

HISTORY OF GOLF IN MINNESOTA

STILLWATER COUNTRY CLUB

by Kevin Clunis
Stillwater Country Club

In 1924 a group of Stillwater golfers decided it would be better to build their own course than to wait the two hours in line at St Paul Phalen Park's 9-hole course. That winter they formed a group to explore possible building sites. They hired Tom Vardon, the pro at White Bear Yacht club, and brother of famous English golfer, Harry Vardon, to design the course. They bought 80 acres of pastureland on our present location for \$8,000.

In April 1925 Tom Vardon laid out 9- temporary greens to be used while the permanent greens were built. In 1926 the permanent greens were built and a water system installed at each one. They opened for play the following season. The original 9-holes are today's holes, Nos. 10, 11, 17, 18, 1, 7, and 9. Tom Vardon's fee was \$100.00. Stillwater's first groundskeeper was Anger Swanson from the White Bear Yacht Club. He was followed by Earl Sturgeon who lasted until WWII.

The Stillwater Country Club had some lean years during

the war, but soon a post war resurgence brought in many new members. They hired a local man, Lyle Cran, to run the golf course in 1947. By the fifties, discussion of expanding to 18-holes was becoming more real. A committee was set up to investigate the matter. They purchased 68 acres of land to the west of the 9-hole golf course in 1954 for \$20,000. They hired Paul Coates, a retired Ramsey County Highway Engineer and nationally known golf course architect to design the new layout. They purchased another 4 acres of land to complete the golf course. Construction began in the fall of 1957 and was ready for play the spring of 1959. Cost for the new nine was \$43,676.36. Fairway irrigation was installed in 1973 by P & H Warehouse and a 775' deep well was dug in 1975 by Keyes Well Drilling.

Lyle Cran remained as superintendent until his death in the spring of 1985. He was replaced by the present superintendent, Kevin Clunis. This is only the fourth superintendent in the 63 years of the Stillwater Country Club.

TURF TOURNEY UPDATE

by Fred Anderson, CGCS
MGCSA Secretary

The second annual Turfgrass Research benefit Golf Tournament, better known as the "Turf Tourney", will again be held on approximately 18 of the finest country clubs in the metro Minneapolis and St. Paul areas as well as surrounding suburbs. The moneys generated from this event are placed in our Foundation Trust Fund. Once our goal of \$100,000 has been reached, we will be able to help fund additional research projects designated by the Research Committee.

The tournament will be held on Friday, June 17, 1988. The tourney is set up as a "4-Man Team Event", will cost \$75.00 per person and includes golf, cart, dinner and prizes (if you play well enough). This event will be open to the public. You, as the superintendent, could get a group, your pro could get a group or anybody at your club could form a group. We have 4 tee times per club starting at 11:00 a.m. Your club choice is on a first come, first serve basis so the earlier you could get your group together, the better chance you have.

The committee would hope you, as superintendent, would make sure that the informational poster for this event would be placed in the pro shop (a copy of the application is in your HOLE NOTES) and talk up this event to your pro and club members. We would also like to thank all the clubs that are participating in this year's annual event.



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Anticipate Unsightly Leaf Diseases This Spring

by James A. Fizzell
Sr. Extension Adviser, Horticulture

We expect many plants to be looking poorly this spring because of foliage problems. The cool wet weather is favorable for development of fungus diseases that will damage or even kill the leaves. While nearly all plants are susceptible to an assortment of leaf spot diseases most of these fungi seldom do much damage and are usually ignored.

However, there are three diseases which can be expected to be widespread again this year doing serious damage to trees. These are apple scab, cedar apple rust, and sycamore anthracnose.

APPLE SCAB is a fungus disease infecting leaves as they open. It develops as olive colored spots which turn black as the leaf drops. You may recall that many crabapples had no leaves most of last spring and again last fall when the weather was cold and wet. Fruits are also affected making them unsightly. Once infected, a leaf cannot be cured, so prevention is important. One of the better spray materials for scab is benomyl. It should be applied to all the new leaves every seven to ten days as long as wet weather continues.

Closely related fungi cause pear sooty blotch and several other leaf spots.

CEDAR APPLE RUST is a very interesting disease. At this time of the year it appears as bright orange or yellow jelly-like masses on junipers. Many times people think their juniper is

in bloom. These masses are in reality one stage of a fungus disease that alternately affects junipers and either apple, crab-apple or hawthorns. Hawthorns have been severely affected by this disease in the last few years.

The gelatinous masses on the juniper dry up and the spores they contain are blown to developing leaves on the alternate host, i.e. the apples, hawthorns, etc. In mid-summer, spores are produced by the alternate host, and will reinfect junipers at that time.

Rust can be controlled by eliminating one of the alternate hosts.

Where this is not feasible, spraying with a fungicide will reduce the severity of the problem. This spring, while spores are being produced on junipers, spray the apples and hawthorns with zineb, maneb or Polyram. Repeat three or four times at ten day intervals.

In summer when apples and hawthorns are making spores, spray the juniper.

Picking the walnut-like galls from the juniper as they develop in fall will eliminate spores in spring.

Also whenever possible, avoid planting susceptible juniper species. There are many resistant varieties.

SYCAMORE ANTHRACNOSE affects twigs, buds, new leaves, and fully developed leaves of sycamore and London Plane trees. Severe infections occur during cool wet springs. The fungus is affected by temperatures and is most active when temperatures are between 50 and 60 degrees F. as leaves emerge. During warm springs or during summer weather of 80 degrees or better no anthracnose will occur. Last year anthracnose was severe on white and bur oak, and on maple. If

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weather continues cool and wet the same problem will show up this year, too.

The disease appears as drying up of the new leaves and shoots as they appear in spring. The affected leaves do not develop and eventually drop off. Later in the spring new leaves develop but are marked by irregular brown areas within the leaves. At this time the injury usually does not cause leaf drop.

Trees affected year after year are seriously weakened and should be fertilized to maintain vigorous growth. Spraying the tree with benomyl, captafol, or Bordeaux mixture before the buds break in spring will retard the development of the disease. If cool weather persists, the treatment should be repeated in two weeks.

Spray materials may be used safely if they are used correctly. Always read and follow the directions explicitly.

“A Springtime Show”

April, the first Lady of Spring,

Aids Mother Nature with Her showery fling.

Spurred on with Her awakening might,

Nature blooms forth with unharnessed delight.

All of the beauty buried with snow,

Bursts out with vigor, “A Springtime Show”.

While April performs Her Seasonal Duty,

We hungrily await the rest of Spring’s Beauty.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

POSITION AVAILABLE

Applications are being accepted for the position of Mechanic at Forest Hills Golf course in Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The position is full time, year around job. The salary is negotiable. Fringe benefits include hospitalization, dues, expenses and travel expenses.

Send resume applications to:

Forest Hills Golf Course
7530 210th St. North
Forest Lake, MN 55025
Attention: Marlow Hansen

“THAT’S NOT MY JOB”

This is a about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.



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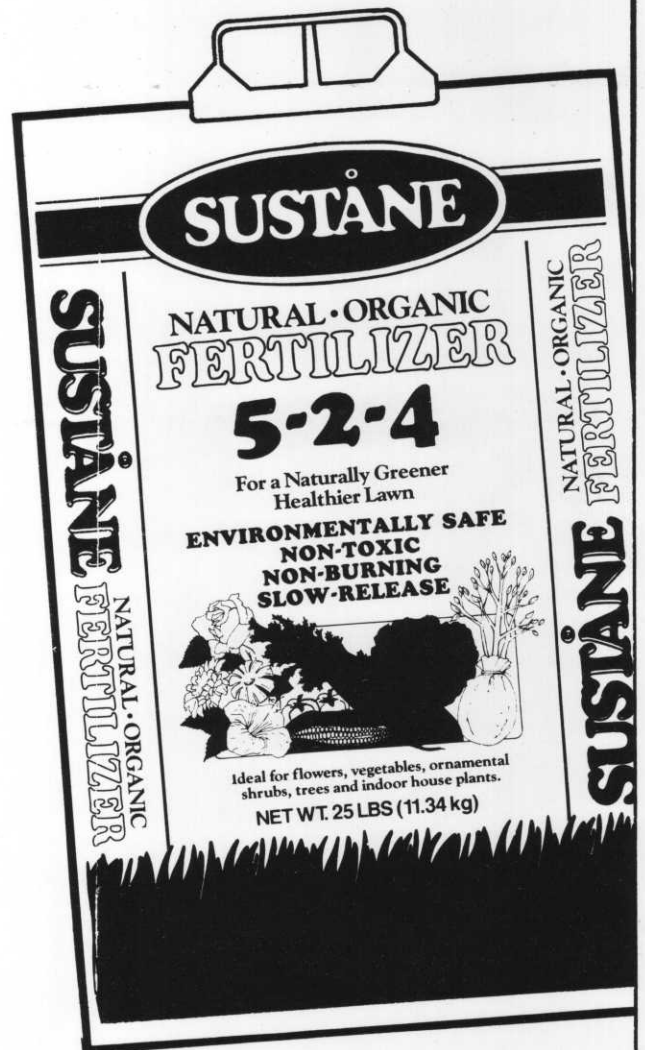
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