

## **Greens Coring and Improvement Project** *by Howard Schultz*

SCOV will start a very important project later this month, as the golf course greens will be cored and drainage systems installed to ensure that grasses, root systems and reclaimed water can all co-exist in harmony. This is a major project to maintain our golf course asset and homeowner values. The BOD approved this project in early 2019.

The project is being directed by Mark Wade, our General Manager, to implement for \$1.2M dollars. Field construction will start on April 27 by the construction contractor, Pro Turf. Mike Gogel, our Golf Course Designer, will oversee construction progress and cost control. Assisting Mark Wade with project oversight will be Tim Kelley, Michael Kropf, Rick Price and Howard Schulz. Please ask us if you have any questions.

So, what actually is going to happen? Each green must be cored to a depth of about 10 to 12 inches. Drainage systems will be installed at the base of the excavations to allow the reclaimed water to move through the root zones. Sand and organic material will be placed above the drain field and graded to final contours before grass sprigs are placed and watered.

With the new drainage system, Michael Kropf will have the ability to test water leaving the greens and determine the level of salts and other constituents in the new root zones and make necessary adjustments.

Many of the greens' surrounds will receive excavated green soils and will be graded to smoothen steep areas and allow for better maintenance practices. It should also improve the golfer's ability to walk and play. These areas will be sodded and watered. The first year of grow-in is critical, as the greens and surrounds must establish healthy root zones. Experts recommend no overseed in the new root zone areas during the first year.

During construction the golf course will remain open with play directed toward temporary greens, which are currently under construction. You can play a new course without leaving the community. Walking hours will be posted, and all golfers and walkers must stay out of construction areas. There may also be short periods when parts of the course are closed to facilitate construction. Safety is a top priority, so construction equipment will have the right of way, and all others must yield. No exceptions.

We will communicate weekly plans regarding when and where construction work is taking place in "This Week In SCOV" (TWISCOV). Planned construction work for the upcoming week will go in the weekly "TWISCOV." Please make a point to review this information each week. The actual field construction period is expected to finish around July 15, after which watering and SCOV maintenance will continue into September. All residents and golfers are asked to stay off newly constructed areas until the new greens are deemed ready, expected to be in the fall.

This is a major project. Sand and materials will be stored in various sites around SCOV to provide the contractor with the most efficient method to access each green. You can expect sand to be stored in our parking areas, which will take advantage of the lower summer usage.

In addition, construction materials and equipment will be accessing the golf course in many new areas, so don't be alarmed.

Please use common sense when around construction areas. Thank you for your understanding.