

July Meeting

Joint Meeting with Philadelphia AGCS

Regents Glen Country Club

July 15, 2002

10:15 AM - Speaker

11:00 AM - Lunch

12:30 PM - Shotgun

5:30 PM - Cocktails/Hors'devours

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting at 8:30 AM.

Superintendent Profile

Ryan Freed is the Superintendent of Regents Glen Country Club. After graduating from Penn State he became the assistant superintendent at Springfield. After 4 wonderful years under Jim Simpson, Ryan decided to return back to York County in 2001. Ryan became the assistant superintendent at Regents Glen and in 2002 was promoted to Superintendent.

Golf Course Profile

Regents Glen Country Club is an Arthur Hill design. The course was constructed in 1997 and opened in 1998. The course plays 6,200 from the blue tees. The rating and slope are 70.2 and 126 respectively.

1000 Golf Club Drive
York, PA 17403
Phone: 717-505-4653
Regentsglen.com

Golf Attire - No jeans

Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

Anthracnose Returns with a Vengeance!

By Darin S. Bevard, Agronomist
updated 6-4-02

Early last spring anthracnose was very active on putting greens throughout much of Pennsylvania, northern Delaware, and in other parts of the Mid-Atlantic Region. However, early this spring, anthracnose has been more of a nuisance than a significant problem on greens. That is, until this past week. No less than seven golf courses have contacted the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists to ask questions about controlling anthracnose on greens.

Continuous scouting is a very important part of suppressing this disease. Once anthracnose is observed, aggressive control measures should begin immediately. Unfortunately, very little has changed regarding anthracnose control. Any cultural programs that place unnecessary stress on the turf should be suspended while the disease is active. These include verticutting, grooming, and light topdressing. If possible, mowing heights should be raised for the benefit of the turf. Spoonfeeding nitrogen fertilizers should be performed on a weekly basis to aid in putting green quality recovery and to promote creeping bentgrass. Fungicide treatment intervals also must be shortened to as little as seven days to suppress anthracnose. A disease fact sheet is available from the Mid-Atlantic Region office.

Hyperodes weevils (annual bluegrass weevil) have been causing significant damage on *Poa annua* in collars and on fairway edges. This insect pest is expanding its range every year in the Mid-Atlantic Region. *Hyperodes* continue to move further south and west in Pennsylvania. The biggest problem

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President's Message

Congratulations to you guys in Dauphin, Perry, Wayne, Bucks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties for being out of the drought emergency status...just when it appears to be getting very dry. For the rest of us, we'll keep struggling along here and wallowing in our misery! As my kids would say, *"That's not fair!!"*

The June meeting at Moselem Springs was a huge success with a record turnout! What a beautiful "away from it all" facility! Corky Knoll and his crew had the wonderfully laid out Fazio course in perfect shape and the weather couldn't have been better. I have to admit that in addition to a great lunch, I didn't expect the so-called "snacks" afterward. Thank you again, Corky, for making those arrangements!

I had the opportunity to check out Caves Valley during Monday's practice round for the Senior Open. It is hard to visit a course like that (seeing weedless, diseaseless roughs amongst other things) without enviously saying, *"What a little money could buy!!"* I then returned to my course Tuesday morning to see roughs inundated with dollar spot, brown patch and every other disease known to man simply because we cannot afford to spray those areas consistently. We all know that sometimes it can be a difficult task explaining things like that to our memberships, but that's what makes our jobs fun, right?!

Well anyway, the wilting grass is calling. We have another great joint meeting with Philly coming up at Regents Glen on July 15th. If you weren't able to make it there last year, you don't know what you missed. I'll see you there and I'm sure there will be many new things to talk about!

Bill Brooks

Directions to Regents Glen Country Club

From The South

- Take I-83 north to Exit 15 (S. George St. - Business 83). Turn left at first traffic light. Follow Country Club Rd. to the second light at Richland Avenue, then continue straight through the light. Do not follow Country Club up the hill to the left, you will continue straight onto what appears to be an access road, then you will come to the gated entrance for Regents' Glen. Go through the gates and follow straight to where you must make a left. Follow up hill to the stop sign and make a left onto Copper Beech, the road will bear left, you will see a brick building and parking lot on the right. The entrance to the Club is to the front.

From the North

- Take I-83 south to Exit 16B (West Queen St.). Follow Queen St. to third traffic light (Rathton Rd.) and make a left. Go straight through light at S. George St. (road becomes Country Club). Follow Country Club Rd. to second light at Richland Avenue, then continue straight through the light. Follow underlined directions above to the club.

From the East

- Take Rte. 30 west to 83 south. Take I-83 south to Exit 16B (West Queen St.). Follow Queen St. to third traffic light (Rathton Rd.) and make a left. Go straight through light at S. George St. (road becomes Country Club). Follow Country Club Rd. to second light at Richland Avenue, then continue straight through the light. Follow underlined directions above to the club.

From the West

- Take Rte. 462 (W. Market St.) from Rte. 30. Turn right on Richland Ave. and make a right at the red light after the underpass onto Country Club Rd. Continue to the right, do not follow Country Club Road up the hill. Follow underlined directions above to the club.

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Membership News

The following individuals have applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, they will be accepted into CPGCSA at the next meeting.

Jason Bell, Assistant Superintendent
Bent Creek Country Club..... Class C

Kirby Fitzingo, Assistant Superintendent
Bent Creek Country Club..... Class C

Ronald Garrison, Superintendent
Fox Hill Country Club Class A

Charlie Koennecker, Jr., Sales Representative
United Horticultural Supply..... Class AF

We would like to welcome the following individuals into our association.

Dale Andrew, Sales Representative
Finch Turf Equipment..... Class AF

Ryan Freed, Superintendent
Regent's Glen Country Club..... Class B

Andy Grove, Assistant Superintendent
Gettysburg Country Club Class C

John Howe, Sales Representative
Four Seasons Fertilizer &
Codorus Fertilizer Service..... Class AF

Paul McMahon, Irrigation Design Associate
HydroDesigns Inc. Class AF

Raymond Zelek, Sales Associate
Tuckahoe Sand & Gravel Co. Class AF

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Tom Kintzer, Blue Mt. View Golf Course (717) 861-5722.

CPGCSA Annual Family Picnic

Saturday, October 5, 2002
12:00 Noon—5:00 PM
Creekview Park

Penn State's Turf and Ag Equipment Certification Program

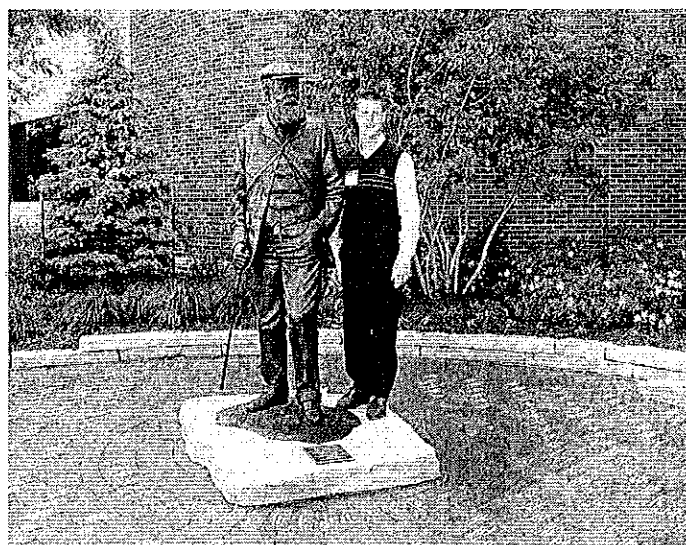
The turfgrass and agricultural equipment industries report shortages of qualified technicians wanting and able to work in the industry. The Engine and Equipment Training Council (EETC) estimates a shortage of 30,000 qualified technicians and admonishes schools do their part to meet this need.

Penn State's Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering is offering a 2-year certification program in Turfgrass and Agricultural Equipment Service (TAE). Starting October of 2002, the TAE program will provide mechanical and managerial skills that will make graduates a valuable asset to golf courses, ag. equipment dealers, lawn and garden equipment suppliers, and others in need of skilled service technicians.

In addition to conventional equipment subjects such as fluid power, electrical systems, electronics, reel grinding, power and power transmission the students will also receive training in inventory control, machinery management, business applications, and oral and written communications.

The TAE program format caters to those interested in improving their careers and furthering their education but who are not interested in a conventional two or four-year college degree. Classes meet eight weeks in the fall and eight weeks in the spring for two years, allowing the student to participate in on-the-job experience for the majority of the year.

For more information on this new program, please contact Dr. James Hilton at 814-863-1817 or email jwh2@psu.edu. Additional information can also be gained by viewing our website at www.age.psu.edu/tae.



Pete Ramsey by the Old Tom Morris Statue at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas while attending Chapter Leadership Conference

USGA Update.....cont'd from page 1

with *Hyperodes* is that many superintendents cannot identify these insects or the damage they cause. *Hyperodes* damage is often attributed to disease, drought stress, or the loss of vigor of *Poa annua* after seedhead formation.

When you notice discolored patches where *Poa annua* is damaged, but bentgrass or other cool-season grasses are healthy, remove a plug of turf to see if *Hyperodes* larvae are present at the thatch-soil interface. *Hyperodes* larvae are about the size of a piece of rice. Adult weevils can often be found in the same area as the larvae. Problems are usually most severe near wooded areas, especially where pine straw is present. Adults over-winter in the pine straw. If you see discolored *Poa annua*, especially in fairways or collars, check for annual bluegrass weevil.

Rainfall has been sporadic throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Some areas have received two or three inches of rain from isolated thunderstorms while other areas have had no rain for almost two weeks. In areas where water restrictions have been imposed, signs of drought stress in rough and even fairway turf are beginning to show in areas that have not received any recent rains.

More consistent warm temperatures have perked up bermudagrass in the southern part of the region to the delight of golfers and superintendents alike. Conversely, in some of the wetter and cooler areas, cool season brown patch has been prolific. This is especially true in the Pittsburgh area. Do not confuse cool season brown patch with anthracnose or summer patch. As soon as temperatures warm and things dry out, this disease should subside.

The variety of weather across our five state region has been unbelievable! The biggest wild card for turfgrass maintenance in the Transition Zone will always be the weather.

As always, if the agronomists of the Mid-Atlantic region can be of any assistance at all, contact either Stan Zontek szontek@usga.org or Darin Bevard dbevard@usga.org at 610-696-4747 or Keith Happ khapp@usga.org at 412-341-5922.



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Heather and Gorse

By Mark V. DelSantro, CGCS

Gentlemen, nothing personal, but I love the smell of Rhizoctonia in the morning! Considering that it appears following a relatively cool and wet spring, summer has finally reared its ugly head in the form of 90+ degree days and 70+ degree nights, this is the first ever pest alert edition of heather and gorse. In unison now, can we all say P-Y-T-H-I-U-M?

Contrary to what some of you might think, it's not like all of us on the darkside kneel next to our beds every evening and pray for hot and humid nights. The fact of the matter is that many of us pray for hot humid days as well! OK, I'm just kidding... the real truth is that us darksiders pray for hot and humid days and nights on a 24/7 basis! It's nothing personal, it's just business!!!

Prior to this week (6/24/02), the only diseases I've observed in the field have included the standard springtime mix... Take-All Patch has been running rampant at a higher than average rate throughout the region. Additionally, Yellow Patch, Pink Patch, Red Thread, Pink Snow Mold and of course, Dollar Spot have all been present and accounted for in varying degrees.

Speaking of everyone's new favorite pain in the patella... is it me or does it seem like today's Dollar Spot simply isn't the same animal it used to be? Much of the Dollar Spot I've seen in the field just seems different... the spots seems more compact and much more vicious. It's like an African Killer Bee version of the pathogen... while it seems to resemble our grandfather's old dollar spot, the similarities end there. Is it possible that there is a more aggressive strain of this normally easy-to-handle pathogen that has been moving through the region over the past three to five years or is it simply related to the changes in the intensity of our golf course management strategies? Whatever the root of this evil, it seems like "super" Dollar Spot is here to stay, at least until we can figure out the causal agents and then formulate a reasonable control strategy.

Speaking of evil... there are many golf courses that have been fighting/experiencing Anthracnose (both on Poa and Bent). The problem is that this pathogen seems to have no clear-cut pattern to its development. In fact, if anything, it seems to be quite the opposite. Many of the superintendents who raised the cutting heights and fertilized more in an effort to reduce the stress and prevent any onslaught, still have experienced some degree of outbreak. I've always joked that the problem with fungi is that they tend not to read textbooks... when attempting to figure out Anthracnose, think about any of the major turf diseases and then throw out all reason and accountability!

The other talk on the street pertaining to Anthracnose concerns seasonal activity. I've heard many superintendents claim that this disease seems to disappear as soon as the standard summertime conditions prevail. To add to the credibility of this urban legend, I know more than one Turf PhD's who would agree with this tendency. Talk about your standard case of funky-cold-medina!

While I've never, to my knowledge, had to fight this pathogen, my take on Anthracnose is that anytime you're competing against a player that has consistently failed to produce any repeatable behavioral pattern over the course of the past three years and yet has the ability to take you down at almost any time regardless of your preparation... do whatever you can do to balance plant health and acceptable playability, and more importantly, keep your resume updated. Let-me-tell-you-man, from what I've seen and heard, this disease is the real deal! As a superintendent I always considered myself a superior strategist, especially under intense pressure, but how can anyone formulate a defense strategy against something that statistically makes no sense (maybe I should consult my broker)? Especially when the only fungicide proven to have even remote curative tendencies now has annual acreage limits. Considering the evilness of this player, maybe joining the darkside wasn't such a bad gig after all!

As of the first official day of summer, the disease landscape seemed to shift towards a more normal mid-year pattern. Timely thunderstorms, accompanying a four-day stretch of oppressive heat, have given way to the years' first severe Pythium and Brown Patch outbreaks. Additionally, there have been rumors of Summer Patch on some of the Poa annua patches through out the Central Penn region. As one superintendent recently put it... "It's time to break out the snow skis, there's white stuff covering the turf every morning everywhere you look!"

One additional word of advice based on what I've seen and heard... while I wholly understand the time consumption involved with spraying the greens, tees, and especially fairways... a lot of superintendents (especially the younger ones) seem to be putting together "super" tank mixes, which in many cases contain not just fungicides, insecticides, and PGR's, but fertilizers (and even herbicides) as well. Well gents (and ladies), with all due respect, when tank mixing, do yourself a favor and practice K.I.S.S. theory (this stands for "keep it simple stupid," for those of you who have had your heads buried in a bunker), especially when it comes to the tank mixing with fertilizers.

It's semi-common knowledge and more common sense that pesticide solutions seem to perform best when the pH is slightly acidic (ideal pH = 6.5). Adding fertilizers to a tank will almost always cause the solution pH to move either one direction or the other depending on the fertilizer product. Additionally, most fertilizers tend to increase the solutions' salt concentration, which, depending on the products involved, their quantities, and their reactivity, can adversely affect the fungitoxicity of many products. Read my lips... while I'm not saying never, it's simply a good management practice not to do it unless you have a very good comprehension of all the products involved in the mix and how they interact.

Well, that does for the inaugural pest alert heather and gorse issue. Besides, I'm sure you're all tired of hearing about the fungus among us, as well as what you shouldn't do, even though you want to, because you really don't want to do it more than once a week. Start the calendar clocks boys and girls, only 66 more days until Labor Day. That's my hot and humid, evil, KISS'ing, and fungitoxic point of view from the heather and gorse.

Speaker Profile

The speaker for the July meeting at Regents Glen Country Club is Richard Buckley. His topic will be "Plant Diagnostic Lab Highlights".

Mr. Buckley is the Coordinator of the Plant Diagnostic Laboratory at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Born and raised in Delaware, he received his BS in Entomology and Plant Pathology from the University of Delaware. An MS in Turfgrass Pathology from Rutgers, lead to his current position in the Plant Diagnostic Laboratory. In addition to his responsibilities as Laboratory Coordinator, Mr. Buckley is an instructor in the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School teaching courses in diseases and insect pests of turfgrass and ornamental plants. He is also a frequent lecturer and invited speaker on disease and insect pest problems in turf and ornamentals, plant problem solving, and pest management techniques.

ASGCA Offers One-Day Golf Course Reviews

Members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) are available to spend a day reviewing a golf course and then providing a written analysis without obligation. The only cost is a donation to the ASGCA Foundation.

"We found that many people attending our Remodeling University seminars were interested in having a member visit their course and make specific recommendations on what needed to be done," ASGCA President Jay Morrish stated, "so we decided to formalize a one-day visit process that would provide the course with definite ideas for a remodeling plan. The ASGCA member will forego his/her normal fee for this service in return for a donation to our Foundation."

The offer applies to both public and private courses, and Morrish hopes that many municipally-owned courses will take advantage of the opportunity to have a qualified ASGCA member analyze their facility.

To request a visit, or learn more about the process, please contact the American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601. Or, call 312-373-7090. You can learn more about the society, which is comprised of leading golf course architects in the US and Canada, by visiting the organization's web site at www.asgca.org.

CPGCSA Merchandise

There will be CPGCSA logo merchandise available for purchase at the July meeting at Regents Glen Country Club.

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Wind shirts	\$40.00
Hats	\$10.00

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Government Relations

From GCSAA Greens & Grassroots

The Dept. of Environmental Protection will host six public meetings on July 8, 10 and 11 to discuss the Commonwealth's Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Reduction Strategy, which aims to reduce nutrient loadings in the Chesapeake Bay by 40 percent. EPA staff will provide an update on efforts to understand and model nutrient loads being delivered to the Chesapeake Bay, and discuss the development of revised nutrient and sediment goals, which are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Notice of Public Meetings:

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/hosting/pawatersheds/chesapeakebay/news/pubmeetg.htm>

Equipment For Sale

Please contact Curtis King at (610) 593-2600 for information on the following:

- Brand new VTII Controllers and Central

We will continue to advertise "used equipment" and "equipment wanted" in each newsletter. If you have anything that may be of interest, please contact Wanda to place your ad FREE!!

A Golf Ball

Inside a golf ball is a thin rubber band, stretched longer than the Titanic. The stretched thread exerts a force on the inner core of the ball exceeding 7,500 pounds—the weight of a large car. The energy stored inside is enough to raise an average man two feet off the ground.

The little dimples surrounding a golf ball are there to give it lift. The average depth of a dimple is about thirteen thousandths of an inch. If it were only one-tenth of that depth, the ball's flight would be cut in half.

Next time you're chatting with your golf buddies, ask them how many dimples there are on a single golf ball. Conservatives guess around 100, progressives will venture around 200. (There are actually 332.)

Things Your Mother Never Told You

- "How on earth can you see the TV sitting so far back?"
- "It's okay, honey, I used to skip school a lot, too."
- "Leave all the lights on. It makes the house look cheery."
- "Let me smell your shirt—yeah, it's good for another week."
- "Sure you can keep that stray dog. After all, it followed you home. I'll feed and walk him every day for you."
- "If Timmy's mom says it's okay, that's good enough for me."
- "The curfew is just a general time to shoot for. I'm not running a prison around here."
- "I don't have a tissue with me—just use your sleeve."
- "Go ahead, honey—all the other kids are doing it."



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Past Presidents Message

By John Gehman

There have been many newspaper and magazine articles written about Butter Valley since it's conception in 1967. All of them asking my Pop, "What ever made you decide to build a golf course?" I think, if Pop was going to be completely honest, it was because he didn't do his homework, he didn't really know what he was getting himself into. Things were a bit different in the late '60's. There weren't too many golf courses around at that time. On any given Sunday morning, after church, he would drive by one of the few that did exist, and see the parking lot filled to capacity. Pop is no dummy. He knew, from his farming experience, that a milk tank filled to capacity equated to a fair income that week. It seemed reasonable assumption that since the golf course parking lots were full to capacity, they must be doing pretty well. The only flaw in this picture is that he only had time to do these investigations on Sunday mornings, after church. It is becoming evident, that 30 years later, feasibility studies are still being conducted in much the same manner.

It's been about 8 years since I attended a management conference where Arnold Palmer was the keynote speaker. Mr. Palmer's speech centered on "The Future of Golf". His talk was well presented and consistent with what I was already observing... "The future of golf does not lie in the creation of new courses, it lies in the creation of new customers". Golf schools and full service learning centers are what will keep this industry thriving. In the years since that conference, I'm still waiting for the first real learning center to establish itself in this area, while new courses are popping up everywhere.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain conventional funding for new construction. At least one major local bank has stated they are not interested in funding new golf course construction. And Bank of America, the nation's leading golf construction lender, has pulled out of that market. "But everybody says that golf is booming". Nationally, according to the latest statistics from the National Golf Foundation, total annual rounds played since the early 90's has remained flat. Total number of golf courses has...well, just look around. The most recent statistics showed a marginal play increase except for the Mid-Atlantic States, which was down slightly. Couple that information with the survey results that show this same geographic region to be the second least expensive place in the country to play the game, and you have a good case study for a course in Economics 101...

Since writing the above article, the situation hasn't changed, New courses have opened with more in the planning. We are realizing too that competition is coming at us from all directions. A parent can't play golf if the kids have a soccer game, which they all do. And as noted by Jim Jones at last month's meeting, "you can't find a parking space at Home Depot on a Saturday morning. You can find them at the golf courses though. Yet, the popular misconception is that golf courses are gold mines.

Running a golf course operation means 'the buck stops here.' I just wish it would 'get' here more often. It now takes a 'business manager' to run a golf course effectively. And we don't have many of them in this industry. Oh, there are plenty of people in that position, but not a whole lot who are truly good at it. Even management companies are not immune. American Golf is a good one for independents to steal ideas from. Then there's Gotham Golf Partners who appear to have more money than brains. I look around at my neighboring competitors, and we're all in the same boat. The family farm is now the family golf course. We moved from the milking parlor to the proshop with little training or experience in such things as personnel management, marketing, customer relations or financial analysis. I can't speak for my peers, but all too often I feel like I'm spinning my wheels and going backwards.

Owners and investors may be waking up to the need for sound advice. Superintendents are being given expanded rolls in the overall 'business' of running golf courses. I hope GCSAA expands their educational offerings in the business management areas. Possession of golf business knowledge could open new doors, or more firmly secure the position, for many who are feeling the pressure of a saturated golf course superintendent market. Economic survival of independent golf courses will depend directly on how the 'business' is managed and the reaction, or better yet proaction, to competitive pressures. Golf's future will need the influence of industry people who know the business from the inside, and have the visionary perspective to see opportunities in a changing market. ...which you may not see if your only view is from the Heather and Gorse.

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the August newsletter, please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to cpgesa@nbn.net by July 19, 2002.

Please contact Wanda with any employment or address changes, so that we can keep our records up to date.

Golf Results

Beautiful day....beautiful golf course....excellent conditioning....good food....good friends....doesn't get much better than that!

Even though my journey was 2 hours and 45 minutes, it was well worth it! I'd do it again tomorrow.

The only problem we encountered was a computer glitch that kept us from knowing the Callaway results. Oh well, it that is our biggest problem then we are very fortunate.

Gross Winners

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Bob Mogel | 73 |
| 2. Tony Grieco | 75 |
| 3. Scott Wentling | 76 |
| 4. Steve Ehrhart | 77 |

Callaway Winners

- | |
|-------------------|
| 1. Dr. Jim Murphy |
| 2. Joe Sellers |
| 3. Dave Visocan |
| 4. Jeff Fry |

Closet to the Pin

- | | |
|-----|--------------|
| #5 | Joe Sellers |
| #15 | Bill Rahling |

July's meeting at Regents Glen will be Best net ball two-some. We will also have a little competition against the Philly Association for bragging rights.

Faron Stoops, Golf Chairman

**If you are setting up a golfing group or partner prior to a meeting, please be sure to list your preferred partner/partners on the reservation form. Many of our hosting courses prefer to have this information in advance. Thanks for your help.

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Governor Schweiker Lifts Drought Emergency In Six Counties, Returns 14 Counties To Normal Status

14 counties remain in drought emergency Governor urges Pennsylvanians to continue to conserve water

HARRISBURG (June 14) -- Gov. Mark Schweiker today lifted the drought emergency for six counties and restored 14 other counties to normal status.

Dauphin, Perry and Wayne counties have been upgraded to drought-watch status, which calls on residents to voluntarily conserve 5 percent of their daily water usage. Bucks, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties have been upgraded to drought-warning status, which calls on residents to voluntarily conserve 10 percent to 15 percent of their daily water usage.

"Recent rains and water-conservation efforts have led to some improvement in water conditions in parts of the state," Gov. Schweiker said. "While I am pleased to announce that I am lifting mandatory water restrictions for six counties, I must stress that the drought is not over and that 14 counties remain in a drought emergency."

Fourteen counties -- Adams, Bedford, Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Northampton, Schuylkill and York -- remain in drought-emergency status and should continue to follow mandatory water restrictions on non-essential water use.

Fourteen counties -- Bradford, Centre, Columbia, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Union and Wyoming -- have been removed from drought warning and watch status and are returned to normal status.

Gov. Schweiker first declared a drought emergency on Feb. 12 for 24 counties in response to dangerously low groundwater levels in Southcentral and Eastern Pennsylvania. He extended the emergency for 20 counties on May 8.

A drought emergency, the third and most severe stage of the three drought declarations, imposes mandatory restrictions on non-essential water use and must be declared by the Governor. A drought warning, the second stage of drought, calls for a 10 percent to 15 percent voluntary reduction in water consumption. A drought watch, the first and least severe stage, calls for a voluntary 5 percent reduction of non-essential water use.

In a drought emergency, mandatory water-use restrictions include strict limitations on the watering of lawns, athletic fields, golf courses and the washing of automobiles; not serving water in eating places unless requested by the customer; and closing down of indoor and outdoor ornamental fountains, waterfalls, and ornamental pools unless they are needed to sustain aquatic life.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Secretary David E. Hess said the drought underscores the need for the state to address long-term water-resources issues.

"Currently, we don't have a full-time program to evaluate the status of Pennsylvania's water resources and promote the efficient use of water," Secretary Hess said. "We need to develop long-term water-use strategies as part of a comprehensive approach to better manage our precious water resources. That is the main reason for Gov. Schweiker's initiative that calls for water-resources legislation."

Secretary Hess said that drought-emergency conditions have occurred in parts of Pennsylvania in five of the past seven years. He also noted that the State Water Plan has not been updated in more than 25 years.

Gov. Schweiker's water-resources legislative initiative is based on input DEP collected from more than 1,700 citizens at 15 water forums held in 2001.

For more information, visit the PA PowerPort at www.state.pa.us, PA Keyword: "drought."

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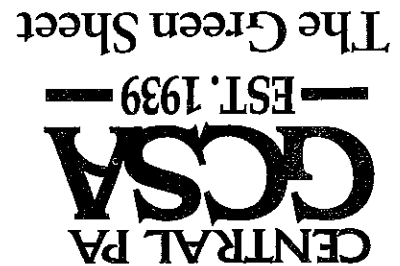
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Mark Your Calendars!

Central Penn GCSA
has scheduled the following
GCSAA Chapter-Hosted seminars for
2003.

January 23

Effective Uses of Soil Amendments in Golf
Course Management

January 24

The Microbiology of Turfgrass Soils

2002 CPGCSA Meeting Dates

July 15	Regents Glen Country Club Mark MacDonald Joint Meeting with Philadelphia
August 12	Lehigh Country Club John Chassard Meeting with Central, Philadelphia, and Pocono Associations
September 17	Butter Valley Golf Port John Gehman Golf Championship
October 15	Pine Meadows Golf Complex Randy Super Annual Meeting