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## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TREE FOR YOUR GOLF COURSE

Trees can greatly enhance the value and appearance of your golf course, but only if they are chosen wisely, with an eye to both function and aesthetics. Trees can serve as windbreaks, camouflage unattractive views, alter the difficulty of a hole, provide shade to a weary golfer, or perhaps, enhance an undistinguished clubhouse entrance. In the best of situations, one tree can answer several of these needs.

The considerations you should make when choosing a tree fall into three categories; the intended site, whether the tree is appropriate for your area, and the tree's growth characteristics.

The tree's growing requirements must be compatible with conditions at its intended site. Soil drainage and pH are critical in determining whether a tree thrives and grows rapidly or just struggles along. Other conditions such as whether the tree will be subjected to deicing salts in the winter and how the projected planting will affect and be affected by its surroundings should also be carefully considered.

Find out whether the tree you want to plant is adapted to your area. Some trees simply will not survive hard winters and the number of pests and diseases which attack trees is enormous. The best way to determine which trees are likely to thrive is to observe what types are doing well in your area. Your local extension agent or reputable nurseryman can give you further guidance.

Growth characteristics which influence whether a tree is satisfactory include its shape and size, which determine whether a tree will answer the purpose you have purchased it for. For example, you should decide whether you want a tall column, a wide, spreading tree or small accent plant.

Large leaves and some fruits will require time consuming cleanup operations. Roots can interfere with turf, drains, and paths, but don't overlook tree roots as a means of controlling erosion. Be sure not to choose a tree that will eventually grow so large it will tangle in powerlines or droop over sidewalks or driveways.

The tree you select will be on your course for decades. Be sure the tree you choose will be a sound investment, not a liability.

L.I.G.C.S.A. - Supernews

## CARING FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

Every landscape needs a certain amount of maintenance to keep it attractive and healthy. According to Lori Wesley, Summer Extension Horticulturist in Cook County, your yard is full of living, growing material that need special care while they beautify your home. Watering, fertilizing, pruning and mulching are all important practices in caring for your landscape.

In the hot summer months your trees and shrubs may lack vigor because they are not getting enough water. During dry weather, a tree should be watered thoroughly about every ten days to make up for the water loss it experiences. Apply the water slowly so that it will soak into the soil.

Nutrients are another important factor to keep your landscape happy and healthy. A commercial fertilizer is the most economical means of adding nutrients to the soil. You can fertilize shrubs and trees anytime from early spring to mid-summer, and from mid-September to the last of November. A complete fertilizer in the ratio of 10-10-10 or 16-8-6 will usually produce good results.



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Pruning is a gardening practice that is often either overdone or completely ignored. By following a few general guidelines, your plants can have more and better blooms, a more desirable shape, and new and more vigorous growth. A rule of thumb for pruning flowering shrubs is to remove one-fourth to one-third of all older wood at ground level (old wood is usually larger and has darker colored bark than new wood). If you want to reduce the height of your shrubs you should use a selective "heading back" cut rather than shearing. Shearing generally will cause a dense growth to develop at the ends of the branches. This will shade the rest of the plant and is unhealthy for that plant. The cuts should be made individually, slightly above an active bud. This will allow a new shoot to develop from the bud. Summer flowering shrubs should be pruned when they are dormant (between December and March). You should prune spring flowering shrubs as soon as they have finished flowering. Shade trees need relatively little pruning. A good practice is to remove the dead or diseased wood and cut out any crowding or interfering branches.

Mulching is another gardening practice that is recommended for your landscape plants. Mulches help to control weeds, conserve moisture, control soil temperature and to protect the plants. Bark mulches can be applied three to four inches deep. Bark is low in nutrients and decomposes slowly, and is very attractive in your yard.

Taking a little extra care with some important gardening practices will keep your plants healthy and vigorous and will set the state to show off your home to its best advantage this summer and in the years to come.

James A. Fizzell, Sr. Extension Adviser  
Horticulture

### NIELSEN CONFIRMS NGF FIGURES CONCERNING GOLF'S GROWTH

NORTH PALM BEACH, FL -- The good news in the world of golf is that the A. C. Nielsen Company has just released figures showing that the number of golfers in America has grown by 9.2% since 1979 - to 17,367,000.

Those figures confirm information released earlier by the National Golf Foundation, which showed that as of Jan. 1, 1982, there were 17,100,000 golfers in the United States - or 7.6% more golfers than in 1979.

The National Golf Foundation, which is recognized as the research center of golf, says that early indications are that golf play in the first half of 1982 will also show an increase.

YEAR	A.C. NIELSEN GOLFERS	NGF
1976	16,568,000	16,000,000
1979	15,897,000	15,900,000
1982	17,367,000	17,100,000

A few humorous lines overhead at a recent retirement luncheon:

#### You know you're growing old when:

- You get winded playing chess.
- You sing your teeth into a steak and they stay there.
- You're 17 around the neck, 42 around the waist and 96 around the golf course.
- Your favorite part of the newspaper is 25 years ago today.
- You join a health club and don't go.
- Your children begin to look middle aged.
- Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D.
- Your pacemaker makes the garage door open up when you watch a pretty girl go by.

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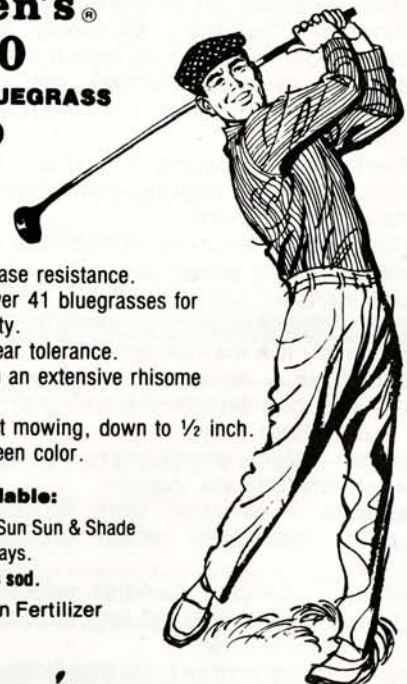
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