

Ecofriendly in Manitoba

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preservation.

For the greens, pesticides and chemical fertilizers are out and hand weeding and organic methods are in. It will take time before any results will be measurable.

Sarna noted that five tons of nitrogen were spread on the course last fall. Nitrogen feeds the top of the grass but can burn and kill deeper roots. "We have to go to organic fertilizers to build up the soil underneath," he said. "We are also looking at a new \$350,000 computer-controlled irrigation system that would have individual weather stations throughout the course monitoring moisture levels and keeping them at the proper levels."

Out-of-play areas will be seeded with native prairie grasses and wild flowers.

It is not only the non-green areas that the foundation members want to "green." Sarna reported his group is urging manufacturers to sell it balls in bulk, instead of individually sleeved as is the current practice, to cut down on paper and plastic. "We plan to write all the manufacturers in the fall when we have more time and present the idea of using display cases with their names on them as alternatives to the packaging," he said.

The club is importing biodegradable tees from a Vancouver manufacturer and electric golf carts. The foundation is researching solar panels to recharge the carts. It is building recessed cement areas where gas-powered equipment is stored to prevent any possible leakage seeping into the soil.

In the pro shop and coffee shop, Styrofoam is giving way to coffee mugs (which will be sold with the coffee) and cream will be in creamers rather than individually packaged. "Small things add up," said Sarna.

To deal with the garbage, operators are exploring stocking compostable paper products and are looking at the latest technology in wastewater treatment.

"The changes won't all happen overnight," Sarna said. "People have been supportive but they still expect a good product. We don't want to kill the greens. We may be experimenting with different processes for several years to find out what works best."

In addition to being environmentally aware, Clear Lake Golf Foundation is socially correct. It is an equal opportunity employer whose goal is to ensure a representative number of native people are employed on the course, including golf pro Tom Betz — and eventually

represented on its board.

"In the next three years, we hope to turn the foundation over to a public advisory board which would include environmentalists, native people and representatives of the different golf and user groups here," Sarna said. "We also plan to pass on environmental messages with our tee boxes and we will be building a new clubhouse which will include an environmental education center."

W.Va. raises \$12,000 for research

HUNTINGTON, W.VA. — The West Virginia GCSA raised \$12,075 at its 8th Annual Turfgrass Scholarship & Research Fund-raiser Golf Tournament, held at Guyan Golf & Country Club on June 7.

Two milestones were reached during the event. "This was an all-time high in fund-raising efforts, and this year was the first time anyone got an ace during our tournament," said Co-chairman John Cummings.

Dale Minick of Kirtland Country Club in Willoughby, Ohio, got the ace on the par-3, 214-yard 7th hole. He used a one iron. The ball took two bounces. Nothing but hole.

West Virginia GCSA President Charles Murray

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accepted the check from Cummings and co-chairman Arthur Casto Jr., at an awards reception after the tournament. Murray said the funds will be deposited in the WVGCSA William C. Campbell Turfgrass Scholarship & Research Fund, which helps turf students in their second or third year of schooling and aids in research projects at universities, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the United States Golf Association.

"This fund and commitment to better golf through better turf in West Virginia sets a shining example of what can be accomplished with a team effort," said Murray.

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