

PEER-TO-PEER: SHARING THE GOOD WORD

# Considering the Events of Last Winter, What Will Your Winter Protection Plan Be?

(Editor's Note: The MGCSA conducted a survey via e-mail to members of the association in July)

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I am still on the fence regarding winter covers. Last spring we purchased, and used quite successfully, spring recovery covers. As of this moment I do not plan on covering and rather will place all covers upon the greens as soon as possible in the spring to encourage soil warming. Snow mold control will be 4 oz./m Chipco and 6 oz./m Daconil on the fairways and tees. I will add Medalion into the mix upon the greens. I will monitor my turf closely and keep my BOD up to date.

- Jack MacKenzie  
North Oaks Golf Club  
North Oaks

I will let the greens get a little longer in late fall. Otherwise, due to labor and financial constraints, no covers - plan stays the same.

- Paul Diegnau, CGCS  
Keller Golf Course  
Maplewood

We will have the same protocol as last season.

- Jim Nicol, CGCS  
Hazelton National Golf Club  
Chaska

I will stay the same as last year, I had no damage from the winter. Winter covers will go down 3rd week of November and stay on till spring. Snow mold control will be 12oz of Revere, 4oz of Touche, 6oz of Manicure Ultrex and 3oz of Iron.

- Jeff Vinkemeier  
Glencoe Country Club  
Glencoe

I have experimented with the green-jacket, with and without the foam. I will use the covers on 12 greens this year, no foam. These are greens I have lost grass three of the last 5 years. Water freezing in the low areas of greens has been the great-

est cause for winter kill. The impermeable cover seems to reduce winter kill in this situation, especially as the last of the snow melts off in the early spring. I also use snow fence to hold snow on the more exposed greens.

Fairways get PCNB and daconil ultrex. Greens will get 26Gt, Daconil and PCNB

- Donnacha O'Connor  
Alexandria Golf Club  
Alexandria

Greens covers on in the spring, along with green turf paint or black topdressing sand or both. Haven't decided on that yet. Kind of strange to be thinking about this since I feel like I am permanently attached to a hand water hose right now. Looking forward to a long winter of ice fishing.

- Nick Rongstad  
Izatys Resort  
Onamia

As of right now I will not be using greens covers and putting them also on in the spring. As far as Snow Mold protection: Greens and Tees--Medalion Banner Maxx 3 oz Daconil 5.5 oz Transfilm 6 oz. Fairways--PCNB 8 oz Transfilm 6 oz And last but not least I add in a lot of I Hope, I Hope it is a good Winter Season.

- Barry J. Hines  
Izatys Resort  
Onamia

Medalion and Heritage for snow mold control. No covers. Have not used covers for 38 years and have had virtually no winter damage on greens. Except for this past winter. Hopefully, we will not see another winter like that for a long time.

- Randy Allen  
Tartan Park  
St. Paul

I won't change anything from last year. We cover mid-November just before the ground freezes. Treat with 4 oz PCNB two weeks before and just before we cover. We also apply 6 oz Weatherstick

Daconil and 8 oz Spot - Treat for mouse repellent because of the brush I put on several of the covers. Fairways are treated with 4 oz PCNB.

On the greens I plan on doing what we did last year on the greens Chipco / Daconil with weather stix (4 oz. and 6 oz.) and an application of Turfcide 400 (12 oz.). I also will spray some transpirant and topdress if I can get out to them late.

I do not treat the fairways generally but will spray 6,7,10. They got hit bad last year. And I do plan on doing a lot of trimming, the fairways that are the shadiest, lost the most poa.

- Stephen R. Dinger  
Como Golf Course  
St. Paul

My Snow mold applications for last year: Greens, No snowmold. 6 oz./m Daconil Weatherstik; 4 oz./m Chipco GT; 4 oz./m Heritage. Fairways and tees had unacceptable breakthrough in the fall about a month after application. The disease pressure was very high but I will be doing something different this fall: 2 oz./m Banner Maxx and .5 oz./m Medallion. I put down Evergreen covers in the late fall. I will continue to put down covers.

- Michael Nelson, CGCS  
Dacotah Ridge Golf Club  
Morton

I plan to keep my same program. Spray 2oz 26GT and 4oz Weather stick on Bluegrass tees and the same combo plus 4oz of Turfcide 400 on Providence greens. I do not treat fairways. I will dormant feed tees and greens at 1# with some sort of N source. I do not use covers. Keep it simple.

- Kevin Clunis  
Tanners Brook GC  
Forest Lake

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## Protection Survey-

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Last year I split my course in half and tried two different mixtures on each half of the course. I will do the same thing this year. On one half of the course I will spray 5 oz of PCNB in mid October (to cover for pink snowmold). Then another 5 oz PCNB, 5.5 oz Daconil Weather stik and 2 oz of Terremc SP just before it snows.

On the other half of the course I will spray 2 oz 3336 in the Middle of October (to cover pink snowmold) then I will spray 5.5 oz of Weather Stik, .5 oz of Medallion and 4 oz of 26GT just before it snows.

I am trying to see if the PCNB is causing the tip burn in the spring of the year. Last year I saw no difference between the half of the course that I used PCNB and the half of the course that I did not.

I spray this on Tees and Greens. I do not protect Fairways.

-Dan Hill  
Birnamwood Golf Course  
Burnsville

## Mankato University Student Awarded Garske Grant

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has named Branden Tanko of Stevens Point, Wis., as the recipient of the second annual Joseph S. Garske Collegiate Grant.

The \$2,500 grant, funded by Par Aide and administered through The Environmental Institute for Golf, was established in 2003 in honor of Par Aide company founder Joseph S. Garske. The program provides annual awards to assist children of GCSAA members in funding their education at accredited colleges or trade schools. The grant is renewable for a second year with proof of enrollment and a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

"We believe it's important to recognize golf course superintendents for their tireless dedication to the game of golf," said Par Aide President Steve Garske. "It's great to be able to give something back to

superintendents and their children."

Tanko will attend Minnesota State University-Mankato next fall to study aviation. His father, Gary S. Tanko, CGCS at Sentryworld Golf Course in Stevens Point, Wis., is an 18-year GCSAA member.

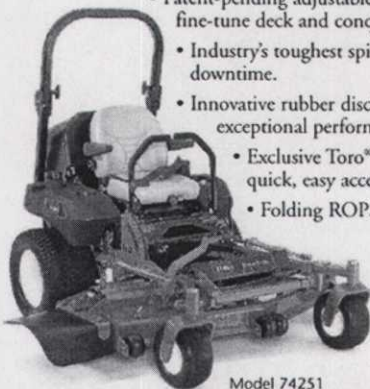
"A bachelor's degree in professional flight from Mankato University will maximize my chances for success in any and all fields of aviation," Tanko said. "I view my accomplishments and experiences thus far as the tip of the iceberg to what I can achieve, and I feel a degree in professional flight will get me one step closer to realizing my full potential."

"We appreciate the continued support of Par Aide," said GCSAA President Timothy T. O'Neill, CGCS. "It represents a strong commitment to the profession, the industry and the game."

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