

The world Wide Web is has become one of the best tools we have at our finger tips. With email, face book, twitter, blogs and Google it is becoming more and more part of our job as managers to be able to navigate the internet. Just imagine

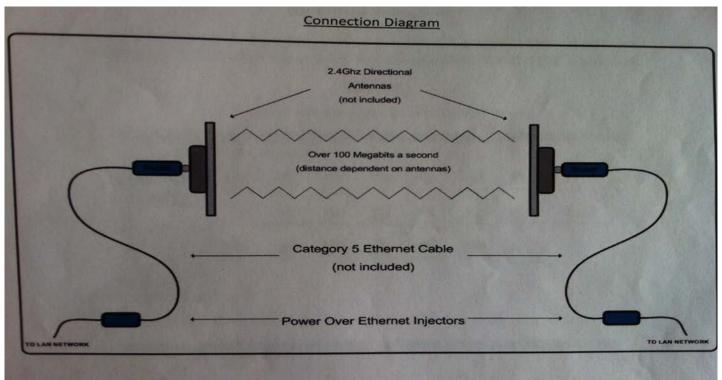
not having this unlimited supply of information at your disposal. That is what I was faced with my first two years as a Superintendent. We did not have internet in our Turf Care Center.



By Jamie Bezanson, Superintendent, Oneka Ridge Golf Course

Wireless internet (Wifi) was available in the clubhouse, which was 1500' from the Turf Care Center. After many trips to the clubhouse to research something or correspond with someone, I had had enough. I needed to find away to get internet to the maintenance facility. I looked into getting a separate phone line or high speed cable but the monthly costs were too high. My alternate solution was to find away to broadcast the wireless signal from the clubhouse to the Turf Care Center. All the routers I looked at in the big box stores did not have the range I was looking for.

I researched the internet (at the clubhouse), and found a company that sold directional antennas that could transmit the signal up to five miles. There was even one that could shoot the signal up to 18



miles.

The company's website is (<u>www.radiolabs.com</u>). With skepticism, I called the company to find out more. The Radiolabs staff reassured me that indeed the product would fit our needs. I purchased a Bullet compact 802.11N wireless bridging system with 50' cables and it was delivered in days.

The following day the equipment manager mounted the directional antennas to the Clubhouse and to the Turf Care Center. I configured the bullets to communicate to one another and plugged into the clubhouse router. I purchased an additional router for the Turf Care Center and in a matter of a couple hours we were surfing the World Wide Web.

This project brought huge savings to our business and will pay for itself in months. We accomplished this project for less than \$500.00 and have no additional monthly cost. By adding the internet to our tool box, the Oneka Ridge maintenance staff has enjoyed huge benefits. We increased our efficiency and improved moral by completing the work in house. With Hole Notes going digital recently, there is not a better time to do a project like this.

