Dam is leaking!

Continued from preceding page

learned that the anti-seep collar, which prevents water from seeping along the outside of the pipe, had been cut off because it couldn't be forced into the hard rock under the pipe.

Further questioning revealed that no hand tamping had been done around the pipe; one coupling band was damaged when the pipe was installed, and was now leaking. Cliff Van Vliet, SCS engineer, then designed a six-inch by seven-foot by seven-foot concrete ring to seal off the leaking band. He pointed out that increasing the height of the dam by two feet to handle storm storage would relieve any further problems. Construction work was done under SCS supervision to insure proper tamping around the concrete ring in early spring.

Last summer the pond held. The dam will be raised two feet this fall.

Fertilizing and mulching, plus a good sprinkling schedule, have made the fairways the best ever.

A minor drainage problem on the greens and a surface ditch need some attention, but the course is taking hold. Return on the investment is showing up, as the course moved out of the red into the black for the first time in three years. And, naturally, the course now cooperates with the Shelby Soil and Water Conservation District.

These mistakes could have been avoided by proper use of an SCS soils map, and design information for pond and water removal systems, and mulching.

Landscaping advice

If plants are bare-root (unprotected or unwrapped) when you receive them, keep them in the shade and protect the roots from dehydration. When planting, the hole should be large enough to contain all the roots. If the soil is a heavy clay, it will be necessary to provide drainage, simply by boring a hole through the clay to the sandy subsoil and filling with gravel or sand.