

TEE TO GREEN

April 2012

The Official Publication of the South Texas
Golf Course Superintendents Association



High Meadow Ranch is Ready for us!

Only a few more days until the big event! High Meadow Ranch's Cody Spivey and Casey Wade are ready for us! The annual scholarship tournament to raise money for our scholarship fund is our biggest event of the year. If you haven't come out in the past, you need to make it a point to come this year! You can still register a team, so email me (Marian.stgcsa@stgcsa.org)!

The day begins with registration from 9:30—10:00. The meeting and live auction starts promptly at 10:00 and bidders are able to eat lunch while the auction is being held. All items can be purchased with cash, check or credit card. All the items are listed on the website and are open for bidding to the public until Friday, March 30th. Your friends and family can pick up a round of golf for a great price and help STGCSA at the same time!

The STGCSA Board of Directors encourages everyone to participate in the auction. There will be a broad list of items to appeal to all tastes. There are no activities planned for those not attending the auction and the range will not open until noon.

On another note: This issue of Tee To Green is loaded with important information regarding new water restrictions (see page 17) and TCEQ licensing (see page 11). Also in this issue: discover the Texas A&M Turf Program (see page 9) and revisit Dr. Anthony Camerino's discussion about Pesticide Residue Exposure to Golfers (see page 3).

Meeting Schedule

April 3-High Meadow Ranch GC
Scholarship Tournament
Registration begins at 9:30 am

[Google Map to High Meadow Ranch](#)

May 16-Blackhorse GC
Chapter Championship Reg-
istration begins at 7:30

[Google Map to Blackhorse GC](#)

June 11-Galveston CC

[Google Map to Galveston CC](#)

July 16-Redstone GC
Supt/Pro Tournament

[Google Map to Redstone GC](#)

October 16-Royal Oaks CC
Annual Meeting

[Map to Royal Oaks CC](#)

[Register Now for Any Meeting!](#)

President's Message

By: Mark Haven



Spring has sprung! I know some have actually had enough rain to do some damage but the rains have filled many of the lakes and have put good moisture in the soil so I am very thankful.

And speaking of thankful, all volunteer spots at the Shell Houston Open are filled. I procrastinated and was left out but many thanks to those who were quick to volunteer and to George, Terry, and Doug for their leadership.

The GCSAA Conference and Show was in Las Vegas and seemed to be fairly well attended this year. I heard a lot of guarded optimism from both superintendents and vendors. No one is willing to say the industry is well, but most seem to think we are moving in the right direction. The Lone Star GCSA reception was well attended with good food and great camaraderie. Most importantly, Keith Ihms was elected as Secretary/Treasurer. Keith may hail from Arkansas now but is still a Texan at heart and will look out for our interests.

By the time you get this you should have registered for the Scholarship Tournament. If you haven't you need to do it right now! We will be doing a couple of things different this year. Auction items will be online on our website prior to the tournament for pre-bidding. Make sure you send the link to your teammates so you and they can review the items we have available. It's not too late to add to the list if you have something you want to donate. We will also flight the tournament after the round instead of using handicaps this year. This will broaden the opportunities for teams to win. Contests will be available on every hole as well. We also feed you lunch and dinner, so it's a great day of golf for a worthy cause. Please note the sponsors and offer your sincere thanks.

Finally, I want to say thank you to those who have offered assistance and guidance. I have received some compliments as well as some constructive criticism. Some things are moving quicker than others but all suggestions are being addressed with open minds and healthy discourse. Don't hesitate to let me know how we can better serve you.

mhaven@rec.tamu.edu @bcsgreenkeeper cell 979-224-0184

GCSAA Conference Session Presentations Available

These power point presentations were delivered at the 2012 GCSAA Education Conference

<u>BMPs for Turfgrass Anthracnose - Session Overview</u>	<u>Career Hot Topics</u>
<u>Chemical Control of Anthracnose</u>	<u>Communications Hot Topics</u>
<u>Cultural Control Strategies for Anthracnose</u>	<u>Innovative Superintendents: Save the Time, Money and Stress . . . Call Your Architect</u>
<u>Impact of NE-1025 BMPs on Anthracnose Management</u>	<u>Keeping Your Facility Above Water: How Water Quality Regulations May Affect The Golf Business</u>
<u>The Biology of Turfgrass Anthracnose</u>	<u>New Labor and Immigration Concerns for Golf Facilities</u>

Mostly Green But Not Growing

Due to a mild winter, non-overseeded bermudagrass greens are mostly green and getting greener but air temperatures are too cool for optimum growth of bermudagrass. The mild winter has brought out golfers earlier and in greater numbers than in most years. The combination of more golfers and bermudagrass greens that aren't growing make for some challenges.

The good news is that the mostly green, but not growing, greens are putting well. Putting speed is good and greens are smooth and consistent. Rolling is a great tool at any time of year to provide smooth, consistent greens. Rely on rolling rather than mowing this time of year to reduce wear on the greens, particularly on the clean-up pass. Non-growing grass in the clean-up pass is prone to wear damage and recovery won't occur for weeks. An occasional mowing can trim off the few leaves that are growing to even up the canopy.

Change cups regularly this time of year. While the number of golfers is nowhere near the peak numbers experienced at the height of the golf season, there are enough golfers to wear out the mostly dormant bermudagrass near the cup. When setting cups, keep in mind traffic patterns on and off the green to evenly distribute wear in the approach and surround.

Ball marks are also a problem this time of year since recovery is minimal. Remind golfers to repair ball marks and invest some staff time to repair ball marks. Properly repairing a ball mark now will yield improved putting surfaces for months to come.

The mild winter leads to increased revenue for the golf course. At the same time, the mild winter means superintendents have to be vigilant in managing greens to minimize traffic damage now while making sure the greens will perform well during the peak of the golf season.

Clark Throssell, Ph.D., Golfdom's research editor and a turfgrass scientist, can be reached at cthrossell@questex.com

Out of Bounds

By Dr. Anthony Camerino-Commercial Horticulture Agent, Texas AgriLife Extension – Harris County Office

Revisiting Pesticide Residue Exposure to Golfers

For the regular readers of my column you may remember that I have covered the topic of pesticide exposure and responsible pesticide stewardship before. At that time I referenced the following article and strongly encourage you to review it when you have a chance.

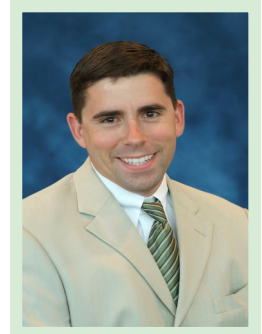
Managing Pesticide Exposure from Turfgrass. <http://usgatero.msu.edu/vo3/n21.pdf>

A similar study was conducted again, but this time different pesticides were examined. The findings were similar and even under worst care scenarios golfer exposure was minimal. Furthermore pesticide exposure can be mitigated significantly through specific actions. The reference for the article is:

Utilizing Reduced-Risk Pesticides and IPM Strategies to Mitigate Golfer Exposure and Hazard. <http://usgatero.msu.edu/v10/n15.pdf>

Educating the general public about this topic is as critical an aspect of a superintendent's job as a county Extension Agent's. Research shows that pesticides, when applied appropriately to golf courses (or food for that matter), have little potential to cause harm to people or the environment. Despite this research, you may still be faced with a situation where an extremely concerned golfer wants to know what you are doing to keep golfers safe from pesticide residues. Management practices that minimize pesticide residue exposure to golfers include:

- Maximizing the time between pesticide application and the first tee time
 - Irrigating in pesticide applications when appropriate
 - Minimizing pesticide application rates
 - Choosing the least toxic pesticide first
 - Avoiding to treat the entire course on the same day
 - Spot treating pest problems
- The parts of the body most likely to come in contact with pesticide residues are the lower legs, forearms, and hands. These body areas are often uncovered during a golf outing. Golfers can limit pesticide residue exposure by:
- Wearing pants (instead of shorts), long sleeve shirts, gloves, etc.
 - Washing hands and face before eating
 - Cleaning golf equipment after play





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Do you know this Assistant?

Riley Maxey

I began my turf career at the age of fourteen when I started working part time in my home town of Stephenville Texas for the parks and recreation department. It was a small, four to five person operation doing everything under the sun to maintain the sports complexes. As my second year at Tarleton came to an end and I was putting the final touches on my application to Texas A&M University I came to the part of the application in which I had to choose a college that I wanted to major in. I began to think about my past six years on the sports fields and came to the conclusion that I wanted a career in this field.












After being accepted in to the agronomy program at Texas A&M I moved to College Station and decided I wanted to get some golf course experience so that I could determine what it was I wanted to do when I graduated. I spent a couple of months at the Texas A&M University course before moving over to the newly developed Traditions Country Club. My experiences at these two clubs helped me decide that I was better fitted for the golf course that the sports fields. After two and a half years at Traditions, graduation came and I headed east to South Carolina where I took a second assistant position at Long Cove Club. Seven months later I was back in Aggieland for a football game when I learned of an opening at Miramont Country Club. This was a facility that had fascinated me since I began my undergraduate degree at Texas A&M and was an opportunity I could not pass up. I packed the U-Haul and headed back home and three and a half years later, here I am.



Golf is the closest game to the game we call life. You get bad breaks from good shots; you get good breaks from bad shots - but you have to play the ball where it lies.

~ Bobby Jones

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Lone Star Reception in Las Vegas was a huge success!.....Great job, Karen White!!



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Welcome Back, Bill Abetz—Territory Manager for Florikan

Congratulations, Trevor Taylor the new Supt. at Golfcrest CC

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Get to Know.....Affiliate Member, Jack Hargrove

I was happily married to D'Ann for 40 years and 20 days. She had 3 children from her first marriage and we have 6 grand-children and 12 great grand-children. After 15 years in oil field equipment sales and service we decided a change was due. J. Hargrove Construction was started in September 1984 as a sub-contractor for Cope Irrigation. We Spent 1 year in Pinehurst working on construction of #7, 1 year working on Windstone Country Club in Chattanooga, Tenn. and 1 year in Charleston, S.C. at Charleston Country Club. In 1990 I decided to spend more time at home with my wife and family so I quit traveling out of state and concentrated on Houston, Dallas-Ft. Worth and Austin. We are well qualified in renovation of bunkers, tees, bulkhead of any type, cart path, drainage and bridges (new and rebuild). I have enjoyed my relationship with many of the finest people in the world for 27 years and plan to continue for as long as possible.

Thank you golf course superintendents.

Jack Hargrove

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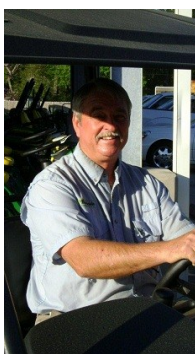
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CONGRATULATIONS....

John Freeman was awarded Salesman of the year for small Area of Responsibility (AOR) by John Deere Golf for 2011.



Phil Taylor was awarded Sales Manager of the year for small Area of Responsibility (AOR) by John Deere Golf for 2011.



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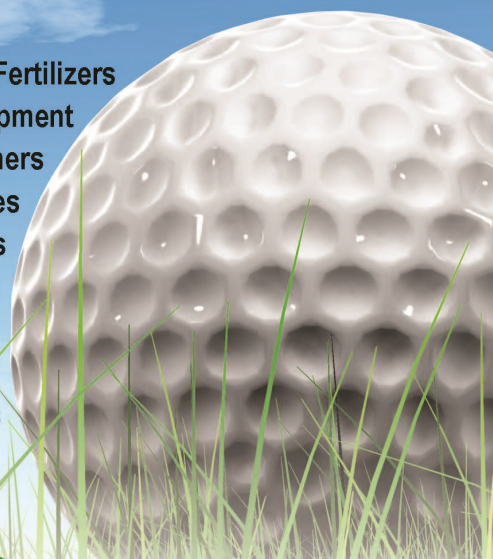
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GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS

Phil Taylor—Affiliate Profile

As I was sitting at the Kingwood CC golf committee last evening, I was reflecting on how long I have been involved in the golf business. I will be 56 years old on Masters Sunday this year (this happens to be the 56th anniversary of Jackie Burkes' victory at Augusta National).

At the age of 13, my dad said "No more baseball you have to go out and get a job". He directed me to the local country club in Ft. Wayne, Indiana where the pro not only taught us the rules of caddying but he also taught us the game. I never looked back. From working in the club rack room to night watering the course, I quickly learned that I wanted to be involved in manicuring this beautiful piece of property. I was encouraged by my mentor, Mike Driver, the Superintendent at Brookwood Golf Course to look in to a turfgrass management education at Purdue University.

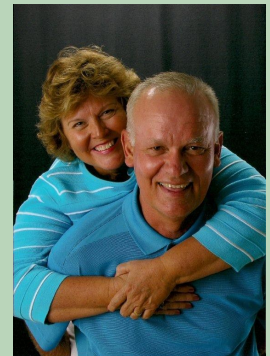
I graduated from Purdue in 1978 and headed to the Chicago area where my wife, Marilyn and I set up housekeeping. We started our family after two years of marriage while I was Pro/Supt. at a 9 hole municipal course in the Chicago suburbs. Achieving my CGCS status and my Illinois PGA Section membership in 1985 led me to rethink my career goals. With two young boys and my wife choosing to be a stay-at-home mom, while living in a house provided with the job on the course, I realized that the job was demanding more of my time than I was willing to give. It was in 1986 that I started my equipment sales career that has allowed me to be involved in the golf business for over 25 years, without sacrificing my family values.

My wife and I will celebrate 33 years of marital bliss in May of this year. She truly is my best friend and biggest encourager. We have raised our three boys, two of which have their own families including two grandsons. We found out over the holidays that we will be adding two more grandchildren (God willing) this summer.

We love the Houston area, the people and the climate and I am glad to be affiliated with a solid family company like Brookside Equipment.



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News From the Texas A&M Turf Program - Focusing on College Station - Spring 2012

David Chalmers, Professor and State AgriLife Extension Turfgrass Specialist

Greetings from College Station, where many new and exciting happenings are taking place within the Turf Program. Since our last update, we have had a new faculty member join our group. Dr. Ben Wherley has been hired as Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science and Ecology, with a 70% research/ 30% teaching appointment. Dr. Wherley comes to us from Dallas, where he spent the past two years with the Texas AgriLife Research turfgrass breeding program. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from The Ohio State University, as well as Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. This semester, Ben will get his feet wet teaching Advanced Turfgrass Ecology & Physiology. He also co-advises three graduate students. Ben's research will be in the area of sustainable turfgrass systems, with specific emphasis in water/nutrient relations and environmental stress physiology. He also continues to collaborate with the Dallas breeding program in evaluating and screening experimental turfgrass germplasm for improved drought, shade, and salinity tolerance. In addition to his academic training, Dr. Wherley has also had many applied experiences to draw from in his teaching and research, including working as an assistant golf course superintendent. He enjoys sharing many of those past experiences with his students in the classroom. Although Ben grew up in Buckeye country, it hasn't taken long for him and his two boys to catch Aggie fever!



Dr. Ben Wherley

The turf program recently applied for and was awarded funding from GCSAA Environmental Institute for Golf for a two-year chapter grant research project. Matching support for this project is being provided through Rounds-4-Research dollars raised by the Lonestar Chapter of the GCSA. The project, addresses an issue of critical importance to golf course superintendents and water regulators across the state, evaluating feasibility and long-term impacts of season-long deficit irrigation on bermudagrass fairways. In this research, turfgrass quality and persistence, soil salinity accumulation, recuperative capacity from divots, traffic tolerance, and fall recovery will all be evaluated at various levels of deficit irrigation. The project will be carried out at the new Texas A&M/ Scotts Miracle Grow Turfgrass Research Facility by Reagan Hjel, a master's student in Soil and Crop Science Department. Wireless soil moisture and temperature sensing technology are being generously donated for the project by Ugmo. With most golf courses facing serious cutbacks in water allocations, we believe this project will be directly beneficial in guiding superintendents throughout Texas as they decide how to best allocate irrigation on their courses. This project is just a small example of the large impact chapter fundraising for research can make in terms of golf turf research that directly serves industry needs in Texas.

The turfgrass teaching program remains in good hands under the leadership of Drs. White and Wherley. Dr. White currently teaches Turfgrass Maintenance. Dr. Wherley is teaching Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology and Dr. Russ Jessup and Mark Hall are teaching Recreational Turf this spring semester. Beginning the 2012 - 2013 academic year, Turfgrass Science will officially become a major within the department. Be sure to say hello to Drs. Wherley and White who will be bringing four turf students to compete in this year's GCSAA quiz bowl competition in Las Vegas including Ryan Heine, Michael Frantzen, Stephen Gerhard and Sadie Snider.



Photo of the newly constructed retaining wall and instrumentation pads for the runoff facility at Texas A&M. Runoff from the plot area above the wall will be caught in a trough embedded in the top of the concrete wall and exit out the large 4 inch pipes and discharge into a flume to be put on the pad under the pipe. Additional instruments will measure water volumes and collect samples at prescribed intervals.



Golf is 20 percent mechanics and technique. The other 80 percent is philosophy, humor, tragedy, romance, melodrama, companionship, camaraderie, cussedness and conversation.

~ Grantland Rice



Keep your email updated by contacting the office at:

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SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE—Alan Hess, CGCS, MG

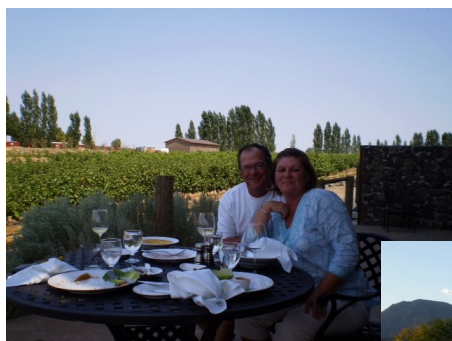
I developed a love for the game of golf long before I had any interest in turf. My Father, Col. Lester C. Hess, 1940 USMA graduate introduced me to the game at a very young age at Randolph Air Force Base, at that course which he helped construct. He had already survived the Korean War and the World War II. I began playing frequently in 1961 at Reese AFB near Lubbock, Texas where he was Commander and built that golf course from scratch. However, before long the Vietnam War broke out when we were stationed at Naha Air Base in the Ryukyu Islands and Dad was Wing Commander of the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing. This would be his third war. What helped me was Dad constructed another 18 hole golf course at Naha Air Base when I became a teenager which evolved from 9 holes of sand greens. This is when my interest in playing golf really began. When Dad was stationed at the Pentagon I was in Junior High and really became enthused getting exposed to top layouts like Army Navy CC, Congressional and Andrews AFB. By the time Dad retired from service we returned to Lubbock where I played Varsity Golf for two years at Coronado High School, graduated and enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin in 1970

After graduating in 1975 with a BS in Advertising, I didn't like working as an assistant golf pro much and I started getting wind of an excellent Turf Management program that was starting up at Texas A&M. Here my mentors were Dr. James Beard, Dr. Richard Duble and Wallace Menn. Dad however, was not going to pay for anymore college. I got a full time job at Bryan Municipal Golf Course with Richard Luikens as my second boss ever on a golf course. Gene Deeds was the first, when I was in high school at Lubbock Country Club picking goosegrass out of Bentgrass greens.

While working at Bryan Muni, the head pro Fred Marberry did one of the nicest things ever for me by cosigning on a FI student loan that helped me pay for tuition and books.

This helped me finish school and I graduated with a degree in Agriculture in 1980. While at A&M I met my wife Dianne Waldron. She was a member of the turf club and studied Horticulture. She had quite a career of her own having worked at Westchester Country Club and also managed the Grounds and Clarendon Gardens at Pinehurst, NC. We were married in 1981 and just celebrated our 30th anniversary. We have three wonderful sons all out of college now. There is Adam who is golf course superintendent at Rose Creek GC in Edmond, OK. Stephan and Nicholas are in Houston and all are working and have been great additions to their communities.

Of the 33 years as a Superintendent, 18 have been with Tour 18, Inc.. I have served as President of several professional organizations including Texas Turfgrass Association, Old Dominion GCSA, and Lonestar GCSA. In 1986 I became a Certified Superintendent having renewed for 5 cycles for over 25 years. In 2010 I earned my Master Greenskeepers (MG) designation from the British and International Greenskeepers Association which I received in Award Ceremonies at Harrogate in the UK last year. However, some of the most prized accomplishments were helping establish the Texas Trophy in 1985 and receiving the STGCSA Distinguished Service Award in 1988.



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Rules of the road: golf car safety and etiquette

Presented by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

Although the first golf car was invented in the late 1940s as a way for people with disabilities to get around a golf course, they have become a convenience enjoyed by millions of players. The National Golf Foundation estimates that about two-thirds of all 18-hole rounds are played with the use of a motorized golf car.

For your golf course superintendent, golf cars can present a challenge. When they are used improperly, they can cause serious damage to the course. More importantly, unsafe operation can lead to accidents and injuries.

The rules for safe operation are simple:

Golf cars should only be operated from the driver's side.

Never carry more than two occupants or allow riders on the back of the car.

Be sure your passenger is fully seated and check for obstructions before moving.

Keep your entire body – particularly your feet – inside the car when moving.

Drive slowly through turns and drive straight and slowly up and down slopes.

Set the brake when coming to a complete stop.

Use extra care when operating a golf car in reverse, or on hills, wet turf, loose surfaces or rough terrain.

Remove the key when the golf car is not in use.

Never operate a golf car when impaired by alcohol or drugs.

Golf cars do not provide protection from lightning – seek appropriate shelter if lightning is present.

For the sake of your golf course, remember that golf car traffic can cause damage to the golf course that is both unsightly and expensive to repair. Tire ruts in soft, wet areas can take weeks to heal. Compaction caused by heavy traffic can ruin the playing surface. As a result, most courses have a standard golf car policy and sometimes employ temporary restrictions due to weather, construction or other factors.

If you "drive friendly," your golf car won't impede the play of others:

Park your car behind or beside the green – never in front – to allow players behind you to hit sooner after you've finished the hole (You should generally always avoid driving a golf into the "approach" area 20 to 30 yards in front of the green.)

Stop your vehicle to avoid distracting a nearby player who is preparing to hit a shot.

Golf course superintendents only put restrictions such as "Path Only" rules in place when they feel it's necessary to protect the turf from damage. On the other hand, there are some everyday guidelines that golfers can follow to maximize their golf experience and protect the turf.

Golfers can be a big help in reducing the potential for damage to the turf from carts by simply following a few commonsense guidelines:

Never drive a golf car through standing water or on any obviously wet turf.

Never drive onto a green, collar, tee or any marked hazard.

Never drive into any area that has been recently seeded or sodded.

Avoid abrupt stops and sharp turns that cause skidding.

Spread out wear-and-tear by avoiding compacted areas.

Watch for signs or other markers that direct traffic.

Avoid driving over sprinkler heads and yardage markers.

Don't drive cars into out-of-play areas that may be environmentally sensitive (such as wildflower patches, native grass plantings and marshes).

Keep all four tires on the path whenever possible. Do not park with tires off the path.

Golfers with disabilities may be allowed access to areas not normally open to golf car traffic. Their cars are usually marked with a flag.

Golf courses located in residential areas frequently have cart paths that cross city streets. Golfers can minimize the risk of serious injury by remembering three things when crossing residential roads in their golf cars:

Golf cars can be hard for automobile drivers to see.

A person in a golf car is extremely vulnerable in an accident

It is a golfer's responsibility to watch for oncoming traffic.

Motorized golf cars aren't the only means for carrying golf bags. The USGA says the popularity of two-wheel and three-wheel pull carts is on the rise, especially as interest in health and fitness grows.

If your club permits pull carts – more than half of all private clubs allow them – are they being adequately controlled to protect the golf course? Pull carts are far lighter than motorized golf cars, but this does not mean pull carts do not damage turf. Because they are more maneuverable, golfers are more inclined to take them onto areas they would not normally drive golf cars.

Although many courses enforce the same rules for pull carts as for motorized golf cars, alternative policies can be developed. Pull carts should:

have wide wheels (three to four inches) or air-filled tires,

be kept 15 to 30 feet from the edges of tees and greens,

be directed around green-side bunkers and not be taken into the narrow gaps between greens and bunkers,

never be taken across excessively wet areas, and

not be used following periods of heavy rainfall or under persistently wet conditions.

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These articles are intended to help explain the most common golf course management practices. They can be reprinted in local golf publications, [displayed at golf facilities](#) or published on websites. A Word document is available for your convenience. Please credit GCSAA when republishing.



Golf is a game in which you yell "fore," shoot six, and write down five. ~Paul Harvey



Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of [GCSAA](#)

Programs & Progress

The Institute is now directing donor funding to support the following environmental programs and projects that provide essential golf course management solutions:

Golf Course Environmental Profile The goal of [this project](#) is to collect information on golf course properties including details about the playing surfaces, natural resources, environmental stewardship efforts and management practices. GCSAA has contracted the National Golf Foundation (NGF) to help develop and implement the survey. The survey is supported in part by a grant from [The Toro Giving Program](#).

Edge Database An online [Web-based tool](#), **EDGE** is designed to provide information related to golf and the environment. It is intended for use by a variety of audiences, including superintendents, environmentalists, law makers, golf course owners, golfers and non-golfers who seek information on environmental issues related to golf facilities. The EDGE web-based tool is supported in part by a grant from [The Toro Foundation](#).



Research The Institute currently funds 22 agronomic and environmental research projects.

Education The Institute will continue its focus on advancing new and existing GCSAA [education programs](#) by integrating key environmental content into the curriculum.

Webcast Series The Institute will continue its focus on advancing new and existing GCSAA [education programs](#) by integrating key environmental content into the curriculum. The Webcast education series features topics such as: how to conduct an environmental assessment of a golf property, and innovative recycling techniques. The Webcast series is part of the e-Learning program funded through a grant from [Agrium Advanced Technologies](#).

Scholarships The Institute will continue to fund nearly [60 scholarships](#) to support students pursuing a career in golf course management/green industry, as well as higher education in general.

Outreach The Institute will develop and implement an outreach program to communicate consistent and targeted messages about golf's positive impact on the environment. It will feature components on the environmental advancements in golf thus far, as well as the work that is continuing to ensure golf's long-term compatibility with the environment.

Environmental compatibility will, of course, continue to be a focus for the golf industry. Land use concerns, water issues and habitat availability are just a few of the challenges facing the sport. The Institute, collaborative partners and donors are taking the lead to ensure resources are dedicated to strengthening the positive bond between golf and the environment.

[GCSAA to conduct four new research projects in 2012](#)-Projects made possible by EIFG support

GCSAA recognizes Todd Stephen's of Tour 18

Congratulations to Todd Stephens of Tour 18. Todd has "earned the renewal of his CGCS designation as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. Tour 18 Houston is fortunate to have one of approximately 1,600 Certified Golf Course Superintendents. This is a significant achievement in Mr. Stephen's professional career and truly signifies professional excellence. "





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GCSAA **tv**

If you could play 18 with a foursome including anyone living or dead, who would you choose? See who superintendents would pick to be in their dream foursome.

(Note: Advertisements included in video. Length 4:27)



TECHNICIAN'S TABLE

The International Golf Course Equipment Managers Association

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*Scott Pickering,
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Auction Information

We are still taking donations for the Scholarship Tournament at High Meadow Ranch! All items, donors and prices are on the website for the public to bid. Encourage your friends and family to take a look. Rounds of golf can be won at a very fair price! To donate, email stgcsa@stgcsa.org!

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Groundwater Conservation District—sent by: Sam Brewster (TXGA)

Texas clubs need to be prepared to face water restrictions, conservation demands and increased fees imminently facing the industry. The Texas Alliance of Recreational Organizations has prepared the following information on Texas Groundwater Management Areas and Conservation Districts. To avoid being left out of the equation, golf courses need to communicate their needs to local Groundwater Conservation District.

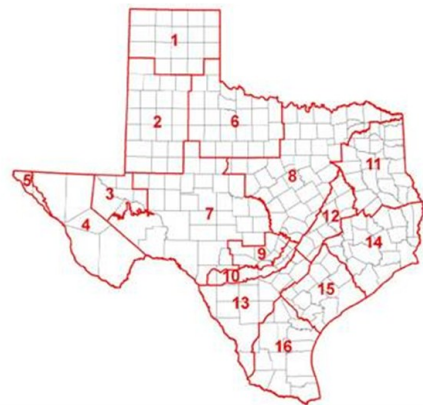
TARO strongly encourages each club to contact their Groundwater Conservation District and ask for a face to face meeting with the general manager to determine how and when they will be impacted on their water usage from groundwater sources. This will allow you to prepare and minimize any negative impact that the district may be contemplating. We know the drought the state is facing will not be eliminated in the near future and clubs clearly rely on the recreational resources they provide for their very existence.

There is good news for Texas clubs. The Texas Supreme Court recently ruled (*Edwards Aquifer Authority v. Day*) that landowners have an ownership interest in the water beneath their land, a decision that has broad implications for state water management efforts. The Court said that the government cannot restrict how landowners consume the water beneath their property without compensating them. For more information on the ruling, [CLICK HERE](#).

OVERVIEW OF MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES IN TEXAS

Texas has numerous aquifers capable of producing groundwater for households, municipalities, industry, farms, and ranches. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) recognizes 9 major aquifers – aquifers that produce large amounts of water over large areas 21 minor aquifers that produce minor amounts of water over large areas or large amounts of water over small areas. These aquifers are a critical source of water for Texas, supplying 59 percent of the 15.6 million acre-feet of water used in the state in 2003. About 79 percent of this water is used for irrigation, with irrigators withdrawing most of this water from the Ogallala Aquifer alone (82 percent of all groundwater used for irrigation, or 6.0 million acre-feet per year). About 36 percent of water used to meet municipal demands is from groundwater.

Groundwater Management Areas were created "in order to provide for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of the groundwater, and of groundwater reservoirs or their subdivisions, and to control subsidence caused by withdrawal of water from those groundwater reservoirs or their subdivisions, consistent with the objectives of Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution. The responsibility for Groundwater Management Area delineation was delegated to the Texas Water Development Board.) The initial Groundwater Management Area delineations were adopted on December 15, 2002) There are 16 Groundwater Management Areas in Texas (see map below). Each Groundwater Management Area has the following number of Groundwater Conservation Districts included within its boundaries:



Groundwater Management Area 1: 4	Groundwater Management Area 9: 9
Groundwater Management Area 2: 7	Groundwater Management Area 10: 7
Groundwater Management Area 3: 1	Groundwater Management Area 11: 5
Groundwater Management Area 4: 5	Groundwater Management Area 12: 5
Groundwater Management Area 5: 0	Groundwater Management Area 13: 9
Groundwater Management Area 6: 4	Groundwater Management Area 14: 6
Groundwater Management Area 7: 21	Groundwater Management Area 15: 14
Groundwater Management Area 8: 12	Groundwater Management Area 16: 10

Local groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) are the state's preferred method of groundwater management. GCDs are charged to manage groundwater by providing for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of the groundwater resources within their jurisdictions. GCDs can be created by one of four procedures. [Click here for full article](#).

The 2012 State Water Plan was adopted by the Texas Water Development Board on December 15, 2011, and sent to the Governor on January 5, 2012. The primary message of the 2012 State Water Plan is a simple one: In serious drought conditions, Texas does not and will not have enough water to meet the needs of its people, its businesses, and its agricultural enterprises. This plan presents the information regarding the recommended conservation and other types of water management strategies that would be necessary to meet the state's needs in drought conditions, the cost of such strategies, and estimates of the state's financial assistance that would be required to implement these strategies. The plan also presents the sobering news of the economic losses likely to occur if these water supply needs cannot be met. As the state continues to experience rapid growth and declining water supplies, implementation of the plan is crucial to ensure public health, safety, and welfare and economic development in the state. [Click here for legislative laws and rules](#).