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USGA Green Section Record, January 10, 2014

Golf course superintendents also must ensure that water management is efficient and environmentally responsible. There has been a heightened awareness of the importance of water conservation due to the increasing cost of municipal drinking water, the demand for water to be used for other purposes, and the increasing emphasis on environmental responsibility. As a result, many golf facilities no longer use municipal drinking water for irrigation but now look to alternative sources. Even in areas where water resources are abundant, there is a growing interest in using water more efficiently and responsibly.

One of the key factors in water conservation is ensuring that the distribution of water is uniform across the golf course. There are several technologies and practices that can help achieve this goal, such as using precision irrigation systems that can be programmed to meet the specific needs of each area of the course. In addition, using water-efficient irrigation devices such as drip irrigation and microsprinklers can also help reduce water usage.

Another important aspect of water conservation is ensuring that the water used for irrigation is of high quality and free from contaminants. This can be achieved by using treated water or by installing water treatment systems on the golf course.

There have been several initiatives and programs to help golf course superintendents improve their water management practices, such as the USGA Green Section's Water Management Program, which provides guidance on water conservation and efficient irrigation practices.

It's About More than Conserving Water - It's About Staying in Business

Throughout the decades, summarize what has been learned - both good and bad - about fairway topdressing, and discuss if it is a program utilized by courses across the country.

Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program and the USGA Green Section Award

The USGA Green Section is broken into four regions: Northwest, Southwest, Mid-Atlantic, and North. Each region has its own needs and challenges, and the Green Section sees almost every problem in golf course management and offers solutions for them. The agronomists of the USGA Green Section will focus on the following topics:

- It's About More than Conserving Water - It's About Staying in Business
- Using Science and Technology to Preserve and Enhance the Game
- Bunkers - What Works and What Doesn't
- Policies for the Reuse of USGA Green Section Publications

There will also be a panel discussion focusing on how superintendents can contribute to or hinder efforts to make the game better for everyone. The agronomists of the USGA Green Section see almost every problem in golf course management and offer solutions for them. A guide to light and frequent topdressing requires the proper equipment to achieve uniformity.

Light and frequent topdressing requires the proper equipment to achieve uniformity. Are sprinkler heads above or below grade? Level sprinkler heads are essential to optimize water conservation and distribution uniformity. The video of the putting green at Camp Gordon, Georgia, in 1944, demonstrates how golf courses had to learn how to conserve resources during World War II. For example, chemical forms of nitrogen were replaced with shallow-rooted plants that are more resistant to drought. As a result, golf courses had to adapt to new conditions and develop new strategies for water management.

In addition, golf courses had to adapt to changing weather patterns and extreme weather events. These events can cause significant damage to golf courses, and superintendents must have a plan in place to recover from such events. For example, heavy cloud cover has led to severe wear and tear on putting surfaces.

For more information on the Green Section sessions, read our Read More.