



TEE TO GREEN

Published by the
Metropolitan Golf Course
Superintendents Association

President's Message

Sneak Peak at the Season Ahead

I'd like to kick off our all-new season by bringing you up to date on the Met's upcoming events, activities, and exciting new directions. But first, I want to urge all of you to attend the cocktail reception on April 28 at Shorehaven Golf Club in East Norwalk, CT, in honor of Bob Phipps. Bob is a longtime member who many of you know is retiring after suffering a stroke. Your attendance fee and contributions will go to The Phipps Fund.

When called on in the past to support a fellow member in need, we, as an association, have always been generous. Let's be sure to give Bob the same show of support.

Other notes . . .

On Our Golf Events

This season's golf meetings kicked off with the Two-Ball Qualifier and a fine day at Siwanoy on the 15th. (See the Spotlight on page 3.)

May will be an action-packed month, with two major events nearly back to back: the first, the Superintendent/Manager meeting at Silver Spring Country Club on May 23 and the second, the Invitational Tournament at Winged Foot Golf Club on May 28.

Winged Foot has generously offered the use of both golf courses for the Invitational. That means we'll be able to expand our field to *(continued on page 2)*

Special Feature

Getting at the Root Causes of Ailing Greens

USGA Mid-Continent Region Director James F. Moore Offers a Practical Approach—and Tool—for Identifying and Managing Turf Stresses That Affect the Health and Welfare of Your Greens

Your course is approaching 100 years old. From the members' perspective, the typography is interesting, the layout challenging, and the mature plantings picturesque.

For you, as superintendent, the course's age-old charm translates into small pushup greens with poor drainage, subpar soil mixes, and a heavy poa population. Those mature plantings impede air movement and block necessary light to many of the greens. And as if to add insult to injury, the course gets heavy play, which spells disaster for greens with limited surface area—and entrance and exit points.

With few of the key ingredients for success more typical of courses built within the past 40 years, your greens are forever a maintenance challenge—frequently a maintenance nightmare.

Once a Bad Green, Always a Bad Green?

The reality is that some greens—no

matter how knowledgeable or skilled the superintendent—will never perform really well. The tough part is explaining that to members who know only that your greens don't look as good—or play as well—as XYZ course's across town. When one or more of your greens is chronically ailing, it's rarely the result of one factor, but rather a combination of stresses.

Invariably, Green Committees and memberships want to look for a single cause to the problem—and a single, preferably quick fix. In many cases, that quick fix is to replace the superintendent. Unfortunately, more often than not, the next superintendent will only struggle with the same problems.

Another attempt at a quick fix is to rebuild the problem greens. While there are instances where this is appropriate, far too often a great deal of money is spent—and inconvenience endured—to end up with a green that *(continued on page 4)*

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Sneak Peak at the Season Ahead

50 foursomes. Though this is the largest field we've ever allowed, don't be fooled into thinking you can't be closed out of this popular event. Send in your reservations early!

August will bring us to The Tuxedo Club for the first round of the Met Area Team Championship Qualifier. The second round will be held early October at Pine Hollow Country Club on Long Island. We'll then return to the Island for our Superintendent/Green Chairman Tourney at Old Westbury Golf & Country Club. All three of these clubs are new meeting sites for our association, so be sure to attend and experience these golf courses and facilities.

On Our Field Day

Due to a less-than-satisfactory turnout at our past Field Days, we're offering our vendors a new avenue for advertising their equipment and products. At our August 5 Tuxedo meeting, vendors will be able to advertise on tee signs and sponsor a Hole-in-One contest on any of the course's Par 3 holes. Those lucky enough to make a hole in one on any of the Par 3s will win the piece of equipment displayed at the hole's tee.

On Our Bylaws

To comply with the GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement that will go into effect January 1, 1997, we will need to make several changes to our bylaws. (See article "GCSAA Conference Highlights" on pages 6 - 7 for details.)

Among the most significant will be adjusting our membership classifications to parallel GCSAA's. That means Class A members will be superintendents with three or more years' experience. Class B members will be superintendents with less than three years' experience. And Class C's will be assistant superintendents. Our commercial members will then have to be reclassified. We're currently looking at the term "affiliate." All this will be up for membership vote at our November business meeting.

On the Tee to Green

The *Tee to Green* has gone high-tech. It's now being given to the printer on disk—rather than in the form of laser-printed mechanicals. This offers us the ability to produce a typeset-quality newsletter with quicker turnaround and at no extra cost—once we get past the startup phase.

To fully appreciate the difference in type quality, compare this issue and the January/February issue with earlier issues of *Tee to Green*.

Another note: Dennis and Tony, our co-editors, are looking for old photos or information to establish a "Remember When . . ." section of the *Tee to Green*. If you have any you'd like to share, please give one of them a call. And as always, articles and ideas are welcomed by the newsletter staff.

JOHN J. O'KEEFE, CGCS
President

Upcoming Events

Meeting Reminders!

Superintendent/Manager Tournament*

Thursday, May 23
Silver Spring Country Club, Ridgefield, CT
Host Superintendent: Peter Rappoccio, CGCS

Invitational Tournament*

Tuesday, May 28
Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, NY
Host Superintendent: Bob Alonzi, CGCS

**Be sure to sign up early to avoid being closed out of these popular events!*

Special Events

Rematch of LIGCSA/MetGCSA Softball Game!!!

Tuesday, April 30
After a 26 to 10 rout, the Met team needs your support! Call Dave Mahoney, 914-961-8698, or Scott Apgar, 914-282-0049, for details.

1st Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Research Classic

Monday, May 15
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, Far Hills, NJ
Cost: \$250/person to support turfgrass research & education at Cook College and Rutgers University. For further info, call Bea Devine at the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation, 908-821-7134.

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Teeing It Up at Siwanoy Country Club for the Season's First Golf Meeting

Marking the end (we hope) to a long, long, *long* winter is the start of the 1996 Met meeting tour, which made its first stop April 15 at Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville, NY. The main event: the fourth Annual Superintendent Two-Ball Qualifier.

Host Superintendent Dave Mahoney has joined forces again this year with Lakeover National's Dennis Petruzzelli to claim the Two-Ball crown from last season's champs Jim McNally of Greenrock Corporation and Wayne Remo of Rock Spring Club.

Entering into his ninth season at Siwanoy, Dave is looking forward to the renovation work planned for this coming fall. Explains Dave: "The membership has agreed to work with Golf Course Architect Arthur Hills in restoring many of the 82-year-old course's original Donald Ross design features—and charm." Also part of the master plan are a new irrigation system, designed by Jim Barrett, and a brand-new 1.5-acre pond.

From Whence He Came

Born in Queens, NY, and raised in Levittown, LI, Dave began his golf course maintenance career far from his New York roots—in Chicago, IL, where his family relocated when he was 12.

After graduating from Naperville Central High in 1978, Dave worked on the crew at the Naperville Country Club for four years. Showing great promise, he was offered the assistant superintendent's position there, where he remained until 1982. During that period—and the off-seasons, of course—Dave attended the Turf Management program at Penn State University, completing his degree in 1983.

Looking to further his on-the-job education, Dave then accepted a position at The Golf Club of Oklahoma, where he had the opportunity to work under then Superintendent Terry Buchen on the grow-in phase of the all-new Fazio-designed course.

"Learning to grow in a new course and being involved in determining how a new course will play—not to mention maintaining bentgrass greens in the

extreme heat—are experiences that I still rely on today," says Dave. "And working under Terry, who had already grown in several courses, I learned the importance of being thorough and never taking anything for granted."

After the course opened, Dave returned to Naperville Country Club—this time as golf course superintendent. He stayed there five years, until in 1988, he was offered the superintendent's position at Siwanoy—and the opportunity to return to the New York area.

Now That's What an Association Should Be

Working on golf courses—and belonging to associations—outside the New York area has allowed Dave to witness, firsthand, the importance of superintendents and commercial members alike communicating openly and bouncing ideas off one another.

"There is no doubt in my mind," says Dave, "that the MetGCSA is second to none as an association. Our meetings are well attended, and we have strong support for hosting meetings and for individuals getting involved at the committee and board levels. The superintendent-salesperson relationship is strong and friendly, and the competition among superintendents and among commercial members is generally amicable and healthy. I do, however, feel there is plenty of room for improvement when it comes to working together."

Dave cites last year's famed "Black Sunday" as an example of where association members could have joined forces and helped each other through this unprecedentedly tough time.

"Everyone was hurt to some degree," he says. "Yet it wasn't until the Family Picnic that a lot of us communicated our problems—and realized we weren't alone. This was too late. Having that kind of information when it happened would have helped many of us fend off complaints from members who insisted that no other course was suffering."

"In a 'cyber world,' where information can be so quickly exchanged, we can—and need to—do a better job," he concludes.

Acting as MetByte's system operator

is Dave's way of trying to generate more interaction among members—and more timely information sharing. For the uninitiated, MetByte is our association's electronic bulletin board system, which allows members to communicate with one another via computer and modem.

"I started this three years ago," says Dave, "when I got on the Met board. Unfortunately, it's been slow to take off; though it does seem to be getting more use lately."

"We, as an industry, are behind the times in the computer world—probably because we aren't at our desks long enough to become computer geeks, and most of us don't have secretaries. Someday," he says, probably only *half* in jest, "I'd like to equip my golf cart with a cell phone and laptop computer so I can do my administrative work and still be on the golf course."

Dave's involvement with the association extends well beyond MetByte. For nearly two of his three years on the board, he has both chaired and co-chaired the Tournament Committee and is well-known for his witty tournament commentary at our meetings.

Though time consuming, Dave will tell you his committee work pays dividends. With that "I'm joking" twinkle in his eyes, he says, "I'm owed an enormous amount of favors from guys who constantly call in their reservations late, groveling to be allowed to participate."

Life After Work

When he's not involved with work, association business, or one of his three computers, Dave enjoys spending time with his wife, Catherine, of 12 years and his 10-year-old son, David, and 9-year-old daughter, Jessica. The Mahoney's made the most of this past winter by taking up—and thoroughly enjoying—skiing.

Pretty much a sports enthusiast, Dave coaches soccer and basketball for the Tuckahoe/Eastchester Town Youth Program, plays a lot of golf, and a little ball on the MetGCSA softball team.

SCOTT C. APGAR

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Getting at the Root Causes of Ailing Greens

performs only marginally better than the one that was plowed under.

Yes, that new green may have a well-drained root zone and new grass, but it's still plagued by the same inadequate light, poor air movement, limited cupping area, limited entrance and exit points, etc. Unfortunately, it's only a matter of time before these stress factors become just as damaging to that new USGA-spec'ed green as they would be to the old pushup soil green. Then, when the new green doesn't perform up to expectations, fingers are pointed at the superintendent, the USGA method of construction, the architect, or the grass selection.

Teaching the Tenets of Integrated Turf Management

The moral of this story: Superintendents must educate their Green Committee and membership about the tenets of integrated turf management (ITM): The essential process of identifying—and addressing as best as possible—all the stresses a green endures. Critical to the long-term health of any turfgrass stand, this process enables superintendents to find ways to bolster the *overall* quality of a green, despite certain stress factors or problems that, for one reason or another, can never be completely eliminated or corrected.

Let's say, for instance, you discover a high nematode count on one of your greens. As we all know, nematodes can place a tremendous amount of physiological stress on turf. And worse, many of the more effective chemicals we've relied on in the past are no longer available.

With the less potent, short-lived products that remain, complete control is unlikely—that is, you have a stress factor that can't be completely eliminated. Your only alternative, then, is to work on reducing the *overall* stress on that green. You might, for instance, remove trees to provide additional light to a shaded green or raise the cutting height to allow the turf to better gather what light is available. Although the nematode population may remain the same, its ill effect on the health of the

green is greatly reduced. This is ITM.

Even if chemical treatments could eliminate nematodes entirely, it would still be a mistake to only apply the nematicide and ignore the remaining stress factors. All must be addressed to ensure the long-term health of your green.

A Tool for Targeting—and Improving—Your Greens' Deficiencies

To help you assess the various stress factors on your greens, I've developed a rating sheet that allows you to graphically depict—for yourself and your Green Committee or membership—the degree of impact that a variety of stress factors may be having on the performance of each of your greens. In chart form, it's not unlike a school report card, which allows you to assign a grade—A, B, C, D, F—to each performance category or, in this case, stress factor.

An equally key component to this assessment tool is space to assign a grade for each green's performance over time—or several seasons. This overall grade will indicate the combined impact of the various stresses and illustrate which greens deserve the most immediate attention.

Once the greens are graded, the next step is to try to raise poor grades. You may not be able to elevate each stress grade to an A. In fact, that kind of

improvement is generally more the exception than the rule. What you should be able to accomplish, however, is slight improvement in three or four factors that will result in significant overall improvement of your greens.

Consider, for example, a green with a C for overall performance. Its report card might look like the one below.

It's possible that judicious pruning of the trees adjacent to the green will bring the grades for sunlight, air circulation, and root competition up to B's. Although removing the trees entirely might bring the grades up to A's, this may not be possible without destroying the aesthetics of the hole. Nonetheless, elevating the rating for each of these stress factors to a B will have a positive overall impact on the green.

Better still, if you can put up ropes or signs to give walk on/off patterns a B rating, use deep aerification to bring your internal drainage rating up to a B, and reposition your irrigation heads to elevate your irrigation coverage rating to an A, chances are you can bring the overall performance of your green up to a B—maybe even an A. This is ITM at its best.

Involvement Key to Success

When using the rating sheet, I cannot emphasize strongly enough the benefit of involving Green Committee members

	Green Number											
Stress Factors	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Sunlight Exposure	C											
Air Circulation	C											
Root Competition	C											
Walk On/Off	C											
Internal Drainage	C											
Cupping Area	B											
Irrigation Coverage	C											
OVERALL HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE	C											
Greens Construction	3											

GCSAA Conference Highlights

GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement Vote, Board Elections, and More

The 67th GCSAA Golf Championship, Conference, and Trade Show held in Orlando, FL, from February 5 – 11 attracted a record number of participants—nearly 22,000 in all—from around the world.

Among the many highlights:

- An impressive 700 players braved Northeast-style winter temps to compete in the preconference Golf Championship held February 3 – 5. (See facing page for the lowdown.)
- More than 90 educational seminars, sessions, and forums featured dynamic speakers from all facets of the golf industry, including MetGCSA members Scott Niven of The Stanwich Club, Larry Pakkala of Woodway Country Club, Ed Walsh of Essex County Country Club, and Greg Wojick of Greenwich Country Club.
- The annual golf course equipment and supply show featured 650 exhibitors spread over 450,000 square feet, which puts it among the largest trade shows in the world

• This year's superintendent reception was held in the Omni Rosen on the evening of February 9 and was cohosted by the MetGCSA and four other superintendent associations: Connecticut, Hudson Valley, New Jersey, and Rhode Island. An impressive showing of superintendents and GCSAA board members and staff enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and the opportunity to discuss convention happenings—from election strategies to equipment displays. The event, orchestrated again this year by Woodbridge Country Club Superintendent and Met member John Streeter, was so well received that other associations expressed interest in co-hosting the event next year.

Particularly worthy of note was this year's GCSAA Annual Meeting held February 10. What follows are the high points of the GCSAA board elections and the outcome of the vote to amend the bylaws and articles of incorporation, which included the GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement.

Who's Who on the New GCSAA Board

The Annual Meeting elections closed with Bruce Williams, CGCS, of Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, IL, voted in as the new president. Bruce succeeds Gary Griggs, CGCS, of Royal Poinciana Golf Club in Naples, FL, who will continue to serve on the board for the next year as immediate past president.

Other newly elected officials are Vice President Paul McGinnis, CGCS, of Union Hills Country Club in Sun City, AZ, and Secretary/Treasurer George Renault III, CGCS, of Burning Tree Club in Bethesda, MD.

Reelected as director is Scott Woodhead, CGCS, of Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, MT.

Michael Wallace, CGCS, of Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury, CT, was reappointed for another year. And Ken Mangum, CGCS, of Atlanta Athletic Club in Duluth, GA, was newly elected to the board for a two-year term.

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GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement Gains Acceptance

The GCSAA membership voted convincingly to approve all 12 changes to the bylaws and the articles of incorporation. The major issues were related to the GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement and to the membership status of assistant superintendents. Here are the highlights:

- Assistant superintendent members of GCSAA will no longer be able to vote but will be charged only half the dues rate: \$105.
- The GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement was affirmed and will go into effect January 1, 1997. The Dual Membership requirement, though originally proposed for both assistants and superintendents, will apply only to superintendents. It requires that superintendents joining a local chapter after July 1, 1997 also become a member of GCSAA.

Likewise, any superintendent joining GCSAA will also have to become a member of a local chapter. Those who join either the national or a local chapter before July 1997 will not be affected by this amendment.

Other amendments—or requirements of affiliation—which we covered in considerable detail in the feature article in the September/October 1995 issue of *Tee to Green*, include becoming incorporated, gaining tax-exempt status from the IRS, obtaining general liability and D&O insurance, and ensuring chapter bylaws and membership classifications are consistent with GCSAA's.

The agreement is the culmination of more than two years of discussion and debate among GCSAA Chapter Relations Committee members. Intended to strengthen the relationship between GCSAA and its affiliated chapters, the new agreement is also designed to smooth the way for improved services and enhanced communication among associations across the country. But just as important, the agreement will allow better representation of the golf course

superintendent and the profession.

To become affiliated by the January 1997 deadline, the MetGCSA will need to make several changes to our bylaws. Among the most significant is that we will have to adjust our member classifications to parallel GCSAA's Class A, B, and C classifications. In short:

- A's should be superintendents with three or more years' experience. Any superintendent achieving Class A status before the January 1997 deadline, regardless of years' experience, will remain a Class A.
- B's would be superintendents with

less than three years' experience.

- C's would be assistants.
- The classification title for our commercial members will change, with the title "affiliate" mentioned as a possibility.

Needless to say, our Bylaws Committee will be busy preparing all the changes for a vote of our membership at the November business meeting. In the meantime, if anyone has any questions concerning these issues, you can contact me at 203-656-0600.

TIM O'NEILL, CGCS
MetGCSA Chapter Delegate

Met Golfers Get Blown Off Leader Board in Orlando

The 30 MetGCSA golfers who competed in the GCSAA Golf Championship in Orlando, FL, on February 3 – 5 were rudely met with record cold temperatures and brutal winds. The first two days of the tourney, temps dipped as low as 29 degrees while winds picked up to 30 mph.

Stories of crushing 3 irons 150 yards and having errant shots crudely blown across fairways and into water 40 yards off line dominated the tales at the 19th hole.

Needless to say, our usual proliferation of names on the Leader Board were swept away. We were represented by several players with a strong wind game and a lot of patience. The rest of us shipped our clubs home and eagerly awaited the conference.

Those placing for the Met were:

Third Flight category, 4th place gross
Larry Pakkala, Woodway CC, Darien, CT

Fifth Flight category, 4th place net
Phil Anderson, Old Westbury Golf & CC, Old Westbury, NY

Fifth Flight category, 6th place net
Rick Schock, Wee Burn CC, Darien, CT

Eighth Flight category, 1st place net
Scott Schukraft, Huntsville GC, Shavertown, PA

Eighth Flight category, 3rd place net
Mike Reeb, CC of New Canaan, New Canaan, CT

Senior I category, 4th place net
Ed Walsh, Essex County CC, W. Orange, NJ

Senior II category, 4th place gross
Frank Lamphier, retired from Aspectuck Valley CC, Weston, CT

The golf courses were all in outstanding condition and the tournament was professionally coordinated by GCSAA staff. The Toro Company sponsored the championship for the second consecutive year, which all participants agree has made for an outstanding event.

Next year's golf championship and conference will be held in Las Vegas, NV, February 6 – 12, 1997.

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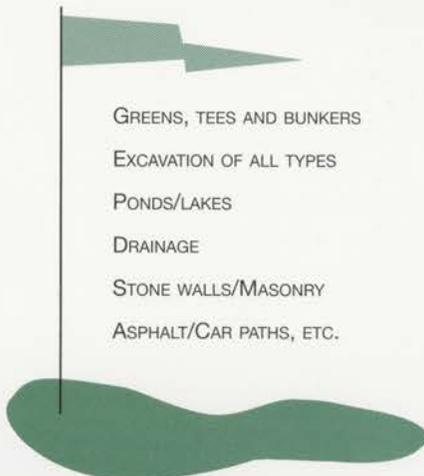
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In Memoriam

We regret to announce the death of longtime superintendent and Met member **Gus Powell**. Gus retired in 1979 from the Round Hill Club in Greenwich, CT, where he worked as superintendent for 20 years.

Starting on the tennis maintenance crew at the club when he was 17, Gus worked his way up to assistant superintendent, attending both the Stockbridge Winter School and, in the mid-40s, the Rutgers Winter School where he studied under Dr. Ralph Engel. He became the club's superintendent in 1959, following the late Molly Strazza.

Gus was a member of the MetGCSA for 30 years before retiring and becoming a Life member.

Newly Certified

Bruce Rickert, superintendent of Medford Village Country Club in Medford, NJ, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent by the GCSAA. Congratulations, Bruce!

Special Congratulations

Phil Anderson, superintendent of Old Westbury Golf & Country Club in Old Westbury, NY, is one of 39 golf course superintendents from three continents that have been honored with an Environmental Steward Award for their work in protecting and enhancing the environment.

Sponsoring the award are Ciba Turf & Ornamental Products, Rain Bird's Golf Division, the Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc., and Lebanon Turf Products. These sponsors have donated funds in the name of the award winners to the GCSAA Foundation, which supports educational opportunities for future golf course superintendents and scientific advancements in golf course management.

Wilfred MacDonald, Inc. of Lyndhurst, NJ, has earned the 1995 Jacobsen Golden Reel Award, which recognizes Jacobsen Distributors for their long-term sales and service excellence.

Remember When . . .



Gone but not forgotten . . . The late Bill Caputi (left) and Craig Wistrand (right) running the raffle at the 1982 MetGCSA Christmas Party.

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Good Golf Reads—for You and Your Membership

Published by Sleeping Bear Press out of Chelsea, MI, these three good golf reads not only offer a historical perspective on the game of golf—and golf course maintenance—but also depict golf courses as environmental assets, not detractors.

Though your corner bookstore isn't likely to carry them, you can order them from GCSAA by calling its book distribution center at 800-97G-CSAA.

Life & Times of Bobby Jones: Portrait of a Gentleman

By Sidney L. Matthew

This book chronicles the awe-inspiring accomplishments of Bobby Jones, who at 28 won golf's Grand Slam and went on to help design and build one of the most renowned courses in the U.S., Augusta National.

Along the way, he made films in Hollywood, designed and built golf clubs for Spaulding, established the

world's first golf tournament for spectators and players alike—the Masters—and much more.

This fine book includes hundreds of photos and insight into Jones' private life, including his valiant fight against a crippling spinal disease.

This book will no doubt leave you admiring a truly remarkable "legend" of the game of golf.

The Spirit of St. Andrews

By Alister Mackenzie

This untouched manuscript—penned by Alister MacKenzie, himself, in the early '30s—provides page after page of interest and common-sense information about all aspects of the game of golf.

Although written nearly 60 years ago, Mackenzie offers timeless views on golf course construction, "greenkeeping," ideal golf courses and holes, and putting and golf swings.

It's well worth a special order.

A View From the Rough

By Mike Klemme

Golf is good for the environment—and this book has the photographs to prove it.

In *A View From the Rough*, you'll find a fine collection of images by Mike Klemme, who is considered to be the best golf landscape photographer in the business today.

Klemme's photos capture elk, deer, eagles, and other wildlife alive and well on some of golf's top courses.

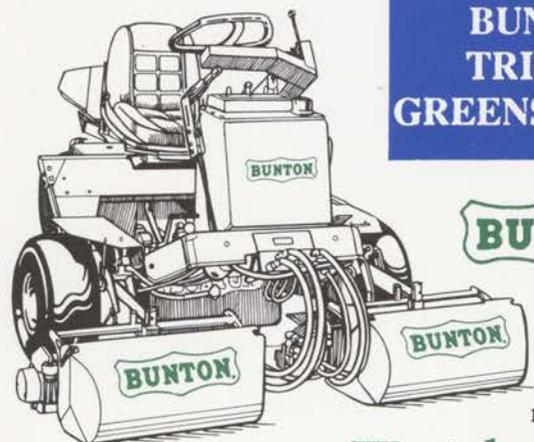
Making these shots all the more meaningful are captions and statements from individuals in the golf world, as well as the environmental community.

These books will not only bolster your own store of knowledge, but may also prove valuable to your Green Committee—and even your membership.

At the least, they're great resources for your office bookshelf.

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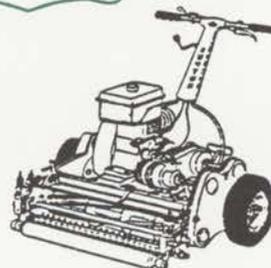
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Quick Guide to Deer-Resistant Annuals

Frank Amodio of Valley View Greenhouses Suggests Annuals That Aren't High on Most Deer's Hit Lists

The last thing any golf course superintendent wants is to spend valuable budget dollars and—probably more important—work time on replanting flowerbeds that have been devastated by deer damage.

To help you keep your plantings intact this summer, here is a list of annuals that are not only deer-resistant, but also most likely to thrive in our area:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✿ Ageratum | ✿ Geranium Perlargonium |
| ✿ Alyssum | ✿ Heliotrope |
| ✿ Begonia (Wax) | ✿ Herbs |
| ✿ Celosia | ✿ Lobelia |
| ✿ Centaurea | ✿ Marigold |
| ✿ Cleome | ✿ Petunia |
| ✿ Cosmos | ✿ Salvia |
| ✿ Dahlia | ✿ Snapdragon |
| ✿ Dusty Miller | ✿ Verbena |
| ✿ Gaillardia Pulchella | ✿ Zinnia |

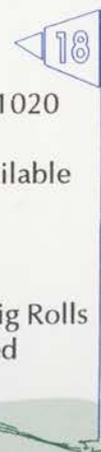
One word to the wise: No plant is 100-percent deer proof. Weather, flowers' proximity to deer sites, and herd size can increase the likelihood that deer will eat whatever they can get their hooves on.

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