



## #gcitweetup2012

GCI is what's trending at the GIS in Las Vegas this year. We're inviting our Tweeps and other online friends to be a part of our golf/turf social media Tweetup.

The event will be from 5 to 7 p.m., Feb. 28, near the show itself, and will be a great opportunity to get together with others who know the importance of social media in the industry, as well as meet with several GCI staffers and columnists.

The winners of our first-ever Golf Course Industry Super Social Media Awards will also be announced at the Tweetup. The deadline for nominations was Feb. 10. Winners will be recognized in the following categories:

- Outstanding Social Media Leadership
- Best of the Blogs
- Innovative Use of Twitter
- Video & Multimedia Excellence

Want to be a part of the trend? Follow us on Twitter @GCI Magazine or on Facebook. Set aside the time for the gathering of the top social media minds at GIS, and watch for the details to show up in our feed before the show!

## UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE

Quantico's Medal of Honor Golf course is dealing with an underground movement. But though they may upset the turf, they're not a huge threat to national security – maybe more to an unaware golfer who might step in a hole.

The course has been dealing with an onslaught of groundhogs for several years, peaking back in 2006. Superintendent Mike Morgan has trapped more than 400 of them since then, he says.

"We've always had them," he says, "but they just got really bad in 2004, 2005. With all the wildlife we have on the golf course, they create a problem with all the walkers."

Morgan contacted the game warden and got some live traps to work with, putting in time researching the habits of the common groundhog. He and his crew discovered they had what they needed to tempt the nuisances all along: bananas.

"They love bananas, they love chrysanthemums," says Morgan.

Once caught, the groundhogs aren't interrogated – they're simply taken across the bridge to the west side of the base.

"Quantico's separated by [Interstate] 95," says Morgan. "It's really the right thing to do. They can eat just as well on the other side of 95 as they can on this side, and you don't see many of them trying to cross the bridge to get back."

Morgan has tried to take as many as he could across the bridge in the past fall, even though he knows that more will show up next season.

"For the most part, we try to flag the worst stuff, and the golfers have pretty much learned where the habitats are," he says. "We've pretty much learned to live with them."



## A PRIVATE ROUND

Some guys will do anything to be able to spend a quiet day on the course. At the Shoop Park Golf Course in Wind Point, Wis., a couple golfers were taking advantage of the mild weather and tranquility of nature. The reason it was so quiet, however, was that the course was closed.

Police spotted the two men taking shots along the 7th hole, despite the many "Closed for the season" signs posted throughout the course. Not only did the party have a private round in play, they had caused about 30 divots around the tee box.

The two men were cited with trespassing at the course – and they fixed their divots.