

## Tips

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"There used to be a massive nutria [a water-dwelling rodent] population that was destroying our lake banks, but the presence of natural predators like coyotes has solved that problem," Sandburg says. "Likewise, purple marlins and bats have almost eliminated our troubling mosquito season."

■ **Don't forget to use the resources that nature provides.** Retain indigenous vegetation that will enhance the course, and minimize disturbance to pre-existing earth and water formations. Such formations may be useful in shaping the course. During construction, minimize wildlife disruption.

### Making the process simpler

Golf and environmental organizations are taking steps to encourage the naturalization practice, and research and technology are making the process simpler.

Since 1991, Audubon International, a non-profit environmental organization, has worked in cooperation with the U.S. Golf Association to promote the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for golf courses. The program shows superintendents how to include environmental solutions in their management practices, and has helped more than 2,300 courses further their benefits to local environments without detracting from the advancement of golf.

Another major step in promoting naturalization has been creation of the "Environmental Principles for Golf Courses in the United States." A collection of organizations, including the USGA, the GCSAA, the National Wildlife Federation and the EPA, developed this set of voluntary guidelines for environmentally aware golf course creation, maintenance and operation.

Recent advancements in mapping and imaging technology allow designers to preserve a course's natural ecosystem. Modern satellite remote-sensing technology creates precise relief images of an area. A designer uses these models to plan a course that fits the site's topography, preserves waterways and minimizes disruption of habitats.

Turfgrass development also is making progress. The USGA Green Section funds the Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program, which is the world's largest private turfgrass research effort. The project promotes development of new turfgrass varieties with improved properties, such as higher water retention, reduced pesticide requirements and more efficient fertilizer use.

Independent turfgrass breeders, too, are working to cultivate grasses that are better suited for applications such as naturalization. "For example, breeders are contributing by developing grasses with endophytes, which have natural insect-controlling properties," Dinelli says. ■

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## The Company Line

■ PRODUCTS & SERVICES



### ▲ Surfactant

A new omni-directional surfactant with enhanced kelp, Aqua-MAXXT, is available from **Aqua-Aid**. The surfactant is developed to put down water, wetting agent and growth stimulant in one application. It's formulated from a highly stable enhanced kelp extract. When combined with a wetting agent, it produces maximum root growth and root density in minimum time, the company says.

For more information, contact 800-394-1551, [www.aqua-maxx.com](http://www.aqua-maxx.com) or

CIRCLE NO. 200

### Aerator

#### **Aquamaster Fountains and Aerators**

offers a floating surface aerator, capable of creating a random boil or bubble effect on the water's surface. This low-profile aerator is easily installed and works efficiently with any depth. It's available from one to five horsepower with a three-year motor warranty.

For more information, contact 800-693-3144,

[www.aquamasterfountains.com](http://www.aquamasterfountains.com) or

CIRCLE NO. 201

### Perennial ryegrass

**Ampac Seed Co.** introduces Amazing Perennial Ryegrass as part of its Turf Perfect ideal turf line. The variety is notably darker than other ryegrasses, according to the company. Bred from Rutgers University, Amazing scored statistically equal to the highest rating in over 18 categories including genetic color, winter color, athletic field quality, home lawn quality, leaf texture, traffic tolerance, leaf spot, dollar spot and melting out.

For more information, contact 877-778-7880,

[www.ampacseed.com/amazing](http://www.ampacseed.com/amazing) or

CIRCLE NO. 202

### Algaecide/fungicide

#### **TerraCyte from BioSafe Systems**

will soon be registered as a broad spectrum algaecide/fungicide. It is an environmentally friendly granular that can be added directly to soils and turf areas for the prevention and control of moss, algae, slime, molds and their spores. Its peroxygen chemistry allows for the oxidation and prevention of these pathogens.

For more information, contact 888-273-3088 or

CIRCLE NO. 203

### Overseeding attachments

#### **Milona Turf Products**

introduces Jobsaver overseeding attachments to fit the Cushman/Ryan GA30 and John Deere 800. Jobsaver attachments prepare an ideal seedbed without affecting the putting surface, the company says.

For more information, contact 800-456-4351,

[www.milona.com](http://www.milona.com) or

CIRCLE NO. 204