

# Plastic Pipe Saves Muny Course Over \$5,000

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A FEW months ago, I went to our Board of Aldermen in Sanford, N. C., with an idea for a sprinkler system which would save our municipally owned 9-hole course at least \$5,000. I had been told by representatives of Triangle Conduit & Cable Co., Inc., New Brunswick, N. J., manufacturers of plastic pipe, that installing plastic pipe would save us considerable money over a regular iron pipe installation. We were starting from scratch because up to this point we had had no sprinkler system and had depended entirely upon the weather which certainly had not served us very well.

The Board of Aldermen were not hard to convince when we pointed out to them that plastic pipe, being light and flexible, was considerably easier to install than ordinary types of pipe. They gave us the "green light," the pipe was shipped and a Triangle representative stayed with us throughout the entire installation.

My estimate on the cost of installing ordinary pipe ran to about \$10,000 or a little over \$1,000 a green. When we finally added up our costs of material and labor for installing the plastic pipe, the whole job, including making the pond, came to less than \$5,000. With the strong possibility in mind that others would be interested in such savings, I'll go into some of the details.

We used 1600 ft. of 3 in. pipe, 150 ft. of 2 in. pipe, 500 ft. of 1½ in., 2260 ft. of 1¼ in., 100 ft. of 1 in. and 500 ft. of ¾ in. pipe. The 3 in. pipe went into the pond and was pumped out through a Peerless Fluidyne pump close-coupled to a single-phase 115-230 volt, 5 h.p., 3450 RPM motor. We had only planned on enough pressure to water five greens at one time but the smoothness of the inner wall of the plastic pipe allowed us to water all nine greens at one time. The pressure at the pump was about 60 lbs. and the pressure at the greens was 40 or 45 lbs.

We dug our trenches about 8 or 9 in. deep, using a single plow behind a Ford tractor. The Triangle representative told me that in cold country freezing water doesn't affect the pipe. It merely expands

with freezing water or ice and comes back to normal when temperatures rise.

The thing I liked best about this pipe was the fact that it is so light and flexible. Installation is an extremely simple job. When we came to any kind of an obstruction like a large rock or a tree, we simply went around it. We didn't have to worry about blasting. The three men I had work-



A screwdriver and hack-saw are only tools needed for installation of plastic pipe.

ing on the job found the pipe extremely light and easy to handle. One man can carry a coil of 200 ft. without any trouble.

Another great advantage of plastic pipe is that you don't need any elaborate tools. We carried a hack-saw and a screw driver along with us and that's all. It was a matter of about a ½ minute to cut through the pipe with a hack-saw and most of the connections were made up tight by means of a screw-type clamp provided by Triangle. We used galvanized connectors in the larger sizes and plastic connectors, supplied by Triangle, in the smaller sizes. In those few places where we made connections between the plastic pipe and short lengths of iron pipe, the manufacturer supplied us with a plastic adapter which is ideally suited for the job.

To illustrate the ease of installation, we started this job on Thursday at 2 o'clock and with 3 men working 6 hours a day, had the water on all 9 greens at 2 o'clock



### AND STILL THE SHOT ECHOES

Lew Worsham (left) and George S. May look over part of the bales of clippings referring to Lew's unparalleled tournament finish of an eagle in the Tam O' Shanter World championship. George is going to have a press clipping bill about as big as the \$25,000 first prize Lew won. Engineers of Bell and Howell Co. (motion picture equipment makers) have figured out from the film of Worsham's shot that he holed out, just how long the shot was. Now it's official. The distance was 104 yds.

Saturday afternoon. I figured if we had been laying regular pipe it would have taken 4 or 5 times as long and we would have needed more men.

Not only were we able to save the town money by using plastic pipe, but the ease of installation resulted in very little player interruption.

Another thing I like about Triangle pipe is that it will not rot, rust or corrode. I don't know exactly what the life expectancy is but I've been told that you can



Light weight of plastic pipe and ease in handling speed installation. Here Van Watson and crew test connections before covering.

bury it and forget it for at least 35 years. That's good enough for me. The fact that the pipe won't rust or corrode also means that you'll be getting a full flow of water at all times. I imagine that if many clubs were to examine their ordinary metal pipe that has been on the ground for some time, they would find it only about 50% efficient because of the accumulation of rust and scale on the inside. This will never happen with plastic pipe.

This Triangle plastic pipe that we used is made from virgin polyethylene and is perfectly suitable for conveying water for drinking purposes. It would be ideal for carrying water out to the various drinking fountains on any golf course.

All in all, I am very pleased with our decision to use plastic pipe. I would strongly recommend it to any club that is looking for a way to save money.

When you want to get quick action on trade-ins, of odd clubs especially, put these clubs in a barrel in your shop and hang a sign on the barrel advertising them at greatly reduced prices. It's surprising how many of these clubs will be bought by fellows who haven't been having much luck with some club or clubs in their sets.

— Johnny Bass