Wastewater a solution for some courses

In the West, where a century ago bitter range wars were fought over water rights, drought conditions have dramatized the scarcity of water and have fueled a financial windfall, especially for golf course operators in the Southwest, Southeast and on the West Coast who face water bills of $50,000 and more.

National Golf Foundation Field Services Director Sheridan D. Much said in a NGF report: "Dr. James R. Watson, Toro Company vice president, examined the nation's water problems and offered some confirming conclusions. Many sections of the country, he said, have insufficient water to maintain normal activity in homes, farms and industry. "Tucson, Ariz., San Antonio, Texas, and Miami, Fla. have assured that they are taking water from their underground supply — upon which they are solely dependent — at a three times faster than it is being replenished by nature," Watson said.

In Long Beach, Calif., and Baytown, Texas, land subsidence, created by overpumping wells has been so bad that it has cracked utility lines and undermined building foundations. It wasn't merely the drought of 1987 and 1988 that brought the water issue to a critical awareness of waste aggravated by a government policy of cheap water and optimism that we could make do better by drinking at little cost," Watson said.

And it is, finally, recognition that our finite supply of water must be augmented by the relentless future demands imposed by the worldwide, explosive growth of population with an ever-increasing demand for food, clothing and shelter—all of which must come from existing water supplies."

"For a long time the critical situation will continue is

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