LANDSCAPE RESTORATION GUIDE

A comprehensive guide that demonstrates how to use naturalization as an alternative to more intensive management of landscape has been published by the United States Golf Association and New York Audubon Society. Landscape Restoration Handbook shows how to improve water quality, reduce erosion, lower maintenance, reduce chemical applications, protect the ecosystem and ecology, and promote diverse plant and animal species. The handbook is organized by regions. The 650-page, four-color book will be published in March and is available from Lewis Publishers, 2000 Corporate Blvd., NW, Boca Raton, Fla. 33431; 800-272-7737.

RUTGERS STUDENTS GET SCHOLARSHIPS

BOUND BROOK, N.J. — For 10 years, turfgrass students at Rutgers University have received scholarships from the Peter Selner Loft Memorial Scholarship Fund. This year, 12 students each received $1,000 awards. The fund, set up in 1983 in memory of Peter S. Loft, is subsidized by royalty contributions from Lofts Seed, royalties from the sale of Tribute tall fescue and through private and corporate gifts. This year’s recipients are Karen Plume, Mirta Pellicer, Pedro Perdomo, Randall Prostak, Campbell, Brian Feldman, Joseph Guglielmoni, Tracey Bunting, James MacCurrach, Karen Plumley, Mirta Recios and Jonathan Schenker. The first recipient was Pedro Perdomo, in 1984.

READ SAND DONATING FUNDS

Joe Farina of Read Sand & Gravel has organized a fund-raising program in which Read will donate 25 cents per cubic yard of any material it delivers to any golf course or driving range from last September to next September. Funding will be decided by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England’s Turf Research Committee, which allocates the financing to the universities in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York. For more information, contact Joe Farina at Read Sand & Gravel, 140 Market St., Bound Brook, N.J. 08805; 732-242-3100.

BLUE VALLEY ENTERS GOLF

MISSION, Kansas — Blue Valley Laboratories has expanded its services into golf course maintenance. The 20-year-old firm is concerned with all phases of water management, according to water specialist and horticulturist Joe Setzer. Blue Valley performs water-quality testing for lakes, source water and potable water as well as aquatic plant management, and limnology studies for existing and planned golf courses.

Superintendent saves Tillinghast club big bucks in bunker renovation

By W. PETE JONES

Always a concern to the older golf clubs is the need to recover architectural design factors in order to keep the integrity of a traditional layout. Most important is the cost of doing such a job. In 1990, superintendent Jim Hengel of Binghamton Country Club in Endwell, N.Y., saved his club many thousands of dollars by refurbishing bunkers himself, using a little common sense.

The Binghamton CC course was designed by A.W. Tillinghast in the 1920s and was site of the 1950 New York Amateur. Writing his preliminary letter, Tillinghast stated: “The panoramic view from this spot is particularly inspiring and, altogether, I consider this site one of the very best which has been my privilege to examine in a long time.”

The feeling Tillinghast felt in his initial observation must have stirred an excitement in Hengel. Through the years the Tillinghast bunkers had lost their design features and a refurbishing was in order. Call Hengel’s work “recovery with common sense.”

By 1990, Jim Hengel and the green committee had already been presented several ideas on how to renovate the bunkers. However, some were radical and unwarranted. “Initially, our green committee and I went out to several builders for bids to restore our sand bunkers,” Hengel said. “The quotes were anywhere from $90,000 to $125,000. Several builders wanted to implement more bunkers to make the course better for today’s golfer. One even wanted to bring in expensive earth-moving equipment just to tackle the job of altering 36 traps. But I didn’t want them tearing up our course.”

It must have been frustrating to discover there were builders and designers willing to signature the Binghamton CC course as

Tips to match Tour conditions

By TERRY BUCHEN, CGCS

The most important aspect of any tournament, be it the club championship or a weekly tour event, is the condition of the golf course. The amateur or professional player can best display his or her skills as the condition of the golf course improves.

“Good playing surfaces tend to reward good play, and thus help produce a good winner. Excellent playing surfaces, properly maintained, are likely to attract strong fields of players,” said Allan MacCurrach, senior agronomist for the PGA Tour.

I had the pleasure of working for the PGA Tour as an agronomist and advancement, and it was the greatest experience of my golf career. Working with golf course superintendents on tournament-caliber conditioned courses was a tremendous learning experience. The following set of guidelines that MacCurrach, Dennis Leger and Jeff Haley work with each week on the PGA

California, Florida spearhead use of effluent

Symposium to illustrate that golf courses can tap into major water sources

By PETER BLAIRS

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — California and Florida are the leaders when it comes to effluent use on golf courses, according to the principal author of the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s guidelines for using wastewater.

The country’s two major golf states will be the focus of Dr. James Crook’s discussion of Regulations Affecting the Use of Wastewater on Golf Courses at the United States Golf Association’s Wastewater Symposium March 4-5 in Newport Beach, Calif. Crook is an environmental engineer with Camp, Dresser & McKee Inc.

The EPA’s Guidelines for Water Reuse were written by Camp, Dresser & McKee and first published in 1980. Crook helped update and expand the guidelines recently in view of technological advancements in the past decade.

The guidelines are just that, guidelines. States control effluent use. About a third have laws, a third publish guidelines and a third exercise no control or influence at all, Crook said.

Consequently, effluent use varies from state to state. For example, while...
N.Y. program

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Feindt, who served as the guinea pig for the project in 1987, is a staunch supporter.

"A pathologist gets so busy. With a lot of things on his mind, he can miss things," Feindt said. "If someone is looking specifically for disease or insect problems, they can spot them easier... Using this scouting program and lab really helps."

Hahn added that the complexities of diseases today are more difficult than years ago. "It's much more difficult to identify the diseases and where they are today."

Scientists have also found that many diseases are caused by root problems that had never before been recognized and that are difficult to diagnose. Speed in diagnosis is also a major advantage.

"Before the local lab, it could take between 30 and 36 hours to get a diagnosis of a disease — and that is if you drove the sample to the university," Hahn said. "Now we can get the turnaround in a matter of four or five hours. Plus, if you mailed the sample, its environmental conditions could change."

Feindt also said misdiagnosis is less apt to occur if using a trained plant pathologist.

"A couple of times I thought I had a turf disease, but the lab looked and found an insect problem."

Program administrator Jim Wilmont said one discovery alone saved a course perhaps $30,000 when he found the supenent did not have to treat for summer patch but rather for black turfgrass Ateanias, a difficult-to-detect tiny white grub.

With All The Abuse Your Turf Takes, Who Needs Root Pruning?

You know the story. The guys who swing an iron the way a lumberjack wields an ax are the same guys who yell the loudest when weeds give them a bad case of the hives. So, with all the abuse your turf gets, the last thing you need is root-pruning from your herbicide.

That's why you need CHIPCO® RONSTAR® brand G herbicide. University root pull studies show that CHIPCO® RONSTAR® G is the most effective on turf roots. That means healthier roots and stronger, more durable turf. Best of all, just one pre-emergence application provides season-long control of 25 tough broadleaf and grassy weeds—including goosegrass, crabgrass and Poa Annu. You’ll also appreciate the fact that CHIPCO® RONSTAR® G is labeled for use on a wide variety of ornamentals, and is now available in a new low-dust formulation that makes application even more convenient. CHIPCO® RONSTAR® brand G herbicide. It can’t improve the quality of play on your course, just the quality of weed control.

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