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September 1997

# Course construction & renovation projects always make the job fun for Scott Hurt

Scott Hurt, who likes to add a little spice to his life as a golf course superintendent, is always looking around for an opportunity to stretch the maintenance aspect of his profession into new construction or renovation. It's part of his professional outlook.

Three months ago that opportunity presented itself when Bob Moss, the developer of the Kettle Brook Golf Club in Paxton, Mass., tapped Hurt as his head superintendent and coordinator of construction for a first-time project. That is, this is Moss's first fling in golf course development.

The ties that bound Scott to his old job as Oak Hill Country Club superintendent were strong. In three short years he had given that Donald Ross-designed layout a successful facelift in a restoration stint that whetted his appetite for the Kettle Brook assignment.

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"I entered Ohio State as a major in architecture. Then, the first summer break, I took a job at a golf course. I was hooked. So I went into agronomy and set my sights on doing this."

Scott Hurt Kettle Brook G.C.

"Oak Hill was a nice place for me," Hurt explained. "When I first got there, my goal was to improve the condition of the golf course. After that, I wanted to do more. Then, the membership decided to restore things to as close as we could get to the Donald Ross original."

That took Scott through the late summer months of 1995 into the spring of 1996. The specifics were to rebuild all of the bunkers, plus several tees and greens.

"The project was piecemeal at first," Hurt disclosed. "Just little dibs and dabs here and there. But, eventually, it turned into a long-range situation. When we were finished, it looked much like the members wanted the course to look. They were satisfied; so was I. Then this year, along came the chance for what I think is a bigger challenge, and I grabbed it. I left

Oak Hill on my own terms, which were good terms. And here I am."

At that, it's been a 13-year journey . . . from Scott's first steps out of Ohio State University as a graduating agronomy major . . . to the initial overview of the 220-acre spread Moss is developing at Kettle Brook.

Like many superintendents, Hurt didn't have golf course maintenance or construction on his neutral mind when he scanned the future for a livelihood. "I entered Ohio State as a major in architecture," he told. "Then, the first summer break I took a job at a golf course. I was hooked. So, I went into agronomy and set my sights on doing this."

Scott, a native of Ohio, moved around in the West once he graduated. One of his early stops was the Cherry Hills Country Club, where Arnold Palmer had won an historic U.S. Open in 1960. Gradually, he moved east, settling into New England with a two-year stay at Myopia Hunt before taking the head superintendent post at Oak Hill.

Along the way Scott was involved in construction/renovation situations, and the urge to plunge deeper into that area surfaced after his restoration success at Oak Hill.

Kettle Brook falls right into place in Scott's game plan. Moss wants a public golf course with a country club look and feel. Right now there aren't any plans to build an extravagant clubhouse,

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continued from page 1 which means that the total effort will concentrate on the golf course.

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That's where Hurt hopes he excels . . . along with, but of course, architect Brian Silva, who's bringing to rest his expertise on the project. Silva is one of the best around in his field. That type of association is nothing new to Scott, who worked with highly regarded architects Tom Doak and Bruce Hepner during the Donald Ross reincarnation at Oak Hill.

"I'm here to see that Brian's ideas are carried out," Hurt said. "He comes out about once a week to check on the progress. The rest of the time I'm doing all the coordinating with the construction crews."

The premise behind the design of Kettle Brook is to give golfers an upscale public course whose degree of difficulty is placed in their hands through multiple choice or selection of driving areas.

"It'll be a test of golf," Scott remarked. "It will play to 6,900 yards from the

"I'm here to see that Brian's (Silva) ideas are carried out. He comes out about once a week to check on the progress. The rest of the time I'm doing all the coordinating with the construction crews."

"It'll be a test of golf. It (the new Kettle Brook course) will play to 6,900 yards from the back tees, but it won't be known as a back-breaker type of course. We're now planting bentgrass on picturesque, rolling terrain. The course will have numerous bunkers and large greens."

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Scott Hurt Kettle Brook G.C. back tees but won't be known as a backbreaker type of course. We're now planting bentgrass on picturesque rolling terrain. The course will have numerous bunkers and large greens. The golfers will think they're playing a country club course, but paying daily public green fees. Those haven't been established yet. Regardless, we feel there's a market for this type of golf course in the Worcester area."

There were 12 holes roughed in by the end of July and the goal is to have the full 18 laid out and seeded by October. This means the opening is not far-off, the target being mid-summer of 1998.

"We're about a month behind the original course-stage dates," Hurt revealed. "The reason was mostly well-drilling delays. There will be two manmade ponds, and we figure to have plenty of water for irrigation purposes.

The water also could be part of the making of the course's signature hole. At interview time, Scott thought it would be the par-five seventh hole, requiring lift-off over one of the ponds. "The second shot will be a teaser," he quipped. "You can get home but you can take a bath, too. The next hole, the eighth, also should be interesting. It also requires travel over water."

Kettle Brook will be Hurt's first venture where he takes part in building the course, then maintaining it. "I'll have a good feel for that (maintenance)," he added. "But I don't know how long I'll be able to live the straight superintendent life. I've already asked Bob (Moss) when we're going to build our second course."

**GERRY FINN** 

### Calendar

Oct. 14

GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Supt./Club Official Tournament
Brae Burn Country Club
Newton, Mass.
Supt. - Robert DiRico, CGCS

Oct. 22

Pro-Superintendent Tournament
Willowbend Country Club
Mashpee, Mass.
Supt. - Christopher Tufts

Nov. 3

GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Longmeadow Country Club
Lowell, Mass.

Supt. - Richard French

# The Super Speaks Out

## This month's question:

How do you handle aerification at your course, and what are the results of your efforts?

Greg Mackintosh, Tara Hyannis Golf Club: "Our aerification program is a twotiered project, with the basis of it a deep-tine application in the spring. That provides the underpin of the greens' conditioning cycle.

"We don't have our own deep-tine equipment, so we hire out for that big job. Usually we close the whole course for one day to accommodate the time it takes to complete the work. My crew's part in this process is to top-dress, fertilize, and feed the aerified greens.

"That's step one.

"The rest of the aerification, and we do this two or three times a year, is a shallow thrust with about a half-inch descent. We do all of this work ourselves, which means that the work schedule has to be as precise as possible in order to keep ahead of the golfing traffic.

"Tara Hyannis is a public course, and when the weather gives us a good golfing day, the place is packed. Therefore, I have to schedule the aerification around the bulk of the golfers.

"I usually schedule the work so that the job is done in shifts. We start in late afternoon (closing the nine we're working on) and work into the night. The next day we switch nines but have an early start (around 5 a.m.). Most of the time we have that nine finished by 8 a.m. or so.

"I find that my best results come after we top-dress the greens real heavy, let it

"Scheduling around play and still producing acceptable putting and teeing surfaces is the name of the game in aerification."

Phil DiRico Hampden C.C. sink in for a week, and then give the greens another heavy load of topdressing.

"So far, our golfers have been able to get in their rounds with as little inconvenience as possible. That brings the complaints to a minimum, especially when. they see and play the end product. I like what I see and can feel as the result of the aerification program. Our golfers like what they're putting on. It makes for a nice relationship all around."

Phil DiRico, Hampden Country Club: "First of all, we're in a transition period, going from a private club to a public course. Therefore the financial approach is bound to vary.

"However, regardless of that situation, I have to say that the new owners (the Friel family) have been real good to me. They know what they're doing and they know what to expect of me. That part of the transition has been smooth. We're on the same track, so to speak.

"Our aerification background should be noted. When we were private, I hired out to a Hydro-Jet application. This can get expensive, and it was one of the expenses that had to go when we turned public.

"The present setup is that we do all aerification ourselves, with the equipment we have. And that's all right with me.

"Under normal weather conditions and the change of seasons from winter to spring, I plan to aerify two times a year, once in the spring and again at the end of summer. But this year we had a cold spring and our turf, which is a gravelly type and tough to work with, wasn't ready for aerification. So we skipped the spring application.

"The plan now is to do it at the end of summer. We'll be using small (3/8") tines, and the process will be an ongoing thing. I'm looking at a three-day schedule with most of the work done late at night, and a lot of it in early morning. We have to do this to keep the course open for

play. Remember, we're talking public now, and revenue (green, tee fees) is an important item.

"That (scheduling around play and still producing acceptable putting and teeing surfaces) is the name of the game in aerification. That's how I'm looking at it now."

Brett Johnson, Oak Hill Country Club: "Seeing that I recently took over as head superintendent, this is an important conditioning year for me. However, everything appears to be running smoothly, mostly because I've had close experience with Scott Hurt (previous superintendent) and am very familiar with the aerification

"Our plan in the past was to aerify once a year. In addition, the work fell in a blocked off period when no special tournaments were on the club schedule. This was a part of coordinating maintenance with play, and I'm sticking to the original guideline.

process.

"We've had a machine for four years and use it with the same size of tine for both greens and tees (5/8"). We do the job in one day and then have time to take off the plugs (with snow shovels), top dress and feed where necessary.

"This year it was so wet in the spring that drainage became a problem. So, we were unable to put the aerate program to work at that time. As the season progresses, it seems we're looking at aerification in late August or early September.

"The process will be the same, penetrate, clear, top dress, and overseed if necessary.

"Again, the big thing about our aerification program is that it has been a success without being an inconvenience to our members. The club likes the idea of once-a-year aerification. It's all right with me, too. It's all right with the plants. That's an extra bonus, because our plant roots have never been better. It's been a good year."

**GERRY FINN** 

#### **Soil Science**

## Sampling technique: Key to soil test accuracy

by Dr. William M. Dest Dept. of Plant Science, University of Connecticut

This is the first of a series of articles in Turf Notes related to the role of soil testing in turf management. Soil testing can be defined as any measurement of the chemical, physical, or biological content of soils. In this article, testing refers to the routine chemical analysis of a soil's pH and nutrient content.

The objectives of soil tests are to: (1) Rate the fertility of the soil; (2) Predict whether plants will respond to lime and fertilizer treatments (excluding nitrogen); and (3) Provide a foundation for recommendations of the quantity (if any) and form of lime and fertilizers added to turf.

There are four major phases to a soil testing program that assist in meeting the above objectives. These are:

- (1) Sampling technique.
- (2) The laboratory method used to extract the nutrients in the soil for analysis.
- (3) Studies that experimentally determine the relationship between soil nutrients and turfgrass growth.
- (4) Interpreting the soil test results from the laboratory analysis and using that information to make recommendations on any potential lime or fertilizer applications.

The first phase in a soil testing program is sampling technique, often done with little thought to its importance. Nothing could be more true than the often repeated cliche which says, "the soil test results are only as good as the sample taken." A poorly taken soil sample can lead to analysis errors resulting in improper recommendations. The guidelines which follow are designed to improve soil sampling techniques and to reduce potential sample errors.

Area to be sampled. Whether the area to be sampled represents a few thousand square feet or 10 acres, the soil sample must accurately represent the total area. A soil's chemical and physical composition can vary across an area (horizontally) and over different depths (vertically). An area to be sampled should be subdivided based on known differences, with each subdivi-

sion being sampled separately (see below). Ten to 30 soil core samples should be collected using a zigzag or grid pattern across the area, and the core samples combined into a single composite sample. This will provide a representative sample of the area in the horizontal direction. Ten core samples, assuming a \_" diameter and 4" deep, will yield about one pint of soil weighing about one pound. This is an extremely small amount of soil for a large area (the weight of the soil in the surface 6" of a 10 acre site approaches 18,000,000 lbs.) and, if selected improperly, can result in significant error.

Sampling distinct areas. The following guideline is provided to assist in the decision to separate areas for individual sampling. Take separate samples in locations where:

- there is a difference in plant response between locations even though the area may be as small as a home lawn.
- there has been a difference between areas in past fertilizer and lime treatments.
- a change in soil type occurs. These changes are shown on soil maps available from the Natural Resource Soil Conservation Service.
- there is a disturbed and undisturbed area, or between a cut and fill area.
- there are recent deposits such as a flood plain, or where repeated applications of topdressing soil has been made in some locations. For example, topdressing applied through the center of an athletic field but not along the sidelines. This could create a change in the fertility levels between the two areas.
- changes in topography and even minor changes in relief (surface heights), particularly if differences in plant response have been observed.
- · there are areas that differ in drainage.
- there are irrigated and non-irrigated areas, even though past fertilizing and liming treatments may have been the same.

Vertical sampling. There can be a considerable difference in nutrient levels and soil acidity at various soil depths. This is particularly true in turf settings where the soil is left undisturbed and nutrients and limestone are surface applied. This creates a nutrient gradient along the soil profile that can vary with different nutrients depending on their mobility in soils and the soil type. For example, the change in soil

pH from a limestone application made the previous year may not show up if the sample was taken to a 4" depth with the top inch of soil and thatch discarded. Agricultural limestone is highly insoluble and although its effects on changing soil acidity at the surface may show up in a soil test, it will not show up in a sample collected below the 1" depth. This layering could lead to an error in interpretation.

The depth at which a sample is taken will vary depending on the depth of rooting. Sampling depth for turf mowed between 11/2" to 3" high should be from 0" to 4" or 5" deep. On a putting green, which has a shallow root system, a sampling depth from 0" to 2" or 3" deep may suffice. For areas to be newly seeded, samples should be taken to the depth that the soil was cultivated. Once the depth of sampling for an area is determined, the depth of each sample should be kept constant. In addition, the volume of soil should remain the same for each sample taken for a given depth. Sampling with soil tubes will provide these uniform sample sizes.

#### Other procedures to follow:

- Use a clean container (bucket) for collecting soil samples in the field that will make up the composite sample.
- (2) Mix the 10 or more cores very thoroughly in the container, and place on a clean sheet of paper to air dry. Thorough mixing of the sample is critical.
- (3) Always clean the container and soil tube or other sampling equipment before collecting samples in a new area to avoid cross-contamination of the samples.
- (4) Place the air-dried samples in a clean plastic bag, waxed paper bag, or other container for shipping. One half to one pint of soil per sample is ample. Label the sample clearly. The soil testing laboratory you use may have mailing kits for this purpose. These kits also contain forms that, when filled out properly, provide important information that will assist the lab in analyzing the sample, and in making liming and fertilizer recommendations. If mailing kits are not available, be sure to include information on the use of the area (new seeding, athletic field, home lawn, etc.). Include your name, address, and phone number.
- (5) Send the samples to the laboratory as soon as possible after taking the samples.

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#### **GCSANE News**

# "Remember When?": Looking at GCSANE's past

**Remember When?** looks back at the GCSANE's many significant events and individuals of the past.

25 years ago

At the most recent monthly meeting of the GCSANE, president Bob Grant appointed a nominating committee. The committee will be chaired by Dick Blake and includes Dave Barber, Bert Frederick, Tony Caranci, and Brian Cowan.

The association staged its annual Golf Superintendent Championship at Hyannisport, with Bob St. Thomas coming out on top with a low gross of 73. Low net honors went to Al Auger with a 68.

15 years ago

We had new champions in the team of two event at Dedham. Dick Duggan and Paul Jamrog dethroned two-time defending champions Kenny Mooradian and Gary Luccini. It was the first time in three years that Kenny and Gary tasted defeat. The boys didn't seem to mind the setback until the chopping team of Steve Murphy and Doug Johnson beat them out of second place. The championship format relied on the handicap system, which pared Duggan and Jamrog to a sparkling net 57. On the gross side of the event, Brian Cowan and Bob St. Thomas prevailed with an even par 70. Sales division champions for the third year in a row were Steve Butler and Larry Bunn.

GCSANE vice-president Don Hearn is going national on the political front. The Weston Golf Club superintendent is running for director on the board of the GCSAA. This is the first time in many years that a GCSANE member has run for national office. The election will be held in Atlanta in February.

A familiar face with a not-too-familiar body showed up for the golf doings at Dedham. The face belonged to Ron Kirkman of the Needham Golf Club, and the svelte body had that look after Ron reported having lost 40 pounds. Rumors spread that Ron was in training to fight Sugar Ray Leonard.

5 years ago

One of the giants of the superintendents' profession and a virtual GCSANE legend, Leon St. Pierre, announced his retirement after a 37-year stay at the Longmeadow Country Club. Many people, or supers of the St. Pierre presidential era plus succeeding ones, believe Leon's impact was the foundation for the association assuming an air and look of professionalism that brought it much needed recognition and respect.

How many superintendents scrambled around on Saturday morning, Aug. 30, trying to water ahead of the golfers after those tropical downpours from Hurricane Andrew never materialized? Hopefully, no one had a couple of thousand dollars worth of insecticide down Friday evening.

GERRY FINN

#### **GCSANE News**

# GCSANE joins with other groups to promote Integrated Pest Management in non-agricultural environments

In the Bay State, aggressive promotion of integrated pest management (IPM) in non-agricultural settings began in the Spring of 1996 with the development of the Massachusetts IPM Council.

This council consists of representatives from (1) state and federal government agencies, including the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Massachusetts Mosquito Control Association; (2) academia through the UMass Extension; (3) non-profit/ public interest groups, including MASS-PIRG and The Waste Watch Center; and (4) representatives from the New England Pest Control Association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Massachusetts Association of Lawncare Professionals, and the New England Sports Turf Managers Association.

With just over a year behind them, council members have agreed on a mission statement, and have formed workgroup committees that will begin IPM projects. The purpose of these workgroups is to better define IPM practice within the various non-agricultural environments, and to promote IPM in general through technical support and greater public outreach activities. The first of many workgroup projects is expected to come on-line in the summer and fall of

1997. Projects include a Structural IPM Checklist and a Structural IPM Standards fact sheet so that pesticide professionals working on indoor pest control can inform their clients about their good management practices. Additional projects include an IPM certification process by and for turf and golf course pest control operators, and lastly, an informational brochure on council efforts geared to the general public.

Through this voluntary and consensus driven alliance, the council intends to make a significant contribution to the state's IPM infrastructure by including non-traditional, non-agricultural environments into Massachusetts IPM landscape.

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#### Friend of the Association Profile

## Meet the Charles C. Hart Seed Company

The Charles C. Hart Seed Company is a distributor of fine turf grass seed and related supplies to golf courses and other turf professionals throughout New England.

Harts has an extensive line of standard seed mixtures, and are able to custom blend seed to meet all specifications. Their long relationship with many of America's finest growers gives Hart access to most of the top varieties.

Harts also distributes a full line of turf chemicals, fertilizers, and allied products. As a charter member of the Independent Turf and Ornamental Distributors Association (ITODA), Harts has the rapidly expanding line of Pro Grade products available. (ITODA is a trade organization comprised of distributors and manufacturers whose interest and business involve marketing turf and ornamental products to the green industry.

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The Hart Seed Co. was founded in 1892 and is still owned and operated by the Hart family. Originally founded as a vegetable seed firm, Harts first entered the turf seed business in the 1930s.

Hart's representatives in the golf market include Roy Sibley, Dick Gurski, Ed Stumpf, Ron Holcomb, and Paul Bednarczyk. They are headquartered in Wethersfield, Conn., and can be reached at (800) 326-HART.

# DIVOT DRIFT...announcements...educational seminars...job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

#### INFORMATION

1997 GCSANE Scholarship Awards. The Tom Schofield Award (\$2,000) recipient was Kathryn Fitzroy, a sophomore at North Adams State College. Receiving scholarships of \$1,250 were Daniel DiRico, a senior at University of Mass., and Elizabeth Luccini, a freshman at Johnson and Wales College.

Conference: Focusing on Biological Control for the Green Industry, November 7, 1997 at the University of Massachusetts Campus Center, Amherst, Mass. This UMass Extension conference has been approved by the GCSAA for 0.55 CEUs for credit toward certification renewal requirements. The Turf Management segment of the conference will feature the following topics and speakers:

Biological Control Agents in Turfgrass Disease Management: An Overview, Dr. Gail Schumann, University of Massachusetts.

Biological Control of Turfgrass Diseases, Dr. Eric Nelson, Cornell University.

Experiences with Inoculants and the Bioject System, Dr. Peter Dernoeden, University of Maryland.

Novel Approaches to Nematode Control, Dr. Rob Wick, University of Massachusetts.

Overview of Biocontrol of Turf Insects, Dr. Pat Vittum, University of Massachusetts.

Current Status of Biological Control in Turfgrass and Urban Landscapes: Bacteria and Insect Growth Regulators, Dr. Fred Baxendale, University of Nebraska. Current Status of Biological Control in Turfgrass and Urban Landscapes: Nematodes, Fungi, Microbial Toxins, Dr. Mike Villani, N.Y. Agricultural Experiment Station.

In addition to the Turfgrass Management segment of the conference, there will also be segments covering biological control in Nursery and Landscape Management as well as Greenhouse Floriculture. For additional information contact Mary Owen, UMass Extension Turf Program, at 508-892-0382.

#### **MEETING NOTES**

**Thanks to Michael Iacono** and the staff at Pine Brook Country Club for hosting the GCSANE September meeting.

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Golf Course Superintendent, Heritage Hill Country Club, Lakeville, Mass. The club is an 18-hole public facility with 3,012 course yardage, bentgrass greens, automatic irrigation system, and is privately owned. Requirements: two years of experience at a supervisory level, and a college degree in turf management. Send resume to: Bill Raynor, Heritage Hill Country Club, 17 Heritage Hill Drive, Lakeville, MA 02347.

Golf Course Superintendent, Riverside Municipal Golf Course, Portland, Maine. Send resume to: Human Resources Office, Room 113, City Hall, 389 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101; (207)797-3524.

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Maynard Country Club, Maynard, Mass. Applicants must have a two or four-year degree in turf management or related field. Submit resume to: Jim Whitley, c/o Maynard Country Club, P. O. Box 237, Maynard, MA 01754.

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Indian Ridge Country Club, Andover, Mass. Candidates should have a minimum of 3-5 years experience at a private country club. A degree in turfgrass management is preferred. Supervisory experience, construction knowledge, and computer knowledge helpful. Must be or become a certified pesticide applicator, category 37. Must be committed to quality, be motivated, and have an active interest in the game of golf. Send resumes to: Roger Brink, Superintendent, Indian Ridge Country Club, Lovejoy Road, Andover, MA 01810.

Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Bellevue Golf Club, Melrose, Mass. Bellevue Golf Club is seeking an assistant superintendent. Requirements include experience with chemical applications, automatic irrigation systems, overseeding, and general turf management practices. Ability to supervise staff members a must. Please send resume to: Bellevue Golf Course, 320 Porter Street, Melrose, MA 02176, Attn. Brian Skinner, Superintendent; (617) 665-3147.

## Please patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION

Advanced Agronomic Services, Inc. 91 Day St., Leominster, MA 01453 Deep-tine aerification, core aerification, overseeding, and irrigation services. Jim Favreau - (508) 840-0432

A-OK Turf Equipment 9 Leuba Road, Coventry, RI 02816 New England Articulator dealer, Greens Groomer Brush, & used equipment. Mike Comicelli - (401) 826-2584

AA Will Materials Corporation 168 Washington St., Stoughton, MA 02072 Top dressing & bunker sand, loam, decorative stone, & landscape materials. Est. 1886. Frank Will, Dan Graziano, Kevin LaPorte 1-800-4-AAWILL

Agriturf, Inc. 59 Dwight St., Hatfield, MA 01038 Fertilizer, seed, and chemicals for turf. 1-800-346-5048

Allens Seed Store, Inc. Specializing in quality seed and related golf course maintenance supplies. Gregg Allen - (401) 294-2722 (car phone - (508) 577-1001)

Baker Golf Cars 40 Walker St., Swansea, MA 02777 Steve Founier, Doug Hooper (508) 379-0092

Bartlett Tree Experts 153 Rumford Ave., Newton, MA 02166 Consulting, planning, IPM MoniTor®, pruning, fertilization, & plant appraisal Jack Kelly - (617) 969-5990

Bay State Organic / MWRA 100 First Ave., Charlestown Navy Yard Boston, MA 02129 Manufacturer & supplier of dry organic fertilizers Army Barad - (617) 241-6261

Bayer Corporation 118 Ellery Ave., Middletown, RI 02842 Baylaton, Merit, Dylox, Tempo, Nemacur. Brad Herman - (401) 846-3515; FAX (401) 846-8012

The Borden Company Maynard, MA Bulk limestone dealer. Jack Borden - (508) 897-2571

Boston Irrigation Company Dedham, MA Distributor, irrigation supplies & accessories. John Ramey, Paul Kenyon, Robert Barbati (617) 461-1560

The Cardinals, Inc. 166 River Rd., P. 0. Box 520 Unionville, CT 06085 Golf course & landscape supplies. John Callahan - (203) 673-3699

Cavicchio Greenhouses, Inc. 110 Codjer Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776 Grower of annuals, perennials, garden mums, & ground covers Darren Young - (508) 443-7177 FAX (508) 443-5440

Cedar Lawn Tree Service, Inc. 32 Nickerson Road, Ashland, MA 01721 Pruning, fertilization, removal, & professional care. William P. Maley - (508) 881-2622

Geoffrey S. Cornish & Brian Silva Golf Course Architects Fiddlers Green, Amherst, MA 01002

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Michael Drake Constuction, Inc. 240 Walnut Street, Framingham, MA 01701 Golf course reconstruction; professional shaper. Michael Drake - (508) 875-8247

Doering Equipment P.O. Box N, Franklin, MA 02038 Distributor of John Deere golf & turf equipment. Mark Doering - (508) 520-3629

Elanco Products Company 31 Old Town Trail, Narragansett, RI 02882 Bob Scott - (401) 376-7290

F.D.I., Inc. (Fairway Design Illustration) 55 Railroad Ave., Warren, RI 02885 Custom granite signs & markers. Joseph K. Martin, Robert Page (401) 245-7890 or 1-800-358-8337

Gold Star Wholesale Nursery & Sod Farm Bill Thompson Lexington, MA - (617) 861-1111 Canterbury, NH - (603) 783-4717

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co. P. O. Box 9169, Weathersfield, CT 06109 Roy Sibley, Dick Gurski 1-800-326-HART

Hartney Greymont 433 Chestnut St., Needham, MA 02192 Tree care, landscape consruction, consulting. Mark J. Tobin - (617) 444-1227

International Golf Construction Co. 5 Purcell Rd., Arlington, MA 02174 Golf course construction. Antonios Paganis (617) 648-2351 or (508) 428-3022

Irrigation Management & Services 21 Lakeview Ave., Natick, MA 01760-4252 Irrigation consultation, design & system evaluation. Bob Healey, ASIC, CID - (508) 653-0625

Tom Irwin, Inc. 11B A St., Burlington, MA Jack Petersen, Wayne Ripley, Dennis Friel Paul Skafas, Chris Petersen 1-800-582-5959

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LESCO, Inc. 20005 Lake Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116 Ron Turniski, Mike Donohue 1-800-321-5325

Loft's Seed 22 Lantern Lane, Exeter, RI 02822 Victoria Wallace - 1-800-648-7333 Lycott Environmental Research, Inc. 600 Chariton St., Southbridge, MA 01550 Environmental consulting services: lake & pond management, wetland studies, site assessments, & laboratory analysis. Lee Lyman, president - 1-800-462-8211

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Scotts Pro-Turf Div. Mike Peterson, Regional Director Randy Hamilton - (508) 528-4642 Richard Forni - (413) 534-8896

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#### **Host Superintendent Profile**

## Meet host superintenden Mike Iacono, Pine Brook C.C.

The host superintendent for our September meeting was Mike Iacono of Pine Brook Country Club, Waltham, Mass.

Mike has been superintendent at Pine Brook C.C. since 1992. He became a certified superintendent in 1988. He is a 1977 graduate of Providence College, where he majored in biology. After working for his father, Vincent, at Metacomet C.C. during high school and college, Mike became assistant superintendent there in 1977, and superintendent in 1982. He also has a brother in the profession, Vinny Iacono, superintendent at Blue Hills C.C.

A past president of the Rhode Island Gold Course Superintendents Association.

Mike won that organization's Distinguished Service Award in 1991.

Mike lives in Weston with his wife, Rosanne, and two children, Andrew and Alyssa. When not working, he keeps busy with golf in the fall and coaching Little League in the spring.

#### Soil sampling . . . from page 4

Time of sampling. Sampling can be done at any time of year. Generally, however, late fall is the best time to sample because the season's work load has slowed sufficiently to allow ample time to sample properly. Sampling at this time of year also has the advantage of enabling the turf manager to plan a fertilizer and liming program before the next growing

season. Regardless of the season, avoid taking samples directly after a fertilizer or lime application, or when soil is too wet.

Sampling frequency. Soil samples should be taken about every three to four years, with more frequent sampling on light soils such as loamy sands. Athletic fields and putting greens with a sand matrix may have to be sampled every year because of the inability to retain nutrients.

**Record Keeping.** Maintain records of soil test results along with dates of fertil-

izer and lime applications, amounts applied per unit area, nutrient sources, and other pertinent information, such as any adverse reactions in turf growth that may be nutrient related. Accurate records allow you to assess whether the fertilizer or liming program is adequate.

Plan soil sampling carefully before setting out to the field, and then once there, take the samples properly to avoid potential errors in the test results.

From TURF NOTES, March/April, 1997

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