west and Northern states from big scale flooding was that the 1972 to 1973 winter was mild and dry. In May, Minnesota and the Dakotas were reporting a shortage of soil moisture. There was very little snowmold, either in these three states or others in the vicinity of the Canadian border. Farther south there wasn’t even evidence of it. This is a disease, though, that superintendents know how to ward off through a combination of the right fungicide treatments and good drainage.

You can be sure that drainage was something that occupied the attention of most Midwest and Northern superintendents last fall. Where the heavy rains that came from August on showed up weak spots in a club’s drainage system, steps were usually taken to correct them. It’s Lee Record’s course construction and main-dried hundreds of books he has read on golf there hasn’t been any hesitancy in entered inside the clubhouse doors, has ever seen before. And the work the last six or eight months than he kept a tally on the activity, that impression, although he hasn’t weak spots in a club’s drainage and installing runoff tiles in them. If water out of low lying areas. And, at club where water crept up to or filtered inside the clubhouse doors, which was rather common last fall, there hasn’t been any hesitancy in tearing up parking lots and grounds and installing runoff tiles in them. If nothing else, the weather last year has made superintendents highly sensitive to flooding problems.

It’s interesting to note in this vein that Charlie Wilson of Milwaukee Sewerage reaches back into the hundreds of books he has read on golf course construction and maintenance and summons a passage he recalls from a poem written 50 years ago by G.A. Farley. In his introductory remarks, Farley said something to the effect that turf management consists of three main tenets: 1) Drainage; 2) Drainage, and 3) Drainage. Maybe that sums it up as well as anyone is ever going to say it. For any superintendent who has lived through the ordeal of flood or high water in the last year, there is probably no need to read beyond Farley’s introductory remarks.

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