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highly-developed system of green belts serving densely populated areas. These green belts—mostly small parks and wooded areas—are heavily used.

Americans can look for an increased use of parks and woods near heavily populated areas. If access to free-wheeling cars and skies full of planes is diminished, there may be an American renaissance of hiking, hosteling, and cross-country skiing. Bowling greens and lawn games may return to our towns. The network of more than 11,000 golf courses—one of America's national treasures—will increase in importance as we move further into this new age of shortages.

As the demands on these facilities grow—and they are bound to—scientists and researchers will have to keep pace with new turf management techniques and products. In the last quarter of a century, there have been such achievements as: new warm and cool season turfgrasses; fertilizers; fungicides; herbicides; insecticides, and turf equipment. That kind of developmental work will provide the basis for continually satisfactory turfgrass areas.

The energy crisis provides turfgrass managers with their greatest challenge and their greatest opportunity in years. The production and maintenance of good turfgrass facilities can only grow in importance, for they are a vital part of our way of life. □

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thereby reducing the number of times per season that you must cover the same area.

Too much mowing can waste power, as can allowing the grass to grow too long, which may require subsequent cleanup operations. Try to remove no more than one-third of the blade of grass at each mowing. Greens will still require daily mowing, but you can revise mowing schedules for all other areas.

Other conservation suggestions are these:

1. Keep the gas pump locked to avoid theft;
2. Avoid spilling while refueling. You'll want your operators to avoid hot rodding and jack rabbit starts and stops. This may bring the additional benefit of reducing breakdowns;
3. Turn off the engine when not in use; there is no productive work done while idling;
4. A governor installed on the engine is the most efficient means of ensuring uniform speed. It is not always necessary to operate machines at maximum rated RPM. With hydrostatic propulsion drive, you can reduce engine speed and still maintain the desired ground speed. The reduced speed will save fuel.

Fertilization and water practices affect the frequency of mowing. Soil analysis may not only save money on

fertilizer, but will eliminate the possibility of over fertilizing, therefore reducing frequency of mowing while maintaining good growth and color in the grass. An efficient sprinkler system, which evenly distributes and controls moisture, influences the growth of grass; that, in turn, dictates the frequency of mowing. Don't water any more than is absolutely necessary.

Fuel can be saved, but it will require special effort on the superintendent's part to reduce gasoline consumption 10 to 20 per cent. Select the proper machine for the job, keep equipment properly maintained and adjusted and make full use of your managerial talent. Any one of the steps listed is not critical for fuel conservation, but all of them will give you the opportunity to save fuel without sacrificing good turfgrass management practices. □

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