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This view of the new maintenance facility at Century CC in Purchase, N.Y., gives no clue of the 6,000-square-foot drive-in basement. Photo by Kevin Seibel, CGCS

(environment)

Next-level maintenance

Completed over the past year and a half, Century CC's new turf maintenance center gives Seibel and his 25-person crew plenty of room to work.

They don't give out Emmys, Oscars or ESPYs for golf course maintenance facilities. But Kevin Seibel, CGCS at Century Country Club in Purchase, N.Y., believes his brand new environmental center is an award-winner nevertheless.

Completed over the past year and a half, Century CC's new turf maintenance center gives Seibel and his 25-person crew plenty of room to work. The building's 12,000-square-foot aboveground footprint conceals an additional 6,000 square feet in the drive-in basement.

"The entire facility is something we're all proud of here and take pride in keeping neat and clean, says Seibel, a 17-year member of GCSAA and Century CC's head superintendent for 11 years.

A special point of pride is the facility's environmental center. Situated in the center of the building and adjacent to the wash pad, the environmental center houses a Carbrol wash water recycle system, which uses activated carbon adsorption and oxidation to treat runoff water from equipment washing before it is diverted to the property's stormwater retention basin. Spill containment and cleanup are integrated into the operation with a Planstar chemical mixing and loading unit, chemical storage and fuel pumps located in the same area.

"It's a tremendous timesaver," Seibel says, adding that the arrangement allows for one crew member to mix spray applications for two sprayer operators in continuous rotation. "They (sprayer operators) just pull up, load up and move on out very efficiently."

Using a 200-gallon rig and a 300-gallon rig to spray Century CC's 30 acres of *Poa annual* bentgrass fairways in just over three hours, the new process shaves two and a half hours off the time it used to take, Seibel says. And time, as Benjamin Franklin famously said, is money.

"I feel like it will pay for itself in three seasons," he says. "We have no problem staying ahead of golf in the mornings. That's a huge thing."

Another plus is the safety factor of the mix/load technology. In addition to avoiding environmental impact from spills, which are quickly contained and treated, the Planstar unit pumps chemical solutions directly into the sprayers, eliminating operator exposure.

The new turf maintenance center, which is situated on the opposite side of the golf course property from the old one, took a year and a half to complete. Seibel's staff was able to carry on operations from the older facility throughout the project, which received strong support from the general manager, Burton Ward, CCM, as well as the membership at the 116-year-old club. Energy-efficient LED lighting throughout the new facility completes the picture.

"Century's membership and management team have always been very progressive when it comes to the environment," Seibel says. "This takes it to another level."



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