



olinas GCSA, Randy Allen of Dunes Golf & Beach Club in Myrtle Beach, said his area escaped serious damage. Still, his 35-acre irrigation lake showed salt intrusion of 9,500 ppm, and more than 300 trees were lost, many large oaks.

"When I rode around our golf course I just thought, 'Good Lord, I just can't believe all this happened,'" Allen added. "But when I look at the footage of Garden City and other places that were totally destroyed, I feel fortunate. I had never lived through a storm of that magnitude and hopefully I won't have to again."

—Will Perry □

An eyewitness to weather history

CHARLESTON, S.C. — "I completely underestimated that storm. I will never do it again. My wife and I decided to ride out the storm in our home. Like I said, I was in full combat in Vietnam and it was as bad or worse than that.

"We could hear the wind starting to scream, so we went into a hallway in the middle of the house. The wind just kept picking up and picking up until you couldn't even hear yourself talk. The wind started to buck the house...I felt several times that the wind was going to pick up my house and flip it.

"We laid there like that for an hour and a half. The power was off, all the radio stations were off; there were no lights or TV. We were afraid to move. I mean we were just laying there listening to the house shake.

"Then it was the eeriest thing. The eye came over the area and just as fast as those winds picked up they quit. They just stopped. There was no wind. It was hot, balmy and humid. I opened the front door and saw my neighbor up on his roof trying to patch a hole made when a tree fell on his house. About 20 minutes later, the winds started picking up again and it was like a freight train coming through the living room for the next hour-and-a-half to two hours.

"I woke up the next morning and I was still shaking. I opened my front door the next morning and I did not recognize the place where I lived.

"The damage is simply unbelievable. You cannot imagine it. It looks like someone dropped an atom bomb on the place.

"I don't think people took the storm seriously. They think we're down here crying about the wind damage. People don't realize the amount of devastation that has taken place. If it hadn't been for the evacuation, there would have been substantially more deaths."

—Tom Cannon
Patriots Point Links
Charleston, S.C. □

TECHNOLOGY

System reclaims sewage

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Atlantic Northern Corp. has developed a water recycling system that reclaims sewage wastewater for agricultural and landscaping purposes otherwise endangered by the increasing water shortage.

Micropure will be put on the market nationwide by the end of the year, says company president Craig Rhoades. It will be offered to the private and public

sectors to conserve fresh water and cut water bills.

The unit uses an electrical charge to kill bacteria in the water. It then "globs" and filters out solid waste, which can be used as fertilizer. The household unit is about the size of a refrigerator and doesn't have high pump or electricity costs, Rhoades notes. "Maintenance isn't very high, either." Total processing costs run \$1.50 to \$1.75 per

ASSOCIATIONS

ALCA searches for new exec

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA) is searching for a new executive director in the wake of Terry Peters' resignation.

ALCA has formed a Search Committee to conduct interviews with possible candidates. The person the committee seeks will have "strong interpersonal skills," says ALCA president Ron Kujawa. That person could come from the landscaping industry, from marketing and sales, or it could—like Peters—be a person currently directing another association.

"We're lucky to have a good, competent and professional staff in Washington," says Kujawa. "That gives us the luxury to take our time and get the person we really want. We don't have to rush."

During his four-year tenure with ALCA, Peters administered a growth in the association's insurance program from \$10 million to \$30 million; merged the Interior Plantscape Association into ALCA; and helped create the Green Industry Exposition.

Anyone interested in being considered as ALCA executive director should contact the organization at 405 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046; phone is (703) 241-4004. □

gallon.

The city of Monterey, Calif., has cut its water costs by 20 percent using the Micropure system, Rhoades notes.

"We're moving out of the 'disposable society' frame of mind," he says.

Urban and rural communities using septic tanks and overloaded municipal sewer systems could also irrigate their farmlands, golf

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Bill Heald (left) and Mark Neville of B&S Lawn Sprinkler adjust a sprinkler irrigation head at the entrance to the Fairlane Woods community in Dearborn, Mich.

INNOVATIONS

Market seen for 'enhancements'

DEARBORN, Mich. — A new market for sprinkler irrigation contractors has emerged in the United States, according to Mark Neville of B&S Lawn Sprinkler Systems & Service of Southfield, Mich. This market for "landscape enhancement" items (aerator-fountains, night-lighting, artificial waterfalls, etc.) is virtually untapped, he says.

"The scales could turn to where we do more lighting than sprinklers," he says. "It probably would make us more profitable."

Because night-lighting and fountains are less developed markets than sprinkler irrigation, there is less competition and less price sensitivity among customers than in sprinkler irrigation, Neville believes.

His company was responsible for the landscaping at nearby Fairlane Woods.

"Landscape enhancements extend our options tremendously," he notes. "There's not a full-fledged apartment building in this area that has a great variety of landscape lighting, pumps, waterfalls and so on. It gives credibility to the product. People know they can count on it."

"Where there may have been skepticism with customers about landscape lighting in the past, they'll

feel comfortable now."

B&S installed Loran night-lighting at Fairlane Woods' entrance security booth, below a waterfall in a pond at the entrance, around the pond, down the main road along the woods' edge, around the clubhouse grounds, on an island with a gazebo in a larger pond, and in the pond adjacent to the clubhouse shining onto a stone wall.

This new concept includes all hardware that can enhance the exterior of a property, says Ernie Hodas, president of irrigation supplier Century Rain Aid. That is to say, landscape lighting, aerator fountains, bridges, gazebos and underwater lighting. □

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courses and parkways while conserving fresh drinking water, says Rhoades.

"Available clean water in the U.S. has reached a crucial turning point. Fresh water for agriculture and irrigation will become scarce because potable water has become a premium commodity."

For more information on the system, write Rhoades at Atlantic Northern Corp., 9300 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 470, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; or phone him at (213) 452-7254. □