

Green Section Record

Volume 55, Issue 15

Improving Productivity Of Existing Staff

By Paul Jacobs and Patrick O'Brien



As the turf industry becomes more competitive, golf course maintenance budgets are increasingly scrutinized. As a result, many maintenance budgets have experienced some reductions over the past decade. Unfortunately, golfer expectations typically remain the same even as budgets get slimmer, placing superintendents in a difficult position of trying to do more with less. Doing more with less usually means cutting corners, which often results in negative long-term consequences. A more sustainable way to

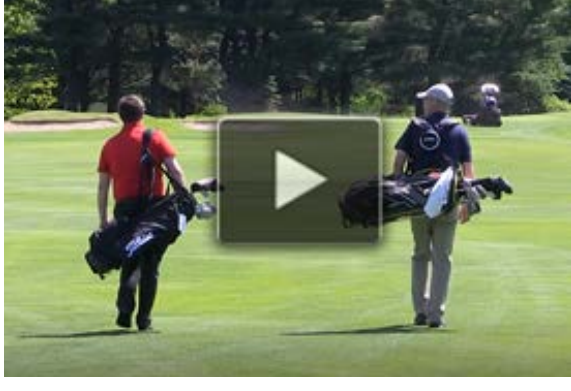
manage budget issues is to analyze current maintenance techniques and look for ways to optimize the productivity of existing staff.

Opportunities to improve productivity can be exciting, but remember that turfgrass management is just that – management. Successful turfgrass management involves simultaneously managing budgets, people, equipment and turfgrass. The options presented in this article provide some excellent ways to improve productivity, but they may not be the right choices for every facility.

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How A Challenging Labor Market Affects Course Conditioning

Whether having difficulty filling open positions or retaining experienced staff, courses everywhere are affected by labor challenges that can impact course conditioning. Although it is difficult to do more with less, superintendents are implementing these creative tactics to maintain course conditioning through a difficult labor market.

[Watch Video](#)

Fore The Golfer Video

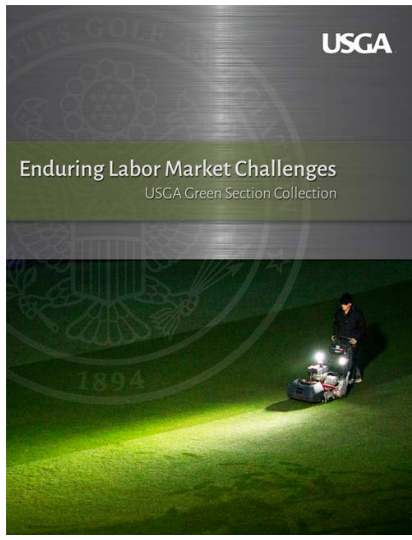


Etiquette Towards Golf Course Maintenance Personnel

Completing all necessary maintenance tasks on a golf course before play is practically impossible, so playing around the maintenance staff is unfortunately inevitable. Golf course maintenance personnel should take the necessary precautions to protect themselves, but golfers need to be careful and keep several factors in mind.

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Green Section Collection: Enduring Labor Market Challenges



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Research You Should Know



Research To Increase Productivity

Productivity is something every golf course is concerned about, and the USGA supports research across the country to improve the long-term productivity of golf courses. For a sneak peak of the solutions being developed, learn more about the projects being supported by the USGA at a university near you.

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Fore The Golfer



Where Did The Hours Go?

Understanding how and where labor hours are allocated can have significant impacts on course conditioning and the bottom line. Although it requires overhead expenditures, investing in technology to make the task of tracking labor easier will more than pay for itself in improved efficiency and productivity.

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