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*"It was like putting in a new irrigation system. I became a believer overnight."*

**Mike Huck**  
 Irrigation & Turfgrass Services  
 Former USGA Staff Agronomist and  
 Superintendent, Murrieta Hot Springs Resort

Nozzles so consistent,  
 patterns so uniform...  
 it's like rain on demand.™

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We'd like to hear from you.

E-mail us at [gci@gie.net](mailto:gci@gie.net) with your thoughts and opinions.

**FEEDBACK**

**Old school**

I loved Pat Jones' "iCRACK" comments (November 2010, page 6).

Being old, I don't have to succumb to the pressures of having to have a smart phone or, in fact, even a cell phone. I admit I do have a truck phone for emergencies. It amazes me the time people spend staring at a 4-inch screen. It is impossible now to ride an elevator, eat breakfast or lunch without someone talking very loud into their device.

We have even lost contact with our teenage granddaughters because we don't text, Twitter or Facebook. Email is soooo old fashioned and being caught talking on a phone would be devastating.

I will at least go down being able to spend a day doing what I want without one interruption by a ridiculous ring tone.

Keep up the good work.

**Corey Eastwood**  
 Owner  
 Eastwood Golf  
 Stockton, Calif.

To read "iCRACK" enter <http://tinyurl.com/3xs65vu> into your Web browser.

**Question about rolling**

While reading "Fix your crown" in the November issue (page 38) I found a major mistake and I am sure you would want me to point it out to you.

They are using a Salsco Greens Roller to repair the course and they referred to it as a "Sidewinder-style greens roller, 1-ton asphalt roller." I know that's wrong because a Sidewinder-style roller was designed to do bowling greens, very flat and very hard. This type of unit would never be able to move in the very soft wet turf with its one drive roll. It would be spinning and stuck in no time.

A 1-ton asphalt roller belongs on the driveway, not on the green. It, too, would be stuck.

**Sal Rizzo**  
 President  
 Salsco

*Author's response:*  
 Most superintendents refer to the non-wheel

driven rollers, which travel sideways as "sidewinder rollers." My only experience with sidewinder-style rollers is with the Salsco. I have no reason to think that the other brands could not accomplish the same result.

Mr. Rizzo commented that a unit would spin or get stuck in very soft, wet turf. I haven't observed this situation. Remember that the target area is a result of a buildup of sand and can only hold so much water.

Personally, I have used, and have heard other superintendents using, 1-ton asphalt rollers to roll putting green surfaces following aeration, especially on sand-based greens when significant rutting occurs following aeration.

Mr. Rizzo is much more familiar with the various roller specs and I am not disagreeing with his concern. However, in my experience we did not suffer any adverse conditions or damage as a result of the procedure described.

Each golf course and condition is unique and it is the superintendent's responsibility to analyze the potential impact of any management practice. Even though I described a specific procedure, it cannot be viewed as a cookie-cutter application that will fit every scenario.

**Dustin Riley, CGCS**  
 Oconomowoc Golf Club  
 Oconomowoc, Wis.

To read "Fix your crown" enter <http://tinyurl.com/23zmo8q> into your Web browser.

**Daydream believer**

I enjoyed Monroe Miller's November column ("Who would you like to have met?" page 35). No doubt I have daydreamed about the same things before.

My grandfather passed away when I was just 3 years old. Being a fifth-generation American, and my brother being the a fifth-generation farmer on the same homestead, how wonderful would it be to have time with my brother, father, grandfather, great and great, great grandfathers, enjoying a dinner on the farm and hearing their stories and seeing their reaction to how much farming has changed.

I would also like to meet with Charlie Erickson, "The General" as he was lovingly called by the membership. He was the head greenkeeper here at The Minikahda Club



for 40 years – 1900-1940. He was a real innovator here in the Minneapolis area and helped Toro get its start in the turf business. It would be a real treat to meet a leader of his generation.

You have a great list of individuals and I know I could add to the list Jim Arthur, agronomist from Great Britain, and legendary greenkeeper at Royal Melbourne Golf Club, Claude Crockford.

This is a great time of year for daydreaming. Thanks for getting my mind off of things for a few moments.

**Jeff Johnson**  
Superintendent  
The Minikahda Club  
Minneapolis

To read this article type <http://tinyurl.com/2cfwqe> into your Web browser.

#### WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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## ONLINE FEEDBACK



### Syngenta interviews

Good interviews, Pat ("Syngenta Business Institute 2011, online video). Where was this type of program 20 and 30 years ago?! Man those fellows were young.

**John Cummings, CGCS**  
(retired)  
Charleston, W.Va.

To view this video type <http://tinyurl.com/2c76336> into your Web browser.

### Government and golf

The (online) article on the subject ("Government's role in golf courses," Dec. 4, 2010) was very hard to take. I do not understand how this community's argument garnered national spotlight. I know you guys think anything about golf is newsworthy. However, such an article is a bunch of golf course owners who cannot compete.

They bought a course. Paid too much. Now they want the competition eliminated. Man, must be nice if you can get an organization such as yours to give the article front page breaking news headlines. Wow. Is there nothing we can do to tell these whinny cry babies that a good stiff round of competition is good for any game.

I'm surprised that a rag like yours would publish such dribble. These guys are crying and you guys give them a sympathetic shoulder to cry on. Wow, I thought it was all about the game and making it better. How many of these namby-pamby cry babies

have ever hosted the First Tee or offered free golf to the local high school golfers.

Just like all news articles, there was no mention of the municipal utility companies providing water and sewer. Government-owned power companies are a staple of life in many areas. But those that purchased the flawed feasibility study now want the competition eliminated.

Wow!

**Wendell Nealon, CGCS**  
Swan Lake Golf Course  
Clarksville, TN,

GCI responds:

Without a doubt, this is a hot-button issue for the golf industry. As such, we offered GCI readers this article, authored by the Jackson (Mich.) Citizen Patriot, for consideration online, as we do with other articles of interest published by other media outlets. In addition, we provided a hyperlink to GCI's May Cover story, which we believe provides GCI readers with a more balanced approach to this topic.

To read the Jackson (Mich.) Citizen Patriot article "Government's role in golf courses" enter <http://tinyurl.com/26wftc7> into your Web browser.

To read GCI's May Cover story "In munis we trust" enter <http://tinyurl.com/2d2gcyp> into your Web browser.



▲  
Cost

▼  
ROI



*"We were previously running the sprinklers 40 minutes...We cut that back to 18-minute run times"*

**Adam Bagwell**  
Superintendent - Crane Creek Country Club  
Boise, Idaho

*"The nozzles really helped us out from August through October. We went from a wet, hot spring to a severe drought."*

**Doug Norwell**  
Superintendent - Camargo Club  
Cincinnati, Ohio

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