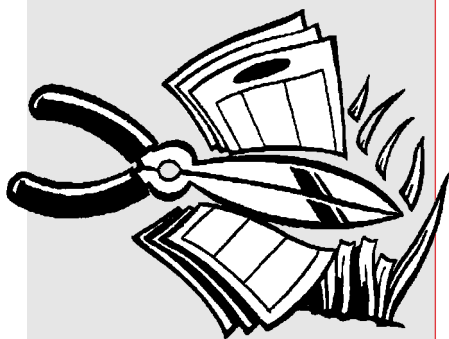


Clippings

Colonial Acres Golf Course in Glenmont, NY, was one of 39 places nationwide to earn this year's EPA Performance Track award. Of the 344 members of the Performance Track program, Colonial Acres is the first golf course to be recognized and is the first entity in New York to earn the honor. Course superintendent Pat Blum earned the title "Superman of the Environment."



The "Green"Track Colonial Acres First Golf Course to be Given EPA Award

The Environmental Protection Agency is honoring an unlikely place.

It isn't a factory trying to improve its emissions standards nor a park trying to save wildlife. It is Colonial Acres Golf Course in Glenmont, NY, one of 39 places nationwide to earn this year's EPA Performance Track award. Of the 344 members of the Performance Track program, Colonial Acres is the first golf course to be recognized. It also is the first entity in New York to earn the honor. Course superintendent Pat Blum earned the title "Superman of the Environment" for his work at the nine-hole, executive (par-3) layout.

"Golf courses are not the type of facilities that EPA has typically recognized," said Dan Fiorino, director for the Performance Track program, "but it is designed so that any sort of operation can qualify. It was very nice to have a golf course look at the program, and they met our criteria. We're hoping that this will generate some other interest in that area."

Colonial Acres uses 100 percent runoff water, contained in two holding ponds on the course, according to Blum. It also uses environmentally friendly fertilizer and pest control.

The Performance Track award recognizes "top environmental performance among participating U.S. facilities of all types, sizes and complexity, public and private." No golf course had attempted the process before, Blum said.

"To get accepted into the program, you have a three-year period where you are asked to set goals," he said. "One of the goals we'll have to meet is trying to reduce the amount of electricity our golf course uses. How long is your equipment actually running and putting out air emissions from the machines? We're trying to reduce that. We're trying to increase wildlife habitat and reduce the amount of environmental impact by pesticide use."

Blum, a 36-year-old father of two from Niskayuna, has earned other environmental awards in his 11 years at the course. He was the 2002 winner of the Environmental Leaders in Golf award. Colonial Acres became a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in 1998.

The EPA recognition, Blum said, was "the ultimate goal." The process started last summer, when an Audubon representative told Blum that an EPA officer wanted to see the course. "You hear 'EPA' in the golf industry, and you're scared to death," Blum said. "He saw the course, and I explained the whole environmental thing that we do, and he suggested that I get into this program of the EPA Performance Track."

New Performance Track members will be honored next month in Baltimore.

A Correction

The Summer 2003 issue of *CUTT* contained errors in the broadleaf weed control article by Dr. Leslie Weston in reference to Speed Zone and Power Zone herbicides. Dr. Weston wishes to correct these errors and have our readership make note of them for future reference.

Speed Zone and Power Zone herbicides are marketed by PBI Gordon, not Riverdale Corporation. Speed Zone contains carfentrazone-ethyl, 2,4 D, MCPP and dicamba. Power Zone contains the herbicides carfentrazone-ethyl, MCPA, MCPP and dicamba.

As previously described, these herbicides are available for use on established turf for postemergence broadleaf weed control. They have several advantages, including providing rapid results with visible injury in several hours or the same day, and they are effective in cool weather conditions (above 45° F). Speed Zone is rainfast in as little as 3 hours. Both herbicides provide effective control of such difficult weeds as white clover, dandelion, plantains, spurge, and also provide good control of ground ivy as well. Studies performed by Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension have demonstrated these results.

Carfentrazone-ethyl is new chemistry now available to the turf industry; it is currently marketed alone as Quicksilver herbicide by FMC Corporation. This product can also be applied in combination with other postemergent broadleaf herbicides for fast-acting control. Carfentrazone is a protox inhibitor of plant growth, resulting in inhibition of chlorophyll biosynthesis and membrane disruption of plant cells, leading to rapid necrosis and death. Having new chemistry with these beneficial traits leads to more choices for turf producers and managers for environmentally-sound herbicide application with limited soil persistence and superior toxicological properties.