

# CHARLES G. WILSON WINS 1982 USGA Green Section Award

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FAR HILLS, N.J. — Charles G. Wilson, of Milwaukee, WI, the man who pioneered the Green Sectional Regional Turf Service in 1952, has been named the recipient of the 1982 Green Section Award, presented by the USGA in recognition of his distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.



Charles received the Green Section Award during the 26th annual USGA Green Section Educational Conference at the New Orleans Hilton on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1982. The presentation was made by Stephen J. Horell of El Cajon, CA, Chairman of the Green Section Award Committee.

“The Good Earth Needs Good Golfing Turf” was the theme of this year’s conference, which was held, for the second consecutive year, as part of the GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference and Show at the invitation of the Golf Course Superintendents’ Association of America.

The USGA established the Green Section Award in 1961 to honor those persons requiring special recognition for distinguished service to golf in any phase of work with turfgrass, i.e., research, education, extension, superintendence, maintenance, management, etc.

The USGA believes there are many individuals who have made immeasurable contributions respecting the arena upon which the game of golf is played. Their contributions and services may be evidenced by their achievements over a number of years or by a single act.

In presenting the Green Section Award, the USGA wishes to identify, celebrate, and hold up for emulation individuals such as Charles G. Wilson, who exemplify outstanding dedication to golf through their work with turfgrass.

Charles was born in Port Jervis, N.Y. and trained for his profession at the University of Maryland, where he earned his bachelor of science degree in agronomy in 1950.

While still an undergradute, Wilson joined the USGA Green Section staff in 1947 as a research assistant and field agronomist in the Beltsville, MD office.

In 1952, the USGA announced that the Green Section, which had been an instrument of research for over 30 years, would take an entirely new direction. From that time on, it would emphasize direct service to USGA member clubs and courses through personal visits by the Green Section staff who would advise them on their turfgrass problems.

The plan called for the establishment of a number of regional offices so that every member club throughout the United States would be within easy reach of a Green Section regional director. Each regional director would be a practical scientist — a trained agronomist who specialized in golf course problems.

Before establishing the first regional office, the USGA assigned Wilson to make a first-hand survey of the West Coast conditions during the spring of 1952. His survey of more than 50 clubs

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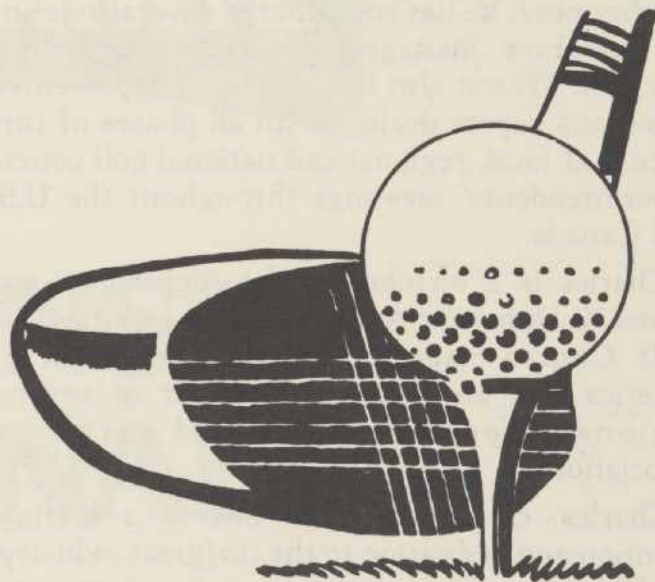
**Charles Wilson was the first full-time turfgrass consultant the USGA had in the field. As a result of his tireless efforts . . . the Turf Advisory Service was able to develop a strong foundation.**

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from Los Angeles to Seattle showed a strong desire for a Green Section office there. And so, the first regional office was established in June, 1952, in Davis, CA. Charles Wilson, as the Western Director, was the first full-time turfgrass consultant the USGA had in the field. As a result of his tireless efforts in the Western Region, the Turf Advisory Service was able to develop a strong foundation. It is basically the same format used today by the 13 Green Section agronomists

stationed in six regional offices. They now travel over 200,000 miles annually in service to member clubs.



Charles left the USGA in June, 1955, to become an agronomist with the Sewerage Commission of the City of Milwaukee. Later on, he became head agronomist, sales manager, and finally director, succeeding O.J. Noer, who had been with the commission for 35 years. Noer, by the way, was the recipient of the Green Section Award in 1963 for his many contributions to the turfgrass industry.

Although he retired as director of the Sewerage Commission two years ago, Wilson has remained active as the research director of the O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc. In addition, he is a member, past chairman and historian of the Turfgrass Division (C-5) of the American Society of Agronomy.

Wilson also serves as a consultant on Wisconsin turfgrass problems and is involved in setting up the very successful Wisconsin Turfgrass Conference, which he founded sixteen years ago in cooperation with the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association.

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## Charles Wilson Wins (Continued from Page 9)

The literature of turfgrass management is richer for many contributions Charles has made throughout his career. He has authored a chapter in the Turfgrass Science Monography, published by the American Society of Agronomy. Furthermore, he has co-authored several bulletins on turfgrass management and maintenance practices. Wilson also has written and presented numerous papers dealing with all phases of turf culture at local, regional and national golf course superintendents' meetings throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Charles is a member of the Alpha Zeta and Sigma Xi Honorary Agricultural Fraternities, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and an honorary member of several regional superintendents and turfgrass associations.

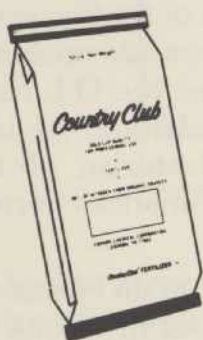
Charles' career has been one of a lifetime devotion and dedication to the turfgrass industry, marked by a special concern for improving turfgrass growth and playing conditions for this country's golfers.

## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF THE USGA GREEN SECTION AWARD

1961	John Monteith, Jr.
1962	Lawrence S. Dickinson
1963	O.J. Noer
1964	Joseph Valentine
1965	Glenn W. Burton
1966	H. Burton Musser
1967	Elmer J. Michael
1968	James L. Haines
1969	Fred V. Grau
1970	Eberhard R. Steiniger
1971	Tom Mascaro
1972	Herb and Joe Graffis
1973	Marvin H. Ferguson
1974	Howard B. Sprague
1975	Fanny-Fern Davis
1976	James R. Watson
1977	Edward J. Casey
1978	Jesse De France
1979	Arthur A. Snyder
1980	C. Reed Funk
1981	Joseph M. Duich



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