

Installation of these fields was done under the supervision of Bill Collins who has over 30 years of experience in the turf field. Maintaining these sod fields has been a learning experience along with a great deal of added responsibility.

Due to the shallow rooting medium, water management has been the main problem. These fields tend to dry out

very quickly on those hot, clear, windy days. Needless to say this requires constant monitoring by a trained eye.

Isolated dry spots are hand watered as needed. Mowing is currently being done twice weekly at 5/16" with a 3/16" height anticipated as the field gets closer to harvest.

Spraying is done as needed for pests

including sod webworms and periodic leaf spot or brown patch fungus. Tissue samples are analyzed on a frequent basis to determine any fertilization requirements.

Of course six acres of Tifdwarf sod is not solely for my use on the golf course (What a shame!). It is available for purchase by the owners here at the club. I can vouch for the quality and purity of this sod since we have constructed a new putting green and two chipping greens from the same sprigs. It is an excellent strain with which any superintendent would be proud to have on his or her greens.

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Turtle Ridge is an Exclusive Challenge

BY TIM KILPATRICK

Executive Vice President

The Kilpatrick Company

Turtle Ridge is the most exclusive new golf club in the world. Membership is by invitation only and there is technically only one member and only one hole at this new golf club.

The Kilpatrick Company set out to design and build a new headquarters facility for distribution of irrigation, landscape and turf equipment products in South Florida, the Caribbean and Latin America.

Because a good amount of its total business is golf-related, the company decided to build a single par-3 golf hole on the grounds of The Kilpatrick Building.

"It allows us to test products; train our people; and demonstrate our products," commented Harold Kilpatrick, Sr., president of The Kilpatrick Company.

"And we can go out and play some, too."

The new facility has many state-of-the-art features including a water filtration and recycling wash down system that assures that no contaminated water will drain off and a 1/4-acre natural preserve planted in Florida slash pines on the beautifully



The Kilpatrick Company in Boynton Beach has a new facility which includes the one-hole Turtle Ridge Golf Club. The hole runs behind the building. Photo by Smith Aerial Photography.

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train our people; and
demonstrate our products*

landscaped 3.79-acre grounds.

Turtle Ridge was designed by Hal Kilpatrick II, a noted irrigation designer and consultant who does a majority of his work for golf courses.

It was christened "Turtle Ridge" because it is on a ridge or coastal dune and the company had to relocate seven gopher tortoise nests to the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge prior to construction.

It is 85 yards long from the blue tees, with a large waste bunker on the left.

The green is a challenging 2,000 square feet with a pot bunker in the front right. It has three different grasses on it: Zoysia on the tee; 419 bermuda on the fairway; and Tifdwarf on the green.

Though it is exclusive, getting a tee time is no problem.

All you have to do is visit The Kilpatrick Building and you can take your best shot at hitting a hole-in-one on Turtle Ridge.

-submitted by Paul Crawford

Editor's Note: The Florida Green never promotes one company or product over another. Since we're all in this business together and we share "Best Practices" from golf courses, we felt the innovative and environmentally responsible new venture by The Kilpatrick Company was worthy of mention.

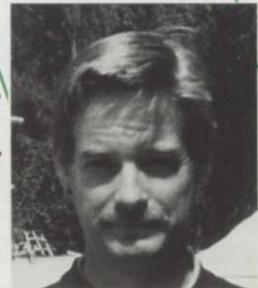
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