

Composting trend makes chippers, sweepers invaluable

Sweepers

Model & Manufacturer	Windrow or pick-up?	Cleaning path	Power source	Pick-up system	Hopper capacity	Mechanical or manual drum	High dump capacity
Groundhog LitterVAC Haybuster Mfg Inc. Box 1940 Jamestown, N.D. 58401 701-252-4601 Circle #314	W	54"	Honda: 11HP	positive driven brush & vacuum head	19 cu.ft.	Mech.	n/a
Sweep Star Smithco 11 West Ave. Wayne, Penn. 19087 215-688-4009 Circle #313	P	60"	Kohler K582S, gas, 23 hp (or Kubota diesel D850)	single-reel, floating, pick-up head	3 cu.yds.	(not a drum type)	72"
Litamisa Sisis Inc. Hulley Road Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2LZ, England 011-44-0625-503-030 Circle #312	P	72"	Tractor PTO	rotating brush	81 cu.ft.	hydraulic	60"
Cushman Turtrak Ransomes America Corp. 7900 W. 78th St. Suite 105 Minneapolis, Minn. 55439-2525 612-829-1510 Circle #311	P	54"	belt-driven PTO	rotating brush	24 cu.ft.	manual	n/a
ProVac 1050 Gravelly Int. 1 Gravelly Lane Clemmons, N.C. 27012 919-766-4271 Circle #310	P	60"	Kohler: 18hp	air only	3.1 cu.yds.	mech.	ground dumping only
Turf Sweeper 5400HL The Toro Co. 8111 Lyndale Ave. S. Minneapolis, Minn. 55420 612-887-8805 Circle #309	P	60"	Onan P224: 24 hp	two-time counter wheels	3 cu.yds.	hydraulic	66"

By HAL PHILLIPS

Storm damage means downed trees. And downed trees are a nightmare for superintendents. And while chippers and sweepers come in awfully handy in the wake of natural disasters, there is a more commonplace, everyday application for these course management tools.

Composting has become an ever more common trend amongst superintendents who seek to maximize their natural fertilization capabilities while minimizing their trips the landfill.

Some may consider chippers and sweeper a luxury item, but circumstances often dictate otherwise.

"It depends on the number of trees you have on your particular course," said Tim Hiers, head superintendent at Collier's Reserve in Naples, Fla. "If your landfill is 80 miles away, it's worth it to have your own chipper. And some local ordinances — more and more all the time — may say you can't put *anything* in the landfill, in which case you really need a chipper."

Sweepers serve the same purpose in areas rife with assiduous trees. The process of clearing leaves off the playing surface is, of course, made easier by using a sweeper. But what do you do with the leaves and grass clippings if your landfill is restrictive or closed, as an increasing number are in the Northeast?

"Sweeping it up and composting is becoming a big trend," said Hiers.

Kevin Pryseski is head superintendent at Cattail Creek Country Club in Edgewood, Md., a Willard Byrd design that opened this July. This will be the first autumn for Cattail, so there isn't much of a compost heap — yet.

"We use the sweeper for everything: Especially vacuuming after we dragged the fairways," said Pryseski. "The Toro we have also has a blower attachment so we can blow leaves into piles then suck them up later."

"We just opened in July, so what we'll probably do is let the leaves sit for while. Then we'll take the spreader and disperse the clippings and rotted leaves on the driving range."

Chippers

Model & Manufacturer	Limb diameter capability	Hydraulic feeder?	Deisel or gas? Horsepower?	Fuel capacity	Chipper drum size outside diameter	Rotatable discharge chute?
Super Tomahawk Troy Bilt 102nd St. & 9th Ave. Troy, N.Y. 12180 518-235-6010 Circle #308	4"	no	gas: Briggs & Stratton 1/C	2 quarts	16 free swinging, reversable	no
BH SCCM 50S Iron & Oak P.O. Box 560 Annawan Ill. 61234 309-935-6353 Circle #307	4"	no	gas: 11 hp OV Kohler Command	3/4 liter	square feed funnel (largest point: 13-1/2" x 10-1/4")	no
250 Chip N Mulch Ameriquip 1480 Arrow Highway LaVerne, Calif. 91750 714-392-2033 Circle #306	3"	no	gas: 16 hp	1.5 gal.	20"	no
620 Model Vermeer P.O. Box 200 Pella, Iowa 50219 515-628-3141 Circle #305	6"	yes	both	8.5 gal.	24"	180 deg.
Yard Shark YS9H-TRW Tilton Equipment P.O. Box 68 Rye, N.H. 03870 603-964-9450 Circle #304	3.5"	no	gas: 9 hp	n/a	11"	no
Wood*Pro 8AVP VC Marketing P.O. Box 608 Roseland, N.J. 07068 201-992-8514 Circle #303	3 to 6"	no	gas: 9 to 22 hp	2 to 5.5 gal.	disc size of 18 to 30"	on some models
Model 40/30H PeCo, Inc. P.O. Box 1197 Arden, N.C. 28704 1-800-438-5823 Circle #302	9"	yes	diesel: 40 hp	18 gal.	32"	yes: 360 deg.
Model 60 Bandit Industries 6750 Millbrook Road Remus, Mich. 49340 517-561-2270 Circle #301	6"	yes	gas: 20-23hp	8 gal.	26"	swivel discharge

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