying and that Canoe Brook provides a friendly and progressive work environment. Arthur switched college majors from forestry to horticulture thanks to his golf coach at Southwest Missouri State University. He says that the "agronomic aspects and self satisfaction along with staying close to the game of golf convinced him to pursue this career." In all of these stories, personal involvement or advice from superintendents and professors helped make a career decision.

Asking for personal objectives can be a fully loaded

question. "The Greenerside" meant to include only those objectives that can be shared with a wide audience. Our interviewees wanted first and foremost to do their jobs professionally and cited specific professional objectives related to their course.

Bill's primary objective is to "do everything possible to meet the expectations of the golfers at Seaview." He feels that being a good steward of the land is a natural role

for him. Seaview has joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, and he is involved with completing a natural resource inventory. Bill's background in environ-

It remains up to the superintendent, however, to identify the course needs and benefits of having an assistant.

mental science helps him better appreciate the importance of this program.

Nancy is one of only a few female assistant superintendents, and, as such, she is often "tested" more than her male counterparts. "To be known for what you do rather than what you are is important to all of us." Nancy wants to always enjoy the beauty in the job of working with nature and to remain down to earth.

Joe highlighted specific objectives for personnel programs, employee relations and continuing education for himself and the crew in all phases of golf course management. Education was a major objective for Forrest as well. He wants to use his time as an assistant to learn as much as he can. Teaching what he has learned to the crew is an additional objective for him.

The role of the assistant on a particular course is a function of what the superintendent wants and needs, and the skill level of his assistant. Regardless, assistant superintendents are full professional partners. Some are in a learning mode, while others have broad experience in golf course management. It remains up to the superintendent, however, to identify the course needs and benefits of having an assistant. The superintendent must prepare and present the economic justification for this position. So if you're thinking of an assistant for your own course, visit with a superintendent who is already benefiting from this professional partner and get some additional facts.

Our thanks to Shaun Barry of Nor-Am for getting a list of interview volunteers.

Ilona Gray

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X marks the spot



Hey, what was that last "Greenside" all about anyway? Time to beat the hell out of yours truly? And I thought **Malikowski, Van Vorst and Krausz** were my friends. I know most of you think I should retaliate with some indelicate response by mentioning some of their short comings, which are many I might add, but that's not my style.

It would be unfair to talk about John Van Vorst's ability on the golf course. John actually doesn't belong on a golf course unless he's planting native grasses. I've seen backhoes out of control that don't do as much damage as John's swing. John played my club once, just once, and the best swing he made was as he swung his clubs off the cart and back into his car trunk. I was never happier to see a person leave. On a scale of one to 10, John's ability as a player is minus 15.

Now for Ken Krausz. I can't believe this guy. He's always around borrowing something and most often I have to send someone over to his club to get whatever he borrowed back. Most times the thing he borrowed is broken when we do get it back to our course. I would like to say more, but I think Ken used to be a member of the Hells Angels. There are certain things that can get you in a lot of trouble, and screwing around with an ex-Hells Angel is one of them.

And Malikowski. I don't know what more can be said about Steve that hasn't been said already. Here's a person who spent five years at the University of Rhode Island and acquired a total of 73 credits. Just think about that one, 73 credits in five years. It's my understanding that Steve spent every semester on academic probation. As a matter of fact, he still holds the record at U.R.I. by staying in school under academic probation for the longest period of time. He also



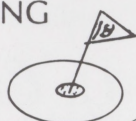
changed majors 18 times in those five years. It's no wonder Dr. Joe Troll considered him a real project when he transferred to the Mass Turf Program. I didn't ask how many years it took Steve to complete the two-year program there.

As you can see, I am turning over a new leaf. I will not criticize any of my constituents again, ever. Well, maybe not ever, but probably very little. Well, probably not as much as before.

P.S. I wonder if I'll ever get invited to play Cape May National or get any more native grasses or even be allowed on my neighbor's course again?

Edward Walsh, CGCS

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Fancy facts from Fenwick



I'm ba-a-a-ck.

Our nation's recession has been devastating to many people. Make no mistake about it. People are hurting economically and, in many cases, our neighbors are hurting as well. But what about golf? I called on a sampling of our vendors in the turf industry to ask the simple question, "What effects has the recession had on you?"

Replies were mixed. Some are actually having good years. **Paul Strani** at Storr Tractor has seen little effect from the recession. "This is my third recession," says Paul, "and I have not seen them affecting golf." **Clyde Ashton** of Double Eagle is also having an excellent year. "One trend I've seen is an increased interest in walking greensmowers," Clyde said.

Bill Dunn of Loft Seed was able to give some perspective on a more regional and nationwide level. Bill has seen some new golf course construction put on hold even

after reaching approved status. Courses tied to housing seem to be affected most. "There has been an upswing in new construction for daily fee courses," Bill said. He also saw more upscale driving ranges dotting the landscape.

Meanwhile, back in New Jersey, our suppliers of seed, chemicals, fertilizers and golf course equipment have seen the need for a different approach to business. I had an opportunity to speak with Grass Roots' **Ken Kubik**, **Catherine Futyma** of Fertl Soil and **Buddy Rizzo** of Turf Products Corp. The golf course supply business has definitely changed this year. These changes include more requests for bids

on materials, involvement of club officials other than the golf course superintendent in purchase decisions and more of a "buy as needed" philosophy. The superintendents and suppliers are working much harder for each sale.

To summarize, there have been new challenges and new lessons to be learned in the past year. Superintendents and related businesses work in an industry that is constantly changing. It appears that 1992 in the golf industry will be a year of hard work, but not hard times in New Jersey.

In closing, I don't feel qualified in predicting either rosier days ahead or the worst is yet to come. But I do feel compelled to compliment the mutual respect GCSANJ members have held for each other. We share the problems that confront golf, be they natural, economic or regulatory.

John Fenwick
Basking Ridge CC



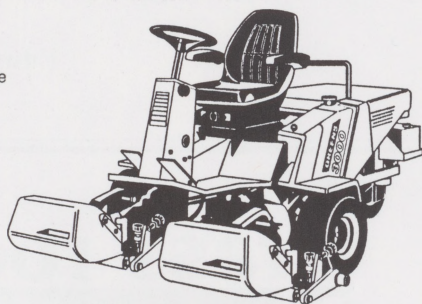
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Lyme disease on the rise in New Jersey



The following table shows the changes in the actual number of individual cases and percent change of Lyme disease on a county-by-county basis. The table compares 1988 to 1991. Only four counties showed a decrease in Lyme disease. Overall, New Jersey reported cases were up by 69%. Some counties (Monmouth and Ocean) exceeded over 100 cases in 1991. Lyme disease is difficult to detect because it mimics so many other diseases. We suspect that the number of reported cases reflect only a percentage of the actual disease incidence.

County	1988	1991	% Change
Atlantic	15	75	400.0
Bergen	8	16	100.0
Burlington	50	55	10.0
Camden	5	16	220.0
Cape May	3	14	366.7
Cumberland	10	38	280.0
Essex	1	17	1600.0
Gloucester	5	10	100.0
Hudson	6	2	-66.7

Hunterdon	18	51	183.3
Mercer	34	46	35.3
Middlesex	21	59	181.0
Monmouth	149	133	-10.7
Morris	18	82	355.6
Ocean	148	131	-11.5
Passaic	5	11	120.0
Salem	2	9	350.0
Somerset	22	87	295.5
Sussex	4	19	375.0
Union	6	18	200.0
Warren	2	10	400.0

Total **532** **899** **69.0**

The deer tick is the carrier for Lyme disease. It is found in grassy areas, fields and woods. Ticks do not fly or jump, but crawl up low vegetation areas and wait for an animal or human to brush by. Deer ticks in their nymph stage are the primary carriers. They are only the size of a pencil point and appear typically in the summer months. The adults are larger, growing to a quarter of an inch in diameter. They can double in size after feeding. The adults can also carry Lyme disease and are active from October through April.

Lyme disease itself is a bacterial infection. About 50% of the deer ticks in New Jersey carry the bacteria. Other tick species are not involved in Lyme disease transmission. You can protect yourself by preventing exposure to the deer tick. First, avoid, if you can, grassy areas. Wear long sleeves and pants. Tuck your pants into your socks. Wear light colored clothing so you can spot the ticks. Inspect yourself for ticks after returning from outdoor work. Use a repellent containing Permethrin or DEET.

The symptoms of Lyme disease often include, in the early phases, headaches, flu-like symptoms, a spreading ring-shaped rash, swelling and pain in the joints. More severe symptoms may develop months to years later if untreated. Call a doctor if you suspect you have been bitten.

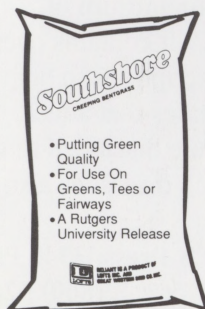
If you find a tick on your body, remove the attached tick immediately. Use tweezers to grasp the tick's head, near the skin, and slowly pull straight out. Other methods may cause the tick to inject fluid into the victim.

For more information, contact the Rutgers Cooperative Extension office in your county or your local health department.

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THE BACK NINE

DAVE PEASE AND THE "ASBURY PARK PRESS"

Dave Pease, president of the GCSANJ and manager of the Monmouth County Parks System courses, was interviewed and published on leap day (February 29) in the "Asbury Park Press." Dave told reporter Phil Hartman about the integrated approach to pest management and modern environmentally preferred practices encouraged by the association. He discussed the use of bat houses in South Jersey and how bats help cut down on insect pests. Also mentioned was the use of drought resistant turf varieties. The role of continuous training was emphasized as well.

BIG FOOD FACTS

Du Pont has designed a snazzy "Food Facts" placemat. Featured among several facts is a five-member Iowa farm family who produce enough corn to fill 86 million bowls of corn flakes and enough beef to make 200,000 hamburgers. This placemat of food and farm facts is available free from Du Pont by writing to: Du Pont Food Facts, P.O. Box 4635, Trenton, NJ 08650-4635.

BIO-HAZARD AT RIDGEWOOD

There are water hazards, there are sand traps and holes that are just plain ugly, but the one thing you don't expect to meet on a first class golf course is a bio-hazard. The golf rules state that if you hit this bio-hazard, it will cost you a stroke. We say, if you hit THIS bio-hazard, you better run for the club house. Because THIS bio-hazard is a black bear. The bear was last seen on the 19th hole trying to get a free meal from Ed Walsh. This same bear was at the club last year weighing in at just a few hundred pounds. It was picked up and relocated under the Federal Witness Protection Program. Now, how's that for a new identity? The bear now weighs over 600 pounds and without cash or a credit card, it could not get a satisfying meal at Ridgewood. Can you imagine that!

A "Greenside" thank you to **Clyde Ashton** of Double Eagle Equipment, Trenton, New Jersey for alerting "The Greenside" to the news of this bear, which appeared in "The Trentonian" newspaper.

DEPE PUBLIC ACCESS CENTER

With Commissioner Scott Weiner, scissors in hand, literally cutting a band of "red tape," the new public

access room was officially opened at DEPE headquarters, 401 East State Street, Trenton. The room is designed to be barrier-free and accessible to the public.

In some respects it resembles a library. Scientific studies by DEPE, department publications, press releases, proposed and adopted rules and regulations, notices of public hearings and other forums are all here and available. There is even a new telephone line to make communication easier. One need only call (609) 777-DEPE to reach the new information center.

The center will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday and will serve as a conduit for those with questions on process or in need of specific expertise. The new center is part of an overall effort by Commissioner Weiner to make the department more accessible, accountable and responsive to the people of this state.

In addition, a new public hearing room has been established at the same location, just behind the public access room. The new facility will seat 120 people and will allow the department to hold hearings on premises with access to expertise and documentation as they may be required.

Three grassy reads

(Continued from page 12)

impacts and benefits of golf courses on people and wildlife. The two summaries are available from the USGA Order Department at (800) 336-4466.

The American Phytopathological Society Press has released the new edition of their "Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases, Second Edition." It contains over 180 full color photos with detailed descriptions to help specialists diagnose more than 50 diseases that attack turfgrass. Biological control methods are discussed as well as more conventional approaches. Patch disease is also new to the second edition.

You can order this through the APS Press, 3340 Pilot Knob Road, St. Paul, MN 55121-2097 or call (800) 328-7560.

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