Alberta Report

Spring Conditions

Like much of the country, winter in Alberta extended well into spring and cold temperatures has been a theme. Many, if not all golf courses have been late to open due to the poor weather. There have been reports of varied spring conditions from different regions of the province.

We are hearing many golf courses are pleased with spring conditions; however snow mold pressure was severe with deep snow cover lasting from late October – Mid April in much of the province. There have even been reports of significant snow mold damage on putting greens and fairways that were treated with high rates of preventative fungicide. The South / East part of the province has seen extensive damage to older Annual Bluegrass fairways and greens caused by ice. Alberta Golf Course Superintendents will definitely be pleased to see some good weather soon as it was a very, long, cold and snowy old fashion winter.

Changes to the Turfgrass Management Program at Olds College

The Old College Turfgrass Management Program Advisory Board recently met to discuss exciting changes to the program. Starting January 2015, Turfgrass Management Students at Olds College will be starting a Turfgrass specific block style curriculum. The program is designed to offer short but very intense 3 week blocks of courses from January – April. A great benefit to the golf industry and students is that the students will be able to work on the golf course for almost the entire golf season. Stay tuned to GreenMaster for a detailed article.

Edmonton Golf Course Achieves Audubon Certification

Congratulations to Golf Course Superintendent Wade Peckham and staff at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club in Edmonton who recently attained certification through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf.

James Beebe