



The Mountain State Greenletter

Volume 16, Issue 3
March 2024

West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Board of Director's Message

I'm sure by now that your Spring agenda is in full swing – aeration complete, blades sharp and sprayers full. At the Association, we're busy planning for this year's Scholarship and Research Fundraiser to be held on Monday, June 10th at Canaan Valley Resort. This is a big event for us and funds the special work that we do for our members and our industry. We rely on the support of our vendors and membership to make this possible, so I challenge each of you to bring a team from your course and to consider the sponsorship opportunities. It is always a great day for a great cause spent in the company of members, vendors and friends of the West Virginia Golf Course Superintendent's Association. Please plan to be there.

For those of you who know Riverside, you know Bobby Greene - a beloved member of the Riverside family who has worked for us for over 50 years. Earlier this month he suffered a serious medical event and is still recovering in the hospital. His unexpected illness sent shock waves through our lives. Not only were we personally worried about our dear friend, but we were caught off guard by the effect of his absence on our company's operation. We're anxiously awaiting his return home but obviously don't expect him to return to his 7 day a week work schedule. It's a common mistake in business to take our employees for granted and to assume that things will continue as they've always been but, unfortunately, that isn't true. I encourage you to consider who your Bobby Greene's are, make sure they know they're appreciated and prepare for how you'll react if they aren't always there.

Happy Spring and I hope to see you soon!

Mitch Roush
President, Riverside Golf Course

*WVGCSA Spring Meeting
Monday, May 6 at Oglebay Resort, Wheeling
11am - Lunch and meeting
12pm - Golf on Jones Course
Cost - \$45 for lunch and golf
Please RSVP to Amber Breed by April 30th!*

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Upcoming Events:

Spring Meeting ~ Oglebay Resort ~ May 6, 2024

WVGCSA Fundraiser Event ~ Canaan Valley Resort ~ June 10, 2024

Fall Meeting ~ Pete Dye Golf Club ~ October 15, 2024

WVGCSA Turf Conference ~ Coonskin Park & Mardi Gras Casino ~ November 12-13, 2024

**WVGCSA Fundraiser
Canaan Valley Resort
Monday, June 10, 2024**

Room Reservation Info: \$109 per night (Reservation for Sunday, June 9)

Booking link: <https://www.canaanresort.com/book-now?pid=23269>

Group ID Code: 10573F

You can also book by calling 304 866 4121 ext. 7701

What's Cooking in the Turf Oven?

By Brian Gietka, agronomist, East Region

Although I have yet to see widespread winter injury in my travels, isolated pockets occur nearly every year and it is a common concern on golf courses throughout the Northeast. Turfgrasses in northern areas are susceptible to four abiotic types of winter injury: crown hydration, direct low-temperature injury, ice encasement and desiccation. The type of injury observed will vary depending on location and winter weather conditions. If the golf course is perfectly healthy when it goes dormant and key areas never wake up, it can be frustrating. Traffic often needs to be restricted on injured areas and the course may even need to close completely during recovery efforts. Although waiting for warmer temperatures to stimulate growth is necessary for recovery, assessing winter injury can be expedited.

Golfers and golf course maintenance staff want to know how the turf will come out of winter dormancy. Bringing a selection of turf plugs into warmer temperatures will stimulate growth and induce spring greenup or confirm the worst – that winterkill has occurred. One way to assess viability of plugs is to create a climate-controlled space with grow lights. I have seen simple setups consisting of plastic tubs with heat lamps to more sophisticated multilevel growth tents with thermostat-controlled temperatures. Even placing plugs on a sunny windowsill can work and help give you peace of mind, or alert you to a potential problem. When taking plugs from the golf course inside to the growth chamber, keep the plugs moist by watering frequently. Knowing if there's damage is what's important. That information will assist in planning and communicating to golfers what to expect during recovery.

Warm-season grasses generally require continuous nighttime air temperatures of at least 60 degrees F to induce any signs of spring greenup, with growth resuming when soil temperatures reach about 65 F. Cool-season grasses can start to green-up at much lower soil temperatures, as low as 50 F.

If the plugs from areas of concern break dormancy, then the waiting game becomes more palatable. If the plugs do not break dormancy, then planning for recovery can begin. Making sure putting green covers are on hand to stimulate growth and having seed and/or sod ready to go should take precedence. In addition, communicating what spring playing conditions will be like to golfers is highly recommended. Knowing that there are some weak or thin areas ahead of time and that a plan is in place to fix them can help ease concerns. If you have experienced winter injury, a regional USGA agronomist can assist with managing expectations at your course and developing a plan for recovery. Northeast Region Agronomists

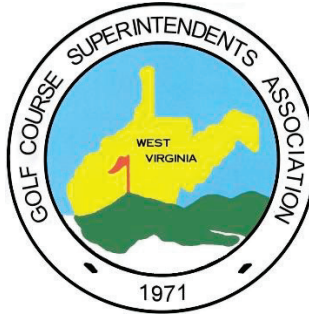
Darin Bevard, senior director, Championship Agronomy – dbevard@usga.org

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Brian Gietka, agronomist – bgietka@usga.org



A temperature-controlled space and grow lights can warm up turf plugs and show whether winter injury has struck at your facility.



The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association
presents the 39th Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

Canaan Valley Resort – Davis, WV

Monday, June 10th, 2024

Registration 9:00 am | Shotgun Start 11:00 am

Format: 4-person scramble with no minimum Handicap

Special Club rate of \$600 per 4-person team

This must include 4 members from one Club or Resort

(Superintendent, Owners, Managers, Assistants, Golf Pros, Spray Tech or Mechanics, etc.)

Entry Form

\$700 per team (\$600 for club teams) includes: *Closest to the Hole, Longest Putt, Longest Drive & 50/50 Contests, Boxed Lunch & 8 beverage Tickets provided for on the course. Hats will be given for the tee gift this year! Cash bar and cook out following golf.*

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Golf Team Name _____

Player # 1 _____ Email _____

Player # 2 _____ Email _____

Player #3 _____ Email _____

Player #4 _____ Email _____

ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 36 TEAMS. PAYMENTS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM. *PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 28th*

Make checks payable to “**WVGCSA**” and return to:

WVGCSA | PO Box 335 | Charleston, WV 25322

Call Tony Coppa for Questions at (304)280-0034

If paying by credit card, please email Amber Breed at 1971wvgcsa@gmail.com



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The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

presents the 39th Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

Canaan Valley Resort – Davis, WV

Monday, June 10, 2024

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support.

Gold Sponsor-\$1000

4 Person team entry, Name on Major Sponsor Sign, Tee Sponsor Sign, & Ad in Newsletter

Silver Sponsor-\$850

4 Person Team Entry, Name on Lunch Sponsor Sign, & Tee Sponsor Sign

Bronze Sponsor-\$750

4 Person Team Entry & Tee Sponsor Sign

Gold Sponsor wishing to add more than one team will receive a discounted price of \$600 for each additional team!

Sponsorship will help to provide Lunch, Beverage Cart, and Cook Out at the final reception. Your continued support is crucial to the success of the fundraiser.

All Corporate Sponsors must be received by June 1, 2024. We would like to thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact me at (304)280-0034.

Thank You, Tony Coppa
Fundraiser Chairman



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TEE SPONSOR FORM

The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association will be holding their 39th Annual William C. Campbell Scholarship and Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament on Monday, June 10th, 2024 at Canaan Valley Resort.

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support. We will once again be offering hole sponsorships for you to consider. Each hole sponsor will have their sign clearly displayed on a tee, as well as displayed on the Sponsor Board during the event. With your continued support, we can make this year's event our most productive ever as well as great fun for all involved.

If you would like to change the verbiage on last year's tee sign or if you are a new sponsor, please include your verbiage below. Please, no more than 4 words allowed per line.

Line #1 _____

Line #2 _____

Line #3 _____

Line #4 _____

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

Company _____

(If different from above)

Number of Holes sponsored _____ @ \$100.00 for 1st sign & \$50.00 for additional tee signs \$ _____ Total Sponsor

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