Never too cold

Temperatures this winter may have hit unprecedented lows throughout the country, but that doesn't mean the work flow needed to freeze up.

Jason Adams, superintendent at Blue Hill Country Club in Canton, Mass., reports that during a typical winter his staff is hard at work removing trees and underbrush throughout the course. Even though they accomplished a tremendous amount, this year's snowfall amounts and extreme cold weather forced them inside at times.

Adams and his crew took advantage of those times by helping the mechanic in his preventative maintenance for the upcoming season, organizing the shop areas to be even more efficient in our daily operations, create pesticide and fertilizer programs, attend agronomic training seminars, refurbish golf course accessories and build budgets just to name a few.

One thing they had been doing is rebuilding old sprinkler parts and testing them.

"You might ask how we can test them without water or water pressure, right?" says Adams, "Assistant superintendent Alex Martin created a sprinkler tester from a prototype idea I had created many years ago as an assistant superintendent. By using some PVC parts, the shop com

It's never too cold to test old sprinkler parts. Here's the testing device assistant superintendent Alex Martin developed.

pressor and a 24-volt transformer we are able to simulate water pressure and electrical signals just like in the field. [Martin] is able to rebuild and test bottom valves, pilot valves and even electric solenoids in the shop. This helps us prepare for the irrigation start-up in the spring and allows us to save money on irrigation inventory."

Say CHEESE!

GCI hit the ground running at the 2014 Golf Industry Show and we took a lot of pictures documenting the entire show. We've posted a few images here on Whiteboard, but you really need to check out the app for an exclusive digital slide show.

View tons of images via our issue app. You just might catch a glimpse of yourself.