

The following was contributed by Oliver Miles.

"Putting the House In Order"

As we travel from one golf course to another indelible first impressions are usually formed in the visitor's mind by the condition around and within the maintenance headquarters.

It makes no difference whether it's a barn, a shed or the latest in maintenance buildings too many are a disgraceful shambles to the profession.

There should be no excuses for a tenure Superintendent taking a new job. The first order of business should be a recognition of the need for good housekeeping followed by **action**.

How can we expect to be recognized as professional turf managers unless we start immediately to correct this true or false impression by:

a. **Cleanup and organize** the office, shop, garage, storage rooms and general maintenance area while visualizing and implementing plans to utilize available space to the best advantage.

b. **Inventory** operational materials by counting and listing all fertilizers, chemicals, equipment, tools, golf accessories, etc.

c. **Specific Area Analysis**—measure and record the area of greens, tees, fairways, aprons, tee banks, rough, etc.

d. **Jobs Pending Outline**—walk the course and list the obvious maintenance improvement jobs for future assignment to the crew.

e. **Maintenance Scheduling**—develop a routine maintenance schedule on a seasonal, weekly, and daily basis.

f. **Management Review**—study past maintenance methods, techniques, and agronomic practices.

The information acquired in this preliminary and periodic procedure will be invaluable to you whether on a new job or an established one.

The cleanup and organizational phase will instill better working habits, improve the morale of the crew and minimize lost time in searching for hidden treasures.

By inventorying operational materials more efficient methods of purchasing and application can be utilized to overcome surpluses, also aid in promoting rectification of deficiencies.

The analysis of specific areas will tabulate facts so vital in; ordering fertilizers, chemicals, equipment, and establishing maintenance programs.

A jobs pending outline and maintenance schedule establishes priorities, defines the main-

tenance objectives, increases productivity and improves labor management skills.

In reviewing past management ideals, deficiencies can be pinpointed and revised for more proficient management.

Organization is the key to successful professional turf management.

Sincerely
"The Green Phantom"



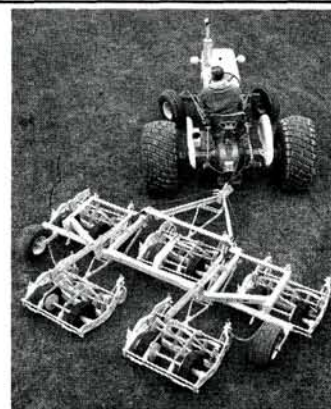
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