

MIDWEST BREEZES

Scott Vincent, *Skokie Country Club*



Skokie Country Club, Don Cross

Don Cross and his staff have developed a unique method for bunker edging, which they call Rip Edging, using wide tooth pitch-forks to actually rip the overgrown perimeter fescue turf away from the original soil edge.

The manual use of the forks allows the crew to 'feel' the actual sand/soil interface. This practice replaces mechanical edging and helps maintain the irregularity of the bunker shapes - a characteristic implemented during Skokie's restoration in 2000.

Some of the benefits of this practice are:

- Bunker life extended
- Don't grow out of shape or grow too big from over aggressive mechanical edging
- Helps prevent/eliminate unplayable lies on edges
- Provides a very unique and original look to bunkers
- Good opportunity to check sand depths and make adjustments while bunker is already Ground Under Repair (GUR). **-OC**



A Skokie CC staff member uses the pitch fork to feel the sand soil interface of the bunker.



A green side bunker at Skokie Country Club on the left before "Rip Edging", a process that keeps the bunkers in renovated shape as seen on the right.