

## So You Want To Build A New Green

BY Robert Shields, CGCS,  
Woodmont C.C., Rockville, MD

All Superintendents, at some time, will be called on to build a new putting green in a new location. Below is a step by step procedure that we used at Woodmont C.C. to build a USGA green that might help you get the job done. This will not answer all your questions but it perhaps will give you more self confidence and help you get the project started.

The best time to start is August 1, with a target date for seeding of September 15, or sooner. To be designated a USGA green, it must conform to certain particle sizes for gravel, sand and soil mixes. Sand and gravel aggregates are available locally and a local top dressing supplier will provide the proper top dressing for the 12 inch surface layer.

### New Green Building Procedure

Clear trees and brush from the green site.  
Paraquat to kill vegetation.  
Spread lime and fertilizer.  
Strip top soil and store.  
Cut sub-soil and shape.  
Bring in fill-soil to finish sub-grade.  
Drag and shape sub-grade to desired shape of finished green.  
Dig drain lines for green drains.

Place pea gravel in drain line trenches to a 2 inch depth.  
Install drain pipe.  
Dig trenches and install irrigation system.  
Cover drain pipe to sub-grade level with pea gravel.  
Drive 24 inch stakes at 10 feet square intervals over the surface.  
Make mark on stakes at 4 inches above ground.  
Spread pea gravel over entire surface to the 4 inch mark on the stakes.  
Level with rakes to the 4 inch marks.  
Lay 2" x 4"s to new area and repeat the above until the green is covered.  
Make a mark on stakes at 12 inches above the leveled sand.  
Cover the sand and gravel blankets with a prepared mix to the 12 inch mark.  
Install vertical strips of rigid plastic between green and collar.  
Fill green side of above strip with the prepared mix.  
Fill collar side of the strip with the best soil available.  
Rake green with a power rake and add mix where needed.  
Remove stakes and continue shaping.  
Bring surface to final grade, (matching the sub-grade).  
Add fertilizer and mix it with a power rake.  
Drag to the final grade again.  
Roll with a light weight lawn roller.  
Spray with a non-ionic wetting agent.

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### MARYLAND TURFGRASS COUNCIL INC. PRESENTS:

## MARYLAND TURFGRASS '80

**Date: Jan. 7, 8, 9, 1980**

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  - Maryland Cooperative Extension Service

#### FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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## Editorial

July's issue of your newsletter contained a short article on "Fast Greens." In the article the implication is made that if the greens are to be maintained fast, they will wind up being brown. We at the USGA Green Section do not believe this has to be the case. I have observed a number of excellent quality putting surfaces that are "fast," and the superintendent has achieved a good turf cover on the greens and a good, secure job.

The USGA Green Section is available to assist golf course superintendents and their clubs to achieve the best possible playing conditions their budgets and facilities will permit.

A number of items determine how good the playing conditions can be, and the most important is the willingness of the superintendent to consider new and/or different ideas and to change from practices that have been developed by himself, if they are not conducive to the best possible playing conditions. The USGA Green Section has the capability to assist in establishing the practices that are best for the game of golf. Pat O'Brien and myself are available to offer assistance whenever it is desired. We may be reached at 804-272-5553 or 7124 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

Sincerely,  
William G. Buchanan  
Mid-Atlantic Director

Once again the Annual Picnic was very successful. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my personal thanks to all of those who participated. A very special note of thanks to Paul and Jimmie Barefoot, Ben and Hilda Stagg, Dick and Marilyn Doyle, Ken Braun, Bill and Pat Emerson, Ron and Carol Hall, my wife Peggy, and our gracious host Bob Milligan, for their time and effort in making our picnic a success.

M. Larsen

## New Green (from page 3)

Run irrigation system until the water penetrates to 6-8 inches.

Allow time for surface to become almost dry.

Hand rake the entire green surface with wood rakes.

Broadcast Penncross Bent Grass seed at 1 pound per M. square feet.

Roll with a light hand roller.

Sod collar with the best blue grass sod available, or seed.

Keep the surface damp for the next 3 weeks.

Scratch the bare areas with a hand rake and reseed.

Mow any time grass is long enough to cut, using a sharp walking mower.

Follow good greens maintenance procedures.

Continue to mow as long as there is growth.

Open for play the following spring.



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