



CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION
www.ptga.org

Founded in 1936

VOL. 21 NO. 4

June 2015



June Meeting **Scranton Canoe Club**

Host: Patrick Healey
Speaker: Dr. John Kaminski, PSU

Our June meeting was at a local favorite, Scranton Canoe Club. The Scranton Canoe Club has a long history developed by sportsmen's love for the outdoors. For approximately five years, starting in 1903, Nelson Sommers and Edward Beavers lived weekends on the Susquehanna River during the summer months. By this time, canoeing had become popular and a group of young, energetic and outdoor minded young men, who genuinely enjoyed the sport of canoeing, banded together to form a club to further enjoy and encourage this sport. On March 1, 1909, the first mortgage bonds were issued for the construction of the clubhouse. The bonds were in \$10.00 denominations, totaling \$3,000.00. The active membership was set at 75 members.

As times changed, the ambitions of the Club's leaders also changed. Golf was gaining in popularity in the area and, noticing a lag in tennis and also a mild decrease in canoeing, the challenge of building a golf course on club property was bandied about for some time.

Continued on page 7.....



President's Message.....

Greg Boring

Editor's Notes.....

Well.....I'm a little late on June's newsletter. Sorry about that Pat Healey!!

We will use June's newsletter as a recap to the meeting that took place at Scranton Canoe Club. The weather was a little sketchy that day, but a good time was had by all, and a special thank you to John Kaminski for speaking to us.

Brian Bachman



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EPA Finalizes the Clean Water Act (WOTUS) Rule

What is the #WOTUS all about? If you don't know, or don't think it can affect you then think again. The government is enacting new laws and rules to govern almost every possible water source (including those on golf courses) which can and will impact your applications, construction, improvements, and even maintenance practices. Even drainage ditches can now be regulated. The articles are too long to include in this newsletter, but if you'd like to read more, follow the link below:

<http://cqrcengage.com/gcsaa/app/document/7964511>

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DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IS JUNE 30, 2015

Pocono Turfgrass Association 2015 Scholarships

The Patterson Scholarship for Turfgrass Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting scholarship applications for the Patterson Scholarship. The deadline for application is **June 30, 2015**. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

The Pocono Turfgrass Association Scholarship for Non-Turf Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting applications for a non-turfgrass related field of study scholarship. The deadline for application is **June 30, 2015**. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year non-turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

For a copy of the application, please go to the Pocono Turfgrass Association website at:

ptga.org

Applications should be submitted to:

Greg Boring
Country Club of Scranton
P. O. Box 269
Clarks Summit, PA 18411



Product Voluntarily Recalled

Social media and my email blew up yesterday following the voluntary recall of [ArmorTech ALT 70 Fungicide](#). According to the letter, "United Turf Alliance (UTA) has been notified of a few turfgrass incidents in the Northeast regarding the use of ArmorTech ALT 70 Fungicide."

Damaged Bentgrass

After many frantic phone calls and email exchanges, it appears that superintendents throughout the Metropolitan NY region (and reports in NC as of this morning) have severe bentgrass decline and in some cases complete death where the product was allegedly involved. Older bentgrass varieties have been reported to be more sensitive, but all bentgrasses are being affected. Annual bluegrass appears to be much less impacted. While testing and evaluations are ongoing and no conclusion has been met at this time, superintendents should proceed with caution. It is important to note that although several superintendents have been seeing a decline in their turf since as early as late April and early May, there is currently no data available at this time to draw a cause and effect relationship.

Anecdotal information also suggests that at least one other generic Aluminum tris product may be causing similar damage to bentgrass.

Evaluations under way

Apparently, at least two Universities are evaluating samples of the various products and tank-mix combinations and our lab is repeating these trials at Penn State this week.

I will follow up with more information when we have it.

Post by Dr. John Kaminski

On Turf Diseases..org June 6, 2015

Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science at Penn State University. Dr. Kaminski conducts research on turfgrass issues on golf courses and also serves as the Director of the Golf Course Turfgrass Management Program. John is also passionate about photography and educating others about the effective use of social media as a means of communication.



April Meeting Results

1st Place:

Russell Hauenstein and Jerry Decker

2nd Place:

Greg Boring and Paul Brandon

Closest to the Pin #16:

John Polak, Jim Green, Jerry Decker

Skins:

Holes 9, 13, 14: Greg Boring and Paul Brandon

Hole 5: Ron Garrison and John Polak

Hole 7: Russell Hauenstein and Jerry Decker

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Continued from page 1

To the rear of the clubhouse and above the road was a plot of land that would be ideal for the purpose. George Waters, who lived in West Scranton, was the owner of the land. The Club purchased the land from Mr. Waters for the price of \$1,000.00. The land was a mass of scrub, bushes and trees of varying size. At every opportunity the members cleared out the thick underbrush, working with large organized gangs or at times singly. Trees that might be of value were left standing, but saplings were cut down. The location of the various tees and corresponding greens were staked out and work proceeded. Fairways were put into shape and in 1926, two years after commencing work the course was put into play. In the meantime, to beautify the course, 80 maple trees were planted around the outer edge. The completed course had seven holes and it had considerable play over the years. In playing the 7-hole course, the golfer would play Nos. 1 through 7 and repeat play a second time, then play Nos. 1 through No. 4 again, thus obtaining their 18 holes of play. As time went on, it became the ambition of the Club to add two more holes to the course, thus updating it to its present number of 9 holes of play.

Overseeing a crew of 2 full time and 3 part time seasonal employees, Scranton Canoe Club is maintained by long time superintendent Patrick Healey who has been there for 10 years now. A Penn State grad with experience at other local gems like Fox Hill C.C. and Glenmaura National, Patrick has overseen some major projects to the Par 30 tract, including the installation of XGD drainage on all greens, irrigation on surrounds, and a new irrigation pump installed just this year. Patrick enjoys time away from the course with his wife Marissa, daughter, Ella, and dog, Riley. An avid outdoorsman, Pat also enjoys woodworking and skiing.



United Turf Alliance

June 5, 2015

Dear United Turf Alliance customers:

Within the last 10 days, United Turf Alliance (UTA) has been notified of a few turfgrass incidents in the Northeast regarding the use of ArmorTech® ALT 70 Fungicide.

As we initiate a full and complete investigation, I am voluntarily stopping the sale of ArmorTech ALT 70 and offering our customers the opportunity to return the product for full credit.

Our investigation began this week with onsite visits to two golf courses that tank mixed ArmorTech ALT 70 in multiple product spray programs on Bentgrass/Poa putting greens, collars and approaches and reported compromised turf. Turfgrass growth regulating products were also used in the course of these two spray programs.

University Cooperators at Rutgers and the University of Rhode Island have been contacted to review the use patterns, programs and the effects on turf.

We have not concluded that the product affected the turfgrass. We have learned that the product was used according to label directions as part of the spray programs. The ArmorTech ALT 70 manufacturer (Tersenderlo Kerley Inc.) has conducted laboratory testing showing that the product was within the manufacturer's proper specification.

I want to personally assure you that we are working diligently with the product manufacturer and university researchers to resolve this issue and return the product to the market. In the meantime, please visit our website www.utaarmortech.com for details and updates or contact me with your questions. You may reach me at email tzech@utaarmortech.com or phone (770) 335-3015.

Regards,
Tim Zech
President



Photo of the Month

We all see interesting things every day....wildlife (like bald eagles and bears), strange turf problems (like a lightning strike), an employee who stayed out too late the night before, etc. So if you have a great photo, send it to me (bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com) and share it for everyone to enjoy (or laugh at).



June Photo of the Month

This is not a newly designed water feature. Everyone has seen something like this over the years

Thanks to Chris Reverie at Allentown Municipal for sharing his pain.....



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POCONO ROUNDUP

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Lance Heil** on taking over as superintendent at Water Gap CC. Lance, who formerly worked at Shawnee, is moving back to the area after a several year hiatus in New England.

Congratulations also to **Tom Stem** on his new position as superintendent at Pocono Manor.

PTGA SCHEDULE

July 6	PTGA Golf Meeting Glen Oak CC
Aug 31	PTGA Clambake Scranton CC
Sept 15	PTGA Golf Meeting Mt. Laurel GC
Oct 6	PTGA Golf Meeting Fox Hill CC

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