USGA GREEN SECTION
Green Section Record
Volume 59 | Issue 18
October 1, 2021

Developing a Tree Management Plan

By Cory Isom

Trees are an emotional subject at golf courses and the strong feelings people have can sometimes prevent necessary management. Developing an effective tree management plan with the help of various experts will help your facility make good decisions about trees with less conflict. Understanding your tree population, documenting current issues, and outlining goals for the future will help you develop a plan that can guide your course successfully through tricky issues of tree management for decades to come.

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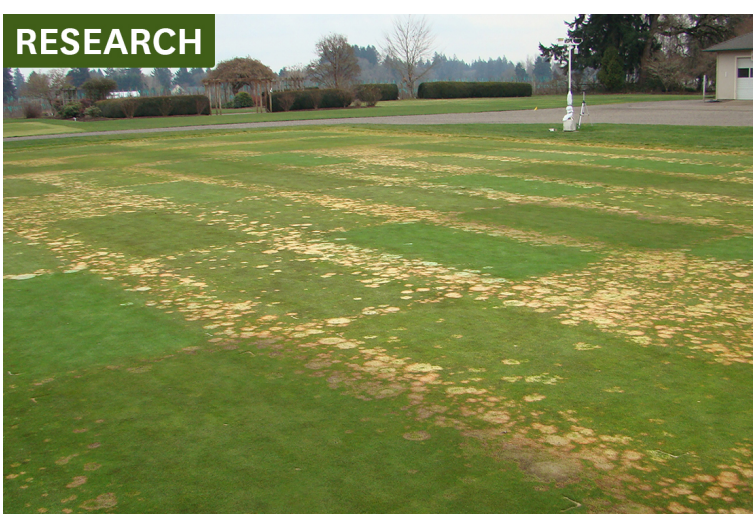
Latest from Course Care



Controlling Microdochium Patch With Nontraditional Fungicides

This research studies Microdochium patch control with nontraditional fungicides. The results show that these approaches can be a useful alternative or complement to traditional fungicides.

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Strategies to Give Tees a Helping Hand

If the tees at your course are struggling to handle all the play lately, a combination of maintenance adjustments, improvement projects and golfer etiquette can give them a helping hand.

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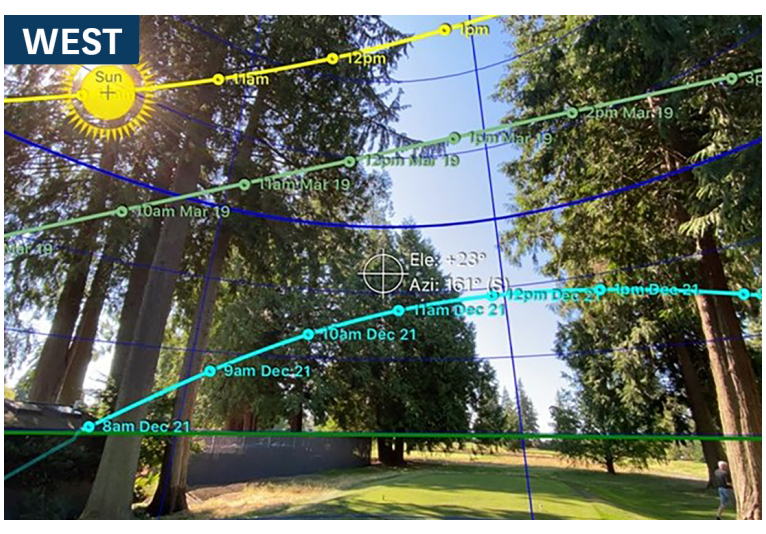
Regional Updates



Open the "Windows" For Better Sunlight Exposure

Removing trees within about 80 feet of putting greens may help to mitigate root intrusion, but it doesn't guarantee improved sunlight exposure. Focus more on "windows" of sunlight.

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Ding, Round Two

Courses in the southern part of the Northeast could see a second round of fall armyworms. Another control application could be necessary before they are done feeding for the season.

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Top Four Collar Cures

Collars are often one of the first areas to show signs of thinning during stressful weather or periods of heavy play. These tips can help reduce the risk of damage.

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Labor Problems, Priorities, and Realistic Expectations

With today's tight labor market and the big uptick in rounds, golfers need to understand that certain lower-priority areas of a course may need to take a back seat.

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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®.

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