

Tenn. state parks to pay \$10,000 for wetlands violation

HENDERSON, Tenn. — The state of Tennessee will pay a \$10,000 fine and return more than 100 acres of swamp to nature as part of a proposed settlement for illegally destroying wetlands during the construction of a Jack Nicklaus-designed course at Chickasaw State Park in Chester County, about 75 miles

east of Memphis.

The settlement was issued in an administrative complaint and consent agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and agreed to by Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner



Milton Hamilton. The deal is expected to help resolve months of turmoil over the state of Tennessee's efforts to build the Nicklaus course in Chickasaw State Park, one of four Jack Nicklaus courses the state plans to build at state parks across the state.

According to the EPA and other agencies, Golf Services Group, a Houston-based management and development group contracted by the state, cleared and filled 14.21 acres of wetlands without a federal Clean Water Act permit. State officials have said the damage resulted from an oversight.

Smokey Mtns. home to new golf course

GREENEVILLE, Tenn. — The new 18-hole River Trace Golf Course in Greeneville has risen in the shadows of the Smoky Mountains on land that once held the nine-hole Nolichucky Golf Course.

Four original holes from the old Nolichucky layout, with some modifications, have been joined by 14 new holes to make the new 18-hole, daily-fee facility.

The new holes at the 6,085-yard layout were designed by an associate of the Larry Nelson group. Construction was done by Dave Stewart of Graysburg Hills in Chuckey.

AGC moves to Virginia Beach

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — American Golf Corp. is moving its northeast regional headquarters from Maumee, Ohio, to Virginia Beach.

"One of the prime reasons we're doing this is the growth cooperative in golf the various municipalities are projecting," Mark Tansey, American Golf's regional marketing and sales director, told *The Virginian-Pilot*. "We've heard about it, studied it, and we think we're going to pull it off. We want to be part of it."

American Golf's move comes at a time when the Virginia Beach area is buzzing with golf news. Local officials have said they would like to see the area become a top-notch golf and resort destination and would like to see more high-end golf courses built. A group of angry citizens in Virginia Beach has also been pushing for that city to privatize its municipal courses. American Golf Corp. manages four courses in Virginia.

MINN. LAYOUT A FAMILY AFFAIR

BRAINERD, Minn. — The new nine-hole Crosslake Golf Course is a family venture. Jack Stone, owner of the Crosslake Golf facility which already had an executive course, financed the building of the nine-hole regulation layout. His son Mike designed the course and managed construction. Crosslake opened for play recently. The Stones plan to add three more holes to Crosslake's executive course next year.

