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Pick it up and go

Building a grass-clipping cart with used materials already in inventory can make collecting and transporting grass clippings easy and inexpensive.

Rich Reimers Sr., equipment manager at Sunnybrook Golf Club in Plymouth Meeting, Pa., used the front tires, wheels, bearings and axle from a 1970s Jacobsen Greensking triplex greensmower as part of the cart. Reimers used a driveshaft as a tongue-and-hitch combination to hook the cart to the tow hitch on the back of a Jacobsen LF 3400 fairway mower. To hold the trash container in place, he welded a metal bracket made out of used bedknives, 1.5-inch-by-1.5-inch angle iron and three-quarter-inch-diameter steel pipe. The plastic trash container was bolted onto the metal bracket with five-eighths-inch diameter bolts, nuts and lock washers. The container was purchased 10 years ago from Bayhead Products Corp. in Dover, N.H., for \$100.

The total labor time to make the cart was about four hours, and there was no cost for the used materials already in stock.

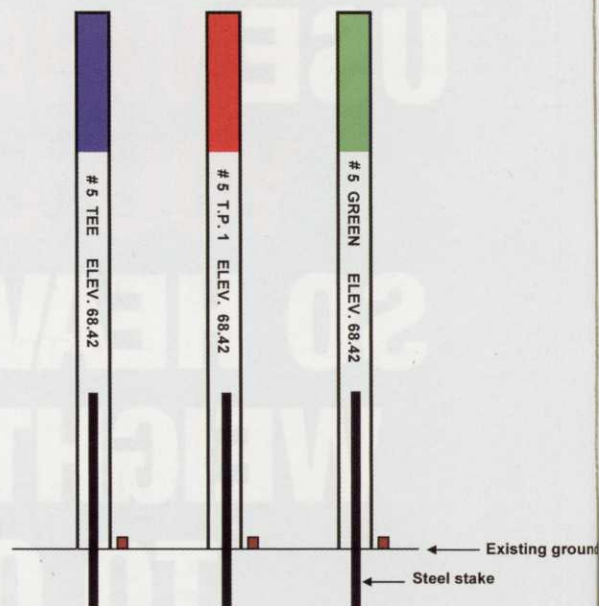


Identify it easily

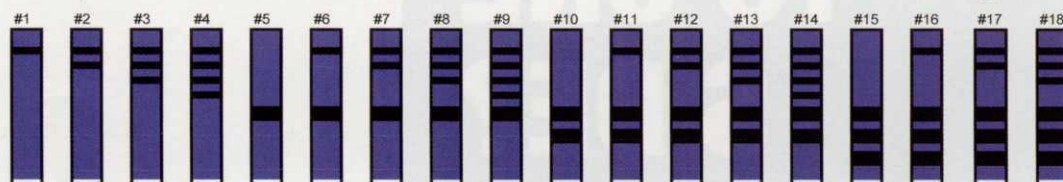
During new golf course construction, greens, tees and turning points on the par 4s and 5s usually are identified with 4-inch-diameter PVC pipe monuments placed vertically 20-feet high so they can be seen from a distance.

The PVC pipe is slid over a snow-fence-type metal post. The top 1.5 feet of each PVC pipe is colored-coded: blue for tees, red for turning points and green for greens. Usually, the hole number is written on the sides of the pipe with a Sharpie-type felt pen, but it can't be seen from a distance, so a person has to walk or drive to any of the poles to verify what hole they're on.

I developed this hole-numbering system – using a Roman numeral concept – so the hole number can be seen from a considerable distance. The larger black bands at the top of each PVC pipe represent the number five, and the smaller black bands represent the number one. All a person has to do to know what hole he's on is total the number of black bands. GCI



Buchen system of golf monument numbering



Travels With Terry

Globetrotting consulting agronomist Terry Buchen visits many golf courses annually with his digital camera in hand. He will share helpful ideas relating to maintenance equipment from the golf course superintendents he visits – as well as a few ideas of his own – with timely photos and captions that explore the changing world of golf course management.