



# ARE YOU PREPARED?

By Bruce Worzella



By the time we get to this time of the year, most Wisconsin golf course superintendents can hardly wait for cool weather, low humidity and additional rainfall. This is one of those years when we can do without the rain, however. The other thing we are anxious for is a slow down in play and lower player demands.

By now we are preparing for some fall aerification, well into construction projects, working on budgets for the next year, and analyzing what worked and what didn't work during this golf season.

Once again, a lot of what happened on Wisconsin golf courses was influenced by "Mother Nature", a constant frustration that can lay waste to our best made plans. Nevertheless, we are held accountable for the final results and that reality places more and more emphasis on education.

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Field Day, the education offerings of our monthly meetings, the upcoming Symposium and a GCSAA seminar in our own backyard can all be helpful in successful execution of our responsibilities.

The information and advice available at these offerings are essentially there for the taking. But you have to be there. Add into the mix ready access to the Turfgrass Information File that is managed by Peter Cookingham, our valued USGA agronomists, the extremely capable faculty at the UW-Madison, and our own peers and you have an educational network that could not be much better.

But we have to make the commitment to participate. If you aren't already doing that, please do. You will only be helping yourself and making the product you offer even better.

Finally, I would like to answer some

of Monroe's questions from the last issue:

1. Yes, I did thank Rod Johnson for all his time and effort for the pesticide sign campaign. It was encouraging to see that most of the golf courses I have visited this summer had that sign on display.

2. I do not think that, with the millions and millions of people playing the game of golf these days, that there is or ever will be a practice tee that is large enough. I find it difficult just filling divots on my tees and fairways. A practice tee is something else.

3. I had a hand on the decision to change the format of our summer meetings and I think they were well received. I think it was nice to get to bed before my wife, by 9:00 p.m., on a Monday evening after a meeting that was two hours away! 🙏

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