

## **October 23, 2019**

We are very thankful for a favorable fall this year so that maintenance work can be properly done and in enough time that the grass gets some additional days of recovery. Fall work can be hard on a turf surface but it is the long term benefit that we have in mind.

On October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 experienced operators with equipment did a hollow tine aeration on the fields. This cultural practice will relieve soil compaction, too much turf thatch and improve nutrients and water getting to the roots.

It is best to leave the fields alone for a few days following an aggressive hollow tine aeration to help them recover. On October 16<sup>th</sup> the final application of fertilizer took place. This late Fall formula will only feed and strengthen the roots.

Finally, on October 16 the Fall winterization of the irrigation system took place. The main practice includes winterizing pump and ensuring no water is left in any of the pipes. This must be done before any freezing could occur so that we can avoid burst pipes.

The fields are continuing to be mowed once a week until the last of the turf growth takes place.

From our team at Mountainview, we want to thank OCUA for allowing us to serve you this season. It has been an honor.

## **October 2, 2019**

Welcome to Fall! The remainder of events at the fields are completed but the work is not! As we enter October, it is time to begin the season of remedial work at the fields.

In order to get the fields in top condition for the 2020 season, there are cultural practices that take place in the fall. At times, this work can disrupt play and therefore we wait until the last of the games. This way we can have full access to the fields.

On **October 1<sup>st</sup>** the start of this work took place with the final fertilizer application. A special fall season nutrient makeup that ensures root growth rather than shoot growth. The stronger the root of a turf plant going into winter, the least likely it is to experience disease in the springtime.

This time of year is all about looking forward to the season to come.

The fields are currently being mowed 1–2 times a week as the grass growth has slowed down with the cooler nights.

## **September 11, 2019**

It is the season of repair at the Ultimate fields. The evenings are cool but the days are still long enough and the warm enough to make a big impact on the recovery of the fields with all of the cultural practices Mountainview will do.

On **August 29**, the team headed to the fields to do an overseeding of all 19 fields. This will give the seed lots of time to germinate and root, before the snow begins to fly.

Following the seed application, the team did the 4<sup>th</sup> fertilizer application of the year. The fertilizer used was a Fall formula, 4-14-27. The low nitrogen is ideal for this time of year. The low nitrogen ensures there is not a surge of growth. A lush plant above root, going into the winter can increase the likeliness of turf diseases. Instead, focusing the nutrients on root strength to survive our long and at times, harsh winters.

**September 3** a crew was back at the fields to do a solid tine aeration to help begin to alleviate compaction that may have occurred throughout the year. This will aid in extra oxygen, nutrients and water getting to the root of the plants.

The fields are currently getting mowed 2 times a week. We will begin to see a decline in growth as the evenings continually get cold.

## **August 28, 2019**

As we approach the end of the busy playing season, it is now time to shift our turf focus for the fields from maintenance to recovery. During heavier traffic time, we would like to keep the fields in healthy condition but also not disturb the fields with maintenance. As the Fall approaches, we begin remedial work on the fields with the thought of the fields being in top shape for 2020.

Throughout the last week and a half, loads of topdressing material has been brought to the fields in preparation for work that was to come. On **August 26**, that material was getting put to use but our team and the topdressing units. Topdressing will help to even out some areas of the fields as well as add remedial soil.

The following day on **August 27**, the team arrived again to begin the slice aeration of the fields. This specific aeration is used to remove compaction and increase air flow but have little to no impact on appearance of the fields. Most would not even notice the slices in the earth but the turf certainly notices the difference!

The fields are being mowed 2-3 times a week.

## **August 14, 2019**

The fields are currently in between applications at this time.

The irrigation is being closely monitored.

The fields are currently being mowed at 2–3 times a week.

### **July 30, 2019**

The heat continued for the rest of the month and with No Borders just around the corner our objective was to keep things green!

On **July 11** there was an extensive inspection of the irrigation system. This was to ensure that the system was in perfect working condition as the very hot days were still in the forecast and no rain expected. There was a z-pipe issue that was noticed but thankfully, the system is still operational and the problem can be fixed during an off season time when there is less of a need for irrigation.

With No Borders in the coming days, on **July 18** a full crew arrived at the fields in order to tidy up the site and do any last minute repairs.

The fields are currently being mowed at 2–3 times a week.

### **July 10, 2019**

The heat has arrived and with it, some changes in how we maintain the turf at the Ultimate Park! The fields are closely being monitored for any signs of draught.

On **July 3** it was decided that we would begin the irrigation system. Looking at the long term forecast, it was predicting many days of hot weather and very little chance of precipitation. The irrigation system was turned on and the deep well was also turned on. The precipitation monitor is functioning and the system will only run when a lack of rainfall is detected.

**July 8** we decided to go ahead and apply a slow release summer application of fertilizer. Our objective is to aim this application to release nutrients to optimize the color of the turf for No Borders. We applied a specialized fertilizer that is “slow release” and safe for warm weather. The fertilizer coating will prevent burning of the turf in heat. Instead, the coating will slowly break down and give a continual feed to the plant over the next 6–8 weeks.

We are currently mowing the fields 2 days a week as the grass slows down in growth as it protects itself from draught.

### **June 26, 2019**

Welcome to summer! While there are times it doesn't feel like summer, it is here and the temperatures are starting to increase! With this in mind, we have focused our attention for the last two weeks on the irrigation system at the fields.

On **June 11** we headed to the fields to ensure that the irrigation system was operational and primed. This means that when we need it, it is as simple as a flick of the switch to get the irrigation to begin its schedule and water the fields. However, we were unable to start up the

irrigation system. Upon inspection, it could have been many different things but we decided to attempt an easy gasket replacement before more difficult fixes.

The next day on **June 12**, the gaskets were replaced and it successfully fixed the problem we were occurring with the irrigation system.

On **June 14** Mountainview's external manager continued the maintenance on the irrigation system and pump. The maintenance was a success and the irrigation system is ready when needed.

Upon inspection of the irrigation, some broken heads were detected. This was due from normal wear and tear and on **June 17**, 7 irrigation heads were replaced.

Finally, on **June 26**, a crew from Mountainview headed to the fields to remove 2 fallen trees. One of the fallen trees created a hole in one of the fields and while the team was there, they also fixed this hole to ensure field safety.

The fields are currently being mowed 3 times a week (weather dependent).

### **June 12, 2019**

The nice weather might finally be here! The hope is that things begin drying up and becoming warm, which will aid in the greening of the turf. The warmth is needed to help the roots establish deeper into the soil, making a stronger and healthier plant.

On **May 30**, a crew from Mountainview headed to the fields to do a Spring cleanup. This included whipping the parking lots and picking up debris.

The next day the same crew headed to the fields again to work on irrigation valve boxes.

On **May 31** the team cut out grass that had overgrown on the irrigation valve boxes. During this job they discovered ones that were broken. They proceeded to replace 10 boxes.

Things had finally dried up enough to go out and do an aggressive overseeding on **June 5**. This was done by an experienced operator and the Gill overseeder. The application was focused on area's that were damaged due to lying water on the fields this Spring.

After the overseeding was successfully applied, Mountainview timed the second Spring fertilizer application 2 days later on **June 7**.

**June 7** we also began work on the irrigation system. While the fields don't need water right now, it is something that we want to work on early so that it is as easy as turning on a switch if water is needed. It is also confirmed that the water permit is renewed for OCUA and good for the next 10 years.

Mowing has been busy at the fields as things are growing steadily. It is currently being mowed 3 times a week.

### **May 29, 2019**

After an extremely long winter, we are happy to see some green again and get outside. The long winter has brought with it very damp and wet conditions at the Ultimate park. While there wasn't any ice damage during the **May 1<sup>st</sup>** walk through, later the area experienced heavy

rainfalls in early Spring. This rainfall had nowhere to drain as the soil was already saturated. This resulted in sitting water and the lack of oxygen has caused areas of damage on the fields. An action plan is in place to remediate this.

Despite the wet weather, the mowers were delivered to the fields on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**.

A break in the weather on **May 13<sup>th</sup>**, meant that the first application of Spring fertilizer could be applied to all of the fields.

On **May 16<sup>th</sup>** there was another walk through of the fields. This was to assess the fields and discuss the plans for the upcoming season.

While the weather had been still wet, the grass had been growing and a mowing was necessary on areas that could be done. On **May 17** the fields were mowed for the first time of the season. Not all areas were able to be reached by the large mowers. Therefore to attempt to get the long grass in more saturated parts of the fields, a smaller mower was sent to the fields later in the month (**May 22**).

Mountainviews external manager took a walk of the fields to assess the water damage and formulate a game plan. This took place on **May 20**.

An aggressive overseeding was to take place on **May 28**. The seed and tractor both arrived at the fields and after a quick walk, the operator decided it was too wet. Too much damage would have been done to the fields with the tractor. We will be attempting again next week.