

Three Action-Packed Days!

The 2008 Minnesota Green Expo will take place Jan. 9-11, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA) and the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation (MTGF) are partners in the regional trade show and educational program which targets a broad spectrum of green industry professionals. The show includes 90 educational seminars and 1,000 trade show booths and exhibits. For exhibit or registration information, visit www.minnesotagreenexpo.com or call toll-free 888-886-6652.

Give Us Three Days...

...and the Minnesota Green Expo will give you a leg up on what's new to ensure you're on the cutting edge of the market. All of it: products, accessories, educational seminars, marketing and business workshops, parties, receptions and networking. It's all business, and it's all at Expo. Make it your business to be there in January, or

you'll be left behind!

Don't believe us? Listen to what people are saying...

"With the trade show, educational seminars and parties, the Minnesota Green Expo is a feast and an indispensable source of information about the current market."

"This show is the best educational investment we make. I encourage all my employees to attend."

"This show delivers the best price for the quality of information the speakers provide."

Highlights of the 2008 golf course educational program

- + U of M 2008 Turfgrass Research Update
- + Turf 101
- + Golf and the Environment
- + Green Speed
- + Mechanics: Engine Failure Analysis
- + Assessing Turf Conditions with New

Technologies

- + Lubricants for Today's & Tomorrow's Mechanical Applications
- + Proven Techniques to Enhance Influence & Effectiveness
- + Managing Golfer Expectations
- + Working with New Generation Fuels
- + Working with State Regulators on Water Conservation
- + The Power of Winter Maintenance Professionals to Protect our Lakes & Rivers

And much more!

The show's audience includes golf course and park superintendents, school and cemetery grounds supervisors, sports turf managers, arborists, nursery and greenhouse growers, garden center operators, landscape and irrigation contractors, landscape designers, as well as lawn, tree and gardening professionals. Over 7,500 green industry professionals are expected to attend from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota.



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The Forgotten Language

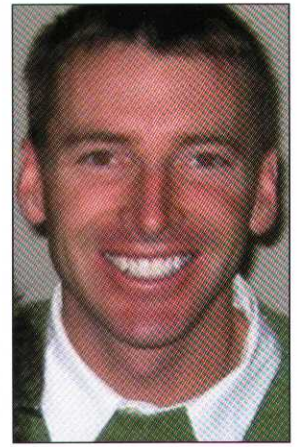
By Nate Uselding
Somerset Golf Club

While I was growing up my mother would always remind me before I left the house to mind my manners. Please and thank you were the most important words to remember while I was a guest at a friend's house. These simple words were laws according to my mom, engraved into my memory at an early age, so I wouldn't misbehave. When you are a kid, it is easy to allow words of wisdom to enter one ear and quickly exit the other. There is a certain age when kids rebel and act as if they know everything. I can still hear my mom remind me to mind my manners, as I would walk out the door and roll my eyes. We may not want to listen to our parents, but we do hear them and the repetition of all this wisdom handed down sticks in our heads for years to come. Now, I think back to those days and roll my eyes at myself for how I reacted. How far do these words please and thank you go in your daily life?

As the Superintendent, who says thank you to you? The real answer to this question comes from the members and guests who rave about the course conditions and aren't afraid to tell you what a good job you are doing. After all, these are the people you are preparing the course for. Our thank you may also come from the satisfaction of how the course looks and plays on a daily basis and realizing how a great deal of team effort goes into the final product. After that, very rarely do you hear the words of thank you from anyone else. Assistants tend to get overlooked because we fall in the "middle man" position between the superintendent and the crew. I take a lot of pride in my work and I try to do whatever it takes to get the job done. If it means staying late or coming in on my off weekend, I am willing to help the team out. After going out of my way

to help out, it is nice to hear a thank you for all your hard work. As managers, we don't get the constant attention of how we are doing; rather it is what we aren't doing that sometimes gets more attention. It is up to us to do our job, be positive and make others feel appreciated about their

the team because I know at times their work can get repetitive. I ask myself,



"At the start of the season the team is excited, morale is high and everyone has a go get 'em attitude.

We as managers are on top of our game and we praise all the little details each day. By mid-season our team is trained, the expectations to perform are heightened and we drive harder for results."

completed tasks.

At the start of the season the team is excited, morale is high and everyone has a go get 'em attitude. We as managers are on top of our game and we praise all the little details each day. By mid-season our team is trained, the expectations to perform are heightened and we drive harder for results. During this time we may start to get complacent and forget to say thank you. If an employee is worn from the extra hours and warmer temperatures, it is time to remember all the little things that will keep their morale up. I try, at the end of each day, to make a point of saying thank you or good job to everyone as they punch out for the day. I know they hear me because they vocally respond, but I hope this doesn't go in one ear and out the other. The goal is for them to appreciate the gesture. I feel this gives them a better feeling when they leave work knowing their hard work isn't going unnoticed. This is only one small way I try to praise

could you please. He was more than willing to do the task at hand the first time, but with a please in front of it made it more worthwhile. This little incident was a wake-up call for me. This proves how important it is to say please and thank you when you hand out job duties.

In the end, if the extra work our team is completing is not getting recognized, it could become very wearing and tiring in a short amount of time. As leaders, it is our responsibility to stay motivated and be polite through all peaks and valleys of the season. Engaging our team requires us to remember to ask ourselves how is my team feeling? It is so easy for us to get caught up in driving for great results and forget about our team which is helping us accomplish these results. Now that my wife and I are expecting our first child, I will make sure we incorporate these simple words into our child's vocabulary at an early age!

especially when things get tough, do I take my team for granted? If the answer is yes, I try to remind myself of the simple words my mom taught me while growing up.

It is amazing how far a please or thank you will go in making an employee happy. A couple of weeks ago I was assigning a member of the team a secondary job that wasn't exactly a pleasant one. After telling him what to do he said, "A please would be nice." He was absolutely right. I was captured up in accomplishing all of the tasks, and I completely forgot to ask him rather than tell him. I started over and began with,



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General Use Turfgrass Mixtures and Blends for Minnesota

By Andrew Hollman, Eric Watkins, Brian Horgan
University of Minnesota

What is the best turfgrass mixture or blend for general use areas at my park, golf course rough, homelawn, or cemetery? What height should I mow at? How much fertilizer should I apply to achieve my desired quality? I have a hard time finding the seed you are recommending. Can you please do a study to evaluate all of these issues?

This series of questions is not uncommon by professional turfgrass managers who are looking for answers on the best mixtures and blends for their customers. Whether the customer is a homeowner or an athlete, options exist depending on the desired traits.

In 2006, triplicate plots of monocultures, mixtures or blends of cool-season

turfgrasses were seeded (Table 1 on Page 26). You may recognize some of these plots; like the Kentucky bluegrass and

all 20 treatments are mowed at 1.5 and 2.5 inches and fertilized at three different rates; 0, 1 or 2 lbs N per 1,000 square feet.

The 2 lb treatment is applied in one pound increments in spring and fall. The 1 lb treatment is only applied in the fall. Therefore, when you look at each individual 15 ft by 10 ft plot, there are three fertilizer rates stripped from east to west and 2 mowing heights stripped

from north to south.

Data will be collected for the next 3 to 5 years. Keep up to date with yearly ratings by visiting www.turf.umn.edu. Keep the plot plan and bring your customers or supervisors to campus to determine the best turfgrass for your situation.

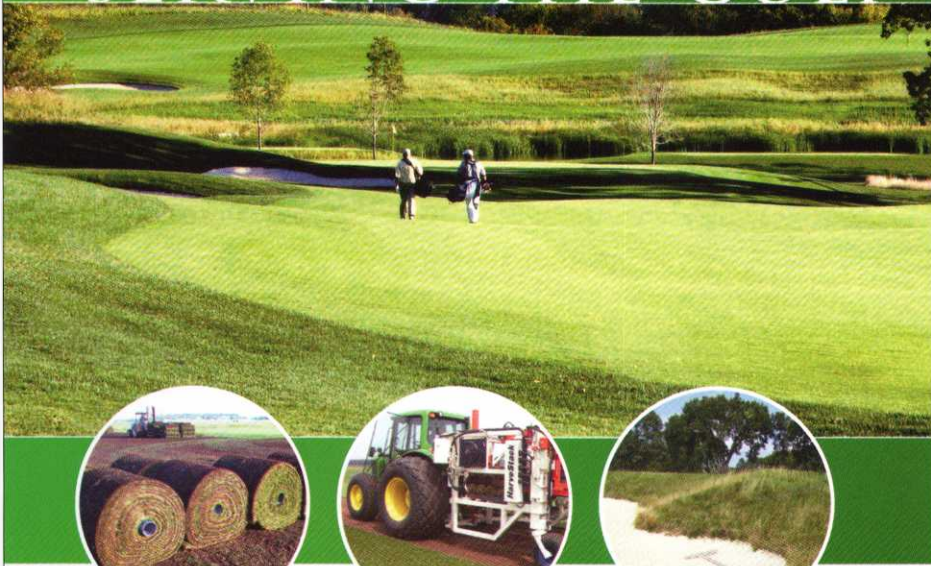
(See Table 1 on Page 25)

"Data will be collected for the next 3 to 5 years. Keep up to date with yearly ratings by visiting www.turf.umn.edu."

perennial ryegrass mixtures. Other plots you may be seeing for the first time, like the RTF tall fescue which has a rhizomous growth habit or Alkaligrass. Some of these plots perform very well when mowed at 1.5 inches; others really need at least 2 lbs N per 1,000 square feet.

This experiment was designed so that

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Table 1. Gortner Avenue Turf Demonstration Trial (2006-19)

Plot Size 15 feet by 10 feet

Experiment Seeded 7-26-06. Boarder is Low Down Blues Kentucky Bluegrass Blend

1	Maximum Poa Trivialis Blend	11	'Jasper II' Creeping Red Fescue
2	Low Grow Fescue	12	VNS Sheeps Fescue
3	'Osprey' Hard Fescue	13	Care-Free Fine Fescue Blend
4	'Langara" Kentucky Bluegrass	14	Blue Carpet Kentucky Bluegrass Blend
5	'Texoka' Buffalograss	15	Low Down Blues Kentucky Bluegrass Blend
6	'Fults' Puccinella Alkaligrass	16	'RTF' Tall Fescue
7	'Fawn' Tall Fescue	17	'Jamestown II' Chewings Fescue
8	'SR 3210' Blue Fescue	18	Triple A Tall Fescue Blend
9	'Manhattan 4' Perennial Ryegrass	19	30:70 Perennial Rye:Kentucky Blue Mix
10	'Park' Kentucky Bluegrass	20	Links Fine Fescue Mixture

20 ft by 45 ft plot of 67135 U of MN Sheep Fescue Breeder Seed

Rep 2										West										Rep 4									
401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610
6	17	2	12	1	3	16	14	11	18	8	1	13	6	7	5	19	2	4	12	9	14	12	1	19	10	18	11	2	3
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510
4	5	20	19	8	10	9	13	15	7	3	10	18	11	15	14	16	9	17	20	15	5	16	8	7	6	13	17	20	4
Rep 1										East										Rep 3									
Gortner Ave																													

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Minnesota, early spring--
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Effect of Mowing Height and Traffic On Alternative Species for Golf Course Fairways

By Eric Watkins, Andrew Hollman, and Brian Horgan
University of Minnesota

As restrictions on water use, fertilization, and pesticide applications continue to increase, golf course superintendents will need to use species that require reduced inputs. The objective of this study was to evaluate alternative grass species under low-input fairway conditions. In September 2005, 17 species were established on native soil [Waukegan silt loam (fine-silty over sandy, mixed, mesic Typic Hapludoll)] in St. Paul, Minnesota. The experimental design was a multiple split plot with four replications.

Each species was evaluated at three levels of traffic (0, 3 and 6 passes per week using a drum-type wear machine) and two mowing heights (0.75 and 1.0 in.). Plots were fertilized during establishment and subsequently only one time each fall (1.0 lb N/1000ft²). The trial only received irrigation when complete turf death was imminent (this occurred two times during the summer of 2007). No herbicides or fungicides were used throughout the course of the trial.

Velvet bentgrass, colonial bentgrass and supina bluegrass performed well under traffic at both mowing heights during year one. In year two, the fine fescue species (Hard fescue, Chewings fescue and Sheep fescue) were the top-performing species regardless of treatment. Results from this research will be used to develop further studies that continue to look at turfgrass options for

Species Evaluated

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cultivar
Creeping bentgrass	Agrostis palustris	L-93
Colonial bentgrass	Agrostis tenuis	Tiger II
Velvet bentgrass	Agrostis canina	Vesper
Redtop	Agrostis alba	Streaker
Kentucky bluegrass	Poa pratensis	Award
Creeping bluegrass	Poa annua v. reptans	4337
Rough bluegrass	Poa trivialis	Sabre II
Supina bluegrass	Poa supina	Supranova
Canada bluegrass	Poa compressa	Barpressa
Tall fescue	Festuca arundinacea	Corgi
Hard fescue	Festuca trachyphylla	SR 3100
Chewings fescue	Festuca rubra v. commutata	Jamestown II
Sheep fescue	Festuca ovina	Quatro
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	Gator 3
Tufted hairgrass	Deschampsia cespitosa	SR 6000
Alkaligrass	Puccinellia distans	Fults
Timothy	Phleum nodosum	Barvanti



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MGCSA Membership Report

September, 24 2007 - New Members

John Williams
Class A - GCSAA
Hillcrest Golf & Country Club
Altoona, WI
W: 715-832-1045

Kyle Auran
Class C - GCSAA (pending)
St. Croix National Golf Club
Somerset, WI
W: 715-247-4200

Kris Johannsen
Class C - GCSAA (pending)
The Wilds Golf Club
Prior Lake, MN
W: 952-496-0037

Alex Wille
Class C - GCSAA (pending)
Willingers Golf Club
Northfield, MN
952-652-2505

Tyler Malotky
Class D - GCSAA
Inverwood Golf Course
Inver Grove Heights, MN
W: 651-554-0132

Thomas Halver
Student
Chaska High School
Bluff Creek Golf Course
Chaska, MN
W: 952-445-5588

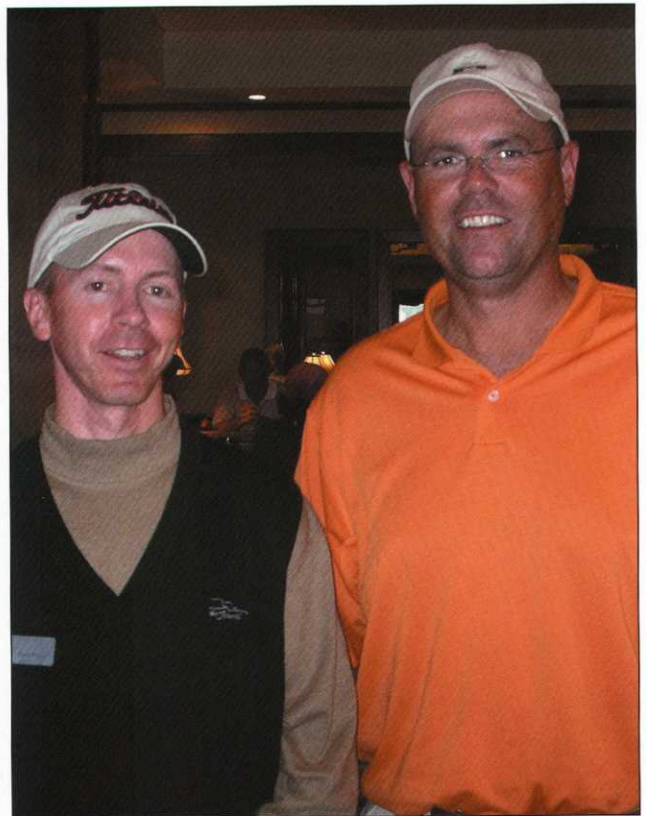
Mark Christianson
Affiliate
Yamaha Golf & Utility
Farmington, MN
W: 651-463-8744

Wade Vecchio, CGCS
Affiliate - GCSAA
Pioneer Turf & Equipment, Inc.
Chisago City, MN
W: 651-319-3872

Reclassification

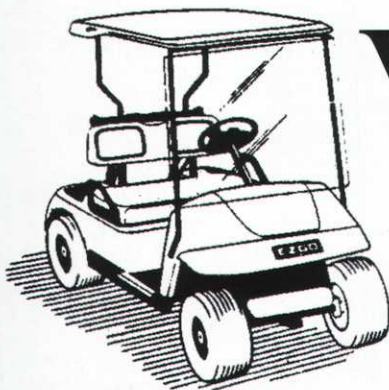
Jacob Kocak
Student to Class C
Prestwick Golf Club
Woodbury, MN
W: 651-459-0288

- Respectfully submitted
by Mike Knodel, MGCSA
Membership Chair



Craig Hallet, right, a Windsong Farm Golf Club member scored a hole-in-one on the 159-yard, seventh hole during the MGCSA Harold Stodola Research Scramble at The Jewel Golf Club in Lake City. Pictured with Craig is The Jewel's Director of Golf Dave Troyer.

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It's in the Hole



Tessman Company Hires Roger Tychen and Wolf Weber

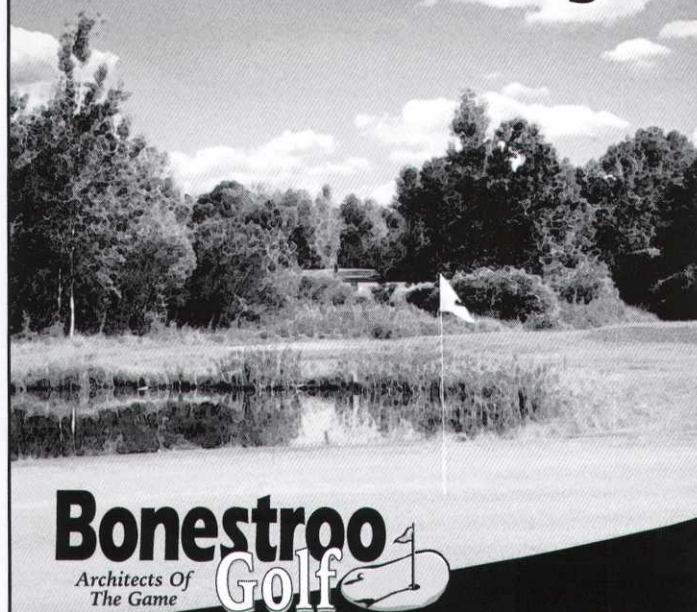
The Tessman Company has been serving the green industry since 1950. Tessman Company has locations in St. Paul (main warehouse), Fargo and Sioux Falls and distributes products to the commercial turf, landscape, golf, greenhouse and nursery markets. In addition to recent hires Tom McCann and Mark Poppitz, we are proud to announce the hiring of two additional salespeople to our team.



Roger Tychsen brings eight years of industry sales experience and 20 years of vendor rep experience. Tychen will serve the Fargo Market and can be contacted at (218) 841-4444.

Wolf Weber brings 18 years of industry experience and seven years of golf course experience. Weber will be working out of our St. Paul office and can be reached at (612) 325-5411.

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Contact: Chuck Tuthill
Thief River Golf Club
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FOR SALE

2004 Toro Debris Blower 600 3-Point attachment Great condition \$3,000
Contact: John Granholt
Eau Claire Golf and Country Club
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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

2004 5020 Sand Pro
27 actual hours
\$9,500 or best offer
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320-493-6464

WANTED

Nemacur – liquid or granular.
Contact: Scott Hoffmann, CGCS
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218-825-4953

WANTED

10-12, Toro 760 Part Circles (guts) for 1" irrigation bodies.
Contact: Nicholas Daak
Dacotah Ridge Golf Club
507-644-7844

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Hidden Greens GC
651-295-9771

WANTED

Disc or drum type, pull behind or 3-point aerifier.
Contact: Dan Hanson
Majestic Oaks Golf Club
763-755-6530

FOR SALE

ASV RC-30 Skidster with turf tracks only 120 hrs, \$18,000 obo
Contact: Ryan Nelson
Interlaken Golf Club
507-235-3178

FOR SALE

2004 flex-21 low hr. light package, \$2,695
Contact: Butch Brown
Birch Bay Golf Course
218-820-2158

FOR SALE

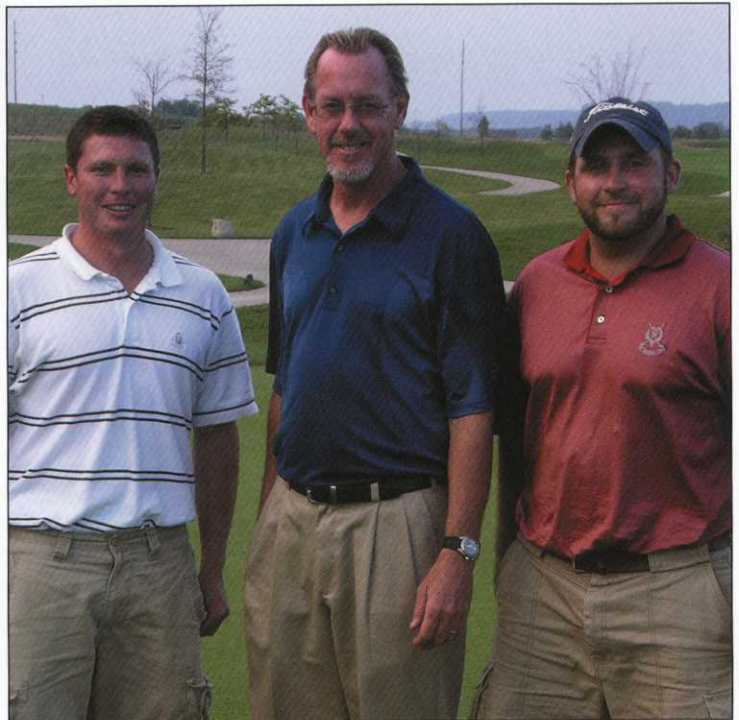
Set of tender-conditioners for 3215 B series John Deere fairway mowers. Excellent cond. \$600 per unit, set of 5.
Contact: Kurt Hovaldt
Marshall Golf Club
507-532-5164

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Vermeer 44 in. tree spade \$11,900
7521 Vertidrain (7ft.) \$12,000
5 ft. Vertidrain \$1,200
Toro 3020 Sandpro \$3,350
Toro 5000 Fwy topdressor \$4,200
Toro lightweight fwy reel \$650
Toro spikers to fit triplex (new) \$1,200
Contact: Scott Wersal
Ridges At Sand Creek
Phone: 952-492-2644 ext 24

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The Jewel Golf Club's Superintendent, Doug Mahal, CGCS, above center, along with Second Assistant Jeff Fjosne, left, and First Assistant Marc Exner, right.



The 13th hole at The Jewel Golf Club in Lake City

Photo by Cary Femrite.



In Bounds: Environmentalists? You bet!

By JOHN "JACK" MACKENZIE, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

There was a time in our nation's not too distant past when rivers would spontaneously combust due to the industrial wastes and other pollutants discarded in an "out of sight, out of mind" fashion. As a youth I remember news of a fire upon the Cuyahoga and have since learned that river blazes were a common occurrence in that day. Public reaction to the infernos spurred new and responsible laws to protect the environment.

Prior to bans on hazardous chemicals, the waters of Lake Erie were unsafe to swim in. It is hard to imagine that at one time this 10,000-square mile lake had so many contaminants that recreational use including fishing and swimming were halted. Today, the water is safe to swim in again and a person can consume some of the rebounding trophy fish caught in this great basin. This came about because of responsible legislation and change in manufacturing processes.

"Acid Rain," a catch phrase of the 1970s and 80s. At one time I was told that our forests and monuments would disappear in my lifetime because of the effects of acid rain. In 1990 our Congress passed the Clean Air Act and reduced the levels of sulfur dioxide emissions (the major contributing factor of acid rain) by coal burning power plants to a point where acid rain isn't even being talked about any more. A responsible reaction to an issue we thought would consume our national wonders.

Growing up in a rural area, just outside a soon-to-be sprawling metropolitan city, rarely would I see Canada Geese, Bald Eagles or even Deer. In fact, sighting any of these animals would bring traffic to a halt as people gazed with mouth open wonder for surely the witnessed animals were the last in our state of Minnesota. Responsible and managed hunting practices, the ban of certain pesticides, and a reduction in the use of lead-based products have allowed these animals and many more to multiply to a point where they are dismissed as common.

In the 1970s, my heart would catch watching TV whenever the crying Indian commercial ran. With tall smoke stacks in

the background, a Native American paddles down a polluted river. In the next scene, a discarded bag of trash landed in front of his feet. A tear rolled down his saddened face as he viewed the pollution upon his "native" land. The narrator

*"We've come a long way, baby!
Both as a nation and as an industry.
By doing the right thing, letting go of the
old habits and making better choices,
we really have enhanced our lives."*

announced "Some people have a deep, abiding respect for the natural beauty that was once this country; some people don't. People start pollution. People can stop it."

We have come a long way in the last 40 years. As a nation we really have cleaned up our act.

During my youthful days upon a golf course working as just another grunt, I applied heavy metals and chlordane to combat turf maladies. In little more than a torn "t" shirt, shorts and no shoes I applied chemicals that today would cause my heart to skip a beat. Thank God my children are as normal as can be expected considering the genetic stock they came from. Scary stuff brother!

On the other hand however, these were the first chemicals available to enhance our improving turf management practices and give the suddenly more demanding player better conditions. The tools of the trade included some real nasty stuff, but the products did control many issues that had plagued turf managers for years.

Quite a few of the young "turfies" today don't have a clue what it was like to lose literally acres and acres of turf to disease or insect damage. A bad winter alive with snow mold led to a tough spring which predisposed the turf to a challenging summer. There is a reason *poa* used to be called June grass and why so many courses were considered September Clubs. It was darn hard to keep a good stand of turf for a whole season.

"Paint it white and sleep at night" was a popular and very true slogan for one of

the most effective and commonly used chemicals, Daconil. It is still in use today. However now there is a greater awareness of our environment and our profession's impact upon it. Lighter rates of pesticides applied more frequently often do a better job of managing infections. And we know that because as an industry through professional trial and error, research at our great universities and countless dollars from the often categorized "evil" pesticide companies spent studying chemistries and reactions have proven it.

Rotation, spot spraying, curative and scouting are terms that have come through environmental awareness and the turf industry's attitude of being more than recreational property and becoming sanctuaries for nature. Indeed, very few managed destinations can claim both. Today's golf courses are often filtration systems for effluent water, caps for land fills, designated green space and water shed management areas besides the obvious recreational

facility.

We are responsible environmentalists. Our chemical manufacturing partners are responsible environmentalists. Our industry is very environmentally oriented. Continuing education (often sponsored by pesticide producers) affords us opportunities to fine tune and expand upon new ideas and appreciate old theories about managing our resources while still maintaining our livelihoods.

Combined with tried and true cultural practices such as aerification, topdressing and tree removal, responsible chemical use is important to golf course superintendents and their ability to manage their courses. To say that golf courses are toxic waste sites is ridiculous. To say that pesticide manufacturers don't care about the application of their products is preposterous. To say that Superintendents are a bunch of idiots who apply chemicals willy nilly without regard to the environment down right upsets me. Too be irresponsible would be detrimental to our work space, our patrons and our employment.

We've come a long way, baby! Both as a nation and as an industry. By doing the right thing, letting go of the old habits and making better choices, we really have enhanced our lives. Today as I choose what products to use for snow mold control I will likely see a bald eagle, appreciate green turf, wave to my players and thank God that I am alive; who I am, where I am and when I am in our history.