

# Preventative Maintenance of your Water Supply

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PHOTO CREDITS: LUKE CELLA

When Luke called in March requesting an article for *On Course*, he thought it would be best for the July issue, since we would then be in the heart of the summer. What better timing for a water supply company topic, right?

This made me think about the crazy irrigation season last year. No sooner had we come back from the annual convention trek in early March, 2012, than the golf course maintenance season started in earnest. So, I thought a good topic for *On Course* could be a diary of the first phase of the 2013 season, and how this compared to last year. As it turns out, my thought remained a thought until mid-May, when I realized we were fast approaching the June 1 publisher's (Luke!) deadline.

This procrastination panic hit me as I was driving to Beverly Country Club for the ITF annual day—a wonderful golf day, barely 60°, but certainly a highlight for the season so far. Our hard working MAGCS turf grass experts have been experiencing the opposite weather conditions this year as in 2012. Presumably everyone made it through last year, so your water supply was adequate for your needs. Does anyone wonder how you did make it? Do you know the present condition of your wells, well pumps, and irrigation pumps? If the answer to any of these questions is

no, or if you are not sure, we can offer some assistance, even at the mid-season.

Preventative maintenance on your well(s), well pumps, irrigation pumps, and motors is critical for ensuring adequate irrigation of your turf grass. It's perhaps too late to perform some of the suggested procedures, but during a down time (hopefully short), there will be some measures you can take to ensure a good working irrigation system. The recommended preventative maintenance we will cover pertains to your irrigation pumping station, no matter what type of pump(s) you utilize. If you utilize a well(s) for your water supply, there are ways to monitor your well(s) performance at the same time. These are simple tasks, so maybe July isn't a bad time to start. You can fully implement a Preventative Maintenance plan for next season and beyond.

The typical irrigation pumping station has vertical turbine lineshaft pumping equipment, with or without submersible jockey



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“Also, listen to the pump in operation to detect whether a noise and/or vibration is starting that could lead to serious problems either with the motor and/or pumping assembly.”

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