

Green Section Record

Volume 55, Issue 05

Five Ways to Improve Putting Green Quality

 By [Chris Hartwiger](#) and [Zach Nicoludis](#)


The fundamentals of turfgrass management are understated; they are simple to grasp but difficult to perfect; they are not the latest and the greatest but have a proven track record. This article is all about the fundamentals. Whether you manage the maintenance operation at a basic-services golf course or have the largest budget in town, this article will help you improve putting green management by focusing on the fundamentals of plant nutrition, water management, pest management, mower setup and topdressing.

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Multimedia Content



Photo Gallery: Five Fundamentals For Better Putting Greens

Managing high-quality putting greens is extremely challenging, but sometimes the key to success isn't complicated. Remembering to focus on these five fundamentals will ensure that you're on the road to success, regardless of factors such as geographic location, play volume, grass species or construction method.

[View Gallery](#)


Turf Minutes: Setting You Up For Success

Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes at a golf course? Every day, long before any golfers tee off, superintendents and maintenance staffs work hard to prepare golf courses. Discover how the decisions they make have a direct impact on more than just turfgrass, but also pace of play and the overall enjoyment of the game.

[Watch Video](#)

Green Section Collections: Five Ways to Improve Putting Green Quality



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.

[Turfgrass Fertilization For Golf Courses](#)
[Water Use On Golf Courses](#)
[Turfgrass Disease Management](#)
[Equipment Management On Golf Courses](#)
[Managing Soil Organic Matter](#)

Research You Should Know



Diagnosing Herbicide Resistance In Annual Bluegrass

Have you ever struggled with managing weeds and wondered whether herbicide resistance was to blame? Traditional means of testing for herbicide resistance are both time-consuming and expensive, but researchers in Tennessee may be on the verge of simplifying the process.

[Read More](#)

Fore The Golfer



Topdressing And Quality Greens Go Together Like Peas and Carrots

Sand topdressing is one of the most misunderstood practices among golfers. However, any concerns with short-term disruptions to playability caused by applying sand to the putting greens will be quickly dismissed once you realize all of the benefits of topdressing.

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A free way to **count** on having fun!

March 20 - June 21

Registration is now open for Audubon International's third annual BioBlitz, an international species-counting competition designed to create awareness about the environmental value of the habitats supported by golf courses. The event is open to any golf course in the world.

Hold your event on any day during BioBlitz and invite golfers and their families, youth groups, community members, local environmental organizations and local experts to count plant and animal species on your course. Register today to receive your BioBlitz toolkit – it has all the information you'll need to plan your event and engage the community around your course.

[Register](#)

2017 North American Golf Innovation Symposium

The 2017 North American Golf Innovation Symposium reflects the latest effort by the USGA to serve the game of golf as a knowledge center for golf facility operators and owners, and to share innovative thinking that promotes a healthy future for the game. The symposium will focus on elevating the golfer experience, improving facility productivity by examining the future of course maintenance and serving the game through governance. [Read More](#)

Supported by Golf Canada and the Mexican Golf Federation, the symposium will be held March 6-7 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Visit [usga.org](#) for a [full schedule](#) and live broadcasts of the presentations.

[Watch Live](#)

Regional Updates



West Region

Struggling with desiccation damage during winter? The staff at one Denver-area golf course uses this creative and effective method to defend turf from winter's harsh winds and low humidity.

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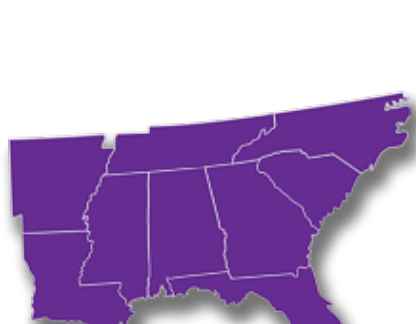

Northeast Region

Warm weather is good for golf, but late-winter warm spells can also cause management issues. Making these management decisions now can affect playing conditions for months to come.

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Central Region

Whether you are managing *Poa annua* putting greens in Detroit or ultradwarf bermudagrass putting greens in Dallas, don't let Microdochium patch get the upper hand.

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Southeast Region

Has spring arrived at your golf course? The calendar says no, but a streak of 70-degree days has golfers saying yes. Superintendents know spring is near when these questions arise.

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