



COPING

By Roger Bell



Be careful what you pray for — you just might get it. That familiar old saying has never been more true than when it comes to the weather. After a **long** dry spell — we finally got rain. By the time you read this article, though, the situation could be radically different. About the only thing you can count on with weather is that it's not going to suit all the people all the time — or any of the people some of the time.

I have resolved to give up worrying

about weather this year. I have a limited supply of irrigation water at my golf course. Last summer, I rationed it as best I could to minimize the damage but still, when the water came up short, there was nothing more I could do.

The same situation is true when a deluge of rain hits. There is nothing a superintendent can do with 5" of sudden rainfall except wait for the flood waters to recede. Even the best designed and executed drainage system has its

limits.

Perhaps the real job of a golf course superintendent is coping with whatever Mother Nature dishes up. Coping means managing the best we can with the tools at hand. As we would say in polite company, Mother Nature is fickle.

Have a good season — hope the weather suits you — and above all, pray carefully!



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