"We compost leaves to make a better top dressing than we could buy... without paying a cent for humus."

So says Steve Kristof, Supt. of Charles River Country Club, Newton Centre, Mass. He adds, "We've been mixing leaf mold in with our top dressing since 1967. With a mixture of 60% sand, 20% soil and 20% leaf mold, we've had excellent results. "We apply top dressing to greens and greens' areas four to five times a year... to tees more often. This results in instant greening. It also controls disease... helps consume thatch... and definitely controls fungus."

The Charles River course is heavily treed with oaks so there are plenty of leaves to collect. They are stacked in windrows (6-ft. x 8-ft.) on a 10,000 sq. ft. clearing only 300 yards from the course. With the windrows turned twice yearly, Mother Nature does the rest. In less than 3 years, the leaves decompose into a rich, black leaf mold. A Royer 120 Shredder with a PTO drive is used to shred and mix the leaf mold with soil and sand. The mixture is then processed with a Royer Power Screen to produce a fine, homogeneous top dressing.

"Using leaf mold pays off," says Tommy McKniff, Asst. Superintendent. "We avoid paying $5 a yard for pur-chased humus and we do not have to pay for hauling leaves from the course as other clubs in the area are doing."

The how's and why's of leaf composting are fully explained in Royer literature. We'll be glad to send this data to you along with information on Royer Shredders and Power Screens. Write or phone.

Tommy McKniff checks richness of 3-yr. old leaf mold.

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ROYER FOUNDRY & MACHINE CO.
171 Pringle Street, Kingston, Pa. 18704

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