

on 01/2020

THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

COURSE

RESIDENT GEESE

A USE FOR OLD BUNKER SAND

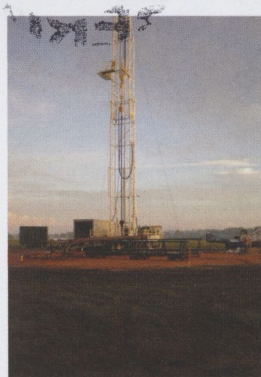
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FEATURE

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Luke Cella

front cover

The newly elected Midwest Board. Front Row: Mike Paciga, Dan Stahl, Brian Stout, Justin Kirtland, Conrad Pannkuk. Back Row: Todd Schmitz, Rusty Stachlewitz, Josh Cull. Not Pictured: Nate Bolhous, Craig Kight, Mark Kosbab and Wes Danielwicz



Don't know what to do with old bunker sand? Why not use it to create a native area that likes it dry? Check out Dave Ward's how to guide to get this done. Page 4.

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2020 UPCOMING MIDWEST EVENTS

1/15/20 Midwest January Meeting and Wee One Fundraiser

01/29/20 Midwest Hospitality Reception: Tin Roof, Orlando

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Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) exists to promote professionalism and integrity, to provide networking, education and career enhancement opportunities to all members who facilitate the growth and enjoyment of golf.

On Course is published monthly with original member content. For advertising opportunities please call 630-685-2420.

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Brian Stout

Change Happens


Happy New Year! I hope everyone was able to have some rest during the holidays even with temperatures reaching into 60's. First and foremost let me say that it is an honor and privilege to be the MAGCS 82nd president.

I remember when I first came to Chicago in 2006 hired as an assistant for Ron McCarthy at Edgewood Valley Country Club. I didn't know anything about MAGCS or much about associations in general. 14 years later here I am, President. Time sure flies. Think of the changes in your life since 2006, whether they are family, career, or even attitude; man, that seems ages ago. I was single with only myself to care about, now I am happily married and my wife and I have three amazing boys! MAGCS has also gone through changes as well. Some seem simple as improving the website or updating the design and layout of On Course. Others are more major like adding new golf events, streamlining our partnership programs, supporting the We Are Golf campaign, and the adoption and use of social media to inform our members. I can't wait to see the next changes in years to come.

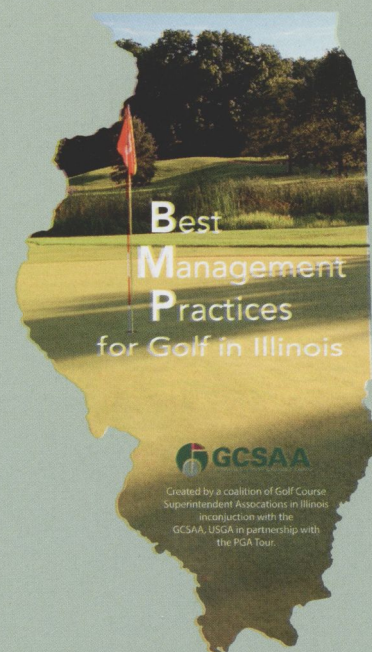
The published BMPs for Illinois are now the template for your operation...

the process moving forward. Others who contributed to the project were Don Altman, Dan Dinelli, CGCS, Matt Dutkiewicz, Mark Kosbab, John Kueper, Stephen Leach, Alex Stuedemann, and Jeff Syzmonik. The project started in early 2018 and we're happy to report this phase is over. Now the goal is to work toward individual golf course adoption. The published BMPs for Illinois are now the template for your operation and can be further dialed to your specific property. Individual course adoption will only help our industry as we become more and more targeted by naysayers in the future. The Midwest will be there to help you along the way. Please look for events and information to help your course adopt these measures and alleviate the stigma that golf courses and superintendent's programs are not environmentally sound.

As always if you have any questions or concerns regarding MAGCS, or just want to give us praise, please feel free to reach out to any board member, Luke, or myself.

I am looking forward to a successful 2020, maybe we can have some "normal" weather. I would take actually having a spring for once. I can't wait to see you out there! 

One of our most recent accomplishments is that our BMPs for Golf Maintenance in Illinois are published. It was a collaborative effort with all the golf groups in Illinois working to get this accomplished. MAGCS led the way as our Luke Cella chaired the effort and kept



A Use for Old Bunker Sand

Dave Ward, Coyote Run Golf Course

PHOTO CREDITS: DAVE WARD

With golfers demanding perfect playing conditions throughout the entire course, even bunkers, it is rare that a golf facility has not embarked on some sort of bunker renovation project, whether large or small.

Bunker conditions that were perfectly acceptable twenty years ago, would bring harsh criticism today. A variety of projects may be initiated to bring bunkers up to today's standards, including total renovation, relocation, drainage improvements, recontouring bunker banks and the installation of liners, capillary concrete, or the "Better Billy Bunker" system. Most projects entail replacing the old sand. This can be either an inconvenience or an opportunity.

When the sand is replaced, options for the disposal of the old sand are limited. One expensive solution is hauling and disposal off site. If the renovation project involves the use of large excavation equipment, the sand can be buried in the new bunker mounding or used to form berms in some other area of the course. Some courses have dump-areas that can accommodate large volumes of waste materials. One potential, environmentally friendly, solution is stockpiling the sand in out-of-play areas and seeding the sand with dry prairie vegetation. Establishing prairie vegetation increases biological diversity and creates habitat and food for native animals and insects.

Coyote Run golf Course was constructed in 2004 and opened in 2005. By the end 2006, the bunkers had stopped draining. A large portion of the sand, (that had met construction specifications but turned out to be too fine), had blown away by



Seeding the sand area.

the end of the first winter. In the fall of 2007, an "in-house" bunker reconstruction project was initiated with the goal of renovating all fifty-two bunkers over a ten-year period. The project included removing the old sand, adding to and improving existing drainage, and installation of geo-textile liners followed by new sand. During the first two thirds of the project, sand removed from the bunkers was relocated to un-renovated bunkers in need of sand. Towards the end of the project, it no longer made sense to add sand to bunkers scheduled for renovation, only to remove it in a year or two. We hit upon an economical solution to the disposal problem that also fit in with Coyote Run's native habitat/environmental initiative: stockpiling the sand in out-of-play, unmowed fescue rough areas and planting the sand with seed selected for dry or sand prairies.

We created four separate sand prairie plantings in the last four years of the project. The process we used is similar to any other dormant-seeding project that might be encountered on a golf course. -In late November, the stockpiled sand was graded into subtle mounds. Prairie seed, (Butterfly Prairie for Dry and Sandy Soils from Prairie Nursery in Wisconsin), was mixed with sand and hand-spread over the planting area. The seed mixture then was "dimpled-in" with bunker rake tires and the area then covered with straw erosion con-



Mixing prairie seed with sand.



Covering the area with a straw mat.

often germinate over a period of two to three years. Some will appear the first year, while others will come up in the second or even third year after the initial planting. Although a few plants might flower the first or second year, most perennial prairie flowers and grasses will not flower until their third or fourth full growing season.

Now, five years after planting, the first sand prairie has mature vegetation, a diverse plant mix, and pleasing aesthetics. The last three plantings are in various stages of progression, on their way to becoming a beautiful part of Coyote Run's native habitat. The sand prairie areas have attracted butterflies, bees, cicada killer wasps, and goldfinches, which have made them their home or use them for sustenance. Even golfers, notorious for not seeing anything outside the field of play, notice and compliment the course on the ever-changing flowers on the sand prairie areas and the wildlife that now grace them. @

trol blankets. When conditions were dry while the seed was germinating, the planted areas were irrigated. By the end of June, most of the seed had germinated, reducing the need for irrigation.



Sand prairie at Coyote Run Golf Course.

Maintenance of the plantings is similar to any other new prairie planting, though with less weed problems because the sand is relatively free of weed seed. During the first year, mow the area at least three times at a height of 4" to 6" to mow off any weed flowers and to allow sunlight to reach the sand, aiding the germination of the prairie seed. In order not to disturb the seedbed, avoid pulling weeds.

In the second year, mow prairie to a height of 10" when weeds are in flower but before they set seed. Prairie seeds will



Cicada killer wasps like the sand prairies we installed.

The Butterfly Prairie for Dry Sandy Soils Mix

Wildflowers: Lavender Hyssop, Leadplant, Butterflyweed, Sky Blue Aster, Smooth Aster, White Aster, Lanceleaf Coreopsis, Purple Prairie Clover, Pale Purple Coneflower, Rough Blazingstar, Lupine, Bergamot, Dotted Mint, Beardtongue, Yellow Coneflower, Black Eyed Susan, Wild Petunia, Stiff Goldenrod, Showy Goldenrod, Hoary Vervain

Grasses: Sideoats Grama, Canada Wild Rye, Junegrass, Little Bluestem, Prairie Dropseed

Seeding Specifications and Instructions

Light: Full Sun

Soil: Sand, Loam

Moisture: Dry

Benefits: Pollinators, Butterflies

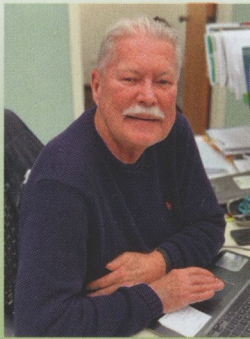
Height: 2'-5'

Per Acre: 10 Lbs; 1000SqFt: 1/4 Lb

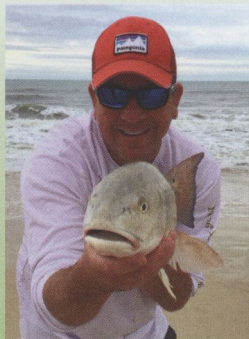
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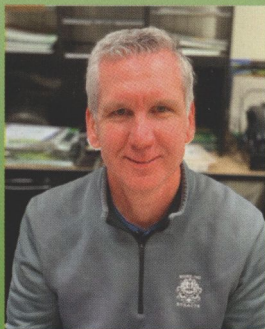
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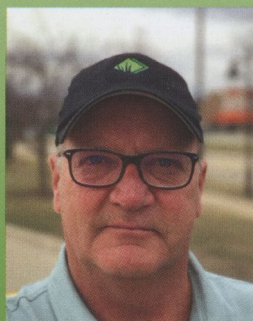
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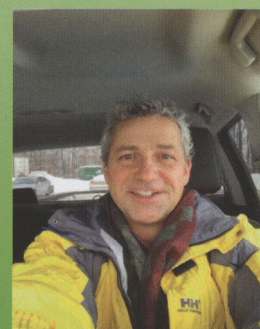
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THE BullSheet



JAN 20

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 15 – 11th Annual Midwest Meeting/Wee One Fundraiser at Seven Bridges Golf Club, Don and Dave still hosts.

January 25-27 – The GCSAA Golf Championships presented in partnership with the Toro Company in Orlando, FL.

January 25-30 – Golf Industry Show in Orlando, FL.

January 29 – Midwest Hospitality Room from 7-11 PM at the Tin Roof Orlando.

You are cordially invited to attend:

MIDWEST HOSPITALITY RECEPTION

January 29, 2020

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Orlando, Florida



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Happy New Year, and a MAGCS-worthy welcome to our Happy New Members who've recently taken the secret oath:

Jeff Cameron, White Eagle Golf Club, Class A
David Lenox, Itasca Country Club, Class DT
Jon Muchow, Bryn Mawr Country Club, Class C
Zach Nicoludis, USGA, Class H

Wow! It's been a whirlwind start to the offseason, judging by all the movement in the ranks. Here's a quick update on the recent upheaval:

- **Nate Bolhous**, former superintendent at Naperville Country Club has accepted the superintendent's position at Briarwood Country Club in Deerfield, IL.
- **Jeff Cameron**, formerly at River Heights Golf Course in DeKalb is the new superintendent at White Eagle Golf Club in Naperville, IL.
- **Craig Smith**, former assistant superintendent at Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, IL is keeping his old address as its new superintendent.
- **Peter Schmidt**, formerly the superintendent at The Glen Club is a new superintendent at Medinah Country Club.

And it looks as though there will be another superintendent's job to fill as of the 24th of this month—Dave Fisher, after 38 years at Park Hills Golf Course in Freeport, IL, is hanging up his boots and calling it a career. Now it's all about doing the fun stuff—Dave says he and his wife plan to travel the country, visiting as many national parks as they can. Congratulations to a really good guy who did it right!



Dave Fisher rides off into the sunset.

Our condolences go out to Doug Davis of Flagg Creek Golf Course on the passing of his father Larry on December 12th. Larry was 83 years old, and an avid golfer.

J.W. Turf has announced that it is the new dealer for AQUA-AID Solutions, whose Cultural Solutions line includes Imants equipment and Vredo seeders.

Congratulations to **Todd Schmitz** and the Phillips Park Golf Course on being named Best Golf Course in Aurora in Shaw Media's inaugural Best of the Fox Awards. The awards, voted on by Shaw Media



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"It was like playing on carpet."



"The course is in amazing shape."



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readers, are given to businesses and venues throughout the Fox River Valley communities, and (I grudgingly point out) both Orchard Valley Golf Course and Aurora Country Club were named "One of the Best" golf courses in Aurora. Nice work Todd!



Director of Golf Jeff Schmid with Todd Schmitz

OK, why not? Banning pre-shredded cheese would make America grate again.

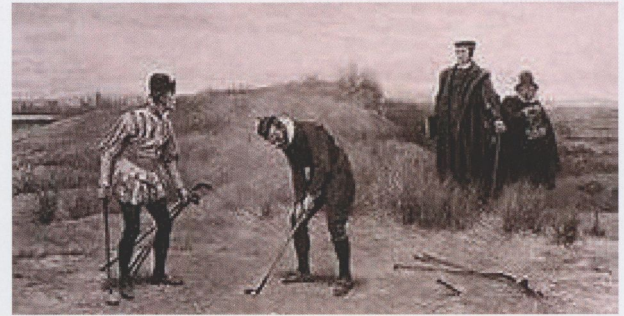
Jerry Rich of Rich Harvest Farms was recently honored with the Golf Coaches Association of America's Lifetime Achievement Award at their convention in Las Vegas. Mr. Rich has always been a strong supporter of golf and golf course super-intendents (just ask Jeff Vercautren), and is a very deserving recipient of this honor. Congratulations!

Ever wonder what happened to Jake Vollbeer, our one-time Commercial Representative from Burris Equipment Company? Yeah, me neither, but I ran across this a while back and thought I'd share. Jake has been working with ECHO Robotics of Lake Zurich, IL which has recently introduced its all-new RP-1200 range picker to work in tandem with its TM-2000 robotic mower, making practice range maintenance completely autonomous. And NEITHER machine will drive over your target flags while they are mowing and picking! Gonna miss that picker driver kid...

And in another "Where are They Now," there has been a Curtis Tyrrell sighting! Curtis, who left Medinah Country Club for the palm trees and beaches of Florida in early 2018 has moved west to the land of the saguaro and prickly pear, where he has been named Director of Golf at Desert Highlands in Scottsdale, AZ.

January's "Clavin-ism:" Did you know—it's a little-known fact—that there has been a clash between golf and church when it comes to playing on Sundays dating back to 1457? There has! In that year, English King James II put forth an edict forbidding golf on Sundays as a way to get more men to practice their archery skills, which would be needed in the time of war. Probably no work of art is more famous on the subject than J.C. Dollman's "The Sabbath Breakers" painted in

1896. This clash continued into the early 1900's here in the United States, where even miniature golf was not permitted on Sundays.



Looks like fun - to watch!

and at times each other? Glad you asked—Scott was doing recon for next year, when Cantigny Park in Wheaton, where Scott is Director of Horticulture, will host the 2020 Cyclocross Nationals and the more than 1,800 athletes who will compete. If you've ever wondered what organized chaos looks like, get yourself to Cantigny next December 8th through the 13th and watch.

What keeps Scott Witte busy at Cantigny when he's not tending to his bee hives? Well, since you asked, last month he spent a few days in Lakewood, Washington, checking out the 2019 USA Cycling Cyclocross Nationals. Why did he make that long trip to watch crazy people on bicycles ride up and down over mud hills, rocks,



Since we're talking about the bee guy, there is an excellent opportunity to promote and support honeybees and other pollinators through the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation. The organization has released a new Pollinator Meadows Pilot Grant program that is intended to support the conversion of turfgrass to pollinator habitat in public spaces (such as golf courses). The program will reimburse the conversion projects up to \$20,000 or by 50%, whichever is less, of the costs related to the design, installation, and first year of care. It requires a minimum of 2 acres to be converted, which can be split between two separate sites on the same property. Visit www.illinoiscleanenergy.org for details.

And if you're not convinced that planting pollinator habitat on your golf course is a good idea, the University of Florida begs to differ. A new study from U of F/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences shows that planting wildflowers on golf

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1LGG8011 08/18

courses not only benefits pollinating insects but also saves time and resources in the form of pest management. By attracting insects that attack common golf course pests, these habitats lessen the need for pesticides, while also needing no water, fertilizer or mowing.

Q: What do they call embalming fluid at **Luke Strojny's** course?

A: The Preservative at Oak Meadows.

A tad belated, but Happy 80th Birthday to **Wally Fuchs**! Wally celebrated the big day with a collection of misfits and ne'er-do-wells the likes of which hasn't been assembled since Kool hooked up with The Gang.



Wally with Andy Dauksas, brother Keith Fuchs, Brian Winkel, Keith Krause and Bobby Kerr.

(photo quiz) (and yes, a complete rip-off of GCM's monthly teaser):

Turfgrass area: Parking lot.

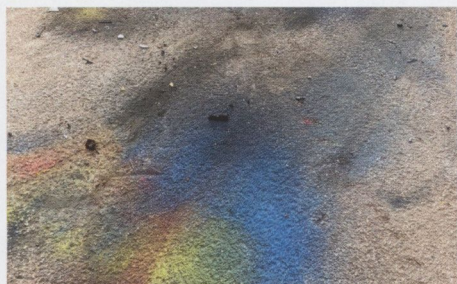
Location: Aurora, IL.

Turfgrass variety: Asphalt.

PROBLEM (answer on page 19)

If you

are one of



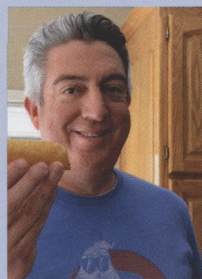
Rainbow-colored staining on pavement.

those golfers who seems to dial it up a notch on par threes, throwing darts at the bullseye and jarring multiple aces en route to your 97's and 103's (Jan Jarvis?), your amateur status is safe. No longer will you have to say no to that \$10,000 prize or that sexy new SUV when you plunk your tee shot in the hole at that Monday outing, because effective January 1, the USGA and R&A have done away with the limit to prizes an amateur can win when making a hole-in-one. So

go ahead, skank your driver 5 feet off the ground with your 100-yard-left-to-right fade to that 185-yard pin and roll it in! And don't forget to buy the drinks in the 19th Hole—that, too is in the rule book.

Seth Jones is the brilliant and talented Editor-in-Chief and Associate Publisher of Golfdom magazine. Harold Ramis played Egon Spengler in Ghostbusters, a brilliant and talented scientist. They both share a certain "thing" for Twinkies. Could they be one and the same?

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Seth Jones or Harold Ramis?
Both like the twinkie and the pen.

Golf witticism of the month (from The Old Farmer's Almanac):
"If you can't break 85 you have no business on a golf course. If you can break 85 you probably have no business."

Golf magazine has done it again—they've released their much-anticipated "100 Top Courses in the World" list—something they've been doing since 1985—for 2020/2021, and on this list are a few that are run by MAGCS members. At #4 is Shinnecock Hills in Southampton, NY (Jon Jennings); #19 is Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, IL (Craig Smith); and #45—up 12 places from the previous list—is Shoreacres in Lake Bluff, IL (Brian Chasensky). Still no Aurora.

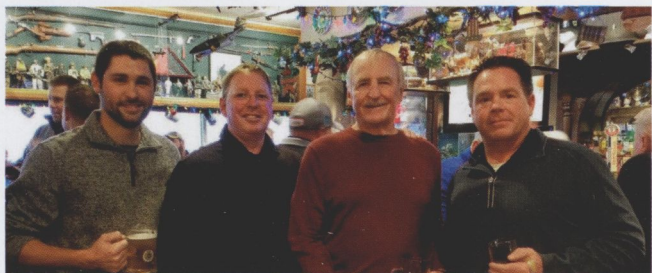
This just in: RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) has appointed Megan Provost as its new president. Ms. Provost holds a BS in Agribusiness and an MS in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University, and law degree from The George Washington University Law School, and was most recently interim co-CEO of the Farm Foundation.

You've been an active bunch in the media these days! MAGCS members have been all over electronic and print media, starting with North Shore CC's **Dan Dinelli**, CGCS appearing in TurfNet's latest podcast Frankly Speaking with Dr. Frank Rossi. Then, in November's Golf Course Industry magazine, retired superintendent **Mike Bavier** and his book (which he co-wrote with Gordon Witteveen) "Practical Golf

Course Maintenance: The Magic of Greenkeeping, 3rd Edition" were featured in Lee Carr's article titled, "Do You Want to be an Author (while still holding down your day job)?" And most recently, in December's Club & Resort Business, Betsy Gilliland wrote an article on "Tree Management Is a Critical Part of a Superintendent's Job," highlighted by **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS MG**, and Olympia Fields CC's winter tree maintenance program, which entails a whopping 5,000 trees to be reckoned with.

Thanks to everyone who had a hand in making last month's traditional Holiday Parties another great success. It's always fun to get together with friends old and new and cheer in the holidays together.

SOUTHSIDE



WESTSIDE



The 67th Midwest Turf Clinic is in the books, and it was another in the long run of very good educational and networking opportunities presented by your Education Committee. The morning began with a new (and hopefully to be continued) twist, with the Invocation being a Tribute to America featuring the velvety voices of Jan Jarvis, Rusty Stachlewitz,

Madison Bolt, Josh Pritchett, and Vince Wallace. Thanks to Jan for putting that together—it was truly inspirational. The Annual Meeting followed, and then the education began with a really impressive lineup of speakers including Kyung-min Han, Steve Keating and Darin Bevard. In what may go down as the wisest presidential act Kirtland ever pulled off, the post-lunch session included FREE BEER! Not that it was needed to keep things interesting, as the "8 For 10" rapid fire session of 8 guys speaking for 10 minutes (Marco not so much) on various topics was a true highlight. Thanks to **Steve Cook, CGCS MG** and Medinah, to our presenters and moderators, to the MAGCS Education Committee, and to our generous sponsors for a wonderful day. **Advanced Turf Solutions, Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burris Equipment Company, Great Lakes Turf, LLC, H & E Sod Nursery, JW Turf, Inc., Leibold Irrigation, Inc., LohmannQuitno Golf Course Architects, NuFarm, Pendelton Turf Supply, Reinders, Inc., SiteOne Golf, Syngenta, and Wadsworth Golf Course Construction Company.**



Virgil Range is honored as MAGCS Match Play Champion by Justin Kirtland and Joel Purpur wins the Ray Gerber Editorial Award.



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The Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Luke Cella, MAGCS

PHOTO CREDITS:LUKE CELLA

You've often heard that Canada Geese are protected by Federal law, and they are. They are protected with more than a thousand other species of birds who migrate between countries each year.

The geese that can be a menace to many golf courses, parklands, airports, schools, campuses, residential areas and other recreational sites, we know don't necessarily migrate anywhere but are still protected by the law. The problem is the resident geese do interact and overlap during the fall and winter months with the ones that do migrate.

How did they get to be such a problem?

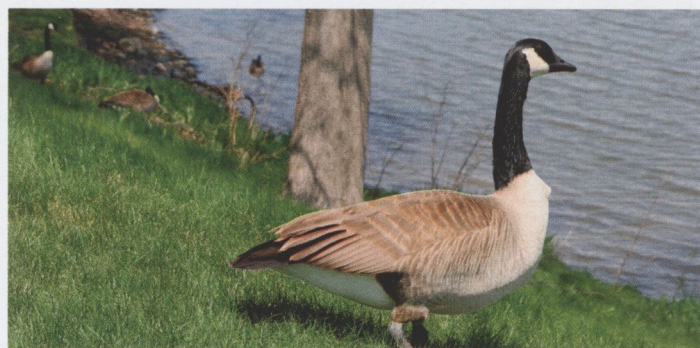
There are several facts that biologists reason: As a group Canada geese are long-lived with relatively good survival rates and low reproductive rates but the resident Canada geese have the highest reproductive rates and the highest survival rates, they also begin to nest at a younger age, have higher clutch counts, and greater nest success and gosling survival. The resident goose population reproduce in temperate environments, unlike the migrants who breed in the arctic and subarctic climates where weather can wipe out whole annual productions. Additionally, the breeding season is extended for the resident geese so if there is nest or weather trouble, often there is time to re-nest. The resident geese are not expending energy on long distant migrations, and in most areas are not exposed to natural predators.

How did they get to be protected under the Act?

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has been managing and enforcing the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) for over a hundred years, the original law was passed in 1918. The MBTA protects birds from the actions of humans in the United States and as it is a Treaty – with foreign countries notably, Canada (1918 and amended in 1999), Mexico (1936 and amended in 1972 and 1999), Japan (1972 and amended in 1999) and the Soviet Union (1978). The US shares many birds (as they migrate) with these countries and the law was codified with them to protect the birds no matter they are at any given time.

Specific provisions of the MBTA established the prohibition to

"pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms of this Convention . . . for the protection of migratory birds . . . or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird." The MBTA, which implements the above-mentioned treaties, provides that, subject to and to carry out the purposes of the treaties, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to determine when, to what extent, and by what means it is compat-



They're only Canadian in name. Most of these resident geese don't ever migrate and probably don't even know where Canada is.

ible with the conventions to allow hunting, killing, and other forms of taking of migratory birds, their nests, and eggs. The Act requires the Secretary to implement a determination by adopting regulations permitting and governing those activities.

Canada geese are Federally protected by the Act by reason of the fact that they are listed as migratory birds in all four treaties. Because Canada geese are covered by all four treaties. ...continued on page 16.

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ties, regulations must meet the requirements of the most restrictive of the four. For Canada geese, this is the treaty with Canada. Recognizing the problems with Canada geese that don't migrate the Fish and Wildlife Service completed a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (2002) on resident Canada goose management. It was the start of a final rule that when into effect on September 11, 2006 that set forth regulations authorizing State wildlife agencies, private landowners, and airports to conduct (or allow) indirect and/or indirect population control management activities on resident Canada goose



Geese choose nesting sites where the nests are naturally protected from predators making it a little more difficult for land owners to disrupt this annual cycle.

populations.

What does it mean in Illinois?

Canada geese, their nests, and eggs are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 703-711) and by Illinois State Law (520 ILCS 5/2.1). The combination of Federal and State laws prohibit the taking (i.e., capturing and/or killing) of Canada geese in Illinois outside of the legal hunting seasons. It is currently Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) policy not to permit the capture and relocation of Canada geese to another site within Illinois. State permits can be obtained to destroy nests and eggs.

The State of Illinois recommends the use of an IPM approach when dealing with conflicts with Canada geese. They actually give the example of an IPM approach to reduce goose damage at a golf course might include using border collies to harass the birds loafing and grazing on the greens and fairways, installing an overhead grid system on the water hazards to keep the geese off the water, using a repellent to prevent feeding on the grass, increasing the shore grade along the water hazards to make them unsuitable for the geese, and obtaining a permit to destroy the eggs and nests of Canada geese found on the course.

This example demonstrates the employment of the five basic strategies of management:

- Harassment- includes the use of pyrotechnics (screamers and bangers), propane cannons, dogs, lasers, plastic scare devices.
- Exclusion -installing an overhead grid system, fencing, bird balls, habitat modification including: steepen banks, planting vegetative barriers,



Many courses use Border Collies or other dogs (that's why there are so many dog calendars) to harass the geese on golf courses.

- Repellents- products like ReJeX-it and GooseChase made from an extract of concord grapes)
- Habitat alteration
- Lethal management – Illinois does not employ any largescale harvesting programs only hunting during the legal hunting season and location(s).

One option that is available to land managers in Illinois (a free permit must be attained through the IDNR) is to prevent goose eggs from hatching through nest and egg destruction. Prior to implementing goose nest management activities, several nonlethal techniques should be attempted to prevent the geese from nesting in the area. This will help reduce the number of nests which need to be managed. If the geese are successful at nesting and you wish to destroy the nest and eggs, proper permits from the IDNR must be obtained. You should have all nests identified prior to requesting your permit as the number of nests to be destroyed will be needed. Locating nests may not be easy as geese frequently hide their nest on islands, in ornamental vegetation, along shorelines, and even on roof-tops.

As if you didn't know...that Canada geese tenaciously defend their nests. A second person or dog is recommended to help fend off goose attacks while the eggs are handled and managed.

Don't forget to apply for your permits – it can be started as soon as the new year rolls around. One more thing to do before the grass turns green. Our local office to contact is:

IDNR
Urban Waterfowl Program Manager- (Roy Domazlicky)
2050 W. Stearns Road
Bartlett, IL 60103
847-608-3100

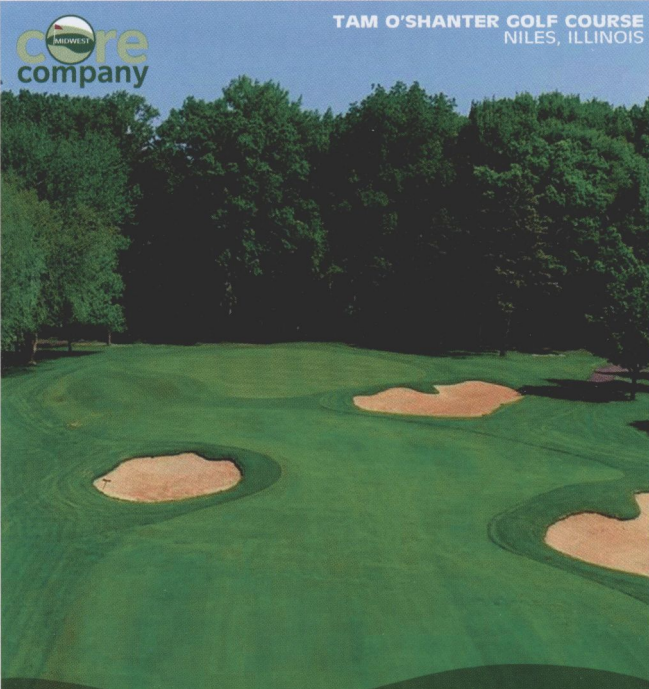
Information in this article came from the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services website.



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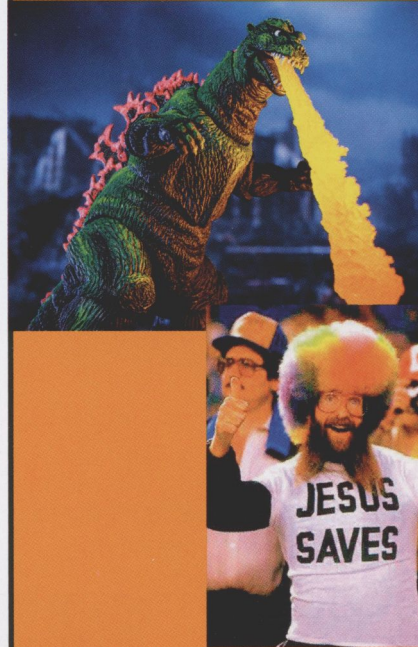
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What a Turf Clinic

Luke Cella, MAGCS

Hats off to the Education Committee led by Mark Kosbab, John Ekstrom and Josh Cull for putting together a memorable day of education for the members of the Midwest. And congratulations to our newest Board members Dan Stahl and Craig Kight, we all appreciated your generosity and willingness to serve the membership in the coming years.

Ed Braunsky kicked off the day with a heart-driven Invocation followed by a Tribute to America led by members Jan Jarvis and Rusty Stachlewitz. The video is floating somewhere around youtube if you search for it, MAGCS 2019 Tribute to America, it should populate your screen. We jumped right into the education starting with Kyung Min and his update on Poa Cure. It's looking like 2020 could be the year...

Steve Keating, the Senior Manager of Toro's Leadership and Development team followed with a great talk entitled the Five Levels of Leadership. He asked whether people follow you because they have to or if they want to? If your staff members never want to take on any extra work, responsibility and can't wait to punch out at the end of the day, chances are – they follow you because you're their boss, not a leader. Steve's talk was a great eye opener for some of the younger people in the audience and a great refresher for some of our seasoned superintendents and partners.

Darin Bevard the Senior Director of the USGA Championships made a few last minute changes to his talk (we may have made up the title of his talk) as he spoke about putting greens and the impact sand and water has on the firmness of the surface. As the USGA regulates everything at each one of their events, firmness has become another measurement to keep surfaces consistent and a new data point to influence maintenance procedures.

Congratulations are in order to Joel Purpur, CGCS who won our Ray Gerber Editorial Award for his article about the new reverse osmosis system that was installed at Park Ridge Country Club. Shane Conroy gave an update from the Chapter Delegates meeting (John Ekstrom had a family emergency –where everyone ended up ok) which we will be covering in an upcoming article and John will follow up at the January Meeting at Seven Bridges. Virgil Range was crowned the 2019 MAGCS Match Play Champion, ending the year of Virgil (we hope).



The education committee did a great job of refreshing the afternoon "roundtable" by having members speak in quick 10-minute (or so) segments on a variety of topics. It was perfectly placed after an Italian buffet lunch and kept the afternoon lively and interactive:

- Dan Marco, CGCS led it off covering the recent bunker project at Ruth Lake Country Club.
- Chuck Barber gave his insights on Practical Fitness and Nutrition for the Golf Course Superintendent, keeping things simple and using the resources at hand to stay fit.
- Jim Canning happily explained the renovation he oversaw at White Eagle Golf Club.
- Jeff Cholewa covered ROPS or roll over protection systems and included ways to measure hazardous areas on your course to use in training employees.
- Chris Holt talked about their greens topdressing program and how it has developed over the years at Sportsman's Country Club.
- Justin Prescott talked about more about topdressing and the impact it has on mowing equipment. He offered some tips to minimize the detrimental impact of sand on metal.
- JT Hauser shared his experience and process of hosting the BMW Championship at Medinah Country Club.
- Kyle DeRoo and Cole Lehman talked about hosting the first First Green Program in the area recapping the event that they ran in the spring of 2019 at Conway Farms Golf Club.



Brian Stout rings in his Presidency by formally ending the 93rd Midwest Annual Meeting.

The end of the day was ushered in by a thanks to Justin Kirtland for his leadership during the past year; Jim Pedersen was not able to say his final words (as moving off the board) as he was home ill. Brian Stout definitively started his presidency with the slamming of the gavel as he recognized the final motion of the day to end. @

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