

## Environmental restrictions put damper on golf

**CHICAGO, Ill.**—The president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects blames "excessive environmental restrictions" for delays in the opening of new golf courses.

"Myriad federal, state and local agencies all intertwine to make today's application for the construction of a golf course an endless quagmire of delays and revisions," according to Tom Clark.

"Architects have been able to meet these challenges, but it's getting more difficult every day," says Clark, who suggests the delays might dissuade potential developers from entering the golf market.

Clark has no quarrel with environmental awareness, but says the duplication of

government restrictions is not productive.

"We've shown that golf courses can coexist with nature, serve the needs of a growing population and preserve open, green space," says Clark. "Furthermore, architects have shown the utmost respect for the environment and that we can govern ourselves in this area."

Clark compares a Georgia golf course built in 1985-86 with a mere five permits, to a current project in the Washington, D.C. area, which has so far required 52 permits and engineering expenditures of more than \$300,000.

But Clark tempers his complaints with a solution: an upcoming ASGCA publication which will address key environmental issues. "The book will be distributed to state, federal and local agencies so questions concerning key issues are addressed prior to submitting for environmental permits," says Clark.

## Builder has environmental commitment

**WASHINGTON**—Winchester Homes, Inc. recently planted 100 trees near a Washington, D.C., highway intersection in an effort to emphasize the company's commitment to environmental responsibility.

"Our commitment to create and ensure a quality lifestyle for Winchester homeowners and prospective home buyers extends beyond the design and construction of quality homes," says Christopher Zell, Winchester vice president of marketing. Winchester's goals, according to Zell, is to encourage and protect the environment and natural resources through afforestation—the establishment of new forest lands—and reforestation activities.

Fifty volunteers—including company employees and their families, homeowners and other community members—showed up for the tree planting. Volunteers were assisted by the Forestry Division of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

The Cloverleaf Planting is part of Maryland's "TreeMendous" program, begun in 1989 by Gov. William Schaefer, to assist in the reforestation of state highways and major intersections.

"The cloverleaf planting at this intersection will help to achieve good air quality, increase water filtration in the soil and increase the aesthetic value of the highway by providing a view of mature, green forests," says Zell.

## College requesting sites for training

**LAKE CITY, Fla.**—Lake City Community College is looking for co-op training sites for its summer landscape program.

All of the college's courses in golf course operations, landscape technology and turf equipment management require co-op sponsorship.

John Piersol, chairman of the golf course operations at the college, says quality sites that will provide meaningful training for the students are needed.

Piersol also notes that the school will graduate more than 20 golf course mechanics in May of 1992.

Contact Piersol at Lake City Community College, Landscape Operations, Rt. 3, Box 7, Lake City, FL 32055.

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