Chart your way to order, success

S uperintendents strive for perfection at everything we do, always searching for a better, more efficient way to achieve our goals and those of our employers. Budgeting for maintenance, a chart (at right) is one way to prepare and to show the importance of the month-to-month cultural practices in relation to money spent each month. Using 8-1/2 by 11-inch paper, separate charts can be made for greens, tees and fairways. Ideally, these charts help show course officials where and how often the labor portion of the maintenance budget is being used each month of the year.

Particularly important are mowing heights, frequency, pattern direction, clipping removal, and fertilization amounts recent soil tests of the major elements.

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Vibrating at 5,000 rpms, the TRUE-SURFACE (R) Vibratory Greens Rolling System energizes the dry, light topdressing down from the turf canopy and into the aerification holes. Exerting 250 lbs. of force, the vibratory rollers smooths the top 1/4 inch of the greens surface and serves as a maintenance tool.

The new, Needle Tine lets you aerate as often as you want without disrupting play.

During the summer months with heavy play, some turf professionals have been hesitant to aerify. Well, relief is on the way with the new, Needle Tine by Verti-Drain®. Because of its tiny, narrow hole you get all the positive effects of deep tining with virtually no surface disruption. Now you can aerate all season long - every month or even more frequently if you want.

Perfect for greens, tees as well as sportsfields, the new Needle Tine has been extensively tested overseas in fine grasses with great results. Like all Verti-Drain innovations, there's nothing else like the Needle Tine on the market today. It may well be the tine in the haystack you've been looking for.

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U.S. Patent No. 5,261,213. Foreign Patents Pending

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TRI-E-SURFACE (R)

fits most triplex greens mowers.

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Delaying UST retrofitting could prove costly — Cal-EPA

The deadline to upgrade existing underground storage tanks (USTs) is Dec. 22, 1998. Upgrading means retrofitting an existing tank and piping with internal lining, corrosion protection, spill containment, overfill prevention equipment, striker plates and automatic pump shutdown capability, as necessary. A tank owner can also satisfy requirements by replacing the tank with a secondary tank system, double-walled tanks and piping. Tanks containing non-petroleum hazardous substances must be replaced with double-walled tank systems.

To comply with 1998 regulatory requirements, all upgrading or proper closure of systems must occur prior to Dec. 22, 1998. This upgrade requirement was announced in 1988 and there is no plan to extend it. If they haven’t already started, owners and operators should begin planning now. "Anyone waiting until the 11th hour will undoubtedly find upgrading more costly and harder to complete," the California Environmental Protection Agency said in its newsletter. "Contractors may charge more for their services. Owners may have trouble finding an available contractor and the work can't be done without one."

MSU dedicates turf equipment

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Michigan State University (MSU) has dedicated its Dr. Kenyon T. Payne Collection of Vintage Turfgrass Equipment here in ceremonies attended by people from around the country.

The event included a special presentation to Payne’s widow from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) expressing its appreciation for her husband's contributions to golf course management.

Payne was instrumental in assembling more than 120 pieces of equipment in the collection. He worked closely with undergraduate turfgrass students to restore many of the pieces.

MSU and the GCSAA have reached an agreement that the Payne Collection’s integrity will be maintained in perpetuity and available for public display.

Charting the way

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- Breeding – Research and international testing to develop the world’s finest varieties
- Production – Excellent quality seed from the top growers in Oregon
- Marketing – Professional, knowledgeable staff and distributor network
- Customer Service – Expert agronomic advise with on-time delivery and follow-up
- Quality – Oregon Blue Tag Certified varieties, mixtures and blends

Nobody does it better.