

EDITOR'S CORNER

By Steve Shumansky
Perham Lakeside Country Club



Spring is most definitely here!! And with it has come April showers for some. It's nice that Mother Nature is helping us out, but I know for some, they've had enough for a while. Including the tornadoes in the southern part of the state last month. It's going to take time for the people in the area around St. Peter to rebuild. My sympathy goes out to all involved in such a tragedy. It just goes to show you how strong Mother Nature can be.

And with that, by now I'm sure everyone has energized their irrigation systems, hopefully without any problems or just minor ones. I know with me, once the system is fired up, the golf season is truly here. It's like you're pumping lifeblood under your course through all the miles of pipe. It also means a lot of days and nights wondering if everything is working the way it should. I cringe every time there is a thunderstorm wondering what's gonna get hit this time. And will it be an easy fix this time? We all go through that!

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April was a busy month for all of us. Getting things ready for the start of a new year and opening our courses. All I have heard from everyone throughout the state was how nice everything looked this spring. Positive feedback...that's a nice thing to hear, knowing nobody (at least that I've heard) had any severe winter damage this spring.

Some things have come to my attention recently about our *Hole Notes*. Some of the articles written are not what people want to read. Well, I have a question for all of you. Tell me what you want to read about. There's some things I know I want to see, but I want input from all of you before I go ahead and get information on things like: variable frequency drives (VFDs), drug testing (should we do it, how do we go about doing it), tee and green construction, aerification practices, tree trimming (when to do it, when not to do it) wildflowers, general info, etc. Please let me know what you want to see printed. Together we can make our *Hole Notes* a great success.

This year the ice on my lake (one of Minnesota's many Rush Lakes) went out on April 6th. Last year it didn't go out until May 7th. If this is any indication of what's to come this year, maybe, just maybe fishing opener will be a good one this year. I'm sure hoping so. I remember last year, with the highwater levels and the cold water temperatures, fishing wasn't exactly good. The company was but the fishing wasn't. With any luck those of you that are out in search of the infamous Walley-gator will bag your limit. Good luck in your search and have a safe trip wherever you go. I'll let you know next month on how we did this year, or I'll at least tell ya about the one that got away. I know the clan that comes to my little area is looking forward to it. Ahhh, fishing again, just relaxing in the boat and maybe having a couple cold ones...see ya next month.

—Steve Shumansky, Editor

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