

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Keith Thoresen Golf Course Superintendent has been at Agawam Municipal Golf Course for Six and a half years, five of the years as Superintendent. Keith has a Bachelors degree in Plant and Soil Science and an Associates degree in Landscape design. Keith has work at couple other clubs before landing the Superintendent's job here at Aqawam Municipal Golf Course. Responsibilities' include maintaining the golf course as playable and as fair as possible. Also manages the employees and any constructions jobs done to the grounds of the course.



Chad Elliot, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, has Bachelor of Science degree in Turf management from the University of Massachusetts. Chad has worked at several other golf courses before coming to Agawam Municipal golf course. He is responsible for the applications of chemicals to the course and the day to day set up of the golf course.



Allan Brown, is responsible for the preventative maintenance of all the equipment including carts. Allan has worked at several area golf courses before coming to Agawam municipal and has good knowledge of turf related problems and equipment issues.



Karlton (Pete) Hall has been here at Agawam Municipal Golf Course for four years. Pete does most of the construction work when project is being done. He is also responsible for mowing the roughs.



Matt Rheault is your newest employee. He started here as a seasonal employee, and when a full time slot opened during the winter he was able land that position. Matt is responsible for mowing of the fairways and most of the irrigation fixes.

The grounds crew is busy trying to keep up with cutting of the roughs. Due to mechanical problems on the rough mowers the roughs have gotten a bit out of control. Since fixing the problems on the machines, we have lowered the height of cut in attempt to help us maintain them better. Please remember to fix ball marks and replace divots. This helps speed recovery and makes playing conditions better for everyone.

Now that we are entering the summer months with possible thunderstorms and lightning strikes here are some ways to stay safer.

- Seek shelter at the first sign of a thunderstorm. If the course's warning system sounds, take cover.
- If possible, get off the golf course or go to a designated lightning shelter.
- Do not stand under a lone tree. This is where most people are injured or killed.
- Stay away from water.
- Stay away from your golf clubs.
- If your shoes have metal spikes, take them off.
- Move away from your golf cart.
- If stranded in the open, go to a low place such as a ravine or valley

If you have any questions or comments please stop by my office during the day or call my office at 789-4282. You can also e-mail me at [keithAGC@gmail.com](mailto:keithAGC@gmail.com). My assistant, Chad, or I will get an answer to you as quickly as possible.

Thank you,

Keith Thoresen  
Golf Course Superintendent