

Courses' environmental self-audit kit ready

An exciting step into the future of golf course management will be unveiled during the International Golf Course Conference and Show at Anaheim, Calif.

William Rogers will detail an environmental self-auditing package that will be made available to golf course superintendents.

It has been designed to help courses keep pace and comply with expanding scrutiny by governmental environmental boards and regulations.

Roberts, course superintendent at Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., and a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's board of directors, has been field-testing this kit for project sponsors GCSAA and Hall-Kimbrell Environmental Services.

Hall-Kimbrell, whose corporate offices are near GCSAA's national headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., has evaluated, designed and managed projects at more than 3,000

The kit offers users a method to anticipate potential regulatory and legal liabilities

public schools and 150 colleges and universities.

Hall-Kimbrell has completed an extensive review of federal and

state regulations as they relate to golf course operations.

Outgrowth of that study is a checklist and recommendations, instructional videotape and printed materials for course evaluation.

The kit, which offers users a method to anticipate potential regulatory and legal liabilities, costs GCSAA members \$725, non-members \$900.

Upon return to Hall-Kimbrell, the self-audit is reviewed by computers through an automated re-

sponse system, the data sorted, and an analysis performed.

The project team then provides a point-by-point compliance appraisal. Results are kept confidential.

Steve Wharton, Hall-Kimbrell project manager, visited courses from Maine to California to determine the environmental problems and needs of superintendents.

Since last October, a dozen courses have been involved in the new program.

Hall-Kimbrell's booth at the Trade Show in Anaheim will provide literature explaining the program and will have a video tape presentation.

Those not ordering the kit at Anaheim may do so through GCSAA Membership Services, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kan. 66046.

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extend to Vermont's New England neighbors. Maine lists 13 courses due for expansion or construction, New Hampshire has 10 under construction, and Massachusetts is in the market for 11.

Vermont lags with three courses due for construction or addition in 1989, and possibly three in the planning stage for 1990.

Ski resorts sparked Vermont's biggest golf course boom, in the 1960s and 1970s. New Hampshire now is following that pattern.

"Well over 200" courses are being built annually in the United States, according to figures compiled by leading golf course architect Geoffrey S. Cornish of Amherst, Mass.

Cornish adds that the current 57 Vermont courses (two of which are private) can't accommodate interested tourists, many from wealthy Westchester (N.Y.) County.

"Golfers are big spenders, in the pro shop, clubhouse and dining room. If Vermont club regulars have courses tied up in the summer, tourists must look to other states," Cornish said.

The National Golf Foundation believes 375 layouts annually will be needed by the year 2,000 to absorb the expected player surge from the current 21.7 million to 30 million.

Up-in-the-air Sherman Hollow may not get off the ground to be part of this progress.

Ann Leslie, EPA chemist who works out of Alexandria, Va., is among those disappointed at the Sherman Hollow impasse.

She had hoped to use that course as one of 10 pilot projects.

However, she said, "we need 10 existing courses. The first year or two, there usually are no pests. When they emerge, we evaluate and study how to control."

Right now, Sherman Hollow's future rests in the hands of nine beleaguered board members.