

MGC Member Update on the Golf Course Project **Newsletter #4**



Photo 1 – Installation of Water Lines on Fairway 5

SUMMARY OF WORK TO DATE

The installation started on May 1 following the delivery of the water pipe and the fittings, sprinkler heads, wiring and controls, and marking the location of the mains, secondary feeders and sprinkler heads. The crews started on the fairways (see #5 above). By the end of the first week, they had completed the primary installation on fairways #1, #2, #3, #5, #8 & #9.

As shown below, the work consists of removing pieces of sod, digging a trench, lining the bottom with gravel, splicing sections of pipe, laying the pipe and electrical control wiring, backfilling with sand and dirt and replacing the sod.



Photo 2 – Detail of Splicing the Water Pipe

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When a section had been completed, the actual line of the pipe could hardly be seen.

Work is nearing completion on Fairway #7. As the installation was being completed on the main lines, the sprinkler heads were also being installed.

A special machine to tunnel under the roads will connect the water pipe and control wires where the roads intersect fairways (Calderwood and Winter Street). It will arrive the week of May 14. The water supply lines from the wells on Fairways #2 and #7 and the distribution lines to all the sprinkler heads will be hooked up shortly afterwards and the system fully tested.

Meanwhile, the final contour for the #4 Green was laid out and the apron prepared. The golf course architect Tripp Davis returned on May 9 to put the finishing touches and final approval of the #4 green design. While the green appears flat in Photo #3, it has many interesting slopes and contours which will make the green challenging.

Shortly after Tripp left, Brent will seed the green and start watering it from the Clubhouse. In addition, Brent will seed the portion of the #1 Fairway between the pond and the quarry. See Photo #7.



Photo #3 – Karl, Tripp, Ward & Brent



Photo #4 - #4 Green Ready for Seed

In addition to the above work, the pumphouse for the supply pumps was built on the concrete slab prepared last November, and the electrical panel was installed for the pumps. Photo #5 shows the two supply pumps being installed. High capacity well pumps will be installed in the wells on #2 and #7 fairways.

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Photo #5 – Supply Pump Installation



Photo #6 – Pipe Installation - Green #3
(Pumphouse in the Background)

While the above work was occurring, Brent's teams were busy cleaning up after a stormy winter. In addition to the normal clean-up, there were many damaged trees and branches that had to be removed.



Photo #7 – View from the First Tee over the Pond

Final Steps and Schedule

We expect the installation contractors to be finished the week ending June 1 assuming no major weather delays. The installation of the pumps and final testing of the control systems should be done the following week. In addition, repair work including seeding should be done on Fairways #1, #3, #5 and #7 as soon as water is available. The course will need to be marked to indicate ground under repair. And the temporary #4 - #13 hole will be set up as it was last Fall using the practice green between the #8 and #9 Fairways. Assuming enough warm weather, we expect the #4 green to be ready for normal play August 1 as recommended by Tripp Davis.

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As we complete the project, we ask all golfers for patience and especially the following points:

- **Ground Under Repair.** Please respect the Ground Under Repair marks and other rules of play that will be posted daily at the pro shop.
- **Cart Path and Direction.** Pay attention to the power cart directions.- some of these will be temporary and some will become permanent.
- **Tees for #1 & #10 Hole.** Until further notice, the normal tees for Hole #1 / #10 will not be used. Use the Senior Tees instead.
- **Temporary #4 / #13 Hole.** Hole #4 / #13 will be replaced by the temporary hole using the practice green between holes #9 & #8. Be particularly careful of the play at the #9 and temporary #4 / #13 holes. The fairways cross and courtesy will be required of groups using the common sections of the course.
- **Clean-up in the areas adjacent to the Course.** Please be patient about the appearance of the course in the woods along the fairways. Brent's people have focused on getting the course ready as soon as possible and have not had enough time to complete the clean-up of the winter damage. These areas will be addressed as soon as capacity is available.
- **Formal Opening of the Course.** The formal opening of the course is set for Friday, June 1. There will still be some work on the irrigation system until June 1 so caution is advised if using the practice areas. This date may change due to weather delays or other unforeseen issues.
- **Clubhouse Landscaping.** Be patient with the landscaping around the Clubhouse. While the structure was essentially unaffected by the winter storms, the trees were battered. We have already collected some funds from insurance and the claim is not yet fully closed. We plan to retain a landscape architect to recommend appropriate plantings around the Clubhouse early in the summer.

OTHER NEWS

- **Goose River Golf Club Special Rate for MGC Members.** Goose River has graciously extended a special rate to Megunticook Golf Club members to play the "Goose". The special rate is \$20 with a golf cart included for either 9 or 18 holes. Contact Goose River Golf Pro Alex Plummer (207-236-8488) when reserving your tee time to get the discount.
- **MGC Clubhouse Opening.** The Clubhouse will be open for the season on May 15.
- **Tennis Courts.** One hard court net is up and the wind screens are being installed. The clay courts will be prepared for use for the season later in the month.

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CONCLUSION

While all the costs have not yet been recorded, the project is essentially on budget. And, some of the potential problems we anticipated have not occurred. For example, only two ledge issues were encountered, and these did not cause excessive time or money to work around.

The original targets of timing, cost and technical solutions appear to have been met. A great deal of thanks need to be given to all who participated in the planning and execution of the project. Some special thanks need to be given to Brent and his team (supplemented by some members of MGC) for the initiative and effort involved both for the irrigation project and the damage caused by a severe winter.

Please forward any questions to the undersigned.

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