

Atlantic Report

Spring has been very cool in the Atlantic Provinces. There have not been many days above ten degrees in April. The turf has been very slow to get going, and any fall aeration holes are slow to fill in. There are some people with a few thin spots on greens that are exposed. At Chester Golf Club our holes on the coast are at least a week behind the ones inland. We have applied product heavy in pigment to help draw some heat and move them along. Also, as mentioned in Calgary, it acts as a bit of sunscreen in low temperatures and high light conditions as well.

It appears that most people's greens are relatively clean of disease damage, but they are seeing some light damage on tee decks. Most of our damage looks superficial and will grow out with some heat.

Most clubs opened on schedule or maybe a week behind. The snow hung on for a long time, so it was nice to have it not drastically impact opening dates.

It is always a fun time of year for me to watch the passion of seasoned staff as well as introduce new people to the industry. Then it becomes rewarding to watch them develop a passion even if it is just a summer job. It's also rewarding to put the finishing touches on fall projects and see them come to completion. Watching how the golfers react to these changes and improvements, even how they play the hole is always interesting.

In this area we are hoping the temperatures increase and we start to get some heat. With that everyone will be off and running and well into the swing of things!

Matt Blackburn, AGS

Atlantic Director