

Perusing a few regional newsletters, we find examples of the variety of tasks and concerns that can make for a busy day for the modern superintendent.

Color rotation in flower beds is the topic of discussion in a recent Central Ohio GCSA newsletter. Colorscapes that provide seasonal color are a good way to draw attention to your course if you've got it in your budget.

Two to six rotations of plants during a season provide the longest and best display, writes the contributor from Davey Groundskeeper. The length of the growing season and visual impact

desired from flower beds determine how many rotations to make during one season.

Three rotations are often used: the first is in spring, for the Midwest, Northeast and Southeast. Tulips and daffodils are of course the favorite spring bulbs.

Summer annuals such as begonias, impatiens and periwinkle perform well throughout the summer if they are properly watered and fertilized.

For the third rotation, go with mums, marigolds and flowering cabbage (kale). Pansies will be a nice addition in the fall, especially in the Southeast and Southwest from October 1 to October 15.

On to collies. Many superintendents continue to have success using border collies to herd geese away from golf course turf. Thankfully, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service states that no permit is required to merely scare a flock of...migratory birds other than endangered species or bald and golden eagles."

One caution: you are not permitted to scare geese away if they are actively nesting.

Superintendents in Washington state reportedly using herding dogs with success are Mark Cupit, Snoqualmie Ridge GC; Steve Hausman, Druids Glen; Dave Baber, Canterwood G&CC; Tom Corlett, Tam O'Shanter; and Tom Christy, Inglewood

Crews, collies and color fill a super's day



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GOLF

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Clean start for LACC greens

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The 'Lady' gets a great shop

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Renovating? Look before leaping

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Hot turf, stressed turf

CC. If you need some advice on using herding dogs, these superintendents are the ones to ask.

That news on collies came to us from *Turfgrass Management*, published by the Northwest Turfgrass Association, a group that's on top of turf news in Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho. Thanks to Donald Clemens for a copy of the premier issue.

Crew trouble got you down? Rick Osewalt, director of business management for New England Business Service, Inc., says you've got to take a businesslike approach with new workers. Use applications that are easy to understand, and be straightforward in the interview.

Provide written descriptions of all established company policies, from paid time off to attendance requirements.

Maintain complete and up-to-date records on each employee. Keep job performance files that include written information on attendance, changes in duties, salary or job performance.

Keep employees well informed. Make sure they know about changes in employment law, minimum wage law, overtime reporting and safety standards.

Correction: Commonwealth National Golf Club is located in Horsham, Pa., not Cranberry, NJ, as listed in our June article on the course's new driving range. Matrix Development, also mentioned in the article, is indeed based in Cranberry, NJ. **LM**