

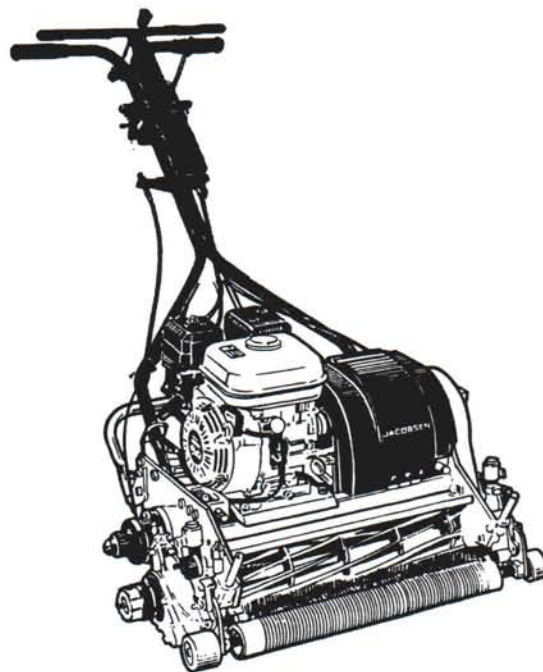
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The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) is a professional organization founded in 1927 whose goals include preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge pertaining to golf turf maintenance.

We endeavor to increase efficiency and economic performance while improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige of the members.

The MAGCS member is also an environmental steward. We strive to uphold and enhance our surroundings by promoting flora and fauna in every facet in a manner that is beneficial to the general public now and in the future.



Imagine, if you will, life without some of the things you absolutely love. When you stop and think about it, that might mean no more 24-hour sports channels or no more sunshine and blue skies. To me, I truly love a cold one after a lovely 12-hour day at my club when the wind has been blowing hard all day and the temps have been hovering around the century mark. That would be hard to live without. Now imagine a MAGCS meeting without the sponsorship of our very fine commercial members. Could we all live without that? I don't think so!

Let's face it folks, the need for (or luxury of having) sponsors for our meetings is a reality and will be for a long time. So many commercial members in the Midwest Association give a lot of money to our group which helps to defray the cost of the monthly meetings. Without the support of our commercial members, monthly meeting costs would exceed well over one hundred

dollars! We currently have a commercial member who has sponsored every golf meeting for the entire year, but still we have members who think that maybe we "give too much" to our commercial members. That's a bunch of hogwash!

The members of the MAGCS need to stop and realize how important the commercial members in our association are. How many times have you depended on a commercial member to help you out when you were in a bind? It's amazing how quick the response time can be to receive a specific product or service from a given company. Remember the last time you needed a cold beverage at a monthly meeting? How fast did a commercial member respond? A monthly meeting without sponsorship of a commercial member . . . imagine that!

On July 7, the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents in conjunction with the Commercial Members Advisory Committee will host the inaugural Vendor Day at Orchard Valley Golf Club in Aurora, Illinois. The purpose of this fantastic event is twofold. Not only do we give our commercial members a chance to "show their wares," but it also offers us a chance to generate funds for the research green at

the Cantigny Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois. Show your support on July 7 not only to the research green at Cantigny but also to the very important people who make our lives a lot easier by doing the things they do—the commercial members of the MAGCS.

I need to thank John Meyer, the MAGCS commercial representative, and his committee for putting together a fun and beneficial day. As I put together this message, I am having a cold one while watching ESPN. Imagine that!

Ed Braunsky, CGCS
President, MAGCS

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Fred Behnke
Mt. Prospect G.C.

I'm the new guy on the board, and President Braunsky definitely subscribes to the "throw 'em in the deep end of the pool" method of swimming instruction. My chair assignment is the Membership Committee, and I would like to thank the following friends and colleagues for their assistance by agreeing to serve on the 1997 MAGCS Membership Committee: Terry Dilner, Brian Greene, Butch Peuvion, Bob Rigney, Parin Schmidt and Mike Vilendrer. I would also like to publicly thank my employer, The Mount Prospect Park District, for their encouragement and support of my work on the Board of Directors of this association. We have hosted several meetings over the past few years with their blessing for which I am grateful.

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is the third largest chapter in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, with over 260 golf course superintendents (Class A and B) and over 580 members at large. Over 250 golf courses in the Chicagoland area are represented by our members. Needless to say, managing the membership roll of such a large organization is a huge task. Most of our membership functions are ably administrated by our executive secretary, George "Database" Minnis; and when George talks, I listen. The membership process

runs smoothly by and large, but there seem to be two main reoccurring problems:

1) All membership applications, regardless of class, MUST be attested to by two regular members of the association (Class AA, A, or B). Failure to do so will result in unnecessary delays in processing the application.

2) There are some old membership applications floating around with the old, incorrect schedule of fees for membership. The correct fees are: Class A - \$85, Class B - \$85, Class C - \$70, Class D - \$70, and Class E - \$105. If you run across a membership application with a different fee schedule, trust me, we are not having a sale; you just have one of the old forms. You can use the application, but enclose the proper fee. I have plenty of current applications; give me a call, and I'll send you a handful.

In fact, if you have any questions at all regarding membership in MAGCS, give me a call. If I don't know the answer, I can find out, and learn something in the process.

Did you know that the Sega Saturn game system runs on a higher performance processor than the original 1976 Cray super computer, which, in its day, was accessible to only the most elite physicists? In 1991 for the first time ever, companies spent more money on computing and communications gear than the combined monies spent on industrial, mining, farm and construction equipment.

These are just two examples of how information processing is becoming the most important aspect of running a successful business as we roll into the twenty-first century. Nobody can know every-

(continued on page 35)

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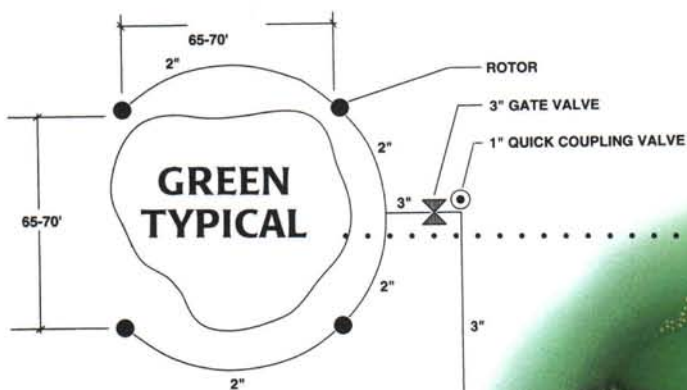
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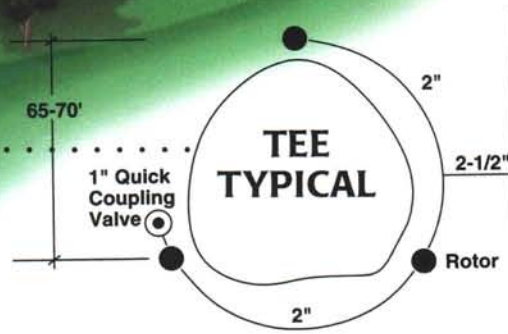
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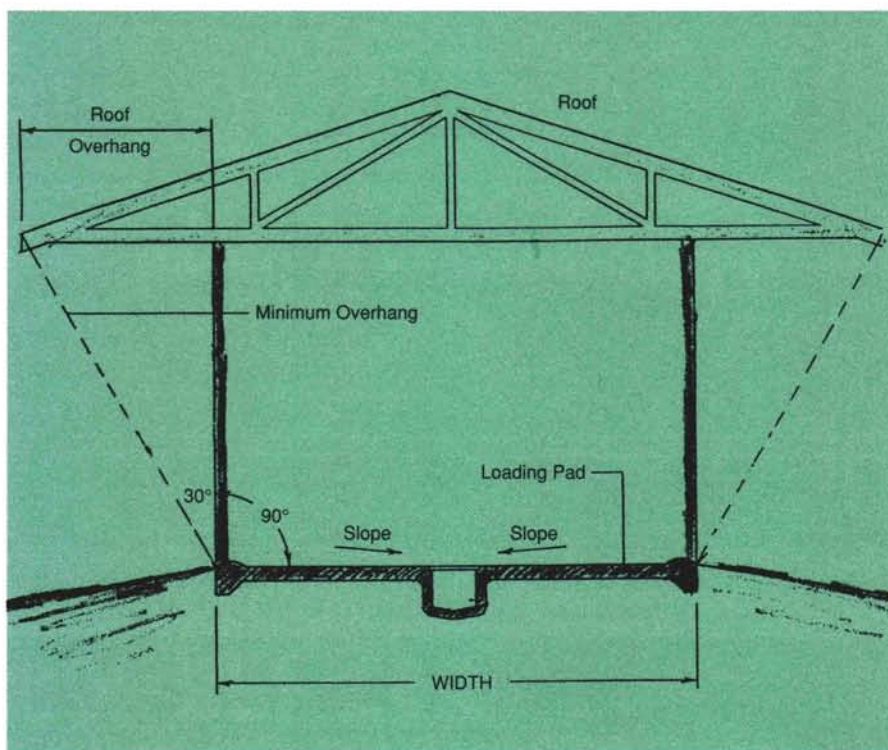
How's Your "Rinse Pad" Coming Along?

Dr. Randy Kane
CDGA/GAI Turf Advisor

In 1989, the Illinois State Legislature passed into law the Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act. The Act was revised in February 1993 to update the requirements for wash water and rinsate collection (part 256). Two main requirements of the Act are: 1) notification of pesticide use (On golf courses you see the familiar poster describing the use of plant protectants.), and 2) a wash water/rinsate containment area to be utilized for capture of pesticide spills or residues from application equipment (in common parlance, a "rinse pad").

For the last several years, efforts have been made to define what is an acceptable rinse pad (size, materials, etc.) and how to get it permitted. Efforts have also been made to educate pesticide users on the Act itself and the need for rinse pads. The Illinois Department of Agriculture is the implementing and enforcement authority. The Department has worked along with state university faculty and other extension personnel to clear up questions about rinse pads and other aspects of the Act.

By late 1993, rinse pad permitting guidelines were in place. The next spring, a series of educational seminars cosponsored by the ITF were held regarding wash water containment areas. Unfortunately, there was some confusion at the Oak Brook seminar about loading and mixing pesticides in the field as a



legal alternative to obtaining a rinse pad because of certain language in the Act ("Field washing of exterior surfaces . . . is acceptable at the site of application . . ."). However, there has since been clarification, and a rinse pad is required for spill containment and for washing/rinsing the interior surfaces of the sprayer, as well as for triple rinsing containers, etc. At this point, there should be no doubt that all Illinois golf courses should have a permitted wash water containment area for loading/rinsing pesticide application equipment. The reasons are simple: first, to prevent spills or rinsewater-containing pesticides from entering the environment, especially the ground water or surface water; and second, to protect yourself from the expense of toxic-spill cleanups and possible pollution

lawsuits. There is also a safety concern for yourself and/or your workers.

During 1995 and 1996, many Chicago area superintendents proceeded with the permitting process and construction of a rinse pad. (As everyone knows, this can be a complicated and time-consuming process. To expedite the process, you need to obtain an application for a permit and follow the directions.) In some cases, the finished facility is a separate building which includes pesticide storage as well as a rinse pad. The design of the storage area has some of the same containment parameters as the rinse pad. So, the rinsate collection and pesticide storage systems are in a separate building physically

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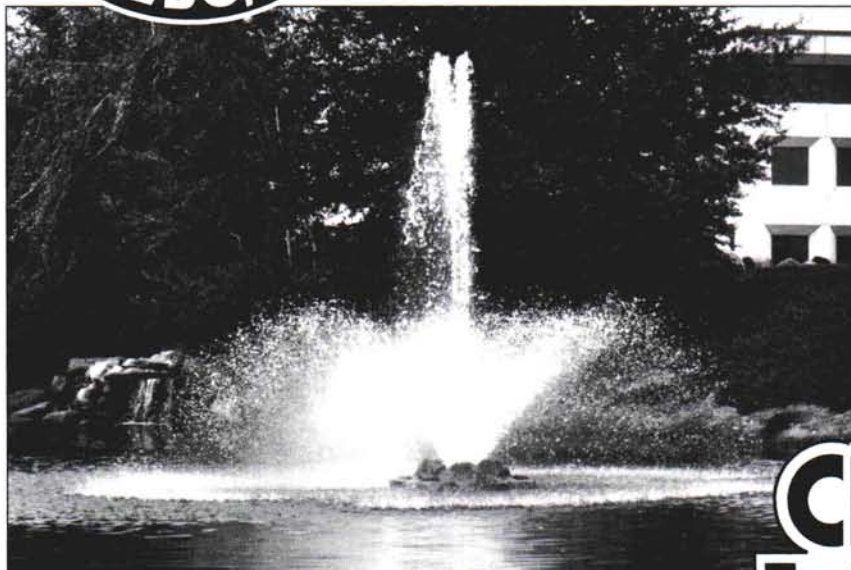
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How's Your "Rinse Pad" Coming Along?

(continued from page 8)

removed from the primary maintenance area.

Needless to say, these facilities are not cheap. Other superintendents have constructed more spartan stand-alone rinse pads. These are usually made of concrete, are open sided, and have a roof overhead. Other types of acceptable pads include synthetic polymer or stainless steel "portable" units. REGARDLESS of what type of rinse pad you decide upon, it needs to be permitted first to make sure it meets all requirements of the Department of Agriculture.

Aside from the superintendents with whom I discussed this topic, I also talked to Dr. Bob Wolf at the University of Illinois, and Mr. Jerry Kirbach,

Manager, Permits and Down-state Operations with the Illinois Department of Agriculture in Springfield. In the past, the Department of Agriculture has been more involved with education and outreach activities in regards to the Act. In 1997, they anticipate more compliance activity and enforcement of the rules and regulations. For golf courses, the rinse pad question will probably be of primary concern.

If you haven't done anything yet, now is the time to consider plans for permitting, installing, and using a wash water containment system. Many superintendents or their supervisors (club officials, managers, etc) haven't taken any action yet on the rinse pad issue. There are many reasons for this, such as: 1) waiting for the funding; 2) waiting to see what

others are doing that is acceptable; 3) waiting for local building permits once the state permit is granted; 4) waiting to see if there will be inspections/enforcement; or 5) operating under the mistaken assumption that field loading/rinsing is an acceptable alternative.

And, by the way, if you already have a rinse pad—use it! They weren't meant to be extra parking spaces or chemical storage areas. If you need more information or would like to apply for a permit, call Jerry Kirbach at 217- 785-2427. ■

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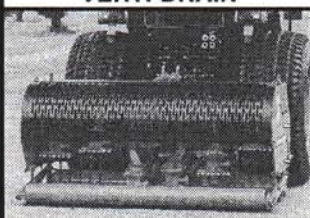
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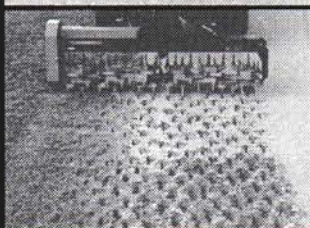
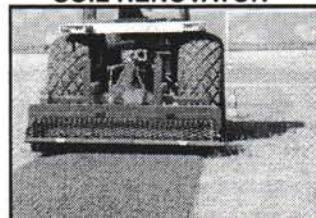
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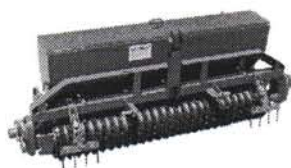
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