



Recorded live on Friday, March 14, 2014. As severe winter weather takes its toll on golf facilities across much of the U.S., USGA agronomists come together in this quick-hitting, panel-style presentation to weigh in with their expertise to help golf facilities cope with winter injury concerns and help golfers and course officials better understand how this may impact spring golf. The information is tailored to the nontechnical audience, primarily golfers, course officials and state and regional golf associations.

## WINTER GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT

### REFERENCES YOU CAN USE

It is no secret that the 2013-14 winter has wreaked havoc across much of the country. It seems daily news headlines are being made somewhere in the U.S. as a result of polar vortexes, record-breaking cold temperatures, never-before-seen snow and ice totals, or some combination thereof. In response, the USGA Green Section has published [Winter Golf Course Management](#), a list of resources developed for golfers, course officials and golf facilities. Not everything has to do with winterkill injury to turf, as there is also general information and other ideas for winter course care, resource conservation, economic efficiency and improved playability. [Read More.](#)



Photo courtesy of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and Michigan State University Turfgrass Information Center

## TEN THINGS GOLFERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GOLF'S USE OF WATER

### THE PROPER USE OF AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM IS BOTH AN ART AND A SCIENCE



Did you know that a turfgrass plant is 80 to 85 percent water by weight? Did you know water is continuously being lost through its leaves and absorbed by the root system? Keeping water at the proper balance within the plant is one of the core functions of a golf course superintendent, who relies on an irrigation system and rainfall to meet the water requirements of turf. Making the decision about where, when and how much water to apply embodies both the art and science of turfgrass management. This article sheds light on the important topic of water by explaining 10 things every golfer should know about golf's use of water.

[Read More](#)

Grass is 80 to 85 percent water by weight. Irrigation systems are critical to replenishing soil moisture when rainfall isn't enough so that turf remains healthy enough to withstand the daily stresses and rigors faced on a golf course.

## EAGLES ARE RARE IN GOLF - EXCEPT AT HARRISON BAY

### ELLIOT AND ELOISE ARE AT IT AGAIN



Perhaps the surest sign that spring is finally here is that golf's most famous American Bald Eagles, Elliott and Eloise, have two new eaglets to feed. Golf Course Superintendent Paul Carter and the staff at The Bear Trace of Harrison Bay in Harrison, Tenn. have once again given us the chance to see and even hear all that goes on in the nest located nearly 100 feet above the ground. The Harrison Bay Eagle Cam has been upgraded significantly for 2014 including closer images and sometimes startling sounds. Paul continually monitors the nest and jokes that when one of the eagles call out, the sound coming through his office speakers can catch him by surprise.

Elliott is keeping the pantry stocked with fish, turtles and coots while Eloise keeps the little ones in line during the night. Both parents have been seen tag teaming the feedings. The eaglets are bonking heads and biting each other but neither is strong enough to do any damage. Paul attributes these actions to sibling rivalry.

Since the March 15 hatching the [Eagle Cam website](#) has had more than 8500 unique visitors from 47 different countries.

[View a live feed of the nest.](#)

[Watch a video of the hatching.](#)

## FORE THE GOLFER

### USING SYNTHETIC PRACTICE TEES FOR WINTER PLAY

[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

Given the severe winter experienced throughout much of the U.S., golfers are eager to tee it up as soon as temperatures warm. To ensure that range tees have turf coverage come summer, the use of synthetic practice tees is recommended until turf breaks dormancy and resumes active growth.

## RESEARCH THAT MATTERS

### WHEN DO ANNUAL BLUEGRASS WEEVILS EMERGE IN SPRING?

[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

The annual bluegrass weevil, *Listronotus maculicollis*, is the most destructive insect pest of golf course turf in the northeastern United States and Canada. Despite this weevil's expanding range, there is a fundamental lack of understanding of its life cycle, which leads to increased insecticide usage. With USGA funding, researchers at the State University of New York - Delhi, and University of Massachusetts - Amherst, investigated the reproductive development of emerging weevil populations, determined when feeding and mating occur, and when adults cease to lay eggs.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### NOER/MILORGANITE IMAGE COLLECTION

[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

The application of pesticides and other turf care products to golf courses has come a long way since this 1934 photo taken at the Milwaukee Country Club in Milwaukee, Wis. The photo is one of many that can be found in the [Noer/Milorganite Image Collection](#). The Collection is maintained by the Turfgrass Information Center at the Michigan State University library. In the picture the operator of the "high-tech" sprayer is applying corrosive sublimate, also known as mercuric chloride, a compound that had a wide range of uses including the control of worms, brown patch, preserving archaeological items, photography, and even the treatment of syphilis. The product was highly toxic and is no longer used in the treatment of turfgrass.

(Photo courtesy of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and Michigan State University Turfgrass Information Center)

## REGIONAL UPDATES

### SOUTHEAST REGION

Sometimes things are so familiar to us that we do not take the time to stop and look closely. This update features an exercise in making observations and a closer look at the USGA Course Consulting Service. [Read More](#)

### FLORIDA REGION

Recent regulatory action is having a substantial impact on the use of pesticides commonly applied by turf managers in Florida. As pesticide regulations change, thoughtful planning and preparation is needed to adapt to new federal and state laws. [Read More](#)

### NORTH-CENTRAL REGION

Despite all efforts to prevent damage during severe winter weather, some turf loss has been observed in the North-Central Region. [Read More](#)

### MID-CONTINENT REGION

The verdict is still out - how much damage did the winter cause? This question is being asked all across the country and the next four to six weeks should reveal the answer. As always, there is plenty to do in the meantime when it comes to disease control and seedhead suppression. [Read More](#)

### NORTHWEST REGION

Geese are not always the most welcome of visitors to golf courses. However, in at least one case, their presence is encouraged. In fact, golf courses may play a key role in their survival. [Read More](#)

### SOUTHWEST REGION

Industry professionals from northern California gathered at Diablo Country Club in Diablo, Calif. on Monday, March 17 for the GCSANC and USGA Regional Conference. The group celebrated the centennial of Diablo Country Club in addition to sharing practical information about golf course maintenance. [Read More](#)

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