

Editor's Corner

By Steve Shumansky
Perham Lakeside Country Club



SPRING IS IN THE AIR

If you are feeling like I am at this point, "LET THERE BE SPRING!! ". I have always looked at winter as time to recharge my batteries. Well, they are fully charged! I have relaxed, kicked back and basically finished those winter projects around the house, (there wasn't many this year), fished 'til I couldn't fish any more, and played one too many card games at work. Now it is time to get ready for the season. The season we live for, the season of golf. Before too long, the trees will have buds beginning to bloom, leaves popping out of virtually no where. Tulips raising from the earth showing their beautiful colors. And hopefully all of our turf will green up and grow just like it always does and looking like a nice green carpet, just the way it was when we put it to bed last fall.

AN EXPERIENCE WELL WORTH IT....

As E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, wrote in his column, he and I attended a strategic planning meeting at the GCSAA national headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas back in January. I somewhat feel honored to have gone on such a trip. The meetings were a little long and drawn out for my taste as far I was concerned, but some of the things I picked up on was basically this. The MGCSA is doing pretty good, I mean with all we have going on, such as the money we have in research, having an executive director, the scholarship scramble and having one association for the entire state. I guess for me growing up in Minnesota and becoming a member of the MGCSA back in 87, I thought that was the way it was everywhere, Iowa has only one association. Wisconsin only has one, I thought that was the way it was all over. But that is not the case in many parts of the country. Some states have many associations and have few members. But there are some associations that have many members and are of multiple states. But what I'm getting at is this, there are a few associations that are in the process of

hiring an executive director/secretary for the first time. And we have had one for quite sometime. That makes me think we're doing OK. I hope it does. Because Scott and Jeff do a hell of a nice job for us!!

All in all it was a fun trip, Having the chance to meet other people from other parts of the country that do the same things we do is always educational. From what they apply for chemicals, to what they spend on water for irrigation. Allot of what I had heard from a couple I had talked to was, 60,000 dollars a year for irrigation was a drop in the bucket for them. We are lucky here to have the water supplies we have.

TIME FOR A NEW LOOK???

We are in the process of changing the look of our Hole Notes, so they will fit the changing times. Maybe make it look more appealing, more professional, or more of an eye catching thing. After meeting some different people in Lawrence, I have received their publications and it has given me some ideas on how we can better our own. So look forward to some changes in the near future and hopefully they will help make our association stand out and look even better that we have in the past.

With that, I'll close, I hope your "pre-spring" goes just as planned. We'll see ya next month,

Anyone interested in helping with the Environmental Handbook should call Jeff Johnson, The Minikahda Club at (612) 926-4167

- Steve Shumansky
Editor

Coming Your Way....

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) announces a series of mini collections for the recycling of empty pesticide containers. the collections are being organized in Minneapolis-St.Paul and surrounding suburban areas. The purpose of the mini collections is to provide a convenient outlet for greenhouses, nurseries, park departments and golf courses to recycle their empty pesticide containers.

"In the past we haven't done a very good job of providing recycling opportunities for pesticide users in the metro area," according to Steve Poncin, MDA program coordinator. "Hopefully by bringing more collection sites into the metro area, more businesses will take the

opportunity to recycle their empty pesticide containers," Poncin said.

The collection schedule has not been finalized at this time. Tentative plans call for a total of 6-9 collection sites to be located in the metro area during late August and September. Each site would be open for 1-2 hours on a specific date. Pesticide users would bring their empty rinsed pesticide containers to the collection site at that time. No advanced registration or fees are required for participation.

Mel Strand, CEO
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