

## Atlantic Report-December

Golf is all finished in Atlantic Canada, aside from a few courses in the Annapolis Valley and the extreme Western Shore of Nova Scotia. Focus has shifted for everyone to fall projects and putting things to bed for the season. It has been an extremely dry fall here and our Irrigation reservoir still has not recovered. My lake at home is lower now than it was in the summer. It will be a major issue if the ground does not get a chance to get saturated before it freezes. The domestic well at our shop went dry last week.

Everyone has their irrigation systems blown out and are now playing the weather waiting game to get on that final spray at just the right time. It has been a busy few weeks for anyone who waits until they are closed to aerate and top-dress. If anyone else is like us we had to put our fall projects on hold for a couple days until we finished that process. We just didn't have the staff for both.

We have had record numbers of rounds at our place and I'm sure others are the same. There just seemed to be no rainouts which was such a change from last year.

We fought with leaves more this fall than usual. There were no rainy and windy days to knock them all off at once. They just fell steady and created issues for what felt like two months.

When I started at Chester Golf Club, I took the approach to have very little out on the golf course. At this time of year as we gather it all up, it still amazes me how much stuff is out there, and I continue to ask myself is all that necessary? But members habits are hard to break! Slowly making things disappear has been my best strategy.

I wish everyone the best shutting things down and completing everything on their list before the snow arrives. Enjoy the Holidays and take some time to recharge the batteries.

Matt Blackburn  
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AGSA President