

## Shaker Ridge Completes \$500K Makeover

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### NEW BENTGRASS GREENS OPEN

Just in time for Father's Day, Shaker Ridge Country Club in Latham is unveiling its recently completed \$500,000 bentgrass greens makeover. It become one of the few country clubs in the Capital Area to offer its members this state-of-the-art putting surface.



*Shaker Ridge Country Club's golf course Superintendent Jim Seaman inspects one of the club's new bentgrass greens.*

Bentgrass greens are easier on golf course budgets and the environment, since they require fewer pesticides to fend off troublesome bugs and weeds, as well as less water and fertilizer than annual bluegrass to keep them alive and well, according to superintendent Jim Seaman.

"These bentgrass greens will have a significant impact on the club's bottom line," said Golf Course Superintendent Jim Seaman. "The reduced maintenance time will free up our staff to take on other important projects around the grounds."

Bentgrass is also extremely durable. It can handle extreme temperatures and a higher volume of traffic than annual bluegrass, he said in a press release. The grass was put down in rolls using a unique technique in which the sod is washed prior to installation. This process, which is relatively new to the area, makes the grass more adaptable as roots are able to penetrate deeper into the soil.

The decision to install bentgrass greens came as a result of an infestation of plant-parasitic nematodes (microscopic worms) on its putting greens in 2012. As a result, SRCC decided to install USGA-recommended bentgrass.