

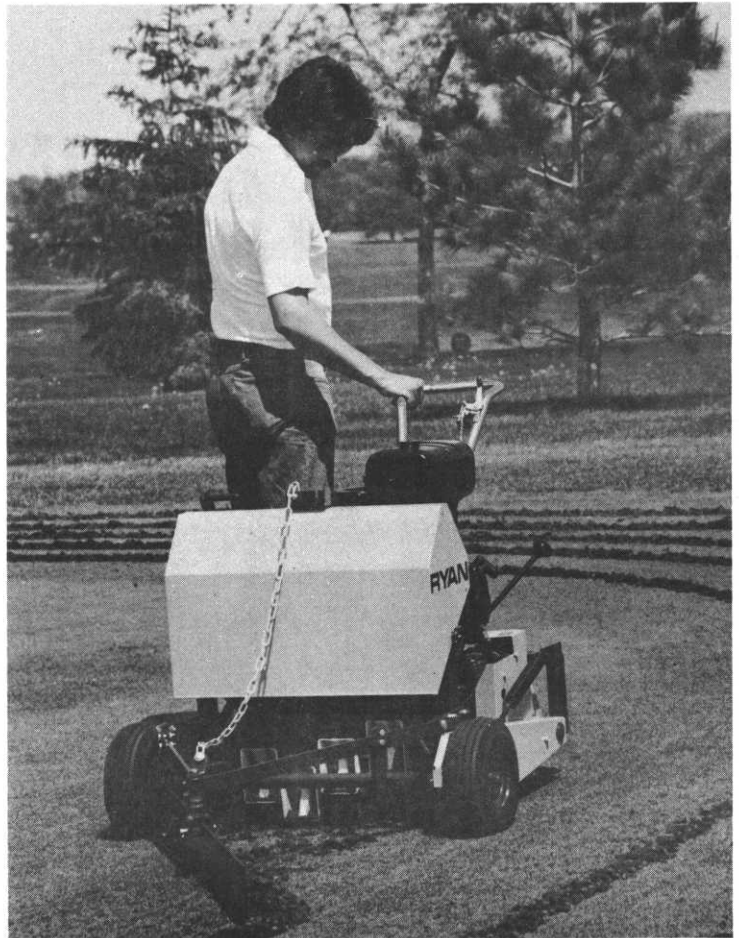
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Perfect Picnic At Tartan Park

If you could order the day in advance, it would have been exactly as it turned out to be on Monday, July 16 at the annual picnic. Tartan Park with its many outdoor facilities is an ideal place to hold such a function. Host Superintendent Joe Morris is a past master at handling all the arrangements. The Wiley's - Catherine, Milt, John and Renee - of the M.T. Wiley Company not only popped for the beer and food but cooked and served it as well. And it was a big job with over one hundred adults in attendance not to mention all the children. Thanks to the Wiley's from all of us eaters and drinkers. Minnesota Toro had a fine display of their products set up so there was some educational aspects to the good time as well. After dinner each lady present was presented with a gift which was a delightful way to end a perfect day.



HEAD CHEF. Milt and Catherine Wiley at the console of the giant barbecue.



CADILLAC. Irv Novak, right, and Assistant Cy Took over the Toro top of the line fairway mower.



TRUCK TALK. Display prompted conversation and stories. Some true and some - well!



MUSTARD, ANYONE? Host Joe Morris, right, and family check the supplies. Daughter prefers thumb to Wiley's cooking.

Preparing a Course for a National Tournament

By John Nylund, Golf Course Superintendent
Braemar Golf Club, Edina, Minnesota

On June 25 through July 1, 1979 I had the opportunity to host a United States Golf Association National Tournament. It was my first major tournament at Braemar Golf Course. When I heard we were getting the tournament I was somewhat apprehensive about preparing for it.

In August 1978 we were approached about hosting the Women's Public Links Championship. Coffin Memorial Golf Course in Indianapolis was scheduled to host the tournament but last July they received an incredible amount of rain which virtually destroyed their course.

The U.S.G.A. immediately set out to find a course to replace Coffin Memorial. We were approached in August 1978 and asked to host the tournament. Our City Council gave final approval for the tournament and it was set to be held at Braemar in June 1979.

I received a call from Tom Meeks of the U.S.G.A. in October 1978 and he arrived at the course to check out arrangements and inspect the facility. We toured each hole of the golf course and he decided on all yardages to be used by the women at this time. I was amazed at the number of men's tees he was going to use. We also discussed cutting heights of greens, tees, collars, fairways and roughs. He also set out of bounds and hazard markings. After Tom Left I received a detailed list of hole-by-hole requirements nine months before the tournament.

The winter passed and in April I received a call from Al Radko (National Director of the Green Section) and Carl Schwartzkopf (Director of the North Central Region of the Green Section). They arrived a few weeks later at the golf course. We toured each hole and Mr. Radko gave me many ideas

Continued on Page 5

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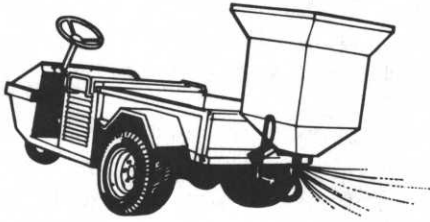
President Sandy Tatum of the U.S.G.A. congratulates John Nylund on the excellent condition of his course.



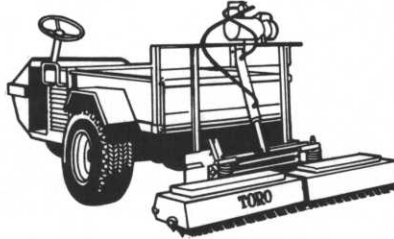
WORKMASTER



RED WAGON



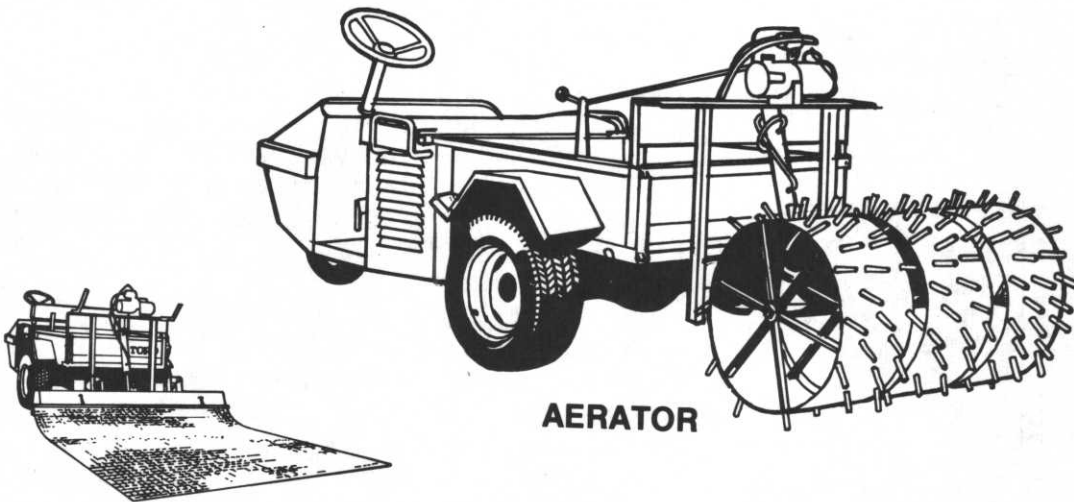
FERTILIZER SPREADER



SPIKER

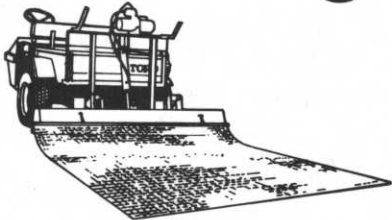


WORKMASTER



AERATOR

CAB ENCLOSURE



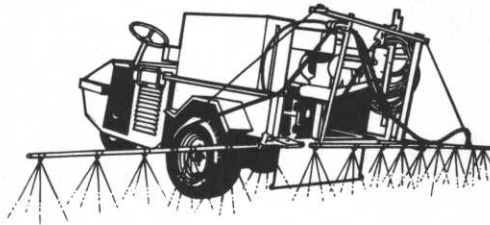
INFIELD ATT.



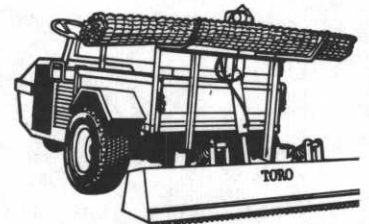
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for improvements on our course. I enjoyed their visit and both were a great help in preparing for the tournament. Mr. Radko was very thorough in his observations of the golf course and sent me many helpful items of literature.

As the tournament grew closer I was requested to double cut all greens daily at 3/16" one week prior to the tournament to achieve an 8'6" stimpmeter reading. I found that our greens didn't roll 8'6" because we were using a triplex mower and because of the heavy rains we had prior to the tournament. Being a public golf course I was reluctant to cut the greens much lower before the tournament week arrived. I eventually lowered them to 5/32" double cut and achieved a much longer reading on the stimpmeter. Also the rains stopped and the greens were able to dry out somewhat.

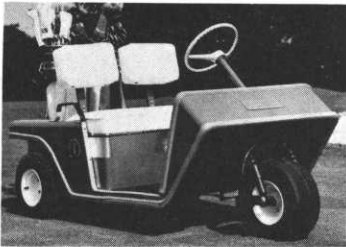
Finally, tournament week arrived and my crew was on a night and morning shift. Everything except roughs were mowed daily and cups and tee placements were set by the U.S.G.A. officials daily at 6:00 a.m. The U.S.G.A. officials were very thorough and precise to avoid any rules violations and were constantly watching for any trouble areas.

During the entire week Carl Schwartzkopf was at the course to help out if needed. It is nice knowing you have an individual with his qualifications at a moment's notice. Thanks to everyone, the week was a huge success.

Lori Castillo of Hawaii was the eventual winner and should go a long way in her golfing career. The final match was refereed by Frank Tatum, Jr., President of the United States Golf Association. He is a very distinguished gentleman and a fine speaker. He had many fine things to say about golf courses in this area which he said were some of the finest in the country. There are so many people involved in hosting a major tournament and each has to do his or her job to make it a success. Our committee people did a great job which made every contestant very happy. Many said they will remember this championship for a long time. I found that having this tournament has made Braemar a much better course. Many jobs were completed before the tournament came that may have gone unfinished had we not hosted this tournament. I feel I learned a lot from the U.S.G.A. officials before and during the tournament that should help me prepare for future tournaments. Many of the procedures involved before a tournament would make a great session during our Annual Conference.

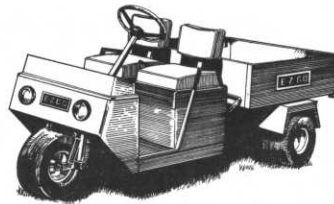
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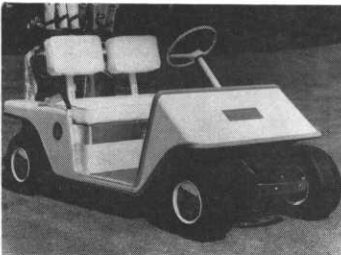


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SALES-SERVICE-LEASING-PARTS

The U.S.G.A. is willing to send their officials for a portion of our conference to explain the details in preparing for a tournament. I think it would be very interesting to have them attend our conference this December. Please let me know if you agree.

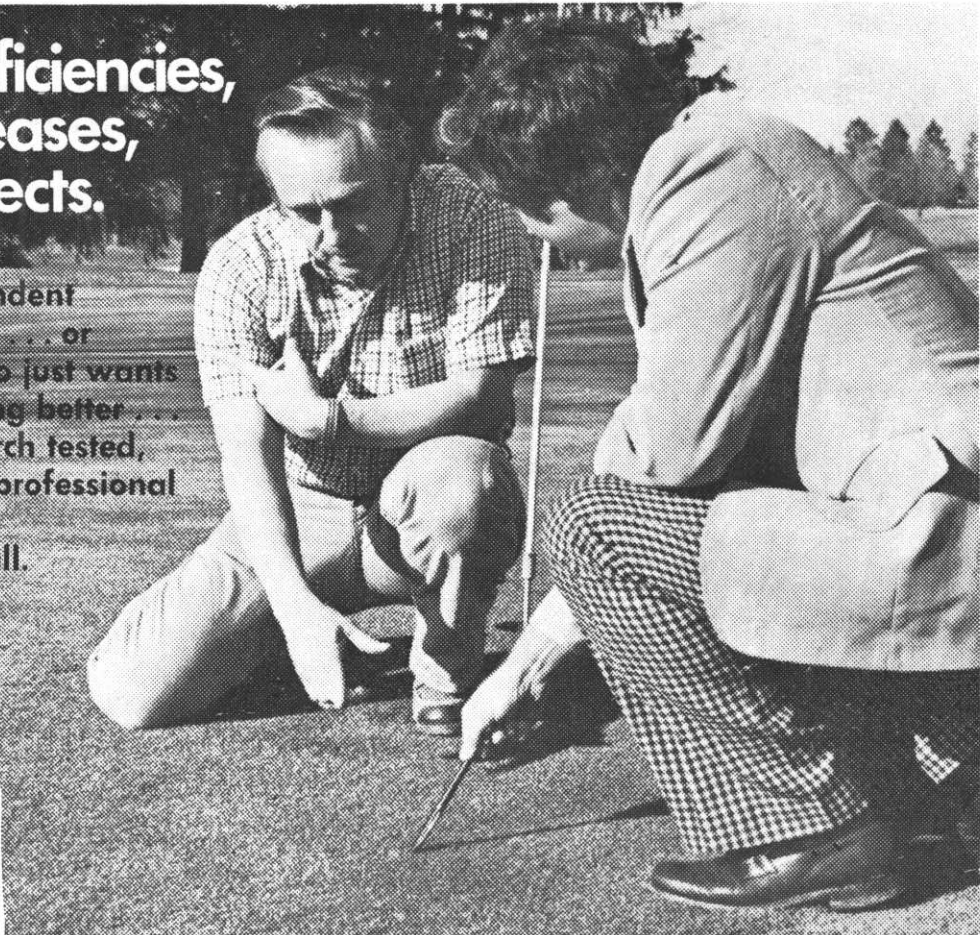
I met many nice people during this tournament and honestly had a wonderful time. It is something a golf course should look forward to hosting and should give something back to the game of golf. After all, if it wasn't for the game of golf, we might all be working at jobs we dislike.

EXTRA EFFORT

The following superintendents have hosted important state tournaments during the last month. Each sponsoring group reports the courses were in excellent shape and that the cooperation of the host superintendent was outstanding.

Golf competitions are what stimulates interest among the public and club members. The superintendent plays a very important part in every competition and these men did an outstanding job.

George Ostler, Hillcrest Country Club - Minnesota Golf Association Amateur Championship; Jim Lindblad, Wayzata Country Club - Minnesota Women's Golf Association Match Play Championship; Roger Kisch, Southview Country Club - Tapemark Charity Pro-Am; Irv Novak, Minnetonka Country Club - National Car Open Championship.



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How To Schedule Your Day

If your workload keeps growing as fast as your workday seems to shrink, maybe your problem is a lack of organization.

A few minutes spent in planning can help you get more accomplished each day and help you run your operation more efficiently. Not everyone can be an efficiency expert, but even the most disorganized person can get more done by planning his work more efficiently. These eight suggestions can help.

- 1) At the end of each workday, take a few minutes to schedule the next day's activities - phone calls, meetings, interviews, and projects. Make a list with the most important things to be accomplished at the top. As other important things come up, you may have to change your plans, but having a list can help you keep your priorities in mind.
- 2) Schedule work according to your own personal efficiency. Not everyone works at peak efficiency first thing in the morning, so you should schedule the important things for a time when you are at your sharpest.
- 3) Decide whether you would rather tackle the tough projects first and get them out of the way or ease into them by finishing the smaller tasks first.
- 4) Tough problems take concentration and it is impossible to concentrate when you are continually interrupted. If you know you are going to have to deal with a thorny problem, set aside some time for it. Let everyone know that you don't want to be disturbed and make yourself work at it.

- 5) Use an action request form for assigning tasks to your subordinates. It should include a description of the job and a deadline and a person responsible for its completion. This system makes for more paperwork but it does make assigning jobs easier and gives you a written record for reference.

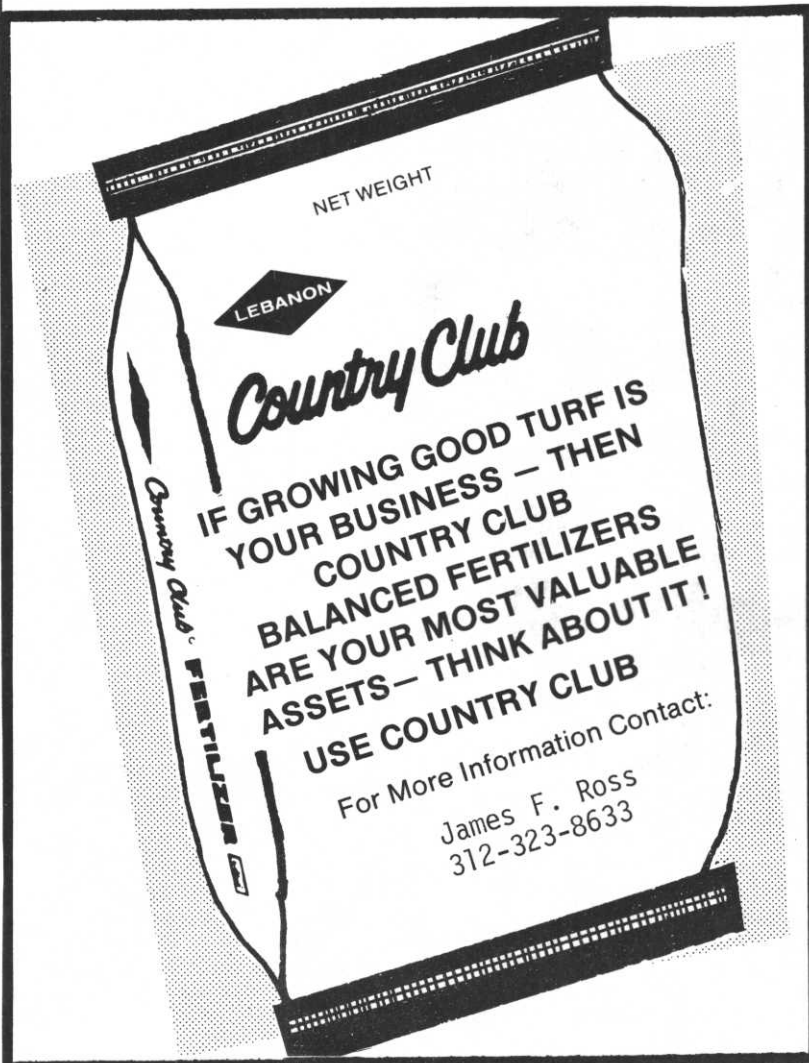
- 6) Take a close look at the things that make up your day. Some of them may be merely habit and no longer necessary. Cut ruthlessly. A collection of minor tasks can take valuable time away from the more important duties.

- 7) Group similar tasks into one time period. If you have to do similar things during the day, try doing them all at once. Switching your concentration from one job to another can take more time than you think.

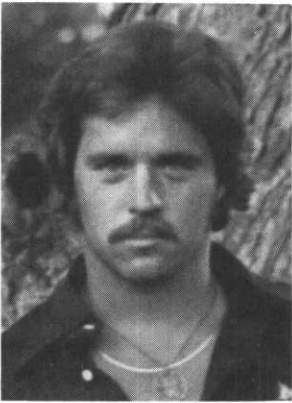
- 8) Don't agonize over decisions. There is a difference between spending a reasonable amount of time considering alternatives and delaying a decision because it is an uncomfortable one.

If you have to make a decision, make it. The only way you can avoid making a decision is by waiting until you have

Continued on Page 9



MEET YOUR SUPERINTENDENTS !



JOHN STEINER is presently enjoying his tenth year as a member of the White Bear Yacht Club's maintenance department. During those ten years, John has moved up the ladder from groundsman in 1970 to the assistant superintendent in 1976 and finally to being named the head golf course superintendent in March of this year. A member of MGCSA since 1976, John received his Bachelor of Science degree in turf maintenance from the University of Minnesota and also worked for one year on a grounds crew in Palm Springs, California before returning home to join the staff at White Bear. John, an eligible bachelor, likes to spend his free time golfing in the summer and skiing when the snow flies. The White Bear Yacht Club has traditionally been regarded as one of the most finely manicured courses in the state and with someone as eager and hard working as John leading the way, we are sure this tradition will continue for years to come.



JOHN QUEENSLAND, JR. joined the Cedar River Country Club in Adams, Minnesota at its inception in 1967 when construction had just finished. He is a one course superintendent whose education has been "learn by doing". Prior to 1967 he was a farmer and still does some as a hobby along with golf and snowmobiling. He and his wife, Pauline, have three children, Susan, 17; Curtis, 13; and David, 8. He became a member of M.G.C.S.A. in 1968 and credits much of the knowledge he has accumulated to the association and the opportunity it gives to discuss mutual problems with other superintendents in the organization. The last two years he has been installing an irrigation system which is just now beginning to pay dividends in the playing conditions and maturity of the course.

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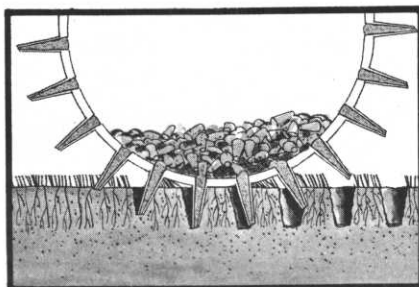
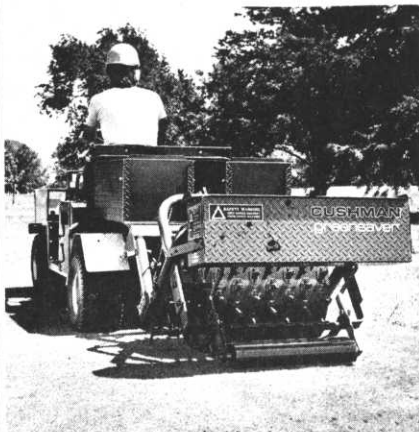
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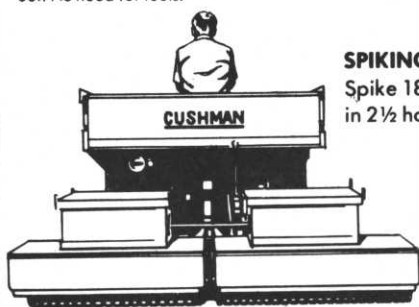
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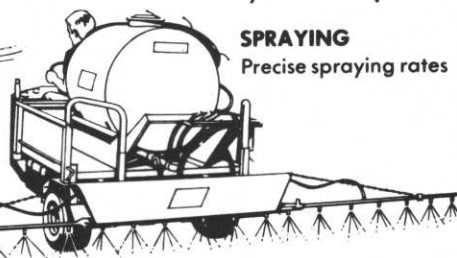
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Now and then, every supervisor must face the unpleasant task of firing an employee. When that time comes for you, prepare as carefully as you did when you interviewed that employee for the first time.

Before the meeting, think carefully about the specific nature of your complaints and whether you have given the employee ample warning and an opportunity to improve. Don't throw away a potentially valuable employee just because you have not adequately communicated your desires to him. If no improvement takes place, make the termination interview clean and quick. Now is not the time to dwell on past failures, especially if there is nothing that can be done about them. Get to the point and end the meeting quickly. Be sure that the employee understands your decision is final and you will not be swayed by pleas for "one more chance".

Finally, give some serious thought to why your employee failed. Firing unsatisfactory employees should never become easy and if your termination rate is high, it probably reflects a flaw in your training system and management of employees.

Reprint "FORE FRONT"

Continued from Page 7

only one alternative remaining. That last alternative may be the worst of the bunch.

These eight suggestions may not make you an efficiency expert but they may help you reevaluate your work habits. Not everyone works the same way but it is important to find a system that works for you. Set your own schedule and follow it. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish.

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