



The Mountain State Greenletter

Volume 15, Issue 1
January 2023

West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Board of Director's Message

Happy New Year! We hope that you are getting some time to relax and that your plans for the 2023 season are coming along. Our Board recently met and we are excited about our plans and outlook for the WVGCSA this year. We have some great events coming up and are looking forward to meeting with our membership as much as possible.

First, we would like to congratulate Amber Breed on a new professional opportunity and wish her the best of luck as she begins a new chapter in her career. We also want to thank her for her dedication and willingness to stay on with our association despite her transition. She makes what we do possible!

We would also like to wish Mike Bogroff well as he heads to the annual GCSAA delegates meeting next month. Mike will be a great representative of our association and West Virginia. We appreciate Mike's willingness to serve and look forward to hearing about his experience.

We are looking forward to hosting the Spring meeting at Marietta Country Club and our Scholarship Fundraiser at Berry Hills this year and we will let you know as soon as possible once the dates are confirmed. In the meantime, enjoy the rest because the work will be here before we know it.

**Mitch Roush, President
Riverside Golf Course**

Upcoming Important Dates

Spring Meeting @ Marietta CC | Tuesday, May 9th (Tentative)

Lunch and Meeting - 11am | Golf at Noon

Cost - \$40 per person

WVGCSA Scholarship Fundraiser | Monday, June 12th

Berry Hills Country Club, Charleston

More Details to Follow

Relax. We've got this.



Country Club of Buffalo
Williamsville, New York

ASPEN CORPORATION

2400 Ritter Drive
Daniels, WV 25832
(304) 763-4573

NEW CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATION
RESTORATION



LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

A W.S. CONNELLY COMPANY

Taking you to new heights.



CORTEVA
agriscience

HydraSmart

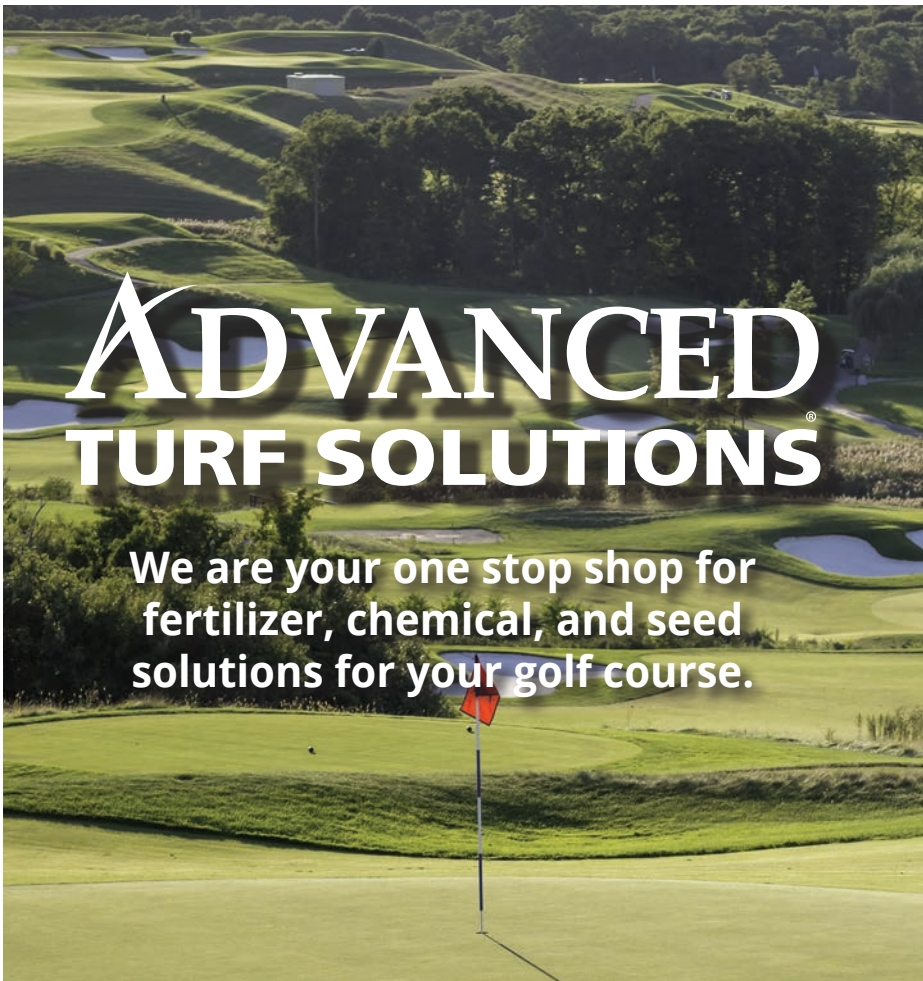
EarthWorks
A Deeper Respect

FMC



BASF
We create chemistry

www.landscapesupplyva.com



Marshall Klay

**Golf Course Sales
Representative**

mklay@advancedturf.com
(304) 909-1511



advancedturf.com

[f](#) [@](#) [@AdvancedTurf](#)

The Board was recently informed that Jerry Stutler, Little Creek CC, would be resigning as a Director because he is moving to Florida. Jerry, we want to thank you for your time serving the members of this Association and we wish you luck in Florida!

Howard Lott, Bridgeport CC, has retired and moved to Florida! Howard, we thank you for your many years serving and supporting this Association and wish you well on your retirement in sunny Florida!

Brad Ullman, Executive Director of the West Virginia Golf Association and Board Member of our Association, has announced he has accepted a position as Tournament Director for LIV Golf. Thank you for your time on the Board. Congratulations Brad and good luck!

MAXimum Plant Protection with Harrell's ProtectMAX®

Harrell's ProtectMAX® products are specifically formulated using multiple chemical groups and active ingredients to give you maximum plant protection from a range of diseases and weeds, allowing plants & turf room to grow and you room to relax.

Your plants deserve the best defense against environmental stress.

- Budget MAXimization
- Broad Activity Spectrum
- Multiple Modes of Action
- Contact and Systemic Activity
- Quality Herbicide and Fungicide Formulations

Contact your Harrell's Representative for more information!



Harrell's
Growing a Better World®

www.harrells.com | 800.282.8007
Employee-Owned

BEST SAND
A Covia Product

44 OF
TOP 100 US GOLF COURSES
RELY ON US

FIND OUT WHY

coviacorp.com/golf

How Much Damage Can Winter Play on Greens Cause?

By Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education

A mild winter day can be a great opportunity for golfers to get outside and play a few holes. For golf courses, winter play is a nice boost to the revenue stream and can improve customer satisfaction. When these conditions develop though, the age-old question, “How much damage can winter play on greens cause?” is sure to come up. Research is limited on the extent of turf injury that is possible from winter play, but it’s clear there are risks when certain conditions exist – e.g., frost, saturated soil or thawing conditions. Even a handful of golfers walking on the greens in these conditions could cause some damage.

Spirited debates about the risks associated with allowing golfers to play on the greens during winter have occurred for decades and are likely to continue for years to come. When determining if the greens should be closed for play during winter, focusing on the agronomic reasons is crucial, but it’s also important to consider the key reasons why golfers want to play during the offseason.

Golfers love to get on the course during winter because it gives them an opportunity to work on their swing, get outdoors and exercise. Most recognize that courses aren’t going to be in peak shape in winter, so expectations for playability are lower. Basically, winter golfers are just happy to be able to play some golf and hit shots.

Most courses can accommodate winter golfers without taking on much risk by using temporary greens when conditions warrant. Temporary greens virtually eliminate the potential for traffic stress on greens, which means they should be in good shape for the peak season when conditions matter most.

When the greens are dry and firm under foot during winter, some superintendents feel that the potential for turf damage is low and open them for play. Every course is different and must decide for themselves what’s the best approach to managing winter play on the greens. The risks might be minimal but allowing play on greens during winter certainly won’t improve playing conditions in spring and summer.

If you allow play on greens during winter, closely monitor turf conditions throughout winter and early spring. Note the play volume, weather conditions and soil moisture levels regularly. Take pictures of the greens often to help document the impact of winter play and compare that information with spring and summer performance. We may never be able to answer the question, “How much damage can winter play on greens cause?” but with course-specific information you’ll be better equipped to decide when play should be restricted to temporary greens.

Northeast Region Agronomists:

Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education – amoeller@usga.org

Darin Bevard, senior director, Championship Agronomy – dbevard@usga.org

Elliott L. Dowling, senior consulting agronomist – edowling@usga.org



Temporary greens reduce the potential for turf damage on the primary greens while providing golfers a chance to play during winter.



**FROM INDUSTRY STAPLES TO
THE LATEST INNOVATIONS,**

Walker Supply Inc. has the quality products
you need and the local expertise
you desire in a supply partner.


FERTILIZER PESTICIDES SOIL AMENDMENTS SEED POND PRODUCTS ICE MELT



WALKER SUPPLY INC.
TURF & ORNAMENTAL SUPPLIER SINCE 1991

800.792.5537

WWW.WALKERSUPPLYINC.COM



Immediate knockdown.
Long residual.
Spotless fairways.

*Keep your fairways
dollar-spotless
for up to 28 days.*

Visit betterturf.basf.us for details,
and get clean fairways your players will love.

 **BASF**
We create chemistry

Always read and follow label directions.
Xzemplar is a registered trademark of BASF. © 2016 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved.