

Tailor-made soil storage building crucial to maintenance complex

By TERRY BUCHEN

Most superintendents have a modern soil storage building as part of their maintenance building complex to make operations that much more efficient. Designing this type of storage facility usually takes local conditions into account, tailor-making it for individual golf course needs and superintendent's objectives and goals.

The soil storage building shown at right is located at a newer course in the Midwest. The four bays face due south to take advantage of the sunlight to keep the materials as dry as possible and to also take advantage of the southwest prevailing wind which also helps in the drying process.

Each bay is 14 feet wide by 20 feet long and is made out of poured concrete using a form that makes the concrete look like it is made out of bricks. The concrete walls are 6 feet high and covered with an angled roof using post-and-beam construction

which are covered with a metal-type siding and ribbed metal roof.

All four bays have been designed with the future in mind as 14- by 12-foot garage doors can be added at any time, if the superintendent so desires to keep out rainfall and for added security measures. The floors are poured concrete with and additional 16- by 70-

foot concrete apron poured in the front of the building at the same time as the floor to keep the materials clean from mud and debris. The floors are 6 inches thick with reinforcing rods designed to handle the weight of the dump trucks and front-end loader

tractor.

The angled roof is 12 feet high at the highest point to accommodate a tri-axle dump truck that can back all the way into each bay, then raise the dump truck bed as it pulls forward.

This roof can be raised much higher to handle this size of truck easier or even 18 wheeler-type dump trucks. However, in this particular case it was



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Storage facilities keep soils, sands and mixes safe and dry.

kept at 12 feet purely for aesthetic and zoning law reasons.

The concrete floor must obviously surface-drain toward the front. The concrete apron should drain away from the front to keep any unwanted surface drainage water from being anywhere near each individual bay.

The lower part of the roof has gutters and one downspout at each corner, taking water away on the extreme side of the concrete apron with no chance of it getting into the storage bays.

Some superintendents in the dryer climates do not install a roof or for budget reasons.

They just build the storage building and have a roof designed-in to be installed at a later date. Some buildings have a large exterior light above each

bay and another light shining out into the concrete apron as the bays are used for road salt/calcium chloride usage during the off-season for ice and snow removal operations that are provided at nighttime.

Most superintendents store greens topdressing, topsoil, bunker sand, drainage gravel, clean soil fill material, decorative landscape gravel and decorative mulch/bark.

Also incorporated into the design is that if priorities ever change, these soil storage buildings can be transformed into storage and a multitude of other uses as far as the mind can imagine using the 12-inch-thick vertical walls for support. With this future use in mind, electricity can be prewired or at least have empty conduit installed for further ease.

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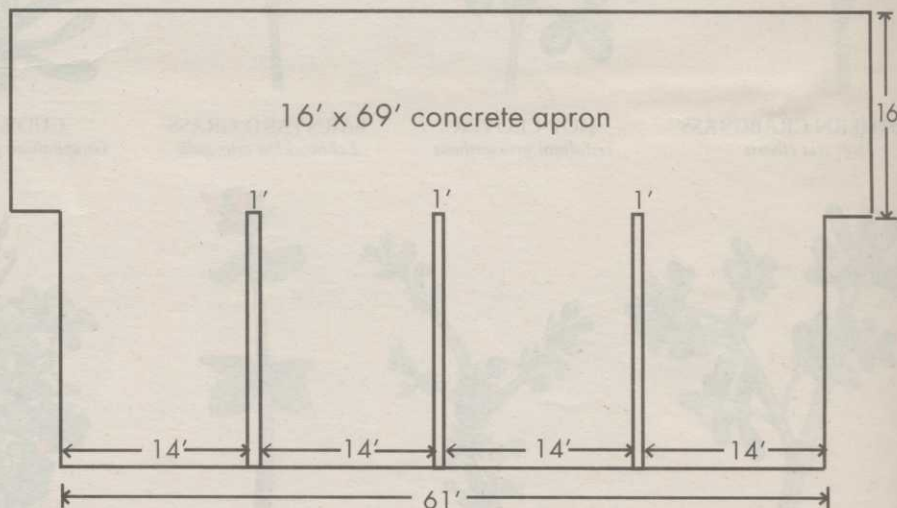
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The measurements of the soil-storage building at Double Eagle Club in Galena, Ohio.

Tradition of Excellence Award nominees sought

MARYSVILLE, Ohio—The Scotts Co., sponsor of The Tradition Golf Tournament, is accepting nominations for its 1996 Scotts Tradition of Excellence Award.

Established in 1994 to recognize outstanding achievements among golf course superintendents in advancing the science of course maintenance, the award will be presented at The Tradition tourney in Scottsdale, Ariz., next April.

The selection committee consists of former Golf Course Superintendents Association of America presidents and Dave Heegard, vice president of ProTurf for The Scotts Co.

Nomination forms are available by calling Darlena Huffman of The Scotts Co. at 513-644-7633; Deb Strohmaier at Lord, Sullivan & Yoder, Inc. at 614-846-7777; or Burke Beeler, GCSAA Founda-

tion manager, at 913-832-4465.

Nominating criteria are:

1. The nominee must be actively employed as a golf course superintendent.
2. Their course must be well maintained.
3. The nominee must have shown good teaching and mentoring qualities throughout his or her career.
4. He or she must be a leader, helping to further understanding of and within the profession through communication, which could include speeches to organizations or writing for publications.
5. The nominee must demonstrate environmental responsibility for his or her work.
6. He or she must have been involved with research and innovation in cultural or management practices.
7. The nominee must be involved professionally at the local level.