

Backpack blowers can save time, labor

Dozens of uses and applications have been found for backpack power blowers, but they are proving to have several uses on golf courses. There are many opportunities for indoor and outdoor maintenance of buildings and grounds, especially considering the large scale cleaning needs of most golf course operations.

Power blowers can be substituted for rakes in cleaning away leaves, grass clippings, and twigs, and for brooms and shovels in heavy-duty cleanup. Speed and ease of operation have been big factors, eliminating countless hours of manual labor.

The **principle** of the back-pack power blower is simple: It's a two-cycle, lightweight, air-cooled engine that's hand-carried or worn backpack-style. The throttle control allows the user to have a gentle breeze or a roaring blast through a hand-held plastic pipe.

In addition to their special needs, superintendents and clubhouse managers will probably find a number of uses for the power blower that have become popular with its existing users.

Many institutions use the units to clean leaves and snow from sidewalks and driveways. It's excellent for unclogging gutters and downspouts. Many factories have used the power blower for cleanup jobs when there's been a spill of some kind.

Tennis court owners have discovered that the power blower is great for drying wet courts and blowing leaves from playing areas. Parking lot atten-

The blower can make cleaning a green a fast and simple job. It can also be used to knock off dew or other excess water.



dants often use it to dust snow from parked cars; and exhibition hall managers use power blowers to clean up trash from floors and seats after the crowds leave the facility.

Many golf courses have developed a number of interesting and conventional applications for power blowers. There are often hard-to-reach places near fences, behind bushes or trees, or in gullies that need to be cleaned. Yet they're hard to get with a rake.

Sand traps and other hazards that must be regularly maintained are candidates for a power blower once-over. Superintendents have found that the power blower can be used during tournaments to dry **greens** wet from dew or watering, before play begins.

Power blowers are ideal for other kinds of cleanup chores, too. There are any number of ways a power blower can be used around a clubhouse, in storage sheds or golf cart storage sheds, that give time and cost-saving benefits to the owner and maintenance personnel. □

Cleaning out and leveling off sand traps is another job made easy. Using the blower often results in a smoother trap finish. The blower shown here is Echo's PB-400 backpack model.

Manufacturers of power blowers include:

Atwater Strong
Box 68
Atwater, OH 44201

John Deere & Co.
John Deere Rd.
Moline, IL 61265

Echo Inc.
3150 MacArthur Dr.
Northbrook, IL 60062

Giant Vac Mfg. Co.
Machine Shop Rd.
S. Windham, CT 06266

HMC, Green Machine
22133 S. Vermont
Torrence, CA 90502

Jacobsen Mfg. Co.,
Div. of Textron Inc.
1721 Packard Ave.
Racine, WI 53403

Toro Co.
8111 Lyndale Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55420

Vandermolen Corp.
119 Dorsa Ave.
Livingston, NJ 07039

Yard Vac
5567 Airways Ave.
Fresno, CA 093727

