

# DuPont CC sets supers' safety standards

By MARK LESLIE

**L**ANDENBERG, Pa. — Ergonomics, safety and environmental friendliness. In the world of Earl Shafer, they add up to improved efficiency, a healthier crew and overall efficiency.

"People are first and equipment is second, and you're only as good as your equipment can produce," said Shafer, head superintendent at the 54-hole DuPont Country Club here.

Shafer's maintenance complex, built five years ago, draws raves from his colleagues, one of whom said: "DuPont Country Club has set the world's safety standards. They have thought of everything."

And one of Shafer's favorite accomplishments is the repair shop, where the crew deals with more than 300 pieces of equipment — from weed eaters to dump trucks.

"We wanted to get off of creepers and concrete floor," Shafer said, "and we didn't have enough room to do anything."

Going the extra mile to make chores safer, easier and less time-consuming, DuPont CC's repair shop certainly has the room now. It includes:

- Two 5-by-7-foot lift tables, so that a triplex mower or other equipment can be driven onto one and raised to a working height.

"Ergonomically, it's a big advantage to mechanics," Shafer said.

- A big-truck lift.
- Oil-separating drains. If oil spills in the shop, or equipment is washed off with solvent, the drain separates oil from water and puts the oil in a reservoir so it can be handled like waste oil.

- Outlets in the floor all over the shop, with hoses that can be put into equipment exhausts to handle carbon monoxide.

- Two overhead traveling crane lifts — one for heavy jobs and one for lighter. "When we have to take tractors apart, or take a motor out of a truck or tractor, we can do that. We have one large one and a second one that goes into the grinding room," Shafer said.

"The smaller lift allows you to bring in a set of 30-inch mowing drag units, lift them up onto a repair table and disassemble them."

- A separate room for the grinding operation for cleanliness and with an air-handling exhaust system to remove the grinding particulate. There are four grinders in that room: automatic-bed knife, conventional hook-type reel, spin and rotary-blade grinders.

Keeping the grinding room out of the main repair area, Shafer said, "also accomplishes the safety and health and ergonomic features we wanted. The crane travels to each of these machines, so you don't have to hoist mowers in and out of the machines."

- A parts washer in the grinding room.

- A parts storage area with a flammable cabinet for aerosols and where spare parts are kept "for things that need fairly repetitive replacement, or that may be difficult to get or that would keep a piece down for a long time." A mezzanine level to the parts room holds irrigation supplies, tires, etc.

- An overhead lube and oil system as

well as air stations for air tools.

- A 20-by-12-foot welding area (not separate room), with a welding hood to exhaust it, welding table with fire brick and two welders as well as the ability to brace gas welding.

- Such other necessities as a press for pressing bearings and seals, etc.; tire repair area; workbench; tool boxes.

"It's a drive-through building, so you don't have to move things to get in and out. And it has two 14-foot-high double overhead doors," Shafer said.

The maintenance coordinator's office adjacent to the repair area contains a second desk for the mechanic who reports to him as well as controls and

data recording for the fuel system and underground storage tanks (USTs). The fuel system records diesel and gasoline used by each piece of equipment, keeping an eye on usage and helping with monthly reconciliation. The UST monitor keeps track of current inventory as well as watching out for leaks.

Five years after building the shop, does Shafer know of anything he would have added or changed if he could do it again? "Can't think of a thing," he said.

Enough said.



**IDEAS WELCOME**  
Superintendents, their grounds crews and mechanics spend a major portion of their lives in maintenance buildings. Creating the most

**SHOP TALK**

cost-effective, space-efficient and time-saving operation possible is a goal of many. To that end we use this *Shop Talk* column to share ideas that work for some. We welcome your contributions. Just write: *ShopTalk* editor, *Golf Course News*, P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, Maine 04096; telephone 207-846-0600.



## The all-new power forwards.

We're proud to announce powerful new additions to our line-up. Our F-60 Series front mowers with features and pricing that are going to score a lot of points.

These 4WD mowers include many technological breakthroughs for increased turf performance. The Auto Assist 4WD with Dual-Acting-Overrunning clutch system delivers turf saving traction. In forward and reverse. It automatically transfers power to all 4 wheels when you need it. So, when the going gets tough, you get traction and reduced turf damage instead of wheel spinning. Or, you can



Visibility and maneuverability will increase your productivity.

choose to engage 4WD on-the-go.

A durable, independent hydraulic

PTO clutch makes it possible to engage and disengage PTO driven implements on the move.

Kubota's E-TVCS diesel engines deliver maximum power while minimizing vibration and noise. And, enhanced combustion efficiency reduces fuel cost and lowers emissions.

The F-60 Series includes 22, 25 and 30 horsepower 4-wheel drive mowers as well as a 25 horsepower 2-wheel drive model.

If you're looking for the ideal combination of comfort, power and efficiency for your team, you've just found a winning line-up.

For more information, please write to:

**Kubota**

KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION  
P.O. Box 2992, Dept. GCN  
Torrance, CA 90509-2992  
or call Toll Free  
1-888-4 KUBOTA ext. 407  
1-888-458-2682 ext. 407



Available with 60" or 72" side discharge mower or 60" rear discharge mower.

Financing available through Kubota Credit Corporation

