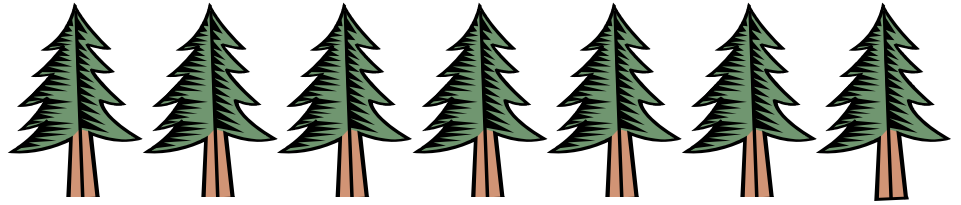


The Pinecrest Press

Maintenance Update

December 2008
Special Issue



Pinecrest Golf Course

“The Best Kept Secret Inside the Beltway”

Grass Growing at Pinecrest

We're sure you probably saw the big fenced in pen between 1 tee and 9 green over the last few months of the summer. And you probably wondered just what the heck we're doing here. Well, the pen is gone but the grass is growing! Our maintenance staff is growing bent grass in that area. The tees were converted to bent grass a while back and we have long wanted to convert our greens to bent as well but the cost of bent sod is prohibitive. So in an attempt to save money and utilize the space we already have, the crew has planted a bent grass nursery to use as plugs for the greens later in the season. Now whenever there is disease or damage to the greens, we need only go to our own sod farm for the grass to replace and problem areas.

New Trees

One of the many things the staff is working on over the course of this fall and winter is the replacement of the dead spruce trees. As you may know we lost many of our really nice Norway Spruce due to the drought of a couple of summers ago. The crew has acquired White Pines to replace the dead Norways. White Pine is a hardier, more disease-resistant tree and will fill in nicely. The crew has already replaced nine of the trees, has purchased eight more and will be planting them as the weather permits.

We have also gotten 15 Crepe Myrtle trees that have been planted on the slope between 1 green and 2 tee and others that are between 3 green and 4 tee. These trees will add some much needed color to the course.

Several Juniper and Chinese Holly bushes have also been planted as barriers to the left of the 4th hole and the 5th hole.

New Signs

We have new signs at the corner of Route 236 and Braddock Road. The old sign was damaged last winter by a car that skidded on the ice-covered road.

The new signs are beautiful. Enhanced 'colors' will be added to the signs in the near future to accent the lettering.

In the spring, we will plant flowers and shrubbery to enhance the aesthetics of the area.



Bio-Retention Pond

A lot of you have asked why we have all those little flags out front. The flags are the markings of two bio-retention ponds that are being installed on either side of the driveway.

This is a project that is being sponsored by the Commonwealth of Virginia because we are situated in a Chesapeake Bay Watershed area and the runoff from our parking lot goes directly into the watershed, increasing the pollution and toxin levels in the water.

The retention pond is designed so that the water from our parking lot—and the oil and other chemicals that seep out of cars—will drain directly into the pond. There will be sand at the bottom of the pond that will filter out the pollutants. From there the water will feed into pipes that will ultimately feed into the storm drains.

Other Winter Projects

And if all the above things aren't enough to keep our guys busy here's a list of some of the other work that gets done over the course of the winter:

- Remove, sand, re-stain, re-seal and re-place all benches
- Drop driving cage nets and repair nets as necessary
- Preventative maintenance on equipment so there are not as many breakdowns during the growing & mowing season
- The bushes and trees are all pruned and mulched. Winter drought can be just as bad as a summer drought.

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If you have something you'd like to contribute to the Pinecrest Press, please see Kathy in the clubhouse.