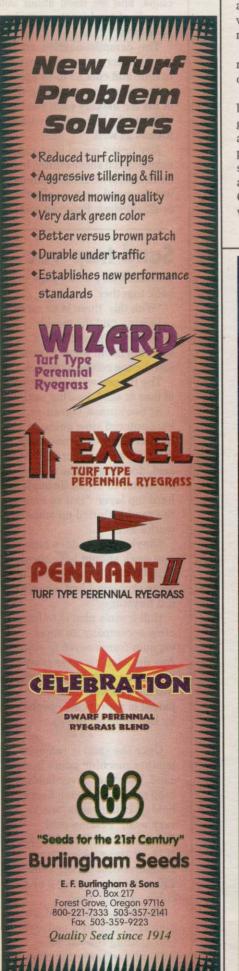


Vaporizing means never om n having to say you're smoking

By TERRY BUCHEN

UBLIN, Ohio - There are blowers, and then there are blowers. Just ask superintendent Ted Hunker, who, thanks to Ranger Construction Co., has seen the future when it comes to burning brush

The scene: Tartan Fields Golf Club, about a mile from Muirfield Village Golf Club.



The cast: Hunker, Ranger Construction and Arnold Palmer's design team of Harrison Minchew and Ioe Veal.

The star: a huge blower, powered by a V-8 diesel engine, that flames a fire so hot that wood burns quickly and virtually smoke-free.

"After the clearing process on our wooded holes," said Hunker, "we obtained burn permits from our township fire department and burned all of our trees in very large pits that were dug in far out-of-play areas and near high-tension power lines.'

To speed up the burning and eliminate smoke, Ranger brought in the outof-this-world blower.

"The fire department extended our burn permit indefinitely because of the great quality burning that is being done and we are being a good neighbor in the process without one single complaint," said Hunker, the former superintendent at TPC at River Highlands in Hartford, Conn. "It has made a big difference of what the neighbors will let us do."

Contractors have used between 12

A blower helps a crew keep smoke to a minimum after clearing brush on

a golf course. and 15 pits thus far. The blower is

portable and has needed very little maintenance. It is homemade and can be towed easily with a pickup or tractor, Hunker said.

Minchew, vice president of Palmer Course Design Co., uses this type of blower on other jobs "because of the great air quality, which virtually eliminates the smoke," he said. "Even if it is not required by local codes and ordinances,

ON THE GREEN

we want to be a good neighbor and part of the team concept for the owner.'

Minchew credited John Rielly of Ranger Construction and Mark Eitelman of Agriscapes with their attention to details like the blower and other quality-oriented jobs.

'Winning Fields' field days planned around New York

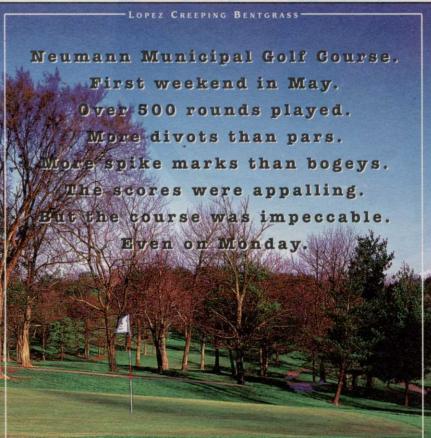
ALBANY, N.Y. - The New York State Turfgrass Association is planning a series on sports turf maintenance, "Winning Fields," scheduled at Hofstra University on July 14, Dutchess Stadium on July 15 and SUNY Potsdam, July 17.

The goal of the programs is to provide basic and advanced topics with an emphasis on understanding the fundamental principles of sports turf management, stressing safety issues. Topics will include variety selection, fertilization for maximum rooting, mowing, watering techniques, seeding high traffic areas, communicating with coaches and administrators, integrated pest management for sports turf and spreader calibration,

Scheduled speakers are Dr. Frank Rossi, assistant professor and Extension turfgrass specialist at Cornell University; Bob Emmons, professor of plant science at SUNY Cobleskill; Dominic Morales, chairman of the Department of Plant Science at SUNY Delhi; John Liburdi Jr. from the town of Colonie and Kevin Trotta, head groundskeeper at North Rockland Central School District. Fred Soviero of Hofstra University, Mike Francese of Dutchess Stadium and Steve Bracy of SUNY Potsdam will give their perspective on managing a multi-use sports turf field and host tours of each facility.

These seminars will take place from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to attend a trade show with state-of-the-art equipment and supplies, held in conjunction with the seminar.

Winning Fields" is sponsored by the New York State Turfgrass Association, Cornell University and the New York State Association for Superintendents of School Buildings and Grounds.



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