

Black Rock Creek Golf Course

Sunnyside WA

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Introduction

Black Rock Creek Golf Course is an 18 hole course just outside of Sunnyside WA. The course is open as long as there is no snow, and the staff is always excited to see new golfers everyday. For the grounds crew our day would start at 5am.

Responsibilities

- Mowing
- Irrigation
- Cleaning/Maintenance
- Groundskeeping

My jobs on the course changed day to day, Monday through Wednesday I would be fixing sprinklers, irrigating the greens and fairways, or weed wacking areas where the mowers couldn't reach. On Thursdays and Fridays I would be on the Rough mower taking care of the areas along each fairway of the 18 hole course. On weekends that I work I would be responsible for cleaning out every garbage can on the course and making sure that the course bathrooms were also clean.

Summary



Figure 1: Broken pipe that had to be dug up and fixed, you can see tree roots that pushed into the pipe causing the breakage

Working at the Black Rock Creek Golf Course has taught me three major things that I hope to take with me into my future jobs. The first thing is to always do your work with quality, by doing quality work you are insuring that your boss notices the time and effort you put into each task. When it comes to doing quality work on the golf course that translates to grass being cut evenly and short, this ensures that the grass will take a longer time to grow back. The second thing I learned was to always ask for help when it's needed. By asking for help not only are you preventing the situation from getting worse, but you also prevent yourself from doing anything to further enhance the problem. On the course when a sprinkler breaks, we have to spend time digging out the sprinkler in order to find the problem, sometimes the problem is something new for me and I don't know how to fix it, by asking for help I am able to learn how to solve the problem and learn well enough that I am able to fix it myself the next time it occurs. The last major thing that working at the golf course has taught me is to always communicate well with your boss and teammates to make sure that everyone is on the same page. Poor communication between some of our team members led to too many people showing up on a weekend, or jobs being done twice because of miscommunication. By communicating and making sure that everyone on the team knows their responsibilities not only saves everyone time, but also saves the business money.



Figure 2: picture of my dog on a weekend with me while irrigating the course.