

# The First Tee Committee By GARY INGRAM, CGCS

Many do not know that one of GCSANC's standing committees is the the First Tee Committee. Our primary focus is to help superintendents set up relationships with local golf programs and schools and to spread the word that golf courses are good for the community and the environment. We are also trying to develop a database of other outreach organizations within the GCSANC membership to create a collaborative effort.

Metropolitan Golf Links has developed an outreach program called Oakland Turfgrass Educational Initiative (OTEI) for which GCSANC has donated funding. Their current programs are study tours to golf courses and other agronomic venues, internships, and career days. In the last couple years they have created a relationship with the local First Tee program that uses their facility as a learning center. Short 10-20 minute discussions can be as simple as ball mark repair, divot repair or cup changing. It is very important, fun, and rewarding to discuss golf course maintenance principles and the need for golfers to respect the venue for which play golf. If you are interested in getting more involved or if you already have an outreach program for which you facilitate please contact committee members Gary Ingram CGCS or Jay Neunsinger.



**1) Ball mark repair. 2 & 3) Divot Repair.  
4) Soil percolation. 5) Soil pH/salt testing  
and irrigation discussion.**