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The USGA Green Section Record (ISSN 2156-5813) is published biweekly via electronic mail by the United States Golf Association®.

IS YOUR COURSE CONSIDERING PUTTING GREEN CONSTRUCTION?

For more in-depth information on putting green construction, go to www.usga.org/greensection.

Do We Need To Rebuild Our Greens? (video)

The USGA also offers a comprehensive DVD/CD set entitled, “Building a USGA Green” detailing the USGA method of putting green construction and a CD with valuable supplemental documents to be used as references in the construction process. The DVD/CD set is available for purchase through the online store at www.usga.org/greensection.

Helping Your Greens Make The Grade

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Bunkers are a common topic during regional updates. In the Northeast Region, they are keeping an eye on the condition of bunkers and are working with courses to promote drainage and recontouring to prevent frost heave. The USGA Green Section is divided into eight regions staffed by agronomists who work with golf facilities on care of the golf course. USGA agronomists provide regular field updates, updates from multiple regions as well as regional updates on topics such as putting greens, slopes and contours, Mowed Winds, and putting greens.

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Generally speaking, littoral zones are only a few feet deep and extend several feet from shore but they play an important role in the long-term stability and diversity of local aquatic communities. They provide both nursery and feeding grounds for juvenile aquatic organisms and serve as a filter for sediments from entering the local watershed. The littoral zone of a lake is vulnerable to nutrient-rich runoff from adjacent lands and can quickly become infertile and unattractive. Aquatic plants can greatly help improve the health of this zone.

There are additional articles and videos on the USGA website featuring ideas, techniques and solutions to golf course and field problems written in 1921 by the club's green chairman, Dr. Walter S. Harban and details the construction method and expenses.

A very positive sign that golf is on the rebound is the significant increase in the number of questions the USGA Green Section is receiving from golf course superintendents. This past summer, the Green Section received an increase in the number of calls and e-mails asking about putting greens, slopes, and contours. For more in-depth information on putting green construction, go to www.usga.org/greensection.

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Bunkers are a common topic during regional updates. In the Northwest Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways. In the Southeast Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways. In the Southwest Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways.

Golf courses throughout the Southwest Region are initiating fall overseeding programs. This fall, overseeded areas include putting greens, tees, fairways and bunkers. In the Northwest Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways. In the Midwest Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways. In the North Central Region, it is on greens, approaches, collars, tees or fairways.

Although fall doesn’t officially begin until September 23, golfers and golfers alike can tell the season is getting close. While fall weather is excellent for playing golf, the fall season is the time of year that makes or breaks a golf course’s success for the approaching winter. Implementing a strategy to prevent frost heave could result in reduced populations next spring.

There are several preventative measures that can be implemented. The most important step is to have a good drainage system. If you have a problem on your course, be sure to check with your local golf course architect or course consultant. Additionally, you can follow these general guidelines:

- Keep the soil loose and aerated.
- Use the correct type of sand in your bunkers.
- Keep the greens and the surrounding areas well watered.

These steps can help prevent frost heave and ensure the health of your golf course this winter.

Courses that have been properly maintained and hydrated will be better prepared to handle the winter weather. Additionally, keeping turfgrass healthy during the fall can help ensure a good spring and summer.

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As golfers and courses alike prepare for the winter season, it is important to remember that fall is the time to make a plan for a healthy and green course come spring. While fall weather is excellent for playing golf, the fall season is the time of year that makes or breaks a golf course’s success for the approaching winter. Golf courses throughout the Southwest Region are initiating fall overseeding programs. This fall, overseeded areas include putting greens, tees, fairways and bunkers. This beneficial step can help ensure a healthy and green course come spring.

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