

## Creating wetlands — a whole new ballgame

Continued from page 35

Ecoshores' contribution to Spring Island's success demonstrates the importance of companies that help golf course developers weed through the regulatory process by creating and preserving wetlands.

"We don't view environmentalists as stirring up the pot," Seay said. "We want to preserve natural areas wherever possible. Sometimes we have to create wetlands that resemble natural areas. We want to

reconstruct that natural look and function. I like what companies like that [Ecoshores] can do with us."

Ecoshores President Steve Beaman said his firm has worked on more than 100 courses over the past 15 years. Projects have ranged from providing a course with a few hundred dollars worth of plant material to the \$1.2 million of vegetation and labor invested at 36-hole Grand Harbor in Vero Beach.

The company is working on

mitigation plans for the LPGA layout being built in Daytona Beach, Fla. Most of the plant material for that facility, and other projects in the five Southeastern states Ecoshores serves, comes from the 2,000-acre plant farm the company maintains in Central Florida.

Ecoshores guarantees its work, meaning it will replace vegetation that dies. Beaman is proud of the 90 percent success rate his plants enjoy. But since plant survival is dependent on

the accuracy of engineering studies analyzing the rise and fall of water levels, Beaman works closely with architects and the wetlands engineers they employ.

Williamsburg Environmental Group Inc. is such a company. The Williamsburg, Va.-based firm provides ecology, planning, regulatory support and engineering services to help architects and developers minimize impacts on existing wetlands.

"Basically you have two types of companies involved in the wetlands process," said Williamsburg Vice President Mike

Kelly. "There are firms, like ours, that work closely with architects to get the permits and do the preliminary and detailed drawings. Then there are the contractors who bid on the projects and do the actual planting."

Kelly's firm has worked on 50 golf projects over the past four years, including wetlands delineation and regulatory permitting jobs at Ault, Clark-designed Kingsmill and Tom Fazio-designed Governor's Land at Two Rivers, both in James City County, Va.

"The architects usually bring us in early," Kelly said. "It's very much a networking type of business."

The American Society of Golf Course Architects noted the importance of wetlands preservation and creation in its guidebook *An Environmental Approach to Golf Course Development*. Several case studies of golf projects included examples of wetlands issues.

Architect Don Knott of Robert Trent Jones II International credited Larry Seeman & Associates of Berkeley, Calif., with selecting the vegetation used in the creation of a six-acre wetland and several other smaller wetland areas at The Links at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach, Calif.

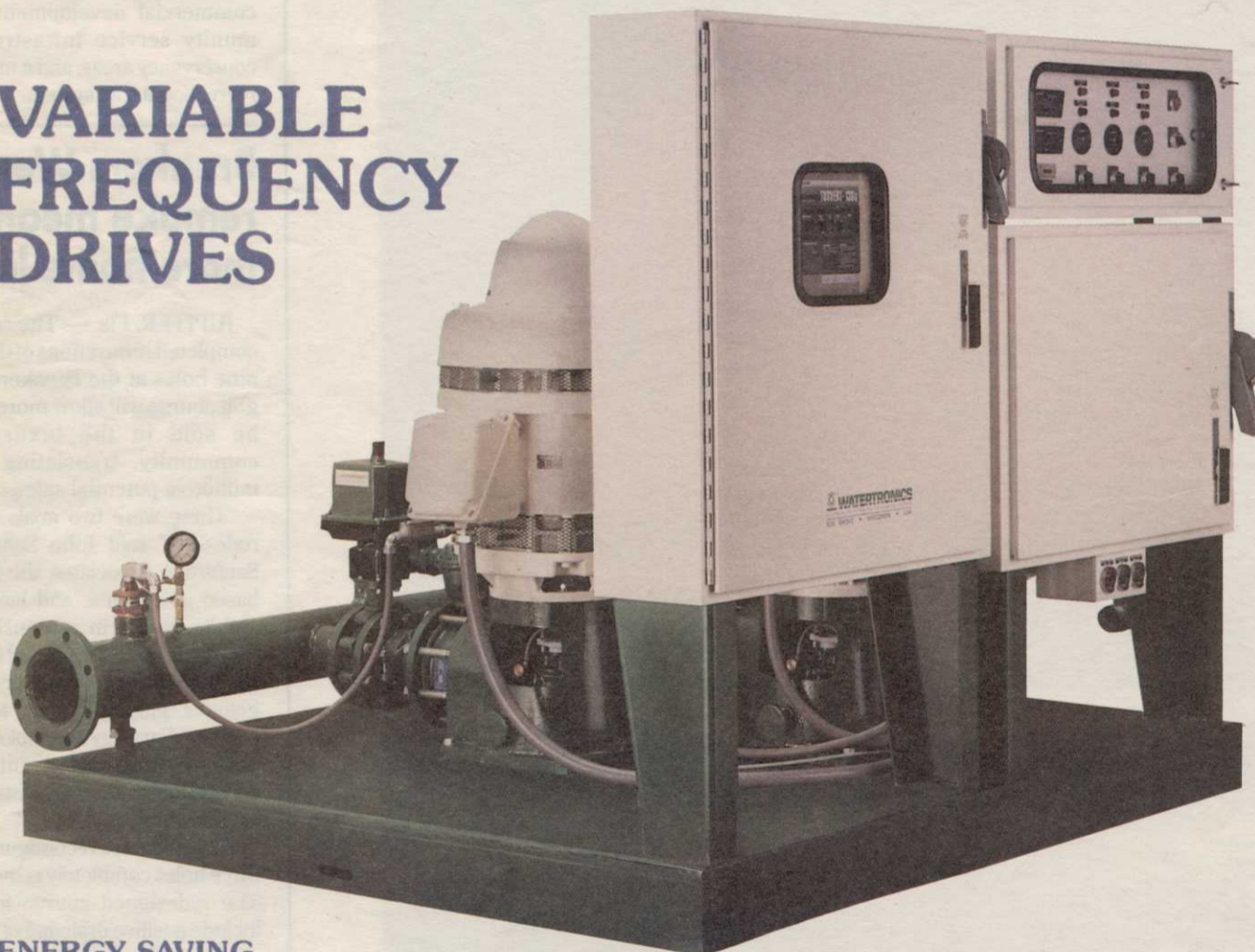
Johnson, Johnson & Roy of Ann Arbor, Mich., assisted with wetland stabilization and creation efforts at Jones Orchards course north of Detroit, he added.

Jones' construction firm performs the actual excavation work in constructing most wetland areas, Knott said, but leaves the revegetation work to companies like LSA and JJ&R who specialize in that area.

"It's getting more difficult to obtain permits all the time," Knott said. "We try to find sites where we can avoid wetlands altogether. But that isn't always possible. That's when wetland firms can be a big help."

## WATERTRONICS ENERGY SAVER

### VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVES



#### ENERGY SAVING

By varying pump speed, the pump performance closely follows the operating system curve, using precisely the power needed and eliminating the need for a pressure robbing hydraulic regulating valve. Additionally, soft starting reduces costly utility demand charges.

#### SURGE FREE

Surges are eliminated by using the variable frequency drive (VFD) to start pumps slowly and vary their speed to match systems demands.

#### FLEXIBILITY

The VFD can be adjusted for additional capacity and pressure for future expansion.

#### EXPERIENCE

Watertronics, a pioneer in the use of microprocessors to control pump station functions, applies the same time proven technology to VFD systems.

#### ENGINEERING

Our sales engineers custom design every "ENERGY SAVER" pump station to meet your individual conditions.

Watertronics manufactures a complete line of fixed speed centrifugal, vertical turbine, submersible, and in-line booster stations that utilize our innovative electronic regulating valves. Watertronics also offers retro-fit packages to bring state-of-the-art performance to your present pumping system.

For more information on how we can save you money call **1-800-356-6686**. From Europe call 414-367-5000 or fax 414-367-5551.



Watertronics, P.O. Box 530, 525 Industrial Drive, Hartland, WI 53029 USA

## Graham, Panks start N.C. project for '95 opening

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Former U.S. Open and PGA Champion David Graham and partner Gary Panks, of Graham & Panks International, have begun construction on their 18-hole golf course design in Guilford County, part of an 1,100-acre master planned community under development by the Koury Corp.

The heavily forested and rolling terrain offered Graham/Panks natural contours, existing water courses and protected wetlands in routing the course.

From the back tees, the 7,014-yard layout is a par 72.

Weather permitting, seeding should begin in June 1994. The grand opening will be held in late spring 1995.