Letter to the Editor:

Congratulations on your latest issue and the editorial policy that faces straight on some of the issues facing Green Space Managers. As you can see, I do a cover-to-cover job on the copies of state/regional GCSA publications that I receive.

Reading is a great way to beat the heat down here (Whitney, Texas) — it can be done indoors.

While we have had few rains, we are about 50% of normal — whatever that is. Our golf course is in good shape, but some that irrigate with river water are likely to suffer later on. Lack of rain enables the natural salt seepage in West Texas to become more concentrated than usual. Add high evaporation rates and we have trouble. Our lake (Whitney) on the Brazos River is six feet below normal and is due to be drawn down another five feet to provide water for the rice growers downstream. I'm glad I'm not in the marina business.

Oh well, if we didn't have something to complain about, it would be a pretty boring life. Here's hoping that you foks have a better summer than '95, so that those who pay the bills can make up for play time lost in the spring.

Keep the peace and keep up the good work on Hole Notes.

—Sincerely,
James M. Latham

Paskvan Consulting
Route 1 Box 77A
Akeley, MN 56433
218-652-3542
Fax 218-652-2949

Where Success is Never an Accident

Specialists in Soil and Plant Nutrition
Tailored to Golf Courses and Sports Turf

Services Provided:
- Complete inventory of the soils on the course or job site
- Sampling, analyzing, delivery and interpretation of the results to eliminate guesswork
- Help find corrective fertilizer materials to save money
- Physical analysis on sand-soil-peat to determine proper mixing for greens and topdressing
- Fast turn around time, yet quality is never compromised

Oxygenated Gasoline Information

1. Make sure the carburetor is adjusted properly for the fuel that is being used. Oxygenated gasoline has a tendency to cause the engine to run “lean” when compared to standard fuels. A slight enrichment of the carb adjustment needles will take care of this.

2. Use a good quality two-stroke oil in the gas/oil mix. Water-cooled two-cycle oil does not have the necessary additives to provide proper engine protection.

3. Keep the fuel fresh. Ethanol has an affinity for water and if enough moisture is introduced into the fuel the alcohol will settle out of the mixture and could cause a major engine failure. Only buy enough gas that can be used up in a 30-day time period.

4. Properly store the equipment. If the engine is not going to be used for 30 days or more, the remaining gasoline that is in the equipment should be drained from the tank and properly disposed of. This will help keep the fuel from going stale in the tank and absorbing moisture.

5. Gasoline that contains MTBE do not appear to have as much of a problem separating from the mixture if water or moisture is present. All the guidelines mentioned above should still be followed.

—The Green Breeze
Greater Cincinnati GCSA