

**CGSA GREENMATTER ONTARIO**  
**MAY 2014**  
SUBMITTED BY JIM FLETT

Now that the snow has finally left most of Ontario, it is evident that poa turf at courses in the southern part of the province; in the greater Toronto area down all the way through the south-west part of the province were severely affected by the ice storm that ripped through during late December.

Most supers in that region have made the necessary first steps for recovery with overseeding. Now they are waiting for normal seasonal temperatures to arrive to encourage seed establishment. Unfortunately many are also dealing with the impact and extra work of losing hundreds of large trees as well during the ice storm, which have added to the spring preparations.

The central part of the province fortunately escaped the ice this year. The winter brought tons of snow providing a perfect blanket of protection. Concerns still remain with respect to getting out to remove the snow to avoid freeze/thaw injury early spring. But the gradual thaw was good for causing little or no damage.

A lot has been communicated on the topic of winterkill. Here are a few good resources that were provided this spring to help superintendents deal with the turf recovery process:

**Golf Course Winterkill:**

A Factsheet for Canada's Golfing Community

By John R. Bladon, P. Ag. with Dr. Katerina S. Jordan and Dr. Eric M. Lyons

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ls9b1augtzha5do/Golf%20Course%20Winterkill.pdf>

**Ontario Golf Superintendents take to Twitter**

The Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association took to Twitter to answer questions using the hashtag #WinterKill. Here are a selection of Tweets and photos (scroll to the bottom) from the conversation.

byadam\_stanley@adam\_stanley

[https://storify.com/adam\\_stanley/ontario-golf-superintendents-take-to-twitter](https://storify.com/adam_stanley/ontario-golf-superintendents-take-to-twitter)

**You're Not Alone!**

By Jim Skorulski, USGA senior agronomist, Northeast Region

April 16, 2014

[http://www.usga.org/course\\_care/regional\\_updates/regional\\_reports/northeast/You're-Not-Alone!---April-2014/](http://www.usga.org/course_care/regional_updates/regional_reports/northeast/You're-Not-Alone!---April-2014/)

**The Silver Lining**

By Adam Moeller, USGA agronomist, Northeast Region

April 29, 2014

[http://www.usga.org/course\\_care/regional\\_updates/regional\\_reports/northeast/The-Silver-Lining---April-2014/](http://www.usga.org/course_care/regional_updates/regional_reports/northeast/The-Silver-Lining---April-2014/)

Let's hope Mother Nature cooperates the remaining spring so courses can recover as quickly as possible. - JF