

Turf Talk in Minnesota

Coyote Decoys for Goose Control

(Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from the University of Minnesota's Turf Talk website. You can join in the on-going conversations at www.turf.umn.edu)

Goose Control

Has anyone heard of using coyote decoys around your pond edges to scare off geese? It came to my attention through a Green Committee meeting that a local course is having good success with this method. I am in the process of trying to find out which course. I'm skeptical but willing to explore. -- *Randy Allen, Tartan Park Golf Course.*

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Randy, I know Goodrich GC used the coyote decoys last year. I e-mailed the Ramsey County Natural resource specialist about the decoys since it was one of his attempts to deal with these winged rats. This is his response:

"The decoys work when used in conjunction with a dog. If you chase the geese with a dog, then put the decoy out it will

keep the geese away from that area for several days. You need to move the decoys around every few days and continue to occasionally use a dog."

You may want to call Dave Bauer at Goodrich and see what he thinks of them. Have you tried the pyrotechnic cartridges fired from a starter pistol? We have very good luck with that program. Good Luck and keep your rollers clean! -- *Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Keller Golf Course.*

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Perhaps go one step further and place a dead goose decoy next to the coyote decoy. Might give the bird something to think about! -- *Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, North Oaks Golf Club*

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Let's take it another step further; place the human hunter decoy (with gun) next to the dead coyote decoy next to the dead goose decoy. I wonder how many groups that would offend? -- *Paul Diegnau, CGCS, Keller Golf Course.*

MGCSA EVENTS

Monday, May 17
SPRING MIXER

Glencoe Country Club
Glencoe, Minn.

Host Superintendent: Jeff Vinkemeier

Monday, May 24

**BASF PEOPLE VS. THE PRO'S
CHALLENGE**

North Oaks Golf Club
North Oaks, Minn.

Host Superintendent: Jack MacKenzie, CGCS

Monday, June 7

SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE

White Bear Yacht Club
White Bear Lake, Minn.

Host Superintendent: John Steiner, CGCS

Monday, August 16

STODOLA SCRAMBLE

Somerset Country Club
Mendota Heights, Minn.

Host Superintendent: James Bade

Monday, September 13

MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP

Edina Country Club
Edina, Minn.

Host Superintendent: Mike Kelly

Monday, October 11

FALL MIXER

The Crossings at Montevideo
Montevideo, Minn.

Host Superintendent: Terry Nigen

Waste Pesticide Collection Program Undergoes Changes In 2004 Regional and County Partnerships Being Formed

Minnesota's Waste Pesticide Collection Program for the disposal of unwanted and unusable pesticides has been modified to continue its mission in the face of scarce governmental resources.

The success of the program is demonstrated by the fact that the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has collected and safely disposed of over 2.6 million pounds of waste pesticide since the program was initiated in 1989. While the collection mechanism will be modified, the new program will continue to provide sites for the collection of household, agriculture and business pesticides.

Sites will be operated in partnerships formed by the MDA with regional and county Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) programs

and will continue to collect waste pesticides from farmers and custom applicators, as well as homeowners. Experience has shown that these existing facilities and their established waste disposal contracts offer efficiencies and disposal cost-savings to the program.

These cooperative relationships began in the mid-90s when HHWs asked MDA to assist in the disposal of household pesticides separated by their staff from other household wastes. In return, HHWs would accept small volumes of agricultural pesticides, direct farmers to MDA event collections and offer their facility as an event site.

MDA will allocate funds to the HHWs to cover such costs as drums, transportation and waste disposal in an amount based on the

number of farms, households and companies licensed to apply pesticides in the area and the quantities of waste pesticides collected at the location in the past. Partnering counties and regional HHW facilities will schedule collection dates and contractors will provide transportation and disposal.

(Editor's Note: For more information on the county or regional collection site in your area contact your solid waste office or Stan Kaminski, Agronomy and Plant Protection at 651-297-1062 or stan.kaminski@state.mn.us or the MDA website: www.mda.state.mn.us/appd/wastepest/default.htm.)