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## Check it out

A checklist helps track equipment maintenance – fluid levels, tire conditions, fueling, washing and parking – before and after golf course maintenance employees use the equipment.

Angel Guzman, equipment manager, and Jeff Latka, golf course superintendent, at Champions Run Golf Club in Omaha, Neb. (the site of the annual Nationwide Tour's Cox Classic presented by Chevrolet), developed a checklist to track those maintenance items. The staff uses a recycled, parts bin metal cabinet with 36 spaces for clipboards to track each piece of motorized equipment. The name of each piece of equipment is written above each space in permanent-ink marker. Each employee fills out his own checklist after he checks the oil, fuel, coolant, air filter, hydraulic fluid and tires, and looks for any fluid leaks. When the equipment is returned to the maintenance building after being used on the golf course, it's fueled (with the number of gallons documented), cleaned and parked. The hour meter reading is documented with the employee's initials.

The metal cabinet cost about \$100 five years ago, and the clipboards cost \$2 each. It took Guzman about two hours to complete.



## Marking the green

Marking a green's edge in relation to the desired collar width can be done easily with a modified paint-stripping machine.

Thomas Athy, CGCS, director of grounds at the Omaha (Neb.) Country Club, uses a stripe marking machine (\$250) fitted with an easy marker paint gun (\$15) and a 15-ounce aerosol paint can (\$3 each). Athy added a threaded, quarter-inch-diameter steel rod (\$2) that was bolted to the machine, which has a 24-inch handle. A rubber tip (\$1) was placed on the other end of the rod to keep the rod from digging into the grass. The rubber tip is held in place by a one-eighth-inch-diameter nylon rope (25 cents). The desired collar width can be made easily by making the rod the desired width, then painting the dotted lines on the greens' edges for the mower operator to follow.

It took about one hour to modify the paint-stripping machine. **GCI**



## 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.