

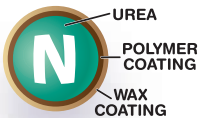


Left: Club Cars New 4 passenger golf carts are being promoted to help make golf fun!

Right: New easy to use big cups and cutters allow courses to host big cup events for regular and beginning players. These shown are from Par Aid but other vendors have them as well.



The patented microthin polymer coating consistently releases nitrogen, according to temperature.



You work hard to maintain the quality and color of your turf. But now it's become just a little bit easier, with SURFCOTE®-4 extended-release fertilizer.

SURFCOTE-4 uses innovative polymer resin to provide a temperature-dependent nutrient release. As temperatures warm, urea nitrogen is released at a consistent rate, to match the nutrient demand of the turf.

By extending nutrient release by up to 120 days, SURFCOTE-4 helps turf achieve its full potential for growth and vigor.

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**GET THE ADVANTAGE WITH SURFCOTE®-4.**

GCSAA CONFERENCE AND SHOW SITES

1927 - Chicago IL, Hotel Sherman	1977 - Portland, OR, Memorial Coliseum Complex
1928 - Detroit, MI, Fort Shelby Hotel	1978 - San Antonio, TX, San Antonio Convention Center
1929 - Buffalo, NY, Hotel Statler	1979 - Atlanta, GA, Georgia World Congress Center
1930 - Louisville, KY, Kentucky Hotel and Armory	1980 - St Louis, MO, Gateway Convention & Expo Center
1931 - Columbus, OH, Deshler Watlick Hotel and Amory	1981 - Anaheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center
1932 - New York, NY, Pennsylvania Hotel	1982 - New Orleans, LA, The Rivergate
1934 - Pittsburg, PA, Hotel William Penn	1983 - Atlanta, GA, Georgia World Congress Center
1935 - Toronto, Ontario, Royal York Hotel	1984 - Las Vegas, NV, Las Vegas Convention Center
1936 - Cleveland, OH, Carter Hotel	1985 - Washington, DC, Washington Convention Center
1937 - Washington, D.C., Wardman Park Hotel	1986 - San Francisco, CA, Moscone Convention Center
1938 - Cincinnati, Ohio, Netherland Plaza Hotel	1987 - Phoenix, AZ, Phoenix Civic Plaza
1939 - Kansas City, MO, Hotel President & Municipal Aud.	1988 - Houston, TX, George R Brown Convention Center
1940 - New York, NY, Hotel New Yorker	1989 - Anaheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center
1941 - Detroit, MI, Book Cadillac Hotel	1990 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1942 - Chicago, IL, Hotel Sherman	1991 - Las Vegas, NV, Las Vegas Convention Center
1943, 1944, 1945 - No show due to WWII	1992 - New Orleans, LA, New Orleans, LA
1946 - Cleveland OH, Carter Hotel	1993 - Anaheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center
1947 - New York, NY, Hotel New Yorker	1994 - Dallas, TX, Dallas Convention Center
1948 - Detroit, MI, Book Cadillac Hotel	1995 - San Francisco, CA, Moscone Convention Center
1949 - Los Angeles, CA, Alexandria Hotel & Coliseum	1996 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1950 - Boston, MA, Hotel Statler	1997 - Las Vegas, NV, Las Vegas Convention Center
1951 - Chicago IL, Hotel Sherman	1998 - Anaheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center
1952 - Columbus, OH, The Neil House	1999 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1953 - Atlantic City, NJ, The Ambassador	2000 - New Orleans, LA, Morial Convention Center
1954 - Miami, FL, Mcallister Hotel and Municipal	2001 - Dallas TX, Dallas Convention Center
1955 - St Louis, MO, Jefferson Hotel	2002 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1956 - Long Beach, CA, Wilton Hotel & Municipal Aud.	2003 - Atlanta, GA, Georgia World Congress Center
1957 - Louisville, KY, Kentucky Hotel	2004 - San Diego, CA, San Diego Convention Center
1958 - Washington D.C., Shoreham Hotel	2005 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1959 - Chicago, IL, Sherman Hotel	*First GIS format with GCSAA/NGCOA.
1960 - Houston TX, Shamrock-Hilton Hotel	2006 - Atlanta GA, Georgia World Congress Center
1961 - Toronto, Ontario, Royal York Hotel	(moved from New Orleans due to Hurricane Katrina)
1962 - Miami Beach, FL, Deauville Hotel	2007 - Anaheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center
1963 - San Diego, CA, El Cortez Hotel	*CMAA joins the GIS format.
1964 - Philadelphia, PA, Deauville Hotel	2008 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1965 - Cleveland, OH, Shereaton-Cleveland Hotel	2009 - New Orleans, LA, New Orleans Morial Convention Ctr
1966 - Kansas City, MO, Muehlebach Hotel and Aud.	2010 - San Diego, CA, San Diego Convention Center
1967 - Washington D.C., Washington Hilton Hotel	*CMAA left the GIS after this show.
1968 - San Fransico CA, San Francisco Hilton Hotel	2011 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1969 - Miami Beach, FL, Fontainebleu Hotel	2012 - Las Vegas, NV, Las Vegas Convention Center
1970 - Houston, TX, Rice Hotel & Convention Center	2013 - San Diego, CA, San Diego Convention Center
1971 - Denver, CO, Denver Hilton, Hotel & Convention Ctr.	<b>Future sites</b>
1972 - Cincinnati, OH, Cincinnati Convention-Expo Center	2014 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1973 - Boston, MA, John B Hynes Civic Auditorium	2015 - San Antonio, TX, Henry B Ganzales Convention Ctr
1974 - Aneheim, CA, Anaheim Convention Center	2016 - San Diego, CA, San Diego Convention Center
1975 - New Orelans, LA, The Rivergate	2017 - Orlando, FL, Orange County Convention Center
1976 - Minneaplois MN, Minneapolis Auditorium and Convention Hall	2018 - San Antonio, TX, Henry B Ganzales Convention Ctr





Top Left: Toro and Jacobsen featured electric walking greensmowers.

Left: The new Salsco Tranz-Former Fairway Roller is built for speed and to bring the same benefits of rolling greens.

Top: New Sprayer with GPS guidance and individual automatic nozzle control will reduce product overspray. Shown is Toro and Smithco.

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# 2013 Wisconsin Hospitality Gathering

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February 6th, 2013

San Diego, CA

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by  
Brett Grams





## News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By Matt Kinnard and The DHD Team

It is March 21st as I write this and it is most definitely a different story today than as of a year ago. The Weather Channel pointed that out clearly this week using International Falls, MN as the prime example. On March 17th 2012 International Falls had a high of 77° and this year on the same date had a low of -28°. A temperature swing of 105°. Closer to home at DHD World Headquarters in Juneau, WI we had a swing of 72° the date of March 21st from one year to the next. Hard to believe, but that's what is going on. I guess that's how we get averages??? By the time you are all reading this the weather should be warming up, snow melting and if there is any winter damage it will be visible. Good luck to you all.

### Career Moves

**Steve Houlihan** is the new golf course superintendent at Blue Mound Golf and Country Club, Milwaukee. Steve grew up in the golf industry as a nephew of the Shaw brothers and worked for his uncle Jim at Chenequa Country Club in high school. Steve attended college at UW-Madison and received his bachelors degree in 2003 before continuing on to graduate school. Under Dr. Wayne Kusow he completed his Masters degree in 2005.

Meanwhile, Steve had the opportunity to work at Merrill Hills Country Club, Blackwolf Run and the OJ Noer Turfgrass Research Foundation. In 2011, Steve moved on to the Assistants position at Blue Mound Golf and Country Club.

It's been an exciting and busy time for Steve, his wife, Kate, and 16 month old daughter, Aubrey, but he still finds time to actively support the Evans Scholar Foundation, an organization dedicated to sending deserving caddies to college. Congratulations Steve!

Nakoma Country Club, Madison, will see a new face on the golf course this year. **Mike Lemke** has accepted the golf

course superintendents position there. Mike started working at Whispering Springs Golf Course, in Fond du Lac, at age 16 and decided he wanted to make golf course management his career. He went on the graduate from Rutgers University in 2011. Mike was the Assistant Superintendent at Whispering Springs for many years and moved on to become the Assistant Superintendent at The Golf Courses of Lawsonia in 2011. Congratulations Mike!

**Joshua Maladay** was hired as the new Assistant Superintendent at Oconomowoc Golf Club in January. Joshua graduated from Southwest Technical College in 2006 and has past experience working at Erin Hills, Hawks Landing and Winged Foot GC (NY). Joshua was also recently engaged. Congratulations Joshua!

**Gabe Lopez**, formerly of Reinders, has accomplished his lifelong goal of starting his own business. Irrigation Protection Service, located in Delevan, WI recently began servicing customers in Wisconsin and the greater Midwest area and specializes in repair and maintenance of pump stations, field controls and products related to underground irrigation systems. For more information visit [ips911.com](http://ips911.com). Congratulations, Gabe, on your new business!

### Baby News

**Ben Labarre**, Superintendent at The Legends at Bristlecone, Hartland, and his wife, Jen, welcomed home a new baby boy last fall. Brady was born September 5th, weighing in at 5 lbs 20 oz and 20 inches. Big brother Jackson was excited to welcome his new brother home. Con-

gratulations to the Labarre family!

### Awards

The Golf Course Owners of Wisconsin had their annual awards presentation last November. GCOW presents awards for both nine hole and eighteen hole facilities. The award for Best Golf Course Appearance and Maintenance for a 9-hole course was given to Fairfield Hills CC, Baraboo, and to Mid Vallee GC, De Pere, for an 18-hole facility. The Course of the Year award went to Missing Links GC, Mequon, for a 9-hole facility and Geneva National GC, Lake Geneva, for an 18-hole facility. Congratulations to all the winners and the staff members that make it possible!

### Other News



**Kristopher Pinkerton**, Superintendent at Oshkosh County Club landed this 250 pound wild boar while hunting in Alabama in January.

Please pass along any significant news or happenings around the state to Danny, Mike or me. We want to spread the good news. You can also email me at [m.kinnard@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.kinnard@sbcglobal.net) or call at 920-210-9059.

## Coming Events!

Tue April 23rd, April Golf Meeting, The Club at Strawberry Creek, Kenosha, Host - Matt Kregel

Mon May 6th, May Golf Meeting, North Hills CC, Mequon, Host - Randal Dupont

Wed May 29th, Super/Pro, Fox Valley Golf Club, Kaukauna, Host - Scott Bushman

Mon June 17th, WGCSA Tournament Meeting, South Hills CC, Fond du Lac, Host - Jim Van Herwynen

Tue July 30th, UW - Summer Field Day, OJ Noer Facility, Verona, Host - Tom Schwab

Tue August 20th, Joint meeting w/NGL, Stevens Point CC, St. Point, Host - John Femal

Mon September 16th, Wee One, Pine Hills CC, Sheboygan, Host - Rod Johnson

Mon September 23rd, WTA Golf Fundraiser, Maple Bluff CC, Host - Josh Lepine CGCS

Sat October 5th, Couples Outing/Party, Wild Rock GC, WI Dells, Host Michael Blazich

Tues and Wed Dec 10th-11th, Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium, American Club, Kohler



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## Spring at Last?

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

*Editors Note: Historically The Grass Roots has not promoted specific products in articles or editorial content. We do appreciate our many vendors and the support they give us but do our best to stay non-commercial. However we do find it appropriate to highlight events WGCSA members attend and employee news. In this issue we are featuring Reinders Conference and we welcome submissions from our other valuable vendor members when they have their own events.*

I hope you were able to take advantage of the many educational opportunities this past winter. The WTA, GCCSA, NGLGCSA all provided some great opportunities this winter. Our vendors also provide some excellent clinics and symposiums on a variety of subjects.

Reinders hosts the states best attended conference and this year was no different with the 21st Green Industry Conference. Hosted every other year since 1973 the event has drawn over 1500 golf and facility managers in recent years.



**Top Left:** Dr Joe Vargas has spoke at all 21 Reinders Conferences.

**Bottom Left:** Craig Reinders presents Heather Henning of Racine Country Club the show grand prize, a trip to Disney World along with \$1,000 spending money! Congrats Heather!

**Top Right:** The bustling show floor from the balcony.

**Bottom Right:** "Riding the Wave" is John Jensen, Mark Robel Joe Kuta, Randy Dupont, Rod Johnson, Tom Speltz and Dean Musbach



# EDITORS NOTEBOOK

No matter what the weather does from here on out we are looking at a late spring especially compared to last year. Topics on the GCSAA website and the Noernet have focused on removing ice or not removing ice and turf managers look for ways to improve the odds of turf survival.

It is hard for golfers to understand that every year is different and we have little control over when opening day is so we need to bear their repeated "are you open yet?" comments.

In Fond du Lac we had a lot of snow this year and have had our share of turf damage over the years mainly from water not being able to move in the winter due to ice and snow blocking the path.

We removed some snow in January but then had a complete thaw and the course was still green at that time but dormant. Then thinking spring was on the way we removed some snow in early March only to have it snow again and again. On March 25th using a snowblower for the deep snow but mainly our dump truck and plow we removed snow from all our greens to promote ice melt.

The entire course was frozen with a layer of ice so we could do no damage anyway. In hindsight it seems to have worked out as the ice was off the greens by Friday and they looked good with no odor.

We are somewhat nervous about fairway damage given the prolonged ice cover and freeze thaw cycles but time will tell. Good luck to all as we hopefully head out of the deep freeze soon.

	OPENINGS	CLOSURES	NET CHANGE
<b>TOTAL 2012</b>	13.5	154.5	-141.0
Daily Fee	8.5	130.5	-122.0
Municipal	1.5	8.5	-7.0
Private	3.5	15.5	-12.0

\*\*\*\*\*

According the National Golf Foundation course closures out-paced openings for the 7th straight year with a net loss of 141 18-hole equivalents.

Since 1995 the industry has seen a net loss of 499.5 18-hole equivalent golf courses which sounds like a lot and is if your course was one of them shuttered but it only represents 3.3% of the market.

The late opening every course in Wisconsin is experiencing this spring will reduce cash flow and stretch reserves to the limit as new income is slow to reach the cash registers when snow is on the ground.

\*\*\*\*\*

To save on postage costs but to still bring you paper meeting notices we are sending the meeting notices out with *The Grass Roots* to each member. We have some great venues coming up so be sure to attend our events. I can honestly say I have never been to a WGCSA golf event and not learned something both from the course and other attendees.

Be sure to register on time to allow the host club to accommodate us. The rest of the event schedule is on page 47.

The Super Pro is May 29th at Fox Valley Golf Club. Registration

is through the PGA of Wisconsin so talk to your professional today to sign up for that fun event.

\*\*\*\*\*

One of the benefits of the long winter it the chance to stay caught up on reading the many periodicals we receive. I urge you to check out Pat Jones's article "You Gotta Believe" in the February issue of *Golf Course Industry*. The column covers the rewards and challenges young men and women should consider before they consider a career in turfgrass management.

\*\*\*\*\*

Water use and conservation was a main topic at the Golf Industry Show and the spring WGCSA meeting. It is also a topic on the public's minds as most of the papers in the state picked up on new information out from the DNR on surface and ground water use.

Although golf is not a high user by percentage when you look at the list we are a expendable user in the eyes of the general public.

As turf mangers we do what we can to conserve water because it is the right thing for plant health, playing conditions and the environment. Turfgrass is important to a healthy environment to reduce erosion, offer green space and oxygen production.

Grass might be great in our minds but when compared to crops for food or animals and manufacturing golf takes a back seat. Golf is the 7th largest user of groundwater at 4.2 billion gallons or a mere 2% of total groundwater use in Wisconsin. Municipal water supply leads the list with 90 billion gallons while agriculture irrigation uses 74 billion.

For surface water golf uses 434 million gallons and is 11th on the list at .022% of the total used. Power generation and paper production are the two big users of surface water with 1.6 billion and 121 million respectively.

What is considered a important use of water by our industry is considered cosmetic or non-essential use in the court of public opinion. We will need to be prepared to defend our use of water and show how we limit the use of this valuable resource in the near future.

\*\*\*\*\*

Good luck with the rest of spring and your course openings. Hopefully the delayed spring will be rewarded with good weather, gentle and timely rain at night and golf shops full of happy customers.

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