

(On the Waterfront continued)

technicians who have been given this advice have already reported finding poor connections, and think there was a correlation between timers sent back for repair last year and the potential of poor grounds at the locations of those timers. This is a no cost (other than the time involved in performing this test) expenditure that could save hundreds of dollars in repairs, reduce immeasurably the aggravation to you and your irrigation staff in operating your system, and improve the playability and appearance of the golf course. Perform the identical procedure at the central controller location to insure its optimum safety. An explanation of how these connections could loosen up is not important now — just tighten the connections.

Next month: Why should grounding be done?



Chick Mayronne, Green Chairman and Pete Janik (right) Superintendent of Chicago Heights C.C.

## Oak Wilt

### DON'T PRUNE OAKS


Oaks should not be pruned from now through the summer due to the potential of oak wilt infection. The best time for pruning oaks would be late fall or winter. Fresh wounds on oaks may invite sap feeding beetles, which could carry the oak wilt fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum* spores from infected trees. There is also the potential that squirrels could carry the oak wilt fungus.

In the event wounds are made on oaks, this is one instance where treating the wounds is suggested. This is to prevent insects from coming in contact with new wounds. Trim any jagged wood to make a good, clean cut. Then treat with orange shellac. Once this is dry, follow with a asphalt-base tree paint.

Oak wilt is a serious disease of oak, very similar to Dutch elm disease. The oak wilt fungus will clog water-conducting vessels in the sapwood. As the supply of water to the canopy of the tree is reduced, the tree will wilt and die. Watch for wilting in the UPPER portion of the tree, progressing downward, over the next several weeks. Leaves typically turn pale bronze, eventually dropping from the tree. Red/black oaks (pointed leaf tips) will die quickly, while white/bur oaks may recover and appear "stagheaded".

Oak wilt may often be confused with other problems. Examine the sapwood of fresh wilting branches for vascular streaking. Laboratory culturing from freshly wilted branch samples can confirm oak wilt; the University of Illinois Plant Clinic is available for a nominal fee, contact the closest Extension Office for details on how to submit a sample.

Credit: CES Newsletter



## BURDETT'S, INC.

**2835 South State Street  
Lower Level  
Post Office Box 283  
Lockport, IL 60441-0283  
815-740-5656  
fax# 815-723-4485**

## EarthCare Technologies Corporation

*Boring, Boring, Boring...*

### FLOYD-MCKAY Deep Drill Aerification

Rich Wagner

2702 Turnberry Road St. Charles, IL 60174  
(708)513-0297 FAX (708)513-0298

*When It Comes to Turf Management ...*

NOBODY KNOWS  
LIKE YOUR  
WILBUR-ELLIS PRO

**26019 FLO**



**NOW AVAILABLE IN  
15 GALLON RETURNABLES**

- No Triple Rinsing
- No Container Disposal
- Environmentally Correct

*Your one-stop shop for all turf management needs. Ask about our complete line of chemicals, fertilizers and seed.*

*Wilbur-Ellis...dedicated to quality, customer service and environmental stewardship.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
Chicago Land 800/747-7400  
or Central Illinois 800/892-4033



LET'S TO GO WITH IT

\*... registered or applied for Wilbur-Ellis Company - 1993 WECO