



The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 27 Issue 6

Founded ~ April 11, 1939

October 2020

October Meeting

Hanover Country Club

200 E. Water Street
Hanover, PA 17301

Host - Bill Brooks

Thursday, October 22, 2020

Registration - 10:15 AM
Boxed Lunch - 10:15 AM
Golf - 10:30 AM Shotgun
Appetizers/Cash Bar - Following Golf

*There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting
at 8:30AM.*

Superintendent Profile

Bill Brooks graduated from Penn State with a BS in Agronomy in May 1988. Immediately upon graduation, he began working as Assistant at Lehigh Country Club in Allentown. In 1991, Bill was hired as Superintendent at Corning Country Club in NY and had the experience of hosting the LPGA Corning Classic for 2 years. Bill was then hired as Superintendent at Hanover Country Club in 1993 and has been there ever since.

Host Course Profile

Hanover Country Club was designed by JW Gitt and constructed in 1923. Gil Hanse was called on to do revisions to the course in 1996 and in 2009, a much-needed Master Plan was completed by course architect, Mark Fine. At this time, Mark was able to convince the members at Hanover the need to remove several trees throughout the property. Bill's favorite quote from Mark was, "This is a great golf course. It sure would be nice if you could see it." Since then, approximately 800 trees have since been removed with more to go. Members have responded very positively to the new views and vistas and better turf quality.



USGA NORTHEAST REGIONAL UPDATE

Manage for Playability, But Don't Go Too Far

October 16, 2020 | Volume 58, Issue 20

Elliott Dowling, Agronomist

Recovery goes hand in hand with turf management, but there will be less recovery needed in the future if course improvements are made now.



The Northeast saw both extremes of rainfall this year. Northern and western areas saw extreme drought while the middle and southern section was nearly underwater in July and August. Both extremes present plant health challenges that often lead to turf decline.

The perfect golf weather that most of the Northeast is now experiencing is also perfect weather for recovery. We've heard many golfers comment lately that this weather should mean the course can be firm and fast every day. While that may be true, firm and fast might not be what the course needs right now.

Take advantage of nice weather to get the course recovered before winter. Once frosts and below-freezing temperatures are the norm, turf growth and subsequent recovery will cease for the year. Turf health and reliability will be better next summer if the grass recovers this fall.

Take note of why your course experienced turf decline this year and work toward correcting the issues. For example, if your area was in a drought, perhaps a better irrigation system or more water holding capacity would help. If your area was wet and you saw damage, perhaps additional drainage is needed to get water away from the primary playing surfaces. There will be less recovery needed next fall when the weather is perfect for golf if work is done to correct the deficiencies that caused turf to decline this year.

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/course-care/green-section-record/58/20/manage-for-playability--but-don-t-go-too-far.html#returnable>



President's Message

Well look at that...the calendar says October...we made it!! Kind of hard to believe, but 2020 is in the homestretch. Fall offers both a chance to catch our breath, but still plenty of work to keep us all busy. Make sure to make some time for yourself, you will not regret it!

There are leaves, everywhere! Pine needles too! Yes, fall has arrived along with the persistent winds seemingly every single day, and always opposite the direction you are blowing. Ok, no more complaining. Fall is a time to acknowledge the summer's successes and defeats, to finish your agronomic year out strong and to begin planning for the following season. This year may mostly be focused on planning for 2021 and forgetting 2020, but even that seems a daunting thought full of uncertainty. I hope that many of you were able to accomplish your fall aerification as planned. It may seem like a year for the powers-that-be to skip this process with the increase in rounds many of us are experiencing, but we all know how important it is to our programs.

I want to thank everyone who was able to make it to Regents' Glen for our September meeting. I personally had never been on the property, and for those of you who could not make it, you missed some fantastic conditions. Kudos to Kevin and his team, the place was awesome! I am excited to get out to Hanover Country Club for our Oktoberfest and final meeting of the year, another track that I have not yet played.

I do want to make a quick note on our annual Winter Educational Meeting. Obviously we know there are potential challenges, but it is much too difficult to take a stab at what the world will look like in early 2021. I want you to know that your board has been considering our options and we are certainly open to any/all suggestions.

Whether you will be blowing leaves, bending your mind around another EOP or sitting in a tree stand, make sure to take a second and look around. This time of the year is beautiful, maybe a north east superintendent's favorite? Make sure you do not miss it!

Kevin Mark, President

2020 CPGCSA Scholarship Recipient

Congratulations to Abigayle Alexander, the recipient of this year's CPGCSA Scholarship. Abigayle is daughter to member John Alexander, Superintendent at Armitage Golf Club in Hampden, PA. Abigayle has completed her first year at Harrisburg Area Community College with a 3.6 GPA. Abby was on the Deans list for her first 2 semesters and is also in the honors program.

Please enjoy Abby's submission:

I have always had big career goals and aspirations for the future. I worked hard in high school to get good grades and be able to excel in my classes. I am currently enrolled at Harrisburg Area Community College and I plan to get my associates in Business Administration. Also, I am currently taking summer courses towards that degree. That was a hard decision to make because I knew it would take up a good amount of my summer, but I decided that it was worth it to get ahead in my courses and ensure I graduate on time. I chose to go to HACC to save money while getting a good education. It's crazy how much money one can save while choosing to go to school locally. It has also allowed me to continue working full time while being a full time student. In fall of 2021 I will transfer to a 4 year university and obtain my bachelors in Business Marketing by Spring 2023. I am looking at various schools in PA and other states. I know that a degree in Business is the perfect choice for me because I have always been interested in finance and organizational tasks. It is a very useful and broad degree that can be used for lots of different jobs. My long term goal is to one day work for a large company in a big city, whether it is in Pennsylvania or even in New York. Most of my family lives in New York so I would love to be able to afford to live there on day. I am currently looking at numerous schools, such as Penn State and University of Pittsburgh. I would love to be able to commute when I transfer so I can continue to work full time. I feel like I am deserving of this scholarship because I have always been hardworking. I have had numerous jobs since the age of 14, such as a daycare worker, waitressing and a camp counselor. The last 3 summers I have worked at least 5 full days a week and I currently work 7 days a week working two jobs. I waitress 7 days a week and I also work at a daycare in the mornings 5 days a week. I actually work at the Caddy Shack which is a restaurant located on Armitage Golf Course in Mechanicsburg, PA. The job of waitressing has taught me a lot about hard work. I didn't love the job for a while because it was hard, but I have grown a lot and going to work is my favorite part of the day now. The customers and coworkers are the best part. My parents have always taught me to save my money and because of that almost all of the money I've made the past couple of years has gone into my savings. Money is something that I have always been conscious and aware about. I understand the importance of saving money and investing it as well.

Again, congratulations and good luck to Abigayle!



President

Kevin Mark
Carlisle Country Club
717-243-7569
kem5031@gmail.com

Past President/Social

Jeff Green
Carlisle Barracks Golf Course
717-243-3262
jeffreygreen2011@yahoo.com

Directors

Cody Frederick
LedgeRock Golf Club
610-777-9890
chody87@yahoo.com

Joshua Hampton
Hershey Country Club
717-508-1772
jghampton@hersheypa.com

George Manos
Turf Assist
215-388-8544
gmanos86@comcast.net

Chris Martin
Crossgates Golf Club
717-872-7415
ckmartin@crossgatesgolf.com

John Erickson
Honey Run Golf Course
717-792-0055
ericksonj@ghotels.com

Affiliates

Don Dodson
ddodson392@aol.com

Andrew Harrison
andrewpocnoturf@gmail.com

Thomas Mahute
tmahute@fisherandson.com

Executive Director/Newsletter Editor

Wanda S. Fry
717- 279-0368
cpgcsa@hotmail.com

PAST PRESIDENTS

George Morris
Ed Tabor
Riley E. Heckert
Richard T. Funk
Harry L. Latschaw
Daniel L. Snowberger
Charles A. Barley
Richard Wilt
Fred N. Baker
Richard J. Suttles
John J. Boyd
Y. Lewis Payson
C. William Black, CGCS
Dwight H. Brubaker
Byron F. Knoll
Michael Wilt
Charles H. Cadiz, CGCS
Kenneth R. Dietrich, CGCS
Michael C. Hair
Cameron G. Henderson
James N. MacLaren
David P. Portz, CGCS
John P. McCormick
David C. Weitzel, CGCS
Fred Heinlen
Terry L. Wueschinski, CGCS
Greg Borzok
Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS
James W. Jones
William G. Wall
Robert Beyer, CGCS
Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS
John A. Chassard
David M. Rafferty
Anthony P. Goodley, CGCS
Samuel R. Snyder, CGCS
John Dougherty
H. Jim Loke, CGCS
John L. Gehman
Theodore S. Zabrenski
Thomas C. Oepek, CGCS
Daniel W. Achenbach
William E. Brooks
William P. Ramsey
Faron J. Stoops
John M. Colo
Daniel Brickley
Matthew W. Strader
Stephen J. Ludwig, CGCS
Faron J. Stoops
Barry Bollinger
Rebecca Matis Clark
Alan FitzGerald
Chad Oxenreider
Brian Ahrens
Jeff Green

MOISTURE LEVELS ARE THE KEY

FOR CREATING



HIGH QUALITY TURF MANAGEMENT



Emerald Isle Solutions™

Introducing Emerald Isle Solutions Wetting Agents: Affusion & Triumvirate.

Effectively manage the moisture in your soil profile with products that are purposely designed to help create and maintain season-long, high quality turf. Affusion is designed for fairways, tees, and roughs, while Triumvirate is formulated for high sand content putting greens. Together they deliver the necessary water control for playing conditions you need from tee to green. Two new water management products from the brand you know and trust! **Learn more at LebanonTurf.com or call 1-800-233-0628.**



Best of All Worlds®



Membership News

We would like to thank our Central Penn Members and Association sponsors for your support this year. It has been quite the challenging year! Due to health/safety precautions and event participant limits, we eliminated a few meetings this year, but decided to keep a few on the schedule in the hope that it could be a fun day away from your course. So, thank you to those that have taken the opportunity to spend the day with Central Penn GCSA.

As we look ahead to next year, we may need to evaluate again as to how many meetings that we will be able to schedule.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Wanda at 717-279-0368 or cpgcsa@hotmail.com.

Please see a list of our Association Sponsors on Page 16.

Please Support Them as they Support Us!

Membership information is also available on the Central Penn website at: www.cpgcsa.org

Lawn and Golf supply co. inc.

More Than the Logo!

NEW OPTIONS FOR MOWERS, AERATORS, TOPDRESSERS, BLOWERS, GROOMERS



THE NEXT LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY & ENERGY>>

GREENWORKS
COMMERCIAL

Turflux

abi

LEFT HAND ROBOTICS

SWOZI
GPS LINE MARKING

www.lawn-golf.com 610.933.5801



THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER...

Fisher & Son is the largest distributor of next-generation innovative formulations under one roof. When you need solutions for your golf course, residential or commercial lawn care business, or municipal property, you can always count on us to get the job done.

- PROVEN PERFORMANCE
- QUALITY FORMULATIONS
- BROAD PORTFOLIO
- BUDGET FRIENDLY
- SERVICE THAT MATTERS
- TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

CONTACT: THOM MAHUTE
717.940.0730 | FISHERANDSON.COM

Delivering the highest quality agronomic solutions to the green industry since 1928.

8 essential budgeting principles for superintendents

Set the stage for successful budget requests and productive communication with your facility's financial decision-makers with these tried-and-true tactics.

October 2016 | Chris Carson

Throughout my career, I've often found myself frustrated by the divide between me and the people making the budget decisions at my club. In 30 years as superintendent at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, N.J., I've learned some guiding principles and techniques that help me better communicate the green department's story to sell the club's decision-makers on the course's financial needs. I've developed these ideas into a course I teach at the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School and as a seminar at the Golf Industry Show. What follows are a few of the most important guidelines I've gleaned over the years for effectively proposing budget requests, and they may prove useful to you in preparing your budget and presenting it to those in charge.



Visual aids: Using charts and graphs to illustrate where your labor and other resources go will make the information clearer and more compelling to the eyes of those calling the financial shots. Photo by Chad McDermott/Shutterstock.co

1. You are not talking to your peers

Unless you work for a management company with an experienced superintendent in a position above you, or you have a general manager who moved up from the golf course, your bosses most likely don't understand what golf course superintendents do or why they do it. Conveying your arguments in your bosses' context — not ours — is the first step toward getting to "Yes."

Start by establishing a shared understanding of how you want to present the golf course. Discuss with your bosses how greens should play or bunkers should be prepared, for example. This will open the flow of information between you, allowing you to get a sense of their desires and begin educating them on what's necessary to achieve those results.

An effective way to get everyone on the same page regarding members' and management's expectations and the needs of the golf course is to develop a course standards manual. The exercise of creating the manual — discussing your bosses' goals and your assessment of what's possible with current resources — will lead to more meaningful budget and planning deliberations. Putting together such a document will also give you the opportunity to explain some of the variables that can significantly affect course maintenance, such as weather, and the manual can be a resource for later budget conversations.

Similarly, many courses have a mission statement that defines their operation's primary objective. The mission statement of Pebble Beach Resorts puts forth a clear goal: "To exceed the expectations of every guest by providing a once-in-a-lifetime experience, every time." This directive guides those who manage the world-class facility, but it's also worthwhile out in the trenches. If the crew has in mind that the aim is to guarantee a memorable experience for every guest, they may carry out their tasks more thoroughly. You don't have to be a top-100 facility to have a mission statement; any course can find focus by clarifying its main goal in this manner.

2. Bring the problem to them

We are on our courses for thousands of hours every season, so any deficiencies are so embedded in our minds that we can forget that our decision-makers see the course through much different eyes. Photos and other means of "show and tell" are easy ways to relay information, particularly to those who view the course through the lens of a golfer, not a superintendent.

Your bosses have likely never looked below the surface of your greens, for example, and have no concept of what goes on there. Presenting a core sample from a green that's troubled by layers or too much thatch is a tangible way to alert them to such problems. To shed light on equipment concerns, share photos of deteriorating devices or crowded conditions in the maintenance facility, or bring them an actual corroded swing joint or clogged irrigation nozzle.

3. Bring them to the problem

If you want to upgrade your equipment or maintenance shop, perhaps the best way to gain support is to take your bosses on a tour of your current facilities. If they see the equipment you have now and can appreciate that you're getting the most out of their previous investments, they may be more inclined to approve your requests. Think of it this way: You could certainly try to describe how a greens mower works or the function of a \$40,000 spin grinder, but if your audience actually *sees* a mower on a lift and can comprehend the precision required to adjust this machine, they'll have a deeper awareness of what it takes to cut greens at a low height.



Bringing decision-makers onto the course to see turf matters for themselves — such as the difference between treated and untreated areas — will have a far greater impact. Photo courtesy of Chris Carson

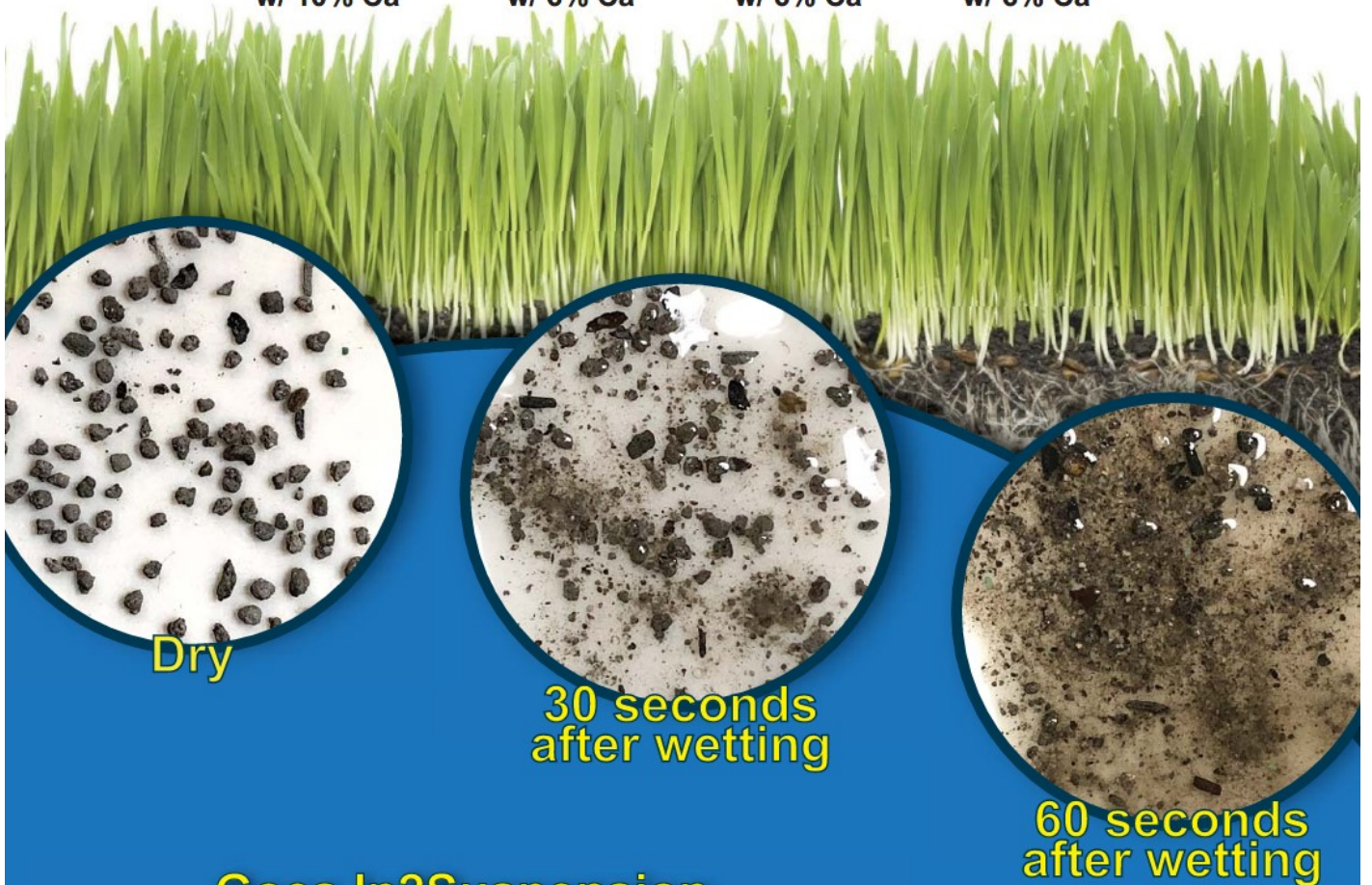
IN²Suspension™

5-0-5
w/ 10% Ca

0-0-20
w/ 6% Ca

6-0-12
w/ 6% Ca

12-0-6
w/ 6% Ca



Dry

30 seconds
after wetting

60 seconds
after wetting

**Goes In2Suspension
naturally after watering**

**No more pick-up with mower and
it won't stick on rollers or blades**

Uniform prill and weight

Excellent spreading characteristics

Distributed by

**Davisson
Golf, Inc.** Est. 1991



(800) 613-6888



Manufactured by
Bio Basics
(888) 646-6146

I've used this technique in other areas too. In 2008, we put in a new irrigation system, and members expected that the rough would improve immediately. That wasn't the case, however. We'd never had irrigation capabilities in these areas before, so we had a wretched mix of grass species that would die off from disease and stress. By taking the committee on a tour of the course, I was able to show them exactly where the problems were, where fungicide protection was having a positive effect, and where areas sodded with better turf species were withstanding summer stresses with no controls at all. I reinforced these points with photos. Since then, we've received more resources to improve our rough.

4. The budget process is year-round

Dismiss the notion that the budget process is a once-a-year-only effort. Take every opportunity to keep your committee informed about issues as they arise, to look down the road for what you'll eventually need, and to lay the foundation for those requests. Asking for support for a new irrigation system out of the blue won't make sense, nor will it likely result in the outcome you're hoping for. If you've "prepared the ground" with years of updates on the problems you've faced, have done preparatory studies on needs and costs, and have in effect pre-sold your bosses on the idea, they won't be taken aback when you ultimately make your appeal. In short: Avoid surprises.

This holds true for the overall maintenance of the course as well. If you encounter a new disease or insect problem or are dealing with weather conditions so extreme you're forced to make an unexpected application or use unbudgeted labor, it's your responsibility to keep your boss in the loop. Don't let your chairman or manager go into a meeting with club ownership unprepared to answer why a budget item is off expectations. Anticipate such questions and keep your boss up to date by providing a monthly budget variance report. By addressing questions before your boss even has to ask them, you'll be seen as a pro who's on top of your game and who's looking out for your boss.

5. Humanize your budget

Most superintendents pride themselves on keeping the maintenance crew as invisible as possible, and although this is an admirable goal, it also hurts us. Because we're out of sight, convincing a budget committee that our staff is important and that suitable salaries and pay increases are appropriate becomes more difficult.

Here at Echo Lake, half the rounds are played with caddies. These are typically high school or college students, and they're engaged with players for more than four hours. As independent contractors, the caddies are paid directly by the golfer for their efforts to make the game more enjoyable, and they are paid generously. I'm certain the reason for this generosity (which usually comes to three to five times the hourly rate of my staff) is that members feel a personal connection with and responsibility to these individuals, and are thus willing to compensate them well. Yet these same members hesitate if asked to adjust pay rates for grounds crew members. Even a small percentage raise can be seen as an extravagance.

Other club employees have similar relationships with members — connections that benefit them when budget discussions come around. When a server in the clubhouse ensures an order is correct, there is an understanding that the server is working hard. But if the maintenance crew does its job well and ahead of play, golfers may just assume the course was prepared by pixies in the middle of the night.

It's the superintendent's job, therefore, to give life to our staff — to make sure our team isn't viewed as just a payroll number, but as a living, breathing asset to the club. You can remind decision-makers that they have this dedicated crew working hard for them by highlighting your team's efforts, referencing each of them by name and years with the company, praising them by name when they've performed well, and perhaps including a photo and description of your team's accomplishments on the club bulletin board or in its newsletter. It's much more difficult for those passing judgment on the budget to cut a person and the work he or she does than it is to cut a percentage from a budget line that's presented as a lump sum.

6. Use comparables

When labor unions negotiate salaries and benefits, the process involves examining what others in similar positions earn. Such comparables are helpful in forming a basis for discussion and getting all parties on the same page. This strategy is valuable for us as well. If we can support a request for an assistant's salary with industry averages for that position, we lend credibility to our appeal.

You can gather this information from a variety of sources, including GCSAA's Compensation and Benefits Report. Local chapters frequently offer these figures, and you can also get specifics simply by asking other superintendents in your area. Knowledge of how many staff members local courses employ and how much they're paid will help you accurately talk about the labor market and back up your budget requests. Looking at cost-per-hole data of courses in your area (your accounting firm can provide this)



Designed in 1911 by Donald Ross and improved during the "Golden Age" of golf course architecture by Willard Wilkinson, A.W. Tillinghast and Robert White, Echo Lake Country Club spans 141 acres and consists of bentgrass fairways and bent/Poa greens. GCSAA Class A superintendent Chris Carson has overseen maintenance of the course since 1986. Photo courtesy of Chris Carson

and pay scales of local businesses may supply you with additional useful insight.

Knowing the average life span of maintenance equipment will give you a leg up when the time comes to replace or upgrade your fleet, and this is especially true if you have a solid record of obtaining full value from equipment purchased in the past. If you can say that, compared with the industry average, you've gotten 250 percent of the life expected from your 20-year-old sprayer, you exhibit that you've taken care of this investment, received full value from it, and will take the same care of a replacement.

If you want to upgrade your existing equipment to take advantage of new technology, you should once again express your point in a context your bosses can relate to. They may not know much about the differences between old and new aerification technology, but they will understand the difference between older televisions and high-definition televisions. Illustrating your request using something like TV or cell phones will convey the concept of the value of new technology in a way they can grasp and may very well support.

7. Present visually

Like many clubs, Echo Lake downsized its operation when the recession hit in 2008. Among the many changes were reductions in our operating expenses and manpower. The adjustments were appropriate and timely, and they helped the club weather the storm. After a year or two, however, as we climbed out of the hole, I found it tough to get my committee to restore our staff. There was a general misunderstanding among decision-makers about how many people were required to run the caliber of operation they wanted.

My breakthrough moment came when I developed several charts and graphs that revealed the difference in labor use between pre-recession 2008 and post-recession 2011. The visual aids displayed the variance between the two years on a week-by-week basis, and also showed where our manpower had been allocated. My committee was surprised to learn that we'd spent almost twice as much labor on our bunkers as on our greens, and this led to a valuable discussion about where our resources could be best directed. You may benefit in a similar way by visually presenting where your labor has been assigned and where additional crew members would help.



Hue help: The addition of color can bring overhead plans and perspective drawings to life, clarifying them for those who may otherwise find such proposals difficult to visualize.

Photo courtesy of Chris Carson

Another step forward occurred when, after years of rejection, the club approved my request to restore a second assistant position, and I have the club's golf professional to thank for it. At a managers' meeting, he'd asked me a simple question: "Have you considered taking a different approach by asking to replace the tasks that aren't being done well or thoroughly?"

I was taken aback by this comment, as it exposed the actual problem: My club didn't understand what my assistants did or how vital they were to our operation. Assistant superintendents at Echo Lake are hands-on employees, responsible for managing the spray and fertilizer programs, the irrigation system, and daily course setup, as well as supervising the staff. After I showed my bosses a monthly breakdown of my assistant's tasks and responsibilities, they quickly agreed there was a need for a hire, and the subsequent elevated quality of our work was visible to and appreciated by members.

8. Remember: You are selling

I try my best to ensure my budget document and the plan it contains are clear and straightforward. A common flaw I notice in students' work at Rutgers is the use of jargon in their budget plans. They may think tossing in Latin binomials and esoteric chemical names makes them appear professional, but I think people unfamiliar with our profession can get tripped up by these attempts, and we lose credibility. Instead of, "We plan to control outbreaks of *Rhizoctonia solani* with pyraclostrobin," you can simply say, "We plan to control brown patch disease with chemicals." Attach a photo of the disease, and you've just made your point far easier to understand.

Another example: In working with drawings of course features in plan form, what seemed rudimentary to me always seemed confusing to my bosses. When I had plans for our new irrigation ponds colored in to designate fairways, rough and water, it boosted their understanding. Adding color to perspective drawings helped my committees visualize those proposals too. The extra steps were worth the effort, and they allowed me to live up to an important business maxim: Make it easy for your customer to buy your product.

Chris Carson is the GCSAA Class A superintendent at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, N.J., where he has worked for 30 years. He teaches courses on budgeting and professional development at the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School. A 31-year member of GCSAA, Chris has served as president of both the GCSA of New Jersey and the New Jersey Turfgrass Association.

https://www.gcmonline.com/profession/operations/news/8-essential-budgeting-principles-for-superintendents?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=general&_zs=HxDEN1&_zl=gqOx5



"The fairways are immaculate!"



"It was like playing on carpet."



"The course is in amazing shape."



"Best fairways and greens I've ever played on."



"Great lies in the fairways!"

When you can protect your fairways like your greens, you'll get rave reviews.

Golf's leading fungicide, Secure[®], is now even better. New Secure[®] Action[™] fungicide now includes a boost of *acibenzolar-S-methyl* (ASM), giving turf abiotic benefits such as increased drought tolerance, heat tolerance and quicker recovery. The enhanced formulation also offers improved dollar spot performance, including an increased control interval of 14-21 days.

Visit GreenCastOnline.com/SecureAction to learn more.

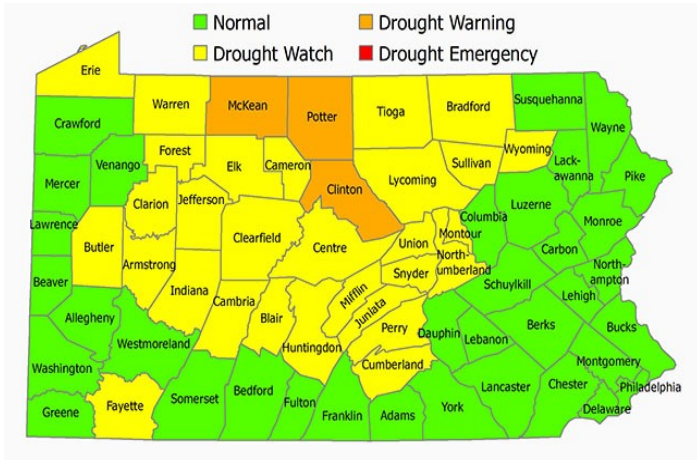


[@SyngentaTurf](https://twitter.com/SyngentaTurf) #Time4SecureAction

©2018 Syngenta. Important: Always read and follow label instructions. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your state or local extension service to ensure registration status. Action[™], Greencast[™], the Alliance Frame, the Purpose Icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. Secure[®] is a trademark of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, LTD. All other trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owner. MW 1LGG8011 08/18

®

Current PA Drought Declaration Status



Latest update: September 30, 2020

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/PlanningConservation/Drought/Pages/default.aspx>



Distributors of Turf Care Products

P.O. Box 372
 Horsham, PA 19044
 Business: 215-672-9274

Andrew Harrison
 Sales Representative, PA & MD
 Business: 443-547-0252
andrewpoconoturf@gmail.com

Matt Paulina
 Sales Representative, PA & NJ
 Business: 610-883-6108
mattpaulina@gmail.com



SPRING IS IN FULL SWING

JUST ASK YOUR LOCAL SALES LEADER

Brian Bachman 484-661-6105
bbachman@genesishgreensupply.com

Jim Byrne 717-471-5569
jimbyrne@genesishgreensupply.com

Don Dodson 717-586-9064
don@genesishgreensupply.com

Eric Kline 717-250-3701
eric@genesishgreensupply.com

Paul Wickey 717-439-4441
paul@genesishgreensupply.com

ORDER NOW:

- *Topdressing for Aerification*
- *Sands for Bunker Repair*
- *Mulch for Ornamental Beds*
- *Seed, Fertilizer, and Plant Health Products*

WWW.GENESISGREENSUPPLY.COM | 717-759-8151

follow us GENESISTURF /GENESISGREENSUPPLY GENESISTURFGRASS



Applicators can search the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's PaPlants website for all the available CORE and category-specific recertification credit opportunities.

Use the [Recertification Course Locator](#) to find available meetings in your area or you can also search for webinars and online meetings. Be sure to check back often especially in the winter months when most meetings are held.

<https://www.paplants.pa.gov/>

Turf Math: A Case For Metric Units

For a U.S.-groomed, Asia-based turf scientist, use of the metric system makes important on-course measurements easier to calculate and conceptualize.

September 2014 | Micah Woods, Ph.D.

Growing up and first working in the turfgrass industry in the United States, I naturally used [U.S. customary units](#): inches and feet, pounds and ounces, fluid ounces and gallons, and so on. I started to use [metric units](#) when I went to work as a golf course superintendent in China and Japan, and I have been using these units ever since.

I like to use 1 square meter (1 m^2) as the base unit. There are a few reasons for this. First, I can see 1 square meter, I can imagine it, and I can think of how that base unit will be managed. Then, it's simply a matter of considering how many of those base units of 1 square meter are to be managed.

Second, the numbers work out in a convenient way in three-dimensional space. I'll elaborate on the convenience of this below.

Third, I like to work with numbers from 1 to 100 as much as possible, and working with 1 square meter as the base unit is handy in this way. Nitrogen might be applied at about 3 grams per square meter per month; in Thailand, one might apply 30 to 50 grams of nitrogen per square meter in a year. Wetting agents will be applied at about 2 milliliters per square meter. Spray volumes will usually be from 40 to 80 milliliters per square meter. These numbers fall in a range that is easy to work with and easy to think about. There are no 100s, no 1,000s, no 10,000s, and few numbers less than 1.



*One liter of water is 1 millimeter in depth across 1 square meter, and will increase soil moisture in the top 10 centimeters of 1 square meter by 1%. The golf course shown here is Salobre Golf Resort in Maspalomas, Gran Canaria, Canary Islands. **Photo by Micah Woods***

Now, for the three-dimensional space of the root zone. For managed turfgrass, the root system, averaged over the course of a year, can be considered 10 centimeters deep. This is where most of the nutrients will be taken up, where the grass will obtain water, and where coring and cultivation practices will be done.

Maybe you would like to use a root-zone depth of 7.5 centimeters, or 15 centimeters, or 30 centimeters. That's fine, and can be done, but using 10 centimeters has some attractive properties. One square meter to a depth of 10 centimeters has a volume of 100 liters. If the volumetric water content (VWC) of the soil is 18%, that means there are 18 liters of water in 1 square meter to a 10-centimeter depth. Want to increase the soil moisture to 22%? That will require 4 liters per square meter.

This is also convenient in two-dimensional space. One liter of water spread over 1 square meter has a depth of 1 millimeter. If it rains 6 millimeters, that's 6 liters of water per square meter. And if the soil VWC drops from 20% to 16% from morning to evening, that's a water loss of 4 liters, equivalent to 4 millimeters at the surface. That's the evapotranspiration (ET). Not some estimate from a computer, but the real consumptive water use.

Want to compare the ET of a full-sun area with the ET of a shaded area? Measure the difference in VWC from morning to evening at both sites. Now you've got the answer.

Thinking of water application in millimeters and liters translates directly to the VWC in the soil if one assumes the root zone has a depth of 10 centimeters. Of course, a soil moisture meter may have rods at a 6- or 7.5- or 12-centimeter depth; one can make appropriate adjustments in assumptions and estimates.

Being able to make important calculations on the fly without much effort makes it easy to start a relationship with the metric system, but be careful — once you see how easy this is, you may start to use the metric system for fertilizer, topdressing and spray applications too.

Micah Woods is chief scientist at the [Asian Turfgrass Center](#) and an assistant adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee.

<https://www.gcmonline.com/course/environment/news/turf-math-metric-units>



PennState Extension

Need Pesticide Credits? Here are Penn State Extension Classes You Can Take On-Line!

Emelie Swackhamer
Extension Educator, Green Industry

2020 continues to be a tough year in many ways. Penn State Extension wants to make it easy for you to get the update credits that you need to maintain your applicator's license. Our on-line classes can help you get the latest information on topics that are important to the green industry and earn your update credits too!

Here is a menu of the newest on-line classes that we have prepared. As we add new classes, you can always [find them at https://extension.psu.edu/online-pested](https://extension.psu.edu/online-pested). If you would like to be notified about upcoming classes, tell us your preferences at: extension.psu.edu/connect

- **Plant Health Diagnosis: Assessing Plant Diseases, Pests and Problems.**
2-hours duration - \$59.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/plant-health-diagnosis-assessing-plant-diseases-pests-and-problems>
 Learn a process for diagnosing plant health problems, including signs and symptoms of diseases, pests and insects, and environment or management issues.
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 4 credits in categories 06, 07, 18, 23 and PC
 Instructor: Tim Abbey, Horticulture Extension Educator
- **Japanese Beetle Management. 1-hour duration - \$25.00**
<https://extension.psu.edu/japanese-beetle-management>
 Learn to recognize the damage Japanese beetles do to turfgrass and ornamentals plants, and how to manage infestations.
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 credits in categories 06, 07, 18, 23 and PC.
 Instructor: Jeffery Fowler, Horticulture Educator
- **Green Industry Pesticide Update Webinar Recording: Spotted Lanternfly Management and Pesticide Safety.**
2 hours duration - \$15.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-pesticide-update-webinar-recording-spotted-lanternfly-management>
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 credits in categories 05, 06, 10, 18, 23 and PC
 Instructors: Amy Korman, Horticulture Extension Educator, Emelie Swackhamer, Horticulture Extension Educator
- **Green Industry Pesticide Update Webinar Recording: Pesticide Safety and Turf Pest and Growth Management.**
2 hours duration - \$15.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-pesticide-update-webinar-recording-pesticide-safety-and-turf-pest-and-growth-management>
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 core and 2 Category 07
 Instructors: Thomas Ford, Extension Educator and Ryan Selking, Extension Educator
- **Green Industry Update: Pests and Diseases found on Ornamentals in June and Sprayer Calibration.**
2 hours duration - \$15.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-update-webinar>
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 core and 2 in categories 06, 18, 23 and PC
 Instructors: Amy Korman, Horticulture Extension Educator, Emelie Swackhamer, Horticulture Extension Educator and Art Gover, Research Support Associate
- **Green Industry Pesticide Update: Pesticide Formulations, Adjuvants, and Turfgrass.**
2-hour duration - \$15.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-pesticide-update-pesticide-formulations-adjuvants-and-turfgrass>
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 core and 2 credits in category 07, 18 and 23
 Instructors: Tanner Delvalle, Extension Educator and Genevieve Christ, Extension Educator
- **Green Industry Pesticide Update: Pesticide Formulations, Adjuvants, and Stinging Insects.**
2-hour duration - \$15.00
<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-pesticide-update-pesticide-formulations-adjuvants-and-stinging-insects>
Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 core and 2 credits in categories 06, 18, 23 and PC
 Instructors: Genevieve Christ, Extension Educator and Tom Butzler, Extension Educator

- **Green Industry Pesticide Update: Formulations, Adjuvants, and Invasive Weed Identification and Management.**

2-hour duration - \$15.00

<https://extension.psu.edu/green-industry-pesticide-update-formulations-adjuvants-and-invasive-weed-identification-and-management>

Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 2 core and 2 credits in categories 05, 10, 18, 23 and PC

Instructors: Ruth Benner, Extension Educator, Sandy Feather, Extension Educator and Genevieve Christ, Extension Educator

- **Personal Protective Equipment for Pesticide Applicators.**

30 minutes duration - \$15.00

<https://extension.psu.edu/personal-protective-equipment-for-pesticide-applicators>

Approved Pesticide Update Credits: 1 core

Instructor: Tom Butzler, Extension Educator

For a complete listing of courses, please visit
<http://extension.psu.edu/pestcredits>.

On this site you can search for your preferred format and industry.

September Golf Results

Congratulations to our Golf Tournament winners from the September meeting at Regents' Glen Country Club

1st -
Jeff Green,
Kevin Mark,
Jason Pryzstup,
Tim Davisson

2nd -
Andrew Harrison,
Jamie Dennison,
Jason Frey,
Doug Hall

Closest to the pin #12 -
John Alexander

Closest to the pin #3 -
Jeff Green

Thanks to Kevin Shue and his staff
for a great day on the course!



Bill Mast

Cell: 610-608-8319
bmast@aer-core.com

Steve Thompson

Cell: 610-972-5933
sthompson@aer-core.com

Office: 610-327-3390

1486 S. Hanover St. • Pottstown, PA 19465 • www.aer-core.com

Specialized Turfgrass Services

Top Dressing
Sandmaster Drainage • Drill & Fill
Deep Tine (Solid & Coring) • Traditional Shallow Coring
Fairway Aeration with Clean-Up



First, we want to thank you for all that you are doing in these extraordinary times. Your dedication and perseverance is inspiring. And we vow to support you in any way that we can. Towards that end, we'd like to offer you a **No Interest, No Payments for 9 Months Financing Plan***. So your plans can stay in place.

If this can help your current planning, please call us today. And if there is anything else we can do to support you, please let us know.

*Offer valid on qualifying purchases made between 30 March 2020 to 06 July 2020 and is subject to approval by John Deere Financial. Payments may vary based upon the end of lease term purchase option price and length of lease term. No payments, no interest for 9 months followed by 4.75% APR for 63 months only in the case of lease purchase or 51 months only in the case of operating lease. Taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges could increase monthly payment. Not available for consumer use. Available at participating U.S. dealers. Prices and models may vary by dealer. Offer available on new equipment and in the U.S. only. Prices and savings in U.S. dollars.



JOHN DEERE
GOLF



 @finchturf

GCSAA HEALTH PROGRAM

GCSAA has partnered with Association Health Programs (AHP), an insurance broker who specializes in unique and cost-effective association insurance solutions, to offer our members quality and customized health care options.

The creation of a program was based on members feedback. Now, as part of a large pool of national associations, all GCSAA members (excluding Friends) will have access to this program.

In addition to health insurance, members have access to other related types of insurance, including dental and vision, disability, life, accident, long-term care, and Medicare supplements.

To begin the inquiry process

You will be required to complete the online census form to determine your eligibility. This form will provide AHP the necessary information to be able to advise you. AHP will only respond to GCSAA members.

[Begin the inquiry »](#)

<https://www.gcsaa.org/about-gcsaa/membership/membership-benefits/health-insurance>

On cloud 9: An uptick in nine-hole rounds

Nine-hole courses in particular have seen a boost from golf's increased popularity during the coronavirus pandemic. Here's a look at the numbers.

October 2020 | GCM staff



Photo by Catharina Short Sundberg/Unsplash

Research from the [National Golf Foundation](#) shows that the golf industry has more than made up for the 20 million rounds of golf that were lost in the spring because of pandemic-related course closures and related anxieties. A big part of that can be credited to increased nine-hole rounds.

The NGF reports an increase in afternoon and evening tee times (and speculates that could be the result of dramatic changes to "normal" work routines) and says the number of nine-hole rounds as a percentage of total rounds is up 15% in 2020.

Those numbers could well grow as daylight wanes.

According to the NGF, "core" golfers report that 33% of their rounds in 2020 have been of the nine-hole variety, while occasional golfers say nearly half (48%) of their rounds have been nine holes.

There are 3,777 nine-hole facilities in the United States — about 26% of the national supply. That wasn't always the case, however: The NGF says there were more nine-hole courses in the U.S. than courses with 18 or more holes until 1974, when the numbers diverged noticeably.

Seven states currently have more nine-hole courses than 18-and-ups, and, curiously, those states are concentrated in a strip down the northern center of the country: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and nine-hole champion Iowa, which has the most nine-hole facilities — 248 — in the country.

The other two states with more nine-holers than non-nines are rather more geographically extreme: Alaska and Maine.

<https://www.gcmonline.com/latest-stories/9-hole-golf-rounds-coronavirus>

..... Ocean Organics

New for 2020

Unique, Versatile, Cost-Efficient Surfactants
for Superior Turf Quality

TopSail™

For fairways and fine textured soils on hillsides, mounds, and other difficult to access areas

- Can be injected or sprayed.
- Greatly increases penetration of applied water and rainfall (3 times faster infiltration rate vs. the competition)



Windjammer™

Windjammer's unique surfactant molecules reduce wilt and provide firm, dry, and fast surfaces

- 6 time faster infiltration rate vs. the competition

SeaBlend® Plus with SynGen™

The best performing turf fertilizer just got better

Introducing *SeaBlend® Plus* with SynGen surfactant – two formulations: 12-0-12 and 12-4-5

- Improves nitrogen uptake, retention and efficiency
- Improves soil wetting
- Dramatically reduces runoff, puddling, leaching
- Faster color response
- Better and sustained growth



Also available in fairway grades.

Contact Kevin Collins — 914-621-1151 • kevin@oceanorganics.com

Platinum Sponsor

Fisher & Son Company, Inc.
Syngenta

Gold Sponsor

Lebanon Turf
Turf Equipment & Supply Company

Silver Sponsor

Aer-Core, Inc.
Genesis Green Supply
Lawn & Golf Supply Co.
Ocean Organics
Pocono Turf Supply Company

Corporate Sponsor

Andre & Son Inc.
Bayer
Davisson Golf, Inc.
Earthworks
Finch Services
FMC



TURF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY COMPANY

*One Team,
Many Solutions*

**Your full line vendor
for Golf Commercial
Equipment and Golf
Irrigation.**

www.turf-equipment.com
800.827.3711

TORO Count on it.

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram icons



The Green Sheet

1314 Porter Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504
cpgcsa@hotmail.com
www.cpgcsa.org