

WHAT'S NEW IN COURSE MAINTENANCE

Supers' contributions requested

CHELSEA, Mich.—Dr. Trey Rogers of Michigan State University is soliciting contributions from golf course superintendents for his "Superintendents' Handbook for Golf Course Maintenance and Construction."

The book will be edited by Rogers and be published by Lewis Publishers. It will consist of a "cookbook" format with chapters divided into putting greens, fairways, roughs, wildlife management, equipment, IPM and more.

Each chapter will consist of contributions detailing techniques that superintendents have successfully used at their courses. Contributions should be one to five pages in length, and include photos.

For more information and/or to receive a contribution packet, please write: "Handbook for Superintendents," P.O. Box 799, Okemos, MI 48805.

'Menacing threat' to golf courses?

SAN FRANCISCO—Golf course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. sees the nation's financial instability as playing a large role in

the downturn in golf course development. But, according to his "Reading the Green" newsletter, Jones sees a much larger "menacing threat" to golf development in the U.S.

"The major concern to our industry is the so-called 'environmental movement,' which has targeted golf courses for capital punishment," he writes.

"These folks...have become a part of the golf course permit approval process at every level of government, from the local planning commission to the Supreme Court.

"Their familiar refrain is that the golf course is a good idea, it is just in the wrong place. The fact is, they don't like golf courses anywhere...they just don't like the game. They see it as an elitist pastime. It occupies too much space; it takes too long to play; it is not the people's game."

Jones feels the answer to these people is for those who love the game to step forward and "shout loudly that golf is the absolute preservation of open space" and has more environmental benefits than drawbacks.

"Let's join together and actually sell the game to those who make land use decisions. Loud and clear, let's let them know that our vote is for open space, greenbelts, wetlands, animals...birds...and wholesome fun and exercise."

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