

# TURF TALK

The Villages  
Community Development Districts  
Executive Golf

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Spring is finally here, but in The Villages, the spring weather came early! While our golf courses have been busy with play all winter, it is now time to start waking up the grass for the warmer weather ahead.

This is the time of year that we call "transition season", where we are not only transitioning from one season to the next, but also from one turf type to another. It's starting to get a little too warm for the ryegrass that we put on the tee boxes, however it's still a little too cool for the bermudagrass to take back over.

Golf maintenance teams are having to maintain cold season and warm season turf in the same place at the same time! So when you see a tee that looks like the one below, know that it is not dead or dying, the warm season grass is just trying to wake up.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW A GOLF CAR PARKING GUIDE PROVIDED BY THE VILLAGES GOLF & TENNIS](#)

## TURF TIP

Do you know why the green and white stakes on all of the golf courses are there? These stakes indicate areas where we try to reduce traffic to allow turf to heal before driving on the area. They are typically placed along the path where a golfer may park half on the path and half in the grass.

The spring pine straw application is also wrapping up for all of the courses now. Pine straw gives the landscape beds a little pop and helps us with weed control and erosion.



Have you ever seen a green that looks like the one above and wondered what the bright green spots are? These spots are known as "off types" or "contaminated" Bermuda. This means that the physical properties of the hybrid bermudagrass that we use actually changes over time. While it's not very aesthetically pleasing, it is also a sign that the green is aging. A common misconception is that this weed can be sprayed or pulled. Unfortunately, once it starts to take over, it's there until we are able to renovate the greens.