


2009 GCSAA EDUCATION CONFERENCE AND THE GOLF INDUSTRY SHOW

Environmental Planning and Your Golf Course

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Environmental Planning and Your Golf Course



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Speaker's Background

- ❖ Environmental project manager for golf courses
- ❖ 30-Years of experience as a Golf Course Superintendent – most recently in Texas
- ❖ Successfully completed and operated three (3) grow-ins
- ❖ Organized numerous renovations from greens and bunkers to new irrigation systems
- ❖ Goal: to develop significant relationships with the members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, Vendors and Golf Course Superintendent Associations

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The Environmental Process

- Riding the Course
 - 1st Tee
 - Tee Markers
 - Surface
 - Wear
 - Dew Pattern
 - Even Irrigation
 - Dry Spots
 - Trees Wet
 - Cart Paths Wet
 - Cart Path
 - Clean
 - Edged
 - Markers



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The Environmental Process

- Riding the Course
 - Mowing Uniformity
 - Baling
 - Color
 - Green, Yellow, Brown
 - Fertilize
 - Pest Problems
 - Birds
 - Damage from Armadillos/Pigs/Skunks
 - Moisture Content
 - +/-
 - Check Controller for Adjustments
 - Fuses



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The Environmental Process

- Riding the Course
 - Wear Patterns on and Off Cart Paths
 - Bunkers (edged/raked)
 - Lakes (clean/water levels)
 - Trees (damaged/pine beetles)
 - Sprinklers Edged, Marker Edged – Attention to Detail
 - Green surface
 - Mowers
 - Color
 - Pest
 - Cup Cut Correctly
 - Accordance to tees
 - Flag right color
 - Pin sheet locations




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The Environmental Process

- > Riding the Course
 - > Cores
 - Moisture check or root depth
 - > Visual Aesthetics
 - Does it meet your approval?
 - > What are we doing this week?



That's 1 Down
and 17 More to Go...
And it's only 6:30 a.m.

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Question...

What Did You Just Do?



Monitored, Planned, and Mapped

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Challenges

- Document it
- Ride with Assistant / Golf-Pro
- Ride with Greens Committee Member or Board Member
- Put it in next newsletter for everyone to get the taste of an M.P.M.
- Power walks – make message clear

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Integrated Pest Management Plan

- Short- and Long-Term Goals
- Monitoring, Planning, and Mapping
- Record Keeping
- Putting a Plan into Action
- Communication



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Golf Course Mapping

- Slopes
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
 - Habitat Preservation Areas
- Drainage
- Turf Types
- Soil Types
- Wetlands
- Adjacent Land Use



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Best Management Practices

- Follow IPM to minimize chemical and fertilizer usage
- Train employees
- Right Plant – Right Place
- Visual indicators for irrigation
- Ring of responsibility
- Fertilization and rainfall



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Chemical Use Reduction and Safety

- IPM
 - Safe handling
 - Storage
 - MSDS sheets
 - Record keeping
 - Disposal
 - Application



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Water Conservation

- Proper irrigation
- Irrigation maintenance
- Control monitoring / enhancements
- Recapturing/re-use of water resources



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Water Quality Management

- Water quality monitoring
- Protecting wetlands and streams
 - Reducing erosion/stream restoration
 - Vegetated buffers
 - No-Spray zones
 - Minimize chemical usage



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Water Availability

- Surface Water
- Ground Water
- Effluent Water
- Ponds / Streams
- Municipal Water
- Water Conservation



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“Out-of-the-box” Ideas for the Golf Industry

Residual Land Opportunities	Mitigation Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Residential Development – Commercial Development – Alternative Golf Uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wetland Mitigation – Stream Restoration – Conservation Easements




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Summary

The only thing constant with environmental regulations and permitting is change.



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Questions?



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