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Says Clausen: "They're anarchists. It doesn't matter what you say or do. It's not going to change their minds."

Measures can be taken to prevent possible attacks or to maintain the damage that could come from attacks. It's simply a matter of going on the defensive and taking precautions to protect assets. For example, Turf-Seed has strengthened security around its facility since it was attacked with more fencing, motion sensors, cameras and lights, Rose-Fricker says.

That doesn't mean that golf courses need to build 15-foot walls or barbed-wire fences around their properties to keep terrorists out, Bollig says. It does mean that superintendents and others should be diligent in their management approach, he adds. That means properly securing chemicals and keeping equipment stored in areas that are safe from potential vandalism.

If courses can afford it, they might hire security guards to oversee their properties at

night. But Clausen says courses should hire experienced professionals, not Barney Fife-types who don't know what they're doing.

Clausen also says superintendents and their crew members should be more aware of what's going on around them, especially occurrences that are out of the ordinary.

"Make sure employees carry something as trivial as pencils and note pads with them," Clausen says. "So if someone sees a vehicle that looks suspicious . . . he can write down the vehicle's license plate number just in case."

The Pines Country Club had been vandalized before the ELF attack — kids stealing golf cars and riding them on greens — but the damage was minimal in comparison. TenEyck believes kids will vandalize the course before it's ever defaced by eco-terrorists again.

But he won't consider ELF's attack on the Pines an aberration.

"I can't say that this happening again is not in the back of my mind," he says. ■

It wasn't eco-terrorism, but Ron Furlong, superintendent of Avalon Golf Club in Bellingham, Wash., recalls the night his course was vandalized by teenagers. See "A Close Encounter With Vandalism" on page 38.

The FBI and Eco-Terrorism

Editor's note: In February 2002, James F. Jarboe, the domestic terrorism section chief for the FBI's Counterterrorism Division, testified before the House Resources Committee Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health on the threat of eco-terrorism. Here are excerpts from his testimony:

The FBI divides the terrorist threat facing the United States into two broad categories, international and domestic. International terrorism involves violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or any state, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or any state. Domestic terrorism is the unlawful use, or threatened use, of violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States (or its territories) without foreign direction, committed against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

During the past decade we have witnessed dramatic changes in the nature of the terrorist threat. In the 1990s, right-wing extremism overtook left-wing terror-

ism as the most dangerous domestic terrorist threat to the country. During the past several years, special-interest extremism, as characterized by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and the Earth Liberation Front (ELF), has emerged as a serious terrorist threat. Generally, extremist groups engage in much activity that is protected by constitutional guarantees of free speech and assembly. Law enforcement becomes involved when the volatile talk of these groups transgresses into unlawful action. The FBI estimates that the ALF/ELF have committed more than 600 criminal acts in the United States since 1996, resulting in damages in excess of \$43 million.

Special-interest terrorism differs from traditional right-wing and left-wing terrorism in that extremist special interest groups seek to resolve specific issues, rather than effect widespread political change. Special-interest extremists continue to conduct acts of politically motivated violence to force segments of society, including the

general public, to change attitudes about issues considered important to their causes. These groups occupy the extreme fringes of animal rights, pro-life, environmental, anti-nuclear, and other movements. Some special-interest extremists — most notably within the animal rights and environmental movements — have turned increasingly toward vandalism and terrorist activity in attempts to further their causes.

The ELF advocates "monkeywrenching," a euphemism for acts of sabotage and property destruction against industries and other entities perceived to be damaging to the natural environment. "Monkeywrenching" includes tree spiking, arson, sabotage of logging or construction equipment, and other types of property destruction.

The FBI has developed a strong response to the threats posed by domestic and international terrorism. Between fiscal years 1993 and 2003, the number of special agents dedicated to the FBI's counterterrorism programs grew by about 224 percent to 1,669 — nearly 16 percent of all FBI special agents. The FBI and our law enforcement partners have made a number of arrests of individuals alleged to have perpetrated acts of eco-terrorism. Several of these individuals have been successfully prosecuted.