Pinehurst

The 1999 Grand Award Winner of the Professional Grounds Management Society for Hotel, Motel or Resort

Pinehurst is perhaps best known for the quality of its world-renowned golf courses but its resort grounds aren't too shabby either. Ever since Warren Manning planted more than 220,000 tree seedlings, shrubs and flowers along winding roads and paths over 100 years ago as part of founder James Walker Tufts' original design, the grounds have been a sight to behold.

In the last 12 years, new owner ClubCorp. Resorts has put great emphasis on landscape and facility renovations. With long, hot summers; cold winters; a course, sandy soil type which promotes high fluctuations in soil temperatures; and conditions ranging from full sun to full shade, maintenance is far from easy.

Clean edging around mulched beds and walks is required. One of the trademark landscape features at Pinehurst, the filigree, or shrub, garden requires artistic manicuring at least eight times per year to keep its topiary looking sharp. A three-color rotation of 120,000 annuals, 80,000 pansies and thousands of bulbs is used to keep the floral display fresh and alive. To meet such a high demand for annuals, all are grown in greenhouses on site.

Event management alone could keep the grounds maintenance crew busy. Ranging from small outdoor social events to big events like the 1999 U.S. Open Golf Championship, the crew has to deal with heavy traffic and the setup of tables, chairs, tents and container gardens.
Editors' note: Landscape Management is the exclusive sponsor of the Green Star Professional Grounds Management Awards for outstanding management of residential, commercial and institutional landscapes. The 2000 winners will be named at the annual meeting of the Professional Grounds Management Society in November. For more information on the 2000 Awards, contact PGMS at 120 Cockeysville Road, Suite 104, Hunt Valley, MD; 410/584-9754. Web-site: www.pgms.org

A member of the grounds staff hand waters shrubs at the front lawn of the resort club.