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this does sound like a lot of fun!) This fall, another project involving the dredging of the pond on No.18 will commence.

This list is precisely why golf course work gets so deeply into a guy's blood! And it sounds like Brad has a very serious case of "golf course addiction syndrome"!

Palatine Hills was originally designed as a 6,800-yard championship course by Edward Lawrence Packard and built by Wadsworth Construction Company in 1966. It originally opened for play way back in 1967. Brad reports that now the popular course hosts over 50,000 rounds of golf annually. He also states that with so much golf there, it's no wonder that their new soft spike policy has made a remark-

able difference in the wear and tear of their greens!

Professionally, Brad is proud to report that he recently received his certificate for graduating from the two-year Executive Development Program from the University of Georgia. He has also started working on certification through the GCSAA.


On the personal side, Brad and his mate Jerri have been married for six years and are proud parents of their first child, Lauren Elizabeth, who just turned one-year-old on July 2. They've recently purchased a home in Palatine, but as Brad notes, "The new demands of parenthood leave little time for extra projects now that Lauren is mobile!"

Take it from us older guys, Brad. Parenthood is a lot like the Energizer Bunny: it just keeps going . . . and going . . . and

going. There is not a breather in the parenthood game.

When he has any spare time whatsoever, Brad digs into cars at car auctions and the Volo Auto Museum. He also enjoys bike riding, camping, fishing, and playing in a softball league.

Soon all of Brad's cool personal activities will be curtailed as he winds his way down the path of fatherhood, right? Soon he'll be remembering his younger days as "the king of the course." Soon he'll be showing his children pictures of himself as a young man, with lots of hair and muscle definition!

And some day, he'll look back on his years at Palatine Hills as being very fruitful and memorable and thank his father and Frank Krueger for hooking him into this golf course life that runs so deeply in the blood. 

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Recognizing and Living With . . .

(continued from page 6)

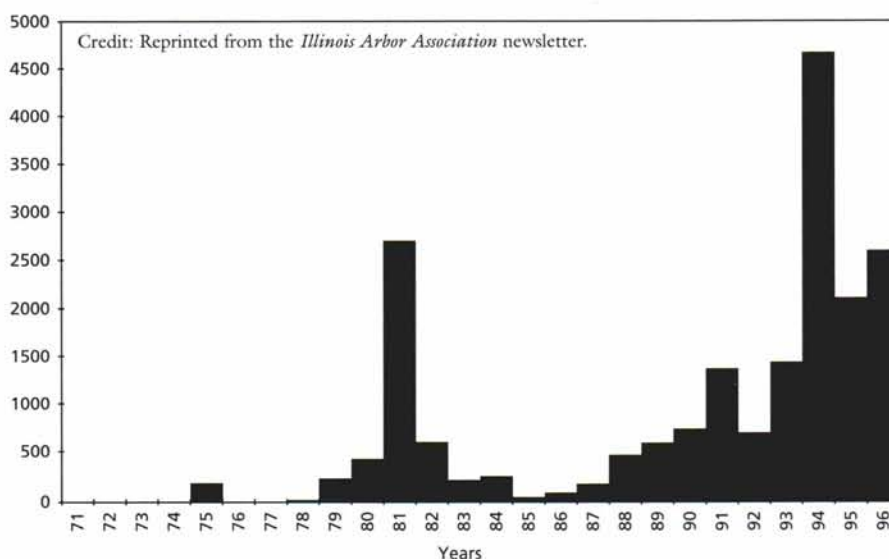
The egg masses will be 1-1/2 inches long and 3/4 inches wide and buff color. Egg mass surveys can be done in the fall. The movement of articles containing these egg masses is the major way in which the gypsy moth is spread from place to place. There is one generation of the insect per year. Comparing the gypsy moth with other leaf-eating caterpillars, you can see that the gypsy moth does not form a web or nest like the fall webworm or eastern tent caterpillar and is much earlier than the fall webworm, which appears in late summer (i.e., late July, August).

The eastern tent caterpillar has a much narrower host range (i.e., *Rosaceae*, *Prunus*) as compared to gypsy moth which feeds on a wide variety of hosts, including the most preferred hosts of oak, apple, aspen, basswood, hawthorn, and birch. Additional hosts include beech, cherry, black gum, hemlock, hickory, hornbeam, larch, maple, pine, sassafras, and spruce. Tree species not normally attacked are ash, balsam fir, butternut, black walnut, catalpa, red cedar, dogwood, holly locust, sycamore, and tulip poplar.

Spring and fall cankerworms and other "loopers" usually appear just before and may overlap just a bit with gypsy moth activity, but they can easily be distinguished apart. Cankerworms do consume the entire leaf like the gypsy moth but lack the hairy body, are smaller in size (1-1/2 inches long), vary in color (e.g., brown, tan, green), form a "loop" when they move, and have two to three sets of prolegs.

On the other hand, the gypsy moth larva is 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 inches long when full grown, is brown, hairy, and has a double row of several red and blue dots down its back.

Adult Gypsy Moths Captured in Traps in Illinois




Why are gypsy moths such a threat to our shade trees? As we have learned through research and observation, consistent extensive defoliation of trees can result in stress problems. Studies done on oaks in the northeastern United States have shown that when trees are repeatedly defoliated year after year that the trees are weakened and become vulnerable to wood-boring insects (two-lined chestnut borer) and root rot fungi (i.e., *Armellaria*) which eventually will kill the tree. As we all know, most of our shade trees are already experiencing some degree of stress as it is.

What can we do to prevent the spread of gypsy moth; and if it shows up, what are our best management options? To prevent spread, keep a sharp look out for egg masses and be able to properly identify the larvae. Do not assume that everything that eats leaves is a gypsy moth. Properly identify the pest! If you need help, feel free to contact your local regulatory agency or university extension office.

When damage does become a problem, other management options include chemical sprays

and use of microbial insecticides. At this point in time, only the state and federal regulatory agencies have been active in applying insecticidal sprays. Natural controls that will be helpful include predators, pathogens, and parasites. For example, the fungus *Entomophaga maimaiga* caused drastic reductions in Michigan gypsy moth populations during 1996. This fungus is most effective during cool, wet springs which occurred in 1995 and 1996. Whether this fungus will continue to be effective, only time will tell. In any event, timely and judicious use of chemical pesticides is important in order to minimize adverse effects on these natural control agents.

To wrap up, be vigilant in your monitoring activities for all potentially harmful pests and use good pest management decision-making processes. If we continue to work together, hopefully, we can keep the gypsy moth at arm's length for a time. 



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Better Turf With Compost

Peter Repenning
GreenCycle Incorporated

Several superintendents in the Chicago area have been replacing their traditional sand/peat/seed mix with compost to repair divots. The time to germinate new grass in these repaired divots have been reported to be as little as one-fifth the time required by the traditional mix.

There are several reasons that compost worked in this application, and these reasons apply equally well to a number of other jobs around the well-maintained golf course. At the risk of telling many of you things you already know, we'll address a few of the reasons compost does good things for turf.

Selected results from a typical laboratory test

Organic Matter	29.4%
pH	7.4
Carbon-to-nitrogen ratio	15:01
Moisture content	48.0%
Nitrate nitrogen	639.0 ppm
Phosphorus	7.0 ppm
Calcium	656.0 ppm
Magnesium	216.0 ppm
Sodium	176.0 ppm
Boron	5.0 ppm
Zinc	52.5 ppm
Manganese	1.8 ppm
Iron	23.3 ppm
Copper	1.7 ppm

Soils consist of air, water, minerals and organic material. The mineral portion of soil is generally clay, silt, sand or some combination of these. The organic portion, humus, consists of partially decomposed (composted) plant and other organic matter. Humus, which results from the slow decomposition of plant material on the ground, not only has had plenty of chance to pick up stray weed seeds, but it may support some plant pathogens. Commercially composted humus has been decomposed in very large windrows that are held at over 140°F for two months or more, and all weed seeds have been killed.

Compost consists of partially decomposed organic matter, and it

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Better Turf With Compost

(continued from page 26)

is very similar to the organic matter found in soil; so from here on, "compost" may be read "humus." While the mineral portion of soil may vary widely in appearance and combustion by region and geological origin, the organic material, which results from decomposed plant and animal life, is similar nearly everywhere. Soils that are thought to be rich topsoil generally contain 3 to 5 percent organic material. Stable compost ranges from 28 to 35 percent organic content.

Compost absorbs and holds large amounts of water very much like peat. Unlike peat, it doesn't become water-repellant when it dries. The water in compost is available, as needed, to the plants growing in it. Compost contains nutrients and trace elements which are essential to healthy plant growth.

And compost contains life—bacteria and fungi which help maintain or restore a healthy balance of soil microbes. The proper balance of these organisms results in healthy plants which are more resistant to disease and insect damage than plants grown without compost. These microbes also support other beneficial life-forms, such as earthworms. Together, they cause the soil to "clump," providing paths for air and water to circulate in the soil, improving percolation and infiltration, reducing compaction, and increasing resistance to erosion. Another valuable function of the microbial life in soil is the "tie-up" of excess nutrients. These are retained and then made available to plants, as required, in an easily usable form.

The organic portion of soil is not permanent. Even the relatively stable organic material, which remains after the composting

process, slowly decomposes over time; and it decomposes more rapidly the more the soil is tilled. Once-fertile, over-used soil which has become powdery or compacted and which will no longer produce plants of acceptable quality has lost much of its organic component. Since it may take between 100 and 150 years, under ideal conditions, to create one inch of topsoil through the natural cycle of undisturbed plant growth and decay, the need to protect and systematically to restore organic material to heavily-cultivated soil is apparent.

The Chemical Solution

As soils have become less fertile through intensive use, chemical solutions have been increasingly used as a substitute for natural fertility. Because these chemicals make it possible to grow acceptable plants in poor soil, they have allowed such highly intensive

(continued on page 34)



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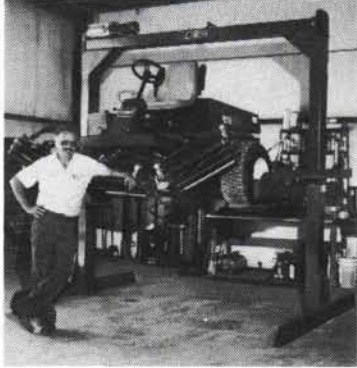


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DATES TO REMEMBER

August 6-8 — Illinois Open at Orchard Valley G.C.

August 10 — John Deere Team Championship at Schaumburg G.C.

August 19 — Turfgrass Field Day at University of Illinois

August 27 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Palatine Hills G.C.

August 30 — MAGCS picnic and Cougar baseball game

September 12-17 — U. S. Senior Amateur at Skokie C.C.

September 14 - MAGCS monthly meeting at Settler's Hill G.C.

October 13 - MAGCS monthly meeting at Seven Bridges G.C.

The educational speaker for the August 27 meeting at Palatine Hills G.C. will be Jim Webb who will speak on "The Magic of Sulfur."

Please welcome some recent new members to our group. They are: Paul Burger (A), Ben Kelnhofer (C), Eric Nadler (E), Larry Tomaszewski (E), Jim Dudczyk (D), Scott Kuebel (E), Tim Taddy (E), Jeffrey Jones (C), Jeff Leonard of Chalet G.C. (A), and Mark Thibault (C).

A beautiful golf day at Fox Valley G.C. on June 15 was

enjoyed by 105 golfers. Ted Fist and Kerry Blatteau came in the low net winners in the two-man blind draw event. Kerry also picked up the closest-to-the-pin prize and posted the low round of the day with a 74. Keith Johnson became the individual low net winner, and Mark Neuroth knocked out the longest drive. Additionally, \$465 was raised for the Make-A-Wish Foundation through our raffle. Thanks to Dan Pady and Snake Eyes Golf for donating the raffle prize. The prize driver, won by Joel Purpur (who donated it back), was auctioned off for over \$100. Last, but not least, thanks to Dan Anderson and the staff at Fox Valley for hosting our meeting. The golf course was in great shape!

Congratulations to Tim Scott on winning the 36-hole Public Links Golf Tournament held on June 15 at White Pines G.C. in Bensenville. Tim shot an 8 under par and went to San Diego in July to compete for the U. S. Public Links Championship. Unfortunately, Tim did not advance past the first two days of match play.

Al Pondel, CGCS, Deerfield G.C., will be one of the six members of the GCSAA chosen to represent one half of the Americas Team when they are host to the second Hayter Challenge, October 13-15, in Atlanta, Georgia. The competition is designed to promote international relations and communications between international golf course

organizations. Conducted biennially, the event found the Americas Team winning their first match in England two years ago, 10 - 8. Opposition was provided by golf course superintendents from Europe and Australia.

The GCSAA representatives for 1998 (besides Al Pondel) are:

Paul McGinnis, CGCS, GCSAA Immediate Past President, Arizona

Dave Fearis, CGCS, GCSAA Vice President, Missouri

Tommy Witt, CGCS, GCSAA Director, Alabama

Ken Mangum CGCS, GCSAA Director, Georgia

Jim Dusch, CGCS, GCSAA Champion 1996, Georgia

The rest of the Americas Team is made up of four superintendents from Canada and two from Argentina, while the European team gathers members from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Sweden, Australia, England, Finland, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Norway and France.

The University of Illinois is accepting contributions to the vision of a world-class golf course on campus at the school. Dean David Chicoine and Professor Bruce Branham met on May 18 with the Sasaki Consulting Group who are preparing the master redevelopment plan at the University of Illinois that currently shows 270 acres for a 27-hole course and learning center. The master plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees in October and, hopefully, approved in November.

(continued on page 32)