



DEPARTMENT OF
Soil Science

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Golf Course Resource Efficiency Survey

by Michael Bekken and Dr. Doug Soldat

The [Golf Course Resource Efficiency Survey](#) attempts to quantify resource (water, energy, fertilizer, and pesticide) use on golf courses primarily in the US and Europe.

The main goal of the study is to compare resource use levels on golf courses in different locations around the world. We are especially interested in how resource use on golf courses in Scandinavia compares to the northern USA.

Other goals of the study are to determine: 1) the environmental and economic variables that impact resource use the most, and 2) which management practices may be most effective to increase resource use efficiency.

It is important to understand that this is a long survey. The time commitment primarily depends on how organized and available your resource use records are. The reason for the survey length is that it asks a variety of detailed questions about water, energy, fertilizer, and pesticide use. **However, the survey is completely confidential, and any reports derived from the survey will be entirely anonymized.**

There are many benefits to completing the survey:

- \$50-\$100 Amazon Gift Card depending on how much of the survey is completed. \$100 will be awarded for complete surveys.
- Optional resource use benchmarking report: *Resource use at your golf course will be anonymously compared to other golf courses in your region and from the US.*
 - Carbon footprint analysis- carbon emissions and turfgrass sequestration from your golf course maintenance operation.
 - Pesticide risk analysis- the environmental risk of the pesticides applied
 - Water use- total volume of water and depth of water applied
 - Nutrient use- nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium application rates

The survey is available today and can be taken until the end of March. Your Amazon Gift Card will be sent within a week of completing the survey. If you select to receive the resource use benchmarking report, that will be available by the end of 2021.

So please take the survey today! ([Survey Link](#))

Sincerely,

Michael Bekken and Dr. Doug Soldat

Department of Soil Science
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

University of Wisconsin-Madison 1525 Observatory Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1207
608-262-2633 Fax: 608-265-2595 www.soils.wisc.edu