

Polson CC expands with Steidel-designed 9

POLSON, Mont. — The city celebrated the expansion of its Polson Country Club to 27 holes with grand opening festivities on July 30. Located on the south shore of Flathead Lake, the project was built on land donated by developers of the Mission Bay Golf Community, with cooperation from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

The newest nine holes will join with nine built 10 years ago to form the Championship Eighteen that will play at around 7,000 yards from the blue tees. The scenic original nine holes, built in the 1930s, will be operated as a nine-hole course.

The new nine was designed by John Steidel of Kennewick, Wash., who said he designed the course to accommodate members and resort play, as well as challenging tournament golfers.

The new nine is highlighted by the 155-yard, par-3 4th that plays into a 60-foot-deep glacier crater, and the 558-yard par-5 6th hole, which doglegs left along the shore of Flathead Lake.

After playing the 6th hole, Steidel remarked: "If Polson's 6th hole is not the best par-5 I've ever designed, I know it's the prettiest."

JOHNSTON SIGNS S.C. DESIGN DEAL

FORT MILL, S.C. — Clyde Johnston has been retained to design an 18-hole daily-fee golf course here, called Springfield Golf Course. The course is owned and will be managed by Leroy Springs & Co., Inc., which has three other courses within a 30-mile radius of Springfield. Clear Springs Development Co. is making available the land for the course. Both companies are located in Fort Mill. In designing Springfield, Johnston will work along the banks of Sugar Creek, a swiftly moving, 70-foot-wide waterway that drains rainwater from much of the metro-Charlotte area.

Wetlands regs

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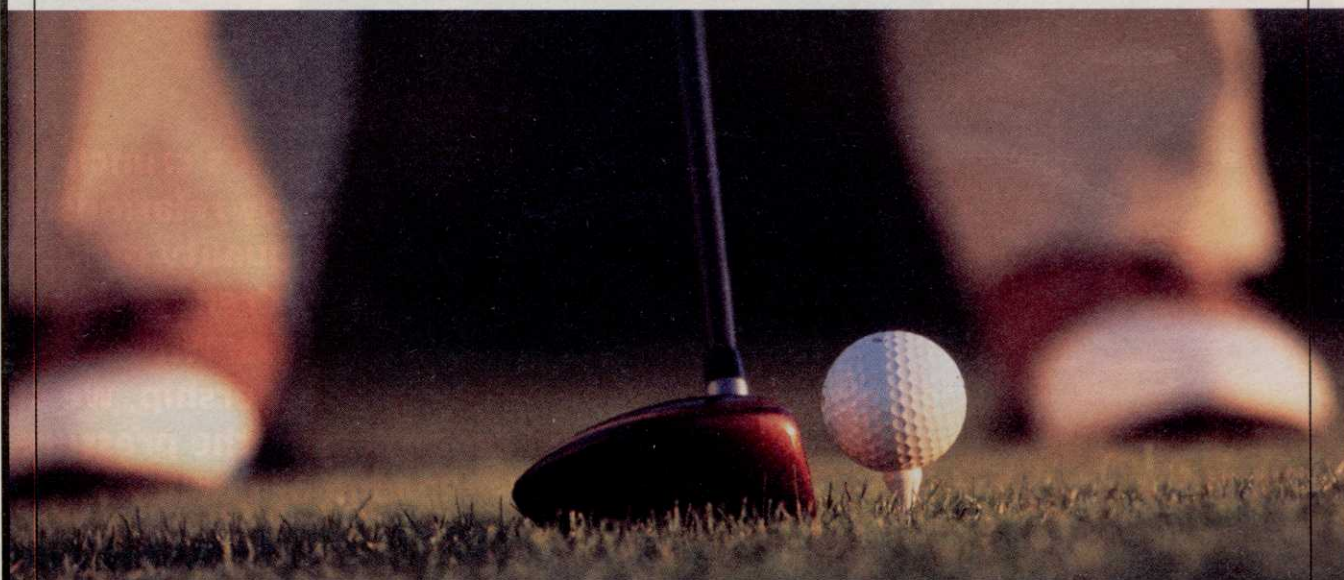
which could include golf courses and ski areas, "provided substantial grading and filling is not required."

NWP 43 might also affect golf development. It authorizes construction of new stormwater management facilities and maintenance of existing stormwater ponds and basins. A 2-acre maximum impact for new construction is expected under this NWP, but excludes impacts to perennial streams. A pre-construction notification must be submitted to and approved by the USACE for construction or maintenance of existing facilities if impacts exceed 1/4 acre of wetlands or 500 linear feet of intermittent stream.

These various pre-construction notifications usually must include such items as a stormwater facility maintenance plan, a delineation of streams and wetlands, mitigation for new construction impacts, and measures taken to avoid and minimize stream and wetland impacts.

When the new regulations take effect, Sanders said, "We're not anticipating it slowing things down. By their very nature, NWPs speed up the process. This will probably make the process more efficient because you won't need more analysis." ▶

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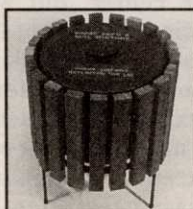
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