

# This "Big Board" tracks equipment



Superintendent Steve Geller, left, and mechanic Joe Pope in Suffolk, Va., developed this big board to track maintenance on all the mechanical equipment used at the Cedar Point Club. They say employees like it.

The second, one-inch wide column behind each equipment listing, for instance, contains green or red notations, green indicating that that particular piece of equipment is operable, red meaning that it's being repaired or serviced.

Subsequent columns on the big board show, at a glance, the number of hours of operation on each piece of equipment, when its next PM (preventive maintenance) is due—either in hours or by calendar date—and when the last PM was done.

"It was an inexpensive system to put together," says Pope, formerly an airplane mechanic in the U.S. Navy. "I think you can buy about everything you need at an office supply store."

Pope says workers at the golf club seem to appreciate being able to easily tell the status of the equipment at the course.

"The board is right behind my desk and next to the key locker where we keep the equipment keys," says Pope. "Whoever Steve (Geller) assigns to the equipment can just glance up and see right away whether the equipment is up or down, or whether it's getting close to a PM (preventive maintenance). It's worked real well for us."

Beyond the big board, Pope says that he's developed, and uses, a form that details the on-going maintenance and repair history for each piece of equipment.

"At the end of the year I total each piece of equipment up and I give Steve a report on what each piece of equipment costs to maintain for the year, including parts," explains Pope. □

*A veteran golf course mechanic says you don't have to be too fancy to track the condition and costs of your maintenance equipment.*

**G**olf course superintendent Steve Geller and mechanic Joe Pope developed an easy and efficient way to track the condition of the equipment at Cedar Point Club, Suffolk, Va.

"It's real simple," explains Geller. "We have a white board that's 6 feet by 4 feet, and we can write on it with erasable markers. We bought some ribbon-type marking tape and made enough columns on the board to list our 66 pieces of equipment."

Each piece of equipment is given a number on the board. For instance, in the number one column is a greens mower. Number 19 is a Ford tractor, and so forth. The numbers themselves, and the order they're displayed, is not particularly significant. What is important is the data following each listing.