

Top-dressing Season Here Again

Top-dressing your greens and possibly tees, while not as annual a project as aerating, unquestionably helps to restore the vitality of your greens. Since top-dressing your greens is very time consuming and costly this maintenance practice is often reserved as an aid to restoring turf quality when soil conditions are bad or putting surfaces are not true. Greens receiving heavy winter play require a spring topdressing to restore the damage from heavy foot traffic and frost heaving. At the early fall of the year many greens would benefit from topsoil if the green was severely thinned out from loss of annual bluegrass or heavily diseased during the hot summer months. If modifying a poor soil structure is your objective you probably will consider both a spring and fall top-dressing in conjunction with aerifying and removal of old plugs. What ever your goals top-dressing programs should be adjusted to a specific condition to be corrected and not be considered as a standard and routine practice that must be used at regular intervals as a part of normal turf maintenance. Where greens have been well constructed and a good strain of bent has been used, then there may be no necessity for top-dressing for long periods of time.

If you do plan to top-dress this fall carefully choose your material, a sterile sandy-loam of uniform size and texture that conforms with U.S.G.A. specifications has proven to be the most beneficial topdressing to use on greens.



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For the benefit of our new Tidewater Members a new distributor of topsoil has been formed in Rocky Mount, North Carolina; E.N.S. Soil and Peat Industries, Inc., which will serve southern Virgina and the Carolinas — see add in newsletter.

GREEN HILL YACHT & C.C.

Lou White's meeting on August 14th, in Salisbury, Md., brought out a good crowd of some sixty superintendents.

A blind boggy tournament was held for the 33 golf contestants. Ed Dembnicki won first prize with Bryan Hall and Bob Milligan coming in 2nd. & 3rd. Charley Johnson and Ray Hall (Dr. Jack Hall's father) also won a "closest to the hole" contest.

Dr. Jack Hall, our featured speaker for the meeting, discussed the successful "Horticultural Happening" show held at Tysons Corner Shopping Center two weeks ago. For three consecutive days expert horticulturalists and extension agents manned various booths and tackled thousands of questions pertaining to soils, plants, trees, grasses, and flower & vegetable problems that plagued neighborhood homeowners. The public response was so great that Dr. Hall states a second "Horticultural Happening" is in the works for next year — possibly at Landover Mall Shopping Center. As a professional turf expert you may be fortunate enough to be part of the program!

Guide To First Aid

The National Safety Council has a well known slogan that says "safety is everyone's business". A little knowledge of basic first aid can often reduce the seriousness of occupational hazards.

Keep in mind the American Red Cross's definition of first aid: "The immediate and temporary care given the victim of an accident or sudden illness until the services of a physician can be obtained." In other words, it's important to know not only what to do but what not to do.

Some general policies to follow are: Don't try to move an injured person. Treat him for shock, control bleeding and keep him comfortable until proper transportation arrives. Improper moving can cause more harm; take your time. Great haste may also be harmful. In two cases however, speed is necessary: when bleeding is severe, and when artificial respiration is required. Have first aid kits in order and readily accessible.

If you are alone, treat first for severe bleeding; second for suspended breathing needing artificial respiration; third for internal poisoning; fourth for open wounds; fifth for burns; sixth for fractures and dislocations.

If the patient is unconscious and is not breathing, or if it seems uncertain, start artificial respiration at once.

Loosen tight clothing at neck and waist. Do not slip clothing over injured part. Rip it at the seams with knife or scissors.

Do not touch an open wound with the hands.

If the patient is vomiting, turn the head to one side so he will not choke.

The patient should always be kept warm except in sun stroke.

Never give an unconscious person water or liquid to drink.