

Boe's attitude has changed over the years. Now he never steps out into the sunshine without first liberally applying sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or more, a hat and a good pair of wraparound sunglasses to protect his eyes from both UV and UVB rays.

Boe admits that he and his crew don't wear long pants or long sleeves because of the high levels of heat and humidity common to Southern Florida year round.

"I can't picture going around in long pants and long sleeves," he says. "My crew members would be dropping like flies. They can cover all exposed skin with a good sunscreen or they can cover up in long clothing and pass out from heat stroke."

In Arizona, where the heat is drier, Woodward and his crew do cover up, not only with sunscreen but with long pants and long sleeves as part of the provided uniform. But it hasn't always been that way.

Woodward recalls in his younger days how he'd marvel that his grandfather, Jay Woodward, would go to work as a superintendent wearing long sleeves and long pants, despite the heat. The younger Woodward would wear shorts and a golf shirt.

"Now I know why he choose that uniform," Woodward says. "The Arizona sun can be intense from the middle of April until October."

On the alert

Any job that requires time outside runs the risk of sun exposure and skin cancer. Even if you don't live in a perpetually sunny climate, you're probably no stranger to skin cancer prevention tips.

Experts at the Skin Cancer Foundation say dressing for sun protection is still one of the best ways to reduce your risk of skin cancer. Look for a tight weave, loose fit and darker colors for more protection.

"Remember, sunscreen is not to be worn in lieu of clothing," cautions Allan Halpern, chief of dermatology services at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York and vice chairman of the American Cancer Society's Skin Cancer Advisory Group.

In fact, prevention goes beyond applying sunscreen and dressing appropriately. Dermatologists recommend that adults perform regular skin self-examinations, looking for any skin changes at least every three months.

The Skinny on Skin Cancer

1. Practicing regular and proper sun protection could prevent about 80 percent of skin cancers.
2. Everyone is at risk for skin cancer, whatever his or her skin color, and everyone needs protection from the sun.
3. Cloudy skies may make the air temperature cooler, but UV rays are still coming through the clouds.
4. Wear clothing to protect skin as much as possible. Choose long-sleeve shirts and long pants, and wear a hat that shades your face, neck and ears.
5. Some medications, such as antibiotics, can increase your skin's sensitivity to the sun. Ask your doctor or pharmacist about drugs you are taking.
6. Always use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or greater. Look for the number on the label.
7. For best results, apply sunscreen about 20 minutes before going outside to allow it time to bond with your skin.
8. Reapply sunscreen after swimming, perspiring heavily or drying skin with a towel.
9. Don't use sunlamps or tanning booths. A tan from these artificial methods won't protect you in the sun when you go on a vacation. They damage the skin and don't help or protect you.
10. It's never too late to protect your skin. Even if you've tanned or burned before, you can begin protecting your skin today by following these recommendations.

Source: American Cancer Society/Skin Protection Federation

Skin cancer takes many forms. Anything that changes, grows or fits any of the "ABCD" warning signs (*see sidebar on page 28*) should be taken seriously. A doctor should examine anything suspicious.

Common warning signs include a change in a mole, a sore that does not heal, a skin growth that increases in size, or a spot that continues to itch, hurt, scab.

A 1999 study at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine revealed that more than half of melanomas were detected by the patients themselves while another quarter of tumors were detected during full skin exams by physicians.

Having had skin cancer in the past, Woodward says he no longer takes chances. He visits his dermatologist every three months for a routine exam.

"In fact, I have one coming up soon," he says. "I want to be sure I keep on top of it and not have any surprises." ■

Suttell, a Cleveland-based free-lance writer, believes a deep, dark tan is overrated.

It's summer and that means contractors are hard at work building award-winning golf courses. What better time to pick on them? So on behalf of the architects, superintendents and clients who love working with the people who whip out ... err ... build America's best courses, here are 10 stupid things contractors do to mess up the process:

1. The contract is signed, and the client suddenly works for the contractor. Why do clients pay all that money to be told how it's going to be? Why is it that contractors believe clients don't know what they want as soon as the ink dries? OK, well, if you the client are going to change your mind all the time, you know what that means? Time for ...

2. Change orders unlimited. Contractors love change orders because issuing them makes them more money.

It wasn't in the original plans but the client wants that nursery of mounds removed — even though the contractor thought it would frame the driving range nicely. It's a change order.

3. When all else fails, install a catch basin or a sump. Contractors love man-made, underground drainage. Forget that surface drainage stuff or getting water to move the way it wants to go. Just cut out a sump, write a change order for more gravel, send that water straight down (where it belongs), and tell it to come back as something more desirable.

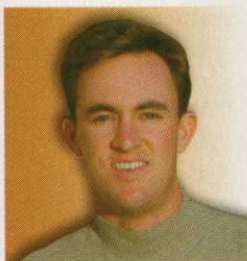
4. When all else fails, sod it. After all, contractors don't have to maintain the stuff or pay for it. They just need to get out of town as fast as possible.

5. Create incentives for the job supervisor to rush and cut corners. You gotta love it when the lead guy on the job gets a bonus for working fast and furiously. He saves some money here and whips out a hole there because the crew needs to get to the next gig. What a recipe for creating sturdy, enduring golf courses.

6. They are never wrong. Has a contractor ever made a mistake? Of course not. Since the contractor is now running, designing and controlling this job, it has all the answers. That is if you can get the contractor

Time to Pick On Golf's Contractors

BY GEOFF SHACKELFORD



TEN STUPID THINGS
THEY DO TO MESS
UP THE BUILDING
PROCESS

on the phone at the next job site, where it has already set up shop before finishing your job.

7. A contractor loves to tell you what it did on the last job, and its employees aren't afraid to drop names. "You want to do what?" the contractor says. "Did you say you want this done differently than we normally do things? Well, we just did a job with a big-name PGA Tour pro who never made it for a site visit, but he didn't mind how we operate."

8. When all else fails, stake it. What is the deal with contractors and their stakes? Everywhere you look, they have stakes. They stake every portion of tees, bunkers, mounds, greens and future blades of grass. People wonder why so many courses look manufactured or acutely resemble the last award winner? Could it be this connect-the-dot methodology? Architects who let features get built this way are also to blame.

9. Contractors put more energy into decorating their on-site trailers than the construction of the course. The contractor worries about where to hang all of its awards and the master plan its employees never look at. "And where should be hang the Babes of the NASCAR Circuit calendar?" a worker asks. "It was a big hit on the last job, so let's use it again even if it's two years old. It will soften the blow when the client comes to dispute our updated bill — the one with all the pricey change orders."

10. And about those changes you want to make? Did I mention they are never shy about issuing costly change orders — even when the changes are to correct their own mistakes?

Geoff Shackelford is currently polishing the text for his next book, How to Win Friends and Influence People In the Golf Business. He can be reached at geoffshackelford@aol.com.



No Tarps. No Tanks.



No Hassles.

Basamid[®], the only granular soil fumigant on the market, quickly eliminates virtually all weeds, nematodes, grasses and soil diseases so you can reseed in as little as 10 to 12 days. And the nonrestricted, granular formulation requires no complicated application equipment or tarps, thereby reducing your labor costs. **Basamid** is the quick, easy way to get your new turf off to a healthy, vigorous start. To make your renovation easier, call 1-800-545-9525 or visit www.turffacts.com. Always read and follow label directions.

Basamid[®]
Granular Soil Fumigant

Renovation Made Easy.

Basamid is a registered trademark of BASF AG. © 2001 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved.

BASF

Circle No. 115

AUDUBON

in Action

After 10 years, superintendents see advantages in getting with the program



Editor's Note: Audubon International's Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Golfdom talked with superintendents — some newcomers to the program, and some who've been with it almost from the beginning — to hear how Audubon has affected the way they manage their golf courses.

VANCE MUCH
Superintendent at Semiahmoo Golf & CC, Blaine, Wash.

Audubon Member: 1993

Water conservation resonates well with residents of Blaine, Wash., a town that considers itself on the cutting edge of environmental protection. So it's no surprise that Vance Much does all he can to foster a good relationship between his golf course and the environment.

"I watch my water use carefully," Much says. "We've let much of our golf course revert to a natural state, particularly in the roughs. The city wants me to do this, and I want to do it."

Since Much documents his environmental practices in detail to retain his certification from Audubon International every two years, environmental inspections from tough state regulators are a breeze. Much says the positive re-

sponse from his members convinced him to stay with the program over the last eight years.

"Golf courses have had a bad rap for polluting the environment for a long time," Much says. "The people who work for Audubon International have gone a long way toward changing that perception in the media and among the general public. For that change alone, their efforts should be applauded."

Much says he also has a personal reason for maintaining the program: his two daughters.

"All human beings share the planet, and we have a responsibility to those who come after us," Much says. "I want my daughters to have a planet to grow up on, and it's my job to do what I can to make sure that happens."

PETER LEUZINGER
Superintendent at The Ivanhoe Club, Ivanhoe, Ill.

Audubon Member: 1995
(also helped St. Charles (Ill.) CC achieve certification in 1993)

Peter Leuzinger says he supported Audubon International's environmental efforts from the beginning — and he has the credentials to back his claim. In 1993, Leuzinger oversaw the entrance of St. Charles CC in St. Charles, Ill., into the program — the first mainland United States course to join.

"I got involved with Audubon International because I was tired of being accused of doing things to hurt the environment," Luezinger says.



Vance Much says Audubon International gives superintendents a framework for responsible environmental stewardship.

TIMELINE FOR THE AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY FOR GOLF COURSES

1991
 The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses is created in cooperation with the USGA.

1993
 The Audubon Signature Program is created to serve properties under development.

1995
 Seminars on *Wildlife Management and Habitat Conservation* and *Natural Resource Management on Golf Courses* are offered through GCSAA.

1996
 Audubon International publishes *A Guide to Environmental Stewardship for Golf Courses* in conjunction with the USGA.



Black bears are some of the wildlife that visit The Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes in Orlando.

“The Cooperative Sanctuary program gave us a framework from which we could defend ourselves.”

Leuzinger says his work at The Ivanhoe Club included building birdhouses for the bluebird population, which had plummeted to near zero. Thanks to Leuzinger’s decision to build bird boxes, 40 to 60 bluebirds return to the course annually during the spring and summer.

His renewed environmental work also rejuvenated his career, Leuzinger says. Before he got involved with Audubon International, the stress of being a superintendent took its toll. The daily grind of fighting golfer ignorance and negotiating club politics left him weary. Instead of waking up every morning thrilled to

go to work, Leuzinger says he’d started to look upon being a superintendent as just another job.

But the idea of actively protecting the environment appealed to him. It reawakened his latent interest in photography, and Leuzinger snaps pictures of the wildlife on the course almost compulsively.

“When you find something that sparks your interest and makes you want to come to work every day, you must seize the opportunity,” Leuzinger says. “Most superintendents are environmentalists at heart, and this program gives them guidelines on how to do it effectively. I’m shocked that more golf courses aren’t involved.”

JOHN KOPACK
Superintendent, The Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes, Orlando
Audubon Member: 2000

John Kopack loves the community involvement portion of his Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program the most. But it’s the kids he’s mentored in the fifth-grade ecology club at Heathrow Elementary School in suburban Orlando that have a special place in his heart.

He loves watching the kids’ eyes light up when he explains to them about the wildlife that lives on his course. He loves the enthusiasm they have for protecting the environment, which includes, under Kopack’s direction, the creation of a but-

terfly garden at the school. He enjoys linking them with outdoor activities, and he hopes they practice environmentalism in the future.

“Kids don’t spend a lot of time outdoors anymore,” Kopack says. “They plop down in front of the TV. In some cases, the program our course oversees is the only connection they have to the natural world.”

The Legacy Club hosts field trips for the kids to show them the enhancements the maintenance staff has made to the course: natural corridors for animals to migrate through, acres of lakes to provide homes for waterfowl and an integrated

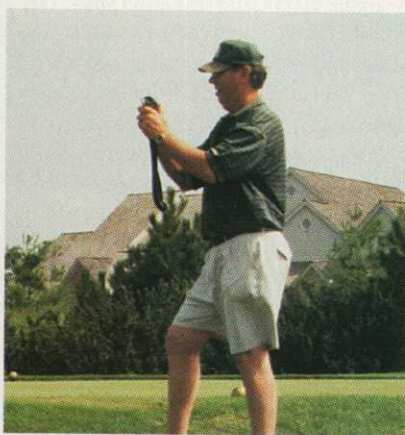


John Kopack met with Nancy Richardson, his Audubon International monitor, at the GCSAA show in February.

pest management program that helps reduce chemical application. Its program has raised the profile of the course in the community by word of mouth.

“These kids tell their parents about us, the parents tell their friends and pretty soon you’ve got a buzz going about your efforts,” Kopack says. “The Audubon guidelines are easy to follow and the positive publicity you get in return is fabulous.”

Continued on page 37



Peter Leuzinger photographs the fairway to document his environmental efforts for his Audubon International annual audit.

1997
 Audubon International hosts Birdwatching Ryder Cup in conjunction with the European Golf Association Ecology Unit.

1999
 Audubon International begins working with the Club Managers Association of America toward developing an Environmental Performance Audit for clubs.

2001
 Audubon International wins a 2001 Environmental Quality Award from the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2.

Dodson's Devotion

Despite recently celebrating the 10-year anniversary of Audubon International's Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, Ron Dodson still wonders what his legacy to the golf industry will be.

About 2,500 golf courses worldwide have joined the program and follow six environmental awareness principles drafted by Dodson when he founded it in 1991. Dodson also reports that nearly 20 courses now under construction have enrolled in the Audubon Signature Program, designed to help golf course developers adhere to Dodson's six principles during construction rather than waiting to implement the program afterward.

He's even been hired recently to advise Eufaula, Ala., on how the city could extend the environmental practices from its municipal golf course (a Sanctuary member) to the entire city. But Dodson still wonders: Is what he's done enough?

"We have 2,500 golf courses participating in the Cooperative Sanctuary Program," Dodson says with a wistful sigh. "But there are 17,000 golf courses in the United States. I look at those numbers and I don't know whether to be happy about the numbers we've achieved or disheartened by the number of courses we haven't convinced to join us. We'd like to have them all."



Dodson (right) knew from talking to superintendents that they didn't intend to ruin the environment.



AUDUBON INTERNATIONAL

Ron Dodson, founder of Audubon International, combined his love of nature with his love of golf to create the Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses.

The idea for the Cooperative Sanctuary Program sprang from Dodson's devotion to two of his college passions: golf and biology. In the mid-1980s, Dodson heard golf courses criticized by environmental groups as anti-environmental entities that systematically poisoned the ground and the water and destroyed wildlife habitats. Dodson wanted to find a way to marry environmental stewardship and golf.

"It's true that golf courses 25 years ago didn't pay as much attention to the effect they had on the environment as much as they should have," Dodson says. "Back then, few people paid attention to the environment, unlike today, when it's a hot-button political issue. But I believed most superintendents were environmentalists at heart, and I wanted to help them fight the incorrect image with which they were saddled by the public."

At first, superintendents were skeptical of Dodson's efforts, since they learned in the late 1980s and early 1990s to fear anyone from an environmental organization.

"It took a while for superintendents to understand I was there to help them, not harm them," Dodson says. "I had to convince superintendents that I wasn't pushing a radical program that would cost them their jobs. Once they understood that our program didn't prevent them from keeping their courses per-

forming at high levels, it became an easier sell."

And sell he did. Dodson, the sole employee of the original program, crisscrossed the country in 1991 with the help of the U.S. Golf Association, which initially agreed to fund the program for one year.

"I did everything," Dodson says. "I sold memberships, reviewed the application materials, wrote out action plans and talked to as many groups as I could about our plan. I didn't want to hire anyone because I wasn't sure I'd have funding after that first year."

At the end of 1991, Dodson had signed 150 members. He went to the USGA and told them he couldn't do it alone anymore. The USGA agreed and presented Dodson with a pledge of \$100,000 per year for three years. They've funded it at that level ever since.

Dodson now has 18 employees, and most are connected with the golf program. (Audubon International also sponsors a backyard environmental program to help homeowners manager their lawns environmentally. It also sponsors school and business programs.)

But Dodson himself hasn't slowed. He says he still works 20-hour days in support of the program he loves. Next year, though, he jokes that he plans on slowing down to 19-hour days.

"The golf industry is at a pivotal point in its development as it relates to the environment," Dodson says. "It's gotten its act together, and now it's time for superintendents to become environmental leaders in their communities."

— Frank H. Andorka Jr., Managing Editor

Continued from page 35

TIM DOUBRAVA
Superintendent at Poxabogue GC,
Wainscott, N.Y.
Audubon Member: 2001

Tim Doubrava says before he came to Poxabogue GC, the previous owners sorely neglected the track. Instead of creating sensible environmental programs, they followed a program sure to cause nightmares for environmentalists everywhere: They sprayed pesticides in blanket applications, cut down trees that interfered with play and mowed all the turf in sight. It was the ultimate in managed turf, but it was bereft of character and interest for the golfer.

When the new owners hired Doubrava three years ago to oversee the course's transformation, he decided to join the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary program. In the two years he's prepared for certification, the wildlife population skyrocketed — to the delight of golfers.



Tim Doubrava says superintendents are obligated to protect the environment.

"We see all sorts of wildlife, from pheasants to foxes to deer," Doubrava says. "The course even looks better now that we've allowed parts of it to return to its natural shape. The rough areas now shape the course for the golfer rather than being mowed at the same monotonous height, and the trees give a more interesting visual picture than we had before."

As an assistant, Doubrava oversaw the Audubon International at his previous

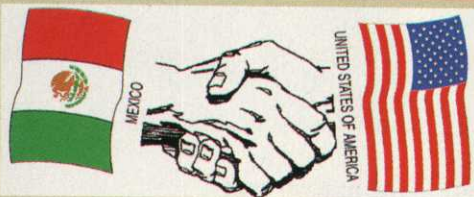
course, Atlantic GC, in Bridgehampton, N.Y. When he moved to Poxabogue, he saw the potential to implement a similar program. But Doubrava says he couldn't have implemented his ambitious program, which included building 25 bird boxes, letting much of the out-of-play areas revert to a more natural state and severely limiting chemical applications, without the backing of the course's new owners.

"They made it easy on me," Doubrava says. "I took them a list of the criteria that Audubon International has, and they told me to do whatever it took to meet those requirements."

His work has made him popular with his members.

"As soon as you start telling the story of your environmental awareness to the public, they will embrace it," Doubrava says. "Audubon International has helped make it OK to be a golf course and be environmentally sensitive, too." ■

TEMPORARY / SEASONAL LABOR VISAS



We now recruit
from the
United Kingdom

**SIGN UP
BEFORE
FALL 2001
FOR
APPROVAL BY
SPRING 2002***

Toll Free (888) 623 7285

Foley Enterprises

*Austin (512) 282 3237
Fax (512) 282 0958*

***Duration of permits is based on eligibility and subject to governmental processing delays**



Letting *Nature* Take Its *Course*

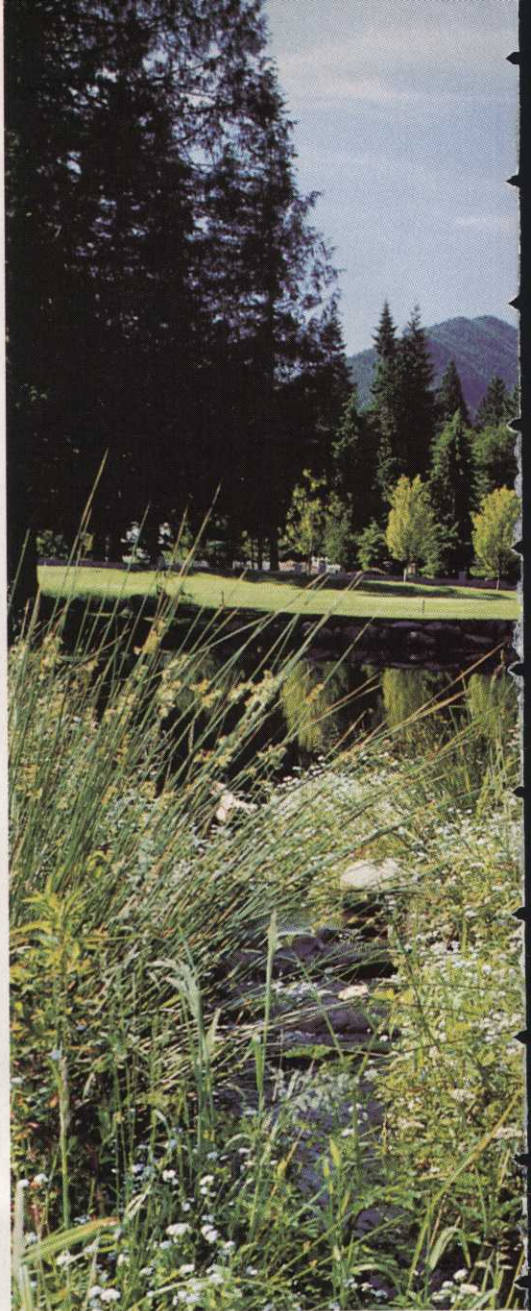
Two Oregon superintendents are
as dedicated to preserving wildlife
as they are to providing standout greens

**BY LARRY AYLWARD,
EDITOR**

You could say northwest Oregon superintendents Cliff Beckmann and Tony Lasher have heeded the call of the wild.

Beckmann, superintendent of Westin Salishan Lodge & Golf Resort in Glenden Beach, and Lasher, certified superintendent of The Resort at the Mountain in Welches, are proud to say they're naturalists when it comes to golf course maintenance.

That's no surprise considering their location, where environmentalism is a way of life and not a romantic inkling. Beckmann and Lasher are as dedicated to preserving wildlife on their courses as they are to providing standout greens.



The natural look

How would you feel if Sierra Club members picked *your* golf course for a visit? Bet you would be shaking in your work boots.

Tony Lasher admits he was nervous when members of the environmental group contacted him last summer to arrange a visit to The Resort at the Mountain, located near the pristine Mt. Hood National Forest. But the environmentally conscious Lasher, figuring he had nothing to hide, welcomed the visitors to his 27-hole course.

"The group's members are outspoken, and I was a little antsy about having them visit," Lasher says. "But I looked at it as an opportunity to show them what we're doing."

Sierra Club members favor golf courses



RICK SCHAEFER

◀ **Tony Lasher, certified superintendent at The Resort at the Mountain, peers over the course's Wee Burn, a stream that provides habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout.**

to keep to add to the course's rustic look. Other superintendents might remove the trees for aesthetic reasons.

Of course, Lasher told the members about the course's Wee Burn Restoration Project to restore and improve fish habitat on the course. The course teamed with several environmental groups and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on the eight-year project, completed last year.

The Wee Burn, Scottish for small stream, is a tributary of the Salmon River, designated in Oregon as a wild and scenic river by the Department of the Interior. The Wee Burn provides excellent habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout.

But when the first nine holes of the course were built in the late 1920s, the Salmon River was channeled to prevent flooding. The preventive measure altered the stream's natural meander and blocked channels the fish used for spawning. The Wee Burn was not a suitable habitat for fish.

When Ed Hopper purchased The Resort at the Mountain in 1989, the Wee Burn restoration was high on his to-do list. Hopper hired Lasher in 1992 to over-

see the renovation. Lasher directed several elements of the project, including locating the stream's original pattern and rechanneling it. He also oversaw the construction of a fish ladder to aid the fish in their migration to spawning areas.

New fish access was also provided to one-third of a mile of the stream and to two acres of ponds that were previously inaccessible. Course workers planted thousands of native trees and shrubs to provide fish with protection and food sources.

After the tour, Lasher says a Sierra Club member from North Carolina asked him why more superintendents in the Tar Heel state weren't practicing environmentalism with the same fervor that Lasher does. It was a tough question that made Lasher contemplate the different demands superintendents face, depending on where their courses are located.

Lasher told the member there are superintendents all over the country who are doing sound environmental things. Lasher encouraged him to visit courses in his state.

Continued on page 40

▼ **Stumps and brush are kept in place around pond edges at The Resort to provide havens for water wildlife.**

about as much as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals members fancy McDonald's. When Lasher took the group's members on the course, he overheard a man sarcastically say, "I can't believe I'm walking on a golf course fairway."

During the tour, a pack of deer scurried across the course. A club member remarked that she was surprised to see wildlife on a golf course.

But when they listened to Lasher explain his environmental policies, the club members realized they can't label *all* golf courses as environmental detriments. Lasher told them about his integrated pest management program and that he hasn't made a blanket herbicide application in many years. He showed them decayed trees damaged by beavers that he opted



Letting Nature Take

Continued from page 39

Lasher also explained to the member that many superintendents, including in North Carolina, are under pressure to have their courses in top shape. Golfers at The Resort don't mind patches of clover or dandelions on rough because they know Lasher and his crew practice IPM to keep chemical use to a minimum. But it might be a different story at another North Carolina facility, where golfers won't tolerate weeds.

"I'm lucky," Lasher says. "I'm in an area where I don't have that kind of pressure."

It bothers Lasher that old-school thinkers still believe golf is a culprit when it comes to environmentalism.

"But it feels good to be proactive," he says. "Some people think we're doing dastardly deeds here, but when we tell them and show them what we're doing, they do a 180."

Walkin', talkin' about nature

Cliff Beckmann never thought he'd lead nature walks in addition to tending turf when he chose golf course maintenance as a career. But that has been part of his gig as superintendent at Salishan for about three years.

The breathtaking scenery surrounding the golf course, located on a pastoral stretch near the Pacific Ocean, lends it-

▼ **Undisturbed sand dunes and their vegetation are an important of the terrain at Salishan.**



LARRY AYLMER

self to a nature walk. That's why the course, fully certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International in 1994, cleared six miles of trails to offer guests a chance to see the habitat and its inhabitants — from bald eagles to beavers — up close. The 31-year-old Beckmann, who has been at Salishan for about five years, says the nature walks provide him an excellent opportunity to interact with the resort's guests.

"It's a great chance for the superintendent to tell people what we're doing to preserve the environment and to portray a positive image of the course," Beckmann says. "I don't think enough superintendents do that."

Beckmann conducts about four na-

▲ **Superintendent Cliff Beckmann stands at a trail leading to the Pacific Ocean. It's one of the trails on the Salishan property that Beckmann uses for his nature walks.**

ture walks a month, each lasting about two hours. Some of the environmental programs he touts include:

■ Returning areas of the course formerly in play to their natural state. When Beckmann came to Salishan almost five years ago, the resort maintained 82 of the property's 142 acres. Beckmann helped reduce it to 68 acres.

■ Conducting regular water quality testing of a creek on the course to ensure pesticides and fertilizers are not contaminating it. The creek runs into a nearby bay, which is a wildlife refuge. "We don't allow any fertilizer applications within 20 feet of waterways," Beckmann says.

■ Practicing an integrated pest management program that Beckmann has continually redefined. Beckmann and his staff of 17 use organic fertilizer on greens, and they administer only one herbicide application a year — a spot treatment.

Frequent rain in the Northwest — up to 80 inches a year — requires fungicide applications are more frequent to combat fusarium patch, which poses a problem from September through May. "Last year,

Continued on page 42

