



Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club

Hey, We're Open

Well we finally made it. The rain washed the snow away to reveal all the snow mold, or at least the areas your sprayer missed due to clogged nozzles. I don't know about anyone else, but looking at a little snow mold sure seems better than staring at the snow. However, this late spring has allowed me to catch up on a lot of paperwork. I hope everyone came through the winter with little or no turf injury.

Bear Droppings

Due to the increase in the bear population the Minnesota Department Natural Resources is advising hikers, fishermen and golfers to take extra precautions and be on the alert for bears while in the northern areas of the state this

summer. They advise people to wear noise-producing devices, such as little bells, on their clothing to alert, but not startle the bears unexpectedly. They also advise you to carry pepper spray in case of an encounter with a bear. It is also a good idea to watch for fresh signs of bear activity. People should be able to recognize the difference between black bear and grizzly bear droppings: Black bear droppings are smaller and contain berries and possibly squirrel fur. Grizzly bear droppings have little bells in them and smell like pepper spray.

Membership Dues

Dues statements have been mailed out to all members. Make a special note, they are due by May 1, no exceptions to make it into the roster.

FYI

Today, two-thirds of the nation's waters are safe for fishing and swimming, compared with only one-third in 1972.

The EPA estimates that 60-70 percent of the lakes, rivers, and streams meet state water quality goals, which is up from 30-40 percent three decades ago.

The amount of America's wetlands is growing. In 1995 alone, there was a net gain of 69,000 acres of wetlands.

For these and more Environmental Facts go to uschamber.com/earthday.

GCSAA Membership Special

To celebrate the GCSAA's 75th anniversary, the GCSAA is offering a special membership dues rebate program. This program began on the first of January, 2001 and continues through the first of March, 2002.

During this time, superintendents and assistant superintendents joining the GCSAA for the first time, or whose membership has lapsed for at least two years, can join for just \$75!

For more information, see the ad in this month's Hole Notes, or call the GCSAA service center @ 1-800-472-7878

Congratulations

Congratulations go out to Steve Shumansky and his lovely bride for the birth of their son, Nathan, a 5 lb 4 oz bundle of joy. There goes the fishing!

Until Next Month

I hope to see many of you at our monthly association meeting at Brackett's Crossing on Tuesday, May 8. It should be a great day.

Dr. Powell will probably be updating us on the greens cover studies he has been working on, and maybe give us a preview on this summer's turfgrass field days.

--Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Editor

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