in the front or sides of greens tends to promote excess water retention inside the barrier at 1 to 2 inch depths. Our research has shown the high water retention created by the containment barrier provides an ideal environment for algae and anaerobic soils (black layer) and significantly increases the risk for turf loss.

Possible solutions:

1. Remove approximately 6 to 8 inches of the containment barrier to a depth of 6 inches.
2. Remove the entire barrier in the front or side of the greens where runoff is evident.
3. Install a smile drain inside the green's cavity, cut a hole in the barrier and extend the pipe well outside the cavity.

Matt Pulis, MS, International Sports Turf Research Conference Agronomist
Nat Hubbard, Field Representative

Gentlemen, thank you for sharing your observations and remedies.

Joel Jackson, CGCS

Birdies, Bogeys and a Couple of Pars

In GCSAA seminars, like "Managing Your Employees for Peak Performance" and "Team Building," we have learned the importance and necessity for recognition and reward for good performance and guidance and feedback for poor performance. So in that spirit, I give you my 2002 Birdie and Bogey awards to recognize the over and under achievers of the year. If the score fits, write it down, figure your handicap and practice to do better next time.

Par:
EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman scores a par. She gets a birdie for actually playing golf, but also a bogey for challenging golf to do better in non-point source pollution. Read the 20 years of research, Ms. Whitman, and quit listening to your staff who thinks EPA means Eliminate Pesticides ASAP.

Birdies to those staff members at FDOACS, FDEP, the water management districts and yes, even U.S. EPA, who are willing to listen and work with real-world data.

Bogeys to those at the same agencies who use assumptions, computer models and politics to make important decisions.

Birdies to the chemical and fertilizer manufacturers who diligently work on making safer more efficient products.

Bogeys to companies who make and market snake oil.

Birdies to superintendent associations and developers who work with government agencies for fair and reasonable rules and regulations on golf's behalf.

Bogeys to golf course owners and developers who take but never give. See below.

Birdies to the 270 courses who responded to the UF/IFAS survey on the Economic Impact of Florida's Golf Industry. Thanks to you we have quality data for making a case for funds and reasonable regulations.

Triple Bogey to the 1,000-plus golf courses who failed inexcusably to make a simple but profound impact and contribution to the industry that supports their very existence. Hang your heads in shame.

Birdies: To all the vendors and suppliers around the state who continue to support our associations. We love you man!

Bogeys: To the Florida Legislature for cutting the IFAS budget. Even North Carolina, with a turfgrass industry economic impact one-quarter of Florida's, budgets $650,000 annually for turf research and education to NC State. Note to IFAS lobby-
North Georgia Turf, Inc.

"Providing Sodding and Sprigging Services to Golf Courses"

- Superior Cold Hardiness
- Superior Response to Close Tee and Fairway Mowing Heights
- Genetic Purity
- Mole Cricket Non-Preference

For Fairways and Tees

1487 Blackdirt Road
Whitesburg, Georgia 30185
800-273-8608

Want to Retire Young?

Golf Retirement Plus™ can help you start or supplement your retirement savings. As little as $50 is all it takes to open your retirement account today.

For more information call TOLL FREE 1-877-RET-PLUS (1-877-738-7587).

For information on more GCSAA member benefits, visit www.gcsaa.org

Birdies to the owners, general managers, club managers, golf professionals, club presidents, green chairmen and club members who get it that Mother Nature rules. They respect and work with their superintendents to create healthy turf and good playing conditions.

Bogeys to those who never volunteer for anything. Keep those checks coming anyhow! We need your money for turf research, continuing education, benevolent funds, and government relations.

Birdie to the Orlando Sentinel for their series on water issues in Florida. It was pretty balanced for a change.

Bogeys to those papers like the Tampa Tribune, Sarasota Herald Tribune and Palm Beach Post, who don't print all the facts, don't research the facts or don't know the difference between fact and fiction.

Birdies to Hootie Johnson and the members at Augusta. This is America. It's their club. It's private. Besides over 1,000 golf rounds were played by women at Augusta last year. There are many men-only clubs that don't allow women on the course. But they don't have the media attention that Augusta does. God loves a misguided activist.


Birdies to the owners, general managers, club managers, golf professionals, club presidents, green chairmen and club members who get it that Mother Nature rules. They respect and work with their superintendents to create healthy turf and good playing conditions.

Bogeys to the egomaniacs and arrogant dictators in those same positions who can't see past today's stimpmeter readings. They create revolving doors and merry-go-rounds and they give their courses bad reputations. The world knows who you are.