

Golf Course Happenings 3/20/26

Spring is close! After a handful of nice days, the golf course is starting to come out of its winter dormancy, and take on some color. I wanted to take the opportunity to recap a few key projects, and upcoming plans for this year.

Our most noticeable and productive project throughout the offseason was our investment in long term tree care. We pruned a total of 79 trees, and removed 9 dead, hazardous trees as well. This will greatly impact turf health, debris cleanup, and most importantly removes potential hazards, ensuring a safe golf course. Unfortunately, this past weekend's wind and thunderstorms added a few extra removals to the list. Between Saturday and Sunday, we lost 3 more trees in a state of serious decline. Most notably, a weeping willow behind the 10th green fell, confirming our prior theory that a majority of our willows are reaching the end of their already short lifespan.

While pruning and select removals are necessary for safety, turf health, and course playability issues, we certainly do not overlook the need to replant trees to contribute to the long term success of the facility. We are planning on the addition of 3 new trees in a critical area. Dead willows were removed behind the 6th green, leaving a void that cannot go unfilled. As an homage to the club's logo, we will plant a new Hackberry tree in the place of one willow, which will be accentuated by two beautiful Red Tip maples. These trees have already been picked out, and will be planted when conditions allow.

In addition to this tree work, we have a few smaller projects in mind for this season as well. In the spring, we are scheduled to rebuild the railroad tie bridge on 9 tee, add a new native grass area behind the 6th green, and expand the 13th tee box on both the forward and back sides. This is in addition to the ongoing cultural practices we began last fall, as well as a new plan for significantly improved clubhouse landscaping.

In terms of an opening date; we're not sure yet! As they say, a little rain in the spring goes a long way. Over the last week, we took on more than 5 inches of accumulated rain and snowfall. Thankfully, we kept our pond levels extremely low throughout the winter to accommodate this water, however after 5 inches we were beyond soaked. We have been pumping water off property nonstop, and anticipate that by Monday morning we will be in a reasonable spot to resume maintenance on the 18 hole course, with a goal of opening as soon as conditions allow. Our main points of emphasis pre-open include branch and debris cleanup, aggressive bunker maintenance, and the addition of some new course hardware including new pins, flags, divot boxes, and 150 yard markers.

We greatly look forward to another season, and can't wait to showcase the investments made in the course this offseason! As always, if you see me out on the course - come say hi!

Best,
Evan Davis