New York State Golf Course Improves Mower Washwater and Washwater Recovery Usage

**Challenge**

On a seasonal basis, cleaning of grass mowing equipment and filling of pesticide sprayers take place at several different wash pads around this golf course. It is estimated that 1.4 million gallons/year of well water is used to wash the equipment, resulting in washwater being sent to swales of grass. The golf course would like to achieve a greater than 90% reduction in water use and subsequent wastewater generation.

**Solution**

The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) worked with the golf course to determine cost-effective wastewater management opportunities that include water reduction and recycling approaches. The work performed at the golf course included data gathering to establish a baseline for mower washing, evaluation of reduction and recovery options, and an economic analysis that includes a bill of material of required equipment components.

**Results**

The work performed by NYSP2I led to the following key findings that will help the golf course install a washwater recycling system in 2019.

- Source reduction improvement options were identified which included prewash debris removal with air blowers and using a low flow hose nozzle.

- After implementation of the nozzle, daily washwater use decreased from 865 to 525 gal/day, resulting in a 39% reduction.

- A process to collect and reuse the washwater was designed based on expected water use and future increases.

- Implementation of the recycling system will result in greater than 95% reductions in water use and wastewater discharge.

**NYSP2I PARTNERS**

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