

# Green Section Record

## Drainage: Through the Green

By Jim Skorulski and Patrick O'Brien

*"The best greenkeeper in the world cannot maintain perfect turf unless their course is well-drained,"* declared Wendell Miller, a drainage engineer, in his advertisement in the National Greenkeeper in 1924.



Poor drainage directly impacts golf courses in many ways. Excessively wet areas usually require additional maintenance inputs and can further reduce revenue due to course closures, cart restrictions and poor playing conditions. In short, poorly drained golf courses struggle to provide good conditions on a consistent basis and are more reliant on favorable weather conditions to remain successful. Providing firm, consistent playing surfaces requires good drainage. This article details how golf courses can address drainage problems in areas through the green.

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## Multimedia Content



### Video: The Benefits of Sand Topdressing

Want to make more putts and get more distance off the tee? Sand topdressing is your answer. Learn what superintendents already know - sand topdressing improves playing conditions and turf health.

[Watch Now](#)



### Video: Submitting Undisturbed Soil Samples

Good drainage is essential for putting greens to perform to today's standards, but diagnosing internal drainage issues can be challenging. Collecting undisturbed samples of a putting green profile can identify if and where internal drainage issues are affecting putting green performance - here's how.

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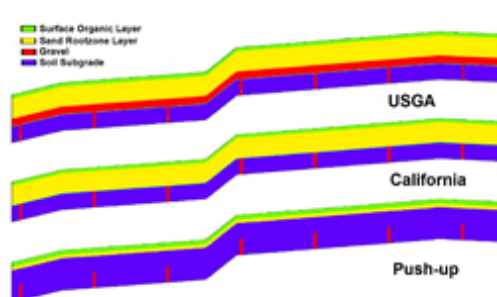
## Green Section Collection: Drainage on Golf Courses



These interactive digital collections include additional supporting articles, a photo gallery and videos that provide relevant information on the primary subject. The collections can be viewed online in a user-friendly digital magazine format, saved as a PDF or printed.

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## Research You Should Know



### Simulating Water Flow in Putting Greens

Drainage is a vital component of high-quality playing conditions, but visualizing how water drains through complex root zones is nearly impossible. These computer simulations provide a below-ground look at water moving through putting greens.

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## Fore The Golfer



### Solving Golf Course Drainage Problems Starts With A Plan

Frustrated because soggy playing conditions are causing cart restrictions and leaving your ball covered in mud? Tolerating temporary disruptions so drainage can be installed may ease your woes, provided you consider these three things.

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## Regional Updates



### West Region

The USGA Stimpometer® measures putting green speed and provides information about surface smoothness and various management programs

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### Northeast Region

Drought, heat and humidity continue to take their toll on Northeast golf courses.

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### Central Region

Creeping bentgrass fairways have the potential for excessive thatch accumulation where cool, wet weather during the growing season inhibits the natural microbial decomposition of organic matter.

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### Southeast Region

Recruiting and retaining qualified staff is an increasingly difficult task for many golf courses. Here are a few tips that may help your facility.

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