

Off The Fringe

Old Farmer's Forecasts

Mother Nature took it easy on most superintendents last year, although the weather still presented a significant challenge to some superintendents, particularly in drought-plagued Texas. Here's what *The Old Farmer's Almanac* says superintendents can expect for the rest of the year:

Superintendents in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states can expect temperate springs and hot summers, with normal rainfall early, but spotty later. Extended heat waves will be the exception, although late summer could present problems.

The Midwest will experience a cooler-than-normal spring, which will change to a hotter-than-normal summer. The Great Plains and Rocky Mountain regions are in for generally cooler springs, with drought conditions in the summer.

The Southeast should see a typical spring with a hotter- and drier-than-normal summer. Above-normal rainfall is expected in late summer. The Deep South, Great Plains and Southwest regions will have drought conditions early in the year which will intensify as a hotter-than-normal summer takes its toll. The Pacific Northwest will have its normal wet year.

For more detailed information, visit www.almanac.com/weather.



SOURCE: NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION
ILLUSTRATION: DAN BEEDY

Scanning the Web

Frank Andorka reviews sites that help you find jobs

The power of the Web shows itself clearly when you're looking for a job. With the help of job-search sites, you can access jobs across the country. Here are some sites that will help you with your search (all sites start with <http://> unless otherwise noted):

***** – Bookmark it and return frequently;
* – Look at only if absolutely necessary

***www.golfsurfin.com – You have to subscribe to the service to access the job listings, but there are no fees involved to do so. It's a hip-looking site on which you can search for jobs and post your résumé. It also allows you to receive responses by e-mail. I was a little surprised that there weren't more superintendent listings since it does contain the word golf in its URL. It

also has the title listed as "greenkeeper" (although it does list "assistant superintendent" as a category).

**www.greenmatchmaker.com – This new site (launched in December) is owned and operated by GreenSearch, a management search and human resources consulting company. It's a fairly interactive site that allows the usual posting of jobs and résumés, and it also has a useful career advice column as well as hyperlinks to other useful job sites. The early problem with this site is that it's limited to the Eastern half of the country. That could be a limiting factor until the site matures.

(No rating) www.golfutures.com – This Scottsdale, Ariz.-based company is also a

subscription site, but there are hefty fees involved. You can list your résumé for 90 days for \$40 and access the job listings by employers. Employers list their positions for \$300 for the same period. Since I didn't want to spend \$40 of the company's money for one-time access to the job listings, I can't evaluate how useful it would be for superintendents, although this site seemed focused on the operations side of the business, including superintendents.

Other job-search sites to visit:

golfcoursejobs.com
getajob.com
gcsaa.org
turfnet.com
greenindustryjobs.com

*Scanning the Web is compiled by Frank H. Andorka Jr., *Golfdom's* associate editor, who considers himself lucky to have a job. You can reach him at fandorka@advanstar.com with future column suggestions.*