

PEER-TO-PEER: BETTER TURF THROUGH NETWORKING

MGCSA Superintendents were asked: What did you do differently this season that positively impacted your operation? A new product, a new program or perhaps a discontinuation of a practice?

For us at **Cedar Creek**, this year was all about green speed. It was now time to keep up with the Jones' and the first thing we did was drop the height of cut. The second thing we did was use growth regulate which worked great. The comments from everyone were positive and the Men's League loved them. It was one of our best years at Cedar. I am hoping that the greens speed had a little to do with it because it hasn't been cheap. More top-dressing, more bedknives, more chemicals, more man hours, more hand watering. I think the public expects more out of public courses now more than ever. - *Tim Wickland, Cedar Creek GC*

A new practice that we implemented at **Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge** this season was to take six of our full time high school/college staff and assign six holes on the course for any push mowing and string trimming. As I thought would happen, the "teams" got competitive. I heard good natured ribbing between them that their

area looked much better than another and the other "team" had better pick up the pace. - *J.W. Wollner, Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge*

At **North Oaks Golf Club** we pride ourselves in having a few flowers, mostly annuals, about 10,000 square feet of high maintenance property. Historically we have had to do a lot of hand weeding, even with the use of pre-emergent herbicides. This year as an experiment we covered with clear poly plastic sheeting and sealed with a band of sand, two tilled and well-watered gardens for four weeks in the spring. Just prior to planting we uncovered the now "solar sterilized" beds and lightly tilled them again. The sites needed NO hand work for the whole season. I repeat, we never weeded the gardens all summer. On three other large beds we were only able to cover for three weeks. These gardens, while much easier to manage, still required some hand work and saw a dramatic infestation of weeds

late in the year. Our plan is to cover all of our beds with plastic this fall as soon as we pull the flowers and leave the covers on until we plant them late next May.

- *Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, North Oaks GC*

We changed up several cultural practices for the 2009 season at **Keller**. No granular fertilizers used on fairways - Umaxx, Ammonium Sulfate, Iron sulfate and seaweed extract sprayed on all playing surfaces on a two-week schedule (Thank you Jeff Johnson, The Minikahda Club). Also reduced Trimit rates on fairways to the low side (2-4 oz/A). The rogue bluegrass in many of our fairways did not exhibit the prostrate growth habit as it did in previous years at higher rates. Playing surfaces were fabulous! The bentgrass excelled under this program. This one's a keeper. -*Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Keller GC*

(Continued on Page 21)

David J. Oberle
Sales

david.oberle@comcast.net



4250 Wexford Way, Eagan, MN 55122
Phone: 651-681-8050 • Fax: 651-681-1969

WINTER PREPARATION PROGRAM ON SALE NOW

Peer-to-Peer-

(Continued from Page 19)

A new product that I began experimenting with this year at **Chisago Lakes** is Civitas. This is the mineral oil product from Petro-Canada. There were two different approaches I took with very good results. The first was on some of my back tees that I used the product with no added fungicide. I sprayed two different times (mainly for dollar spot) using Propiconazole and my test tees using the "low" rate (8oz oil-1oz harmonizer) of Civitas. The results for me were that the Civitas provided equal and some times better control than the fungicide. Additionally the turf color of the Civitas was darker. My other experiment was on two different greens. One of my practice greens and 1/2 of hole #14 green. (10,000 sq. ft. green split in half.) This was a terrific way to see results. The regiment for these greens was to cut the scheduled fungicide rate in half and use the "low" rate of Civitas. Disease was not a problem on any of the greens. The biggest difference was the color of the turf. Golfers asked many questions what we were doing. The Civitas half was so much greener and looked fantastic. This was a good way to educate golfers and show how I am trying to impliment environmentally friendly practices wherever I can. I could see the color difference right after spraying similar to using a heavy indicator dye. The color is not a short-term paint color however. The color lasts more than three weeks and until the next spraying. I had a sprayed area on the back edge of the green this fall that dried out because of a large oak tree above it. This was 2-3 weeks after application and rather than turning tan it turned a very strange light green throughout the entire blade of grass. To me it looked like the Civitas was acting like a systemic and trans-located through the blade. This fall I will spray all of my greens with Civitas for this color enhancement and disease reduction. My thought process is that it may lengthen the growing season, the golfers love the turf color, this will replace my fall fungicide application and research shows snow mold reduction with the product. -Brian Brown, Chisago Lakes Golf Course

CLASSIFIED ADS

Posted October 6 WANTED

Par Aide Products Co. is looking to local MN superintendents for help in collecting old Par Aide Ball Washers, Ball Washer Pipe and Ball Washer Bases. If you have any of these old products that you would like to get rid of please contact Scott Melling at Par Aide, 651-379-8444 or scott@paraide.com.

Posted September 24 FOR SALE

100+ 1" Brass Quick Coupler Valves with Yellow Vinyl covers. \$25 each or best offer.
12 - 1996 E-Z-GO TXT Gas Golf Carts with tops \$1500 EACH
Contact: Al Hanson
Viking Meadows GC
763/229-2691

Posted September 21 WANTED

TORO WORKMAN for parts. 1995 to 2001 Workman model 4200, 2 or 4 wheel drive vehicle with bad engine or damaged structurally. I need this for a parts vehicle.
Contact: Bob Parsons
Edinburgh USA
763-315-8577

Posted September 17 FOR SALE

2001 Toro RM 3100D, Only 1714 hours

Excellent Condition Sharpened / Ready to Mow \$4,500
Contact: Mike Knodel
Oakdale Golf Club
(320) 583-9875

Posted September 11 WANTED

3 point,
PTO leaf blower
Contact: Jay Yonak
The Links at Northfork
763-441-7430

Posted August 17 FOR SALE

1990s LF-100
4,000+ hrs.
Best Offer
Contact: Ryan Inglis
Perham Lakeside GC
218-346-6071

Posted August 10 FOR SALE

2009 Turfco 60"
Triwave Seeder.
Like new, used once.
\$9,900 or B/O
Contact: Jay Yonak
The Links at Northfork
763-441-7430

Posted July 24 FOR SALE

Two 1999 Toro GM1000.
Used for grow in of two courses in 1999 and 2006.
\$1,500 each or B/O.
Trans pro 100 trailer.
\$350 B/O. I would like to

sell as a total set. \$3350 or B/O.
3100D Reelmaster Sidewinder
3wd. 8 blade cutting units.
2161.9 hours. Purchased
4/18/2000. \$3500 or B/O.
Windmill 1010 3 point
hitch pto/rotary spreader.
A little rusty \$100 B/O.
Jerry Webb
Riverwood National/Vintage
320-237-1240

Posted July 22 WANTED

Looking for a shop lift.
Have to be able to walk underneath.
Price range open.
Kevin Clunis, CGCS
Tanners Brook GC
651-464-4118

Posted July 14 FREE

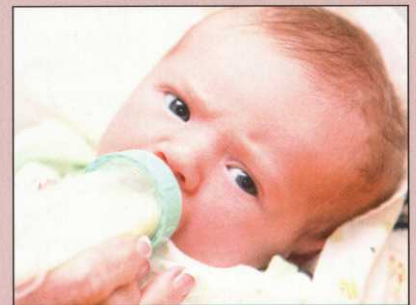
Toro five gang mower
great for parts.
Contact: Jim Bastys
North Branch Golf Course
651-890-6815

www.MGCSA.org

New Arrivals ...

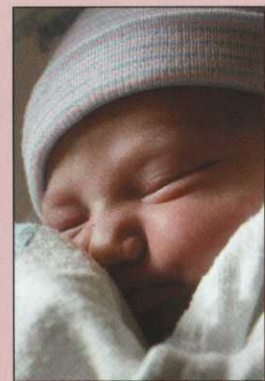


THE HINES FAMILY
Kristin, Scottie, Leighton
and their dogs Sadie and Sam.



LEIGHTON ISAIAH HINES

Kristin and Scottie Hines, CGCS, Windsong Farm GC, proudly announce the birth of a healthy baby boy: Leighton Isaiah Hines. Born on September 10 at 5:16 p.m. he weighed in at 7.6 pounds and stretched 18.5 inches at birth. Baby, mom and the "sappy" dad are doing great!



CLARA MARIA KNOX

Clara Maria Knox was born on Sept. 25, 2009 @ 4:30pm. She was 8 lbs., 7ozs. and 18 inches long. Maia and Kurt Knox, Superintendent at Island View Golf Club, are also "doing great!"