



## A New, Easy and Inexpensive Answer to Storage Bins

By Marc Davison, Superintendent, Green Bay Country Club

Late last fall I came up with a good solution for storage bins here at Green Bay Country Club. Like every other golf course facility, we needed a place to store sand, stone, mulch and soil products we use in our operation.

The bin construction was done with large concrete blocks, 2' x 2' x 6'. Concrete companies have these large blocks; they are made from excess concrete left in their mixer trucks when they return from job sites. The blocks weigh 4,000 pounds each and they have a hook in the center of them for lifting.

The cost of each was \$20 at the concrete plant. I hired a flat bed trailer to move them to our shop yard. Each trailer was able to haul 15 per load — that's 30 tons! It took us three loads to get the 45 concrete blocks we needed for bin construction. Trucking was \$500 and the total for the blocks

was \$900. We had a large track hoe at the shop at that time, digging out our parking lot, so we used that machine to off load the blocks and set them in place. The average golf course front end loader couldn't lift these blocks (unless maybe if you owned a Ford!).

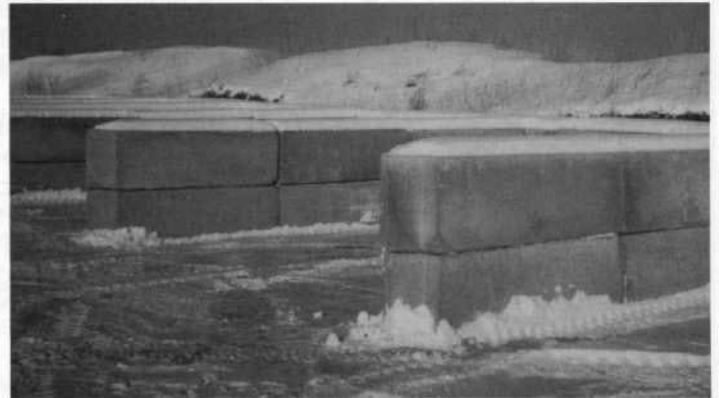
We made four bins; each was 18' x 12' x 4'. Once all the blocks were on site, the bins were in place in about an hour. That was the nice thing about this project — it was an almost instant structure. The total cost was between \$1,500 and \$2,000, depending on the availability of a large enough machine to lift the concrete blocks.

At my previous job we built similarly sized bins out of railroad ties. It took most of a winter with two men. These blocks are cheaper, quicker and will stay in place better than railroad ties.

My next project will be to figure out a good way to get the hoop house frames and plastic roof over them. 🌱



A long view of GBCC material storage bins, set in the winter landscape. Marc chose a flat, well-graded site.



This photo gives some detail of Marc Davison's excellent idea.



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