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With more than three decades of experience and our commitment to achieve complete customer satisfaction, COVERMASTER® field covers are recommended by more groundskeepers than any other.

Ultimate Field Cover Handling

The **TARP MACHINE™** (left photo). Attached to any 14 HP tractor equipped with a PTO, it rolls the cover on and off the field in a minimum of time.

The **TARPMATE™** (right photo) stores any size cover. Strong and lightweight, the 28" diameter plastic roller is complete with safety end caps and is available in three standard lengths.



FREE VIDEO



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WHAT OTHERS SAY...

Very good... highly recommended...
Dunham Wright, Facilities Supervisor,
Northeast Louisiana Univ., Monroe, LA

Experience with Covermaster has been outstanding... appreciate special attention...

Ray Tanner, Head Baseball Coach,
Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Excellent quality with competitive prices...
Johnson Bowe, Associate AD,
Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Delivered in perfect condition... best product I looked at...

John Milardo, Supt. of Parks,
City of Middleton, Middleton, CT

From 1-10, your company is a 10...
Jim Simmons, Facility Mgr.,
Buckingham Little League, Ft. Myers, FL

Great service... the best...
Chip Baker, Asst. Baseball Coach
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

Covermaster takes extra step to meet customer's exact needs...
Gary Mayse, Asst. Gen. Mgr.,
Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, Appleton, WI

Response time was great... recommended by groundskeeper of St. Louis Cardinals...
David Hopkins, Alton American Legion
Baseball, Alton, IL

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"SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT"

Users of power equipment, fertilizers, turf and ornamental pesticides and work vehicles should always have safety foremost in their minds. When using these types of potentially hazardous machines and materials, carelessness breeds disaster.

You need help planning your safety program, you say? There are many resources available, especially the companies that make the equipment and material. For instance, John Deere has a 16-chapter, comprehensive guide for contractors who not only want to stay in compliance with federal safety standards but who also want to educate and train employees in the proper, safe use of equipment.

The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) is another purveyor of safety precautions and reminders. One of its big safety peeves is the user who doesn't read the owner's manual before using outdoor power equipment.

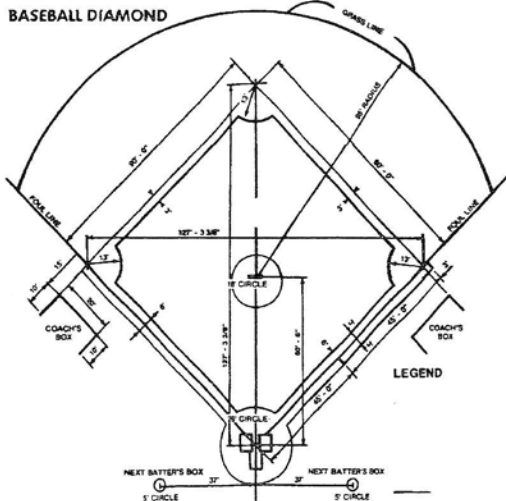
Before turning on the equipment, operators should read manuals thoroughly and learn critical information, the OPEI reminds landscape professionals.

Even more important – if you're handling pesticides – is to read and follow directions on the EPA-approved label.

Here are some other precautions, courtesy of the OPEI:

- Do not operate a chain saw with one hand or when you are fatigued.
- Use safety footwear, snug-fitting clothing; protective gloves; and eye, hearing, and head protective devices. When necessary, use a dust mask or respirator.
- Do not wear loose clothing, scarves, neck chains, or unconfined long hair.
- Use caution when handling fuel. Move the machine at least 10 feet from the fueling point before starting the engine.
- Do not allow other persons, especially children, to be near the equipment during start or use. Keep children, other bystanders and animals out of the work area.
- Do not start using the machine until you have a clear work area and secure footing.
- Keep all parts of your body away from the equipment when the engine is running.
- Carry or transport the equipment with the engine off.
- Do not operate equipment that is damaged, improperly adjusted, or not completely and securely assembled.
- Keep the handles dry, clean, and free of oil or fuel mixture;

continued on page 15



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“Building Your Pitchers Mound with Clay Blocks”

When installing clay blocks, it is important to study your pitchers. Place the blocks 10 inches before the shortest stride and 10 inches wider than the longest landing foot. Remember pitchers may pitch from either edge of the rubber. The entire table around the mound should be built with clay blocks or bagged material.

1. Outline your table and landing areas and use a mound gauge to obtain the desired slope. Excavate 3 1/4" below the surface.
2. Wedge the blocks into position 1/2" or less below the rubber. Water lightly and with your hands or a trowel, melt the seams together.
3. Excavate the landing area and be 10" wider and longer than the longest stride of your pitchers. Blocks should be within a 1/2" of the surface.
4. Lay blocks into landing area, and tamp the sides to wedge tightly. Water and melt seams together.
5. Water and allow clay to set up. Lightly tamp or roll the surface.
6. Rake vitrified or calcined and infield mix over the surface and hand drag.
7. Always cover your mound to hold moisture in your clay.
8. To repair holes cut up blocks or use professional mound clay. Sweep out the hole to expose pure packing clay.
9. Lightly water, add new clay, and tamp. Bring infield mix over the clay and cover the mound.

Caring for Material: When not in use. Store blocks under a damp towel or burlap sack while wrapped in its plastic covering. This will keep your clay blocks moist and workable. Avoid storing in direct sunlight. ▲

**Ed Mangan, Head Groundskeeper of the Atlanta Braves, Top 10 Tips for Field Maintenance, Amcor Consumer Products, LLC*

continued from page 9 “Safety Is No Accident”

- Operate the machine only in well-ventilated areas;
- All service, other than the item listed in the owner's manual maintenance instructions, should be performed by competent service personnel.

OPEI urges landscape professionals to abide by these and other tips. For safety information on outdoor-power products, the institute has an extensive Website on the Internet: www.opei.org.

Other sources for safety (though less industry-specific) include the National Safety Council and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. You can find them on the World Wide Web at www.nsc.org and www.osha.gov, respectively. The N.S.C.'s phone number is (630) 285-1121; consult your local phone book for the nearest O.S.H.A. office. ▲

**For information on how to obtain a copy of “Safety Management for Landscapers...” phone John Deere Publishing at (800) 522-7448
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