

ATLANTA NAT'L HIRES CUNNINGHAM

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — Atlanta National Golf Club has appointed Timothy M. Cunningham course superintendent.

Cunningham has been at Atlanta National since 1991 and has been the assistant superintendent since 1994. He is responsible for directing all golf course and clubhouse grounds maintenance and improvement work at Atlanta National, a design of Pete and P.B. Dye.



TPC network's clean machines

By TERRY BUCHEN

LAS VEGAS — Keeping golf course maintenance equipment clean is a top priority with superintendents and their staffs, and some really high-tech equipment can help keep up with this undertaking.

One excellent example is at The TPC at The Canyons, where superintendent Kim Byron Wood has the latest and greatest state-of-the-art cleaning equipment, now used extensively in the TPC network.

"Cleaning and waxing our equipment is a top priority, so our equipment will last much longer, will be much easier for our equipment technicians to service and for keeping our equipment looking new all of the time," said Wood.

Woods has a pressure washer, that has a natural gas-fired burner/heater, that is used only by our equipment technicians, where they wax each piece of equipment after washing it, prior to servicing and any repairs. Next to the pressure washer, looking left to right,



The state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly wash rack at The TPC at The Canyons, designed with efficiency in mind.

is a large red-colored hose reel with a large 1-inch diameter high-pressure water hose that comes from the irrigation system. Two green-colored signs warn employees not to drink the irrigation water, even though it is domestic water that is pumped into a irrigation lake and then re-pumped onto the course and maintenance center complex.

The smaller gray-colored hose reel, and hand trigger-operated wand, are for the pressure washer. Next comes another red-colored hose reel that has a high-pressure air hose, with a larger yellow-colored safety sign warning employees that "eye protection is required while using air hose."

On the far right side is another red-colored larger hose reel with another

large 1-inch diameter high-pressure hose originating from the irrigation system, Wood said.

"Our drainage grate has a small mesh screen material over it so grass clippings and other smaller debris does not go into our oil and grease separator vault," Wood said. "We pay an annual permit and inspection fee for this, so our licensed disposal company can take periodic tests to make sure we are in compliance with the city, and then it is emptied out as needed."

Wood said he is "extremely pleased with our equipment cleaning area which was well thought out, taking many good ideas and formulating them into an effective system as part of our TPC and PGA Tour team concept."

A Texas-sized fountain

By TERRY BUCHEN

DALLAS — Many fun things are done in a big way in the state of Texas. A fine example is a unique design of an on-course drinking fountain at The Northwood Club, where golf course superintendent Scott Ebers joined the staff in 1997.

"We have an area, near the tunnel that goes under the roadway which separates our golf course, where a few greens and tees are near each other, making for a good traffic flow of golfers going back and forth," Ebers said. "To accommodate our members and their guests as best as possible, a larger-than-normal drinking fountain was strategically placed which has four drinking faucets that can be used all at one time."

To keep the water as cold as possible during the warm summer, Ebers' staff places ice cubes over a complex series of copper tubing coils, which keeps the water very cold. As each day progresses, one of the staff checks the ice levels, which are replaced as needed. The melted ice water goes into the same drain piping that is used for the faucets, so no surface water accumulates on the cart path or turfgrass areas.

"There are some times when two or three foursomes



The Northwood Club's drinking fountain that can service an entire foursome at once.

come to this drinking fountain at the same time and since this drinking fountain design can handle each foursome at once, it really satisfies our golfers in a rapid fashion," Ebers said.

The drinking fountain is painted green, color-coordinated with our other golf course accessories on The Northwood Club's grounds, he said.

Rutgers offers introduction to golf course turf management

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Rutgers' Cook College Office of Continuing Professional Education is offering an introductory two-day course designed for groundskeepers, foremen and crew members who have fewer than two years experience, or little or no formal education in turfgrass management. Students will receive a comprehensive overview of the golf course industry, behind-the-scenes insight into the responsibilities of the superintendent and the assistant superintendent, practical, useful tips you can use immediately on the job, techniques to overcome the daily challenges faced by golf course managers,

current golf course management practices, and networking opportunities with the area's top superintendents and your future colleagues.

Meanwhile, in Bedminster, a two-day symposium is planned on environmental management on the golf course. Both the golf industry and environmentalists agree: Only healthy plants can survive the pounding turf takes from golfers, diseases, insects and other stresses. Promoting plant health is not only the best way to minimize chemical use; it's the best way to maintain the playing surface golfers' demand. This symposium will provide practical strategies-condensed on to checklists you take home — to minimize potential impacts and maximize environmental benefits of operating a golf course. More information is available from Keith Wilson at 732-932-9271.

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