

The Country Club at Castle Pines
6400 Country Club Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Here at The Country Club at Castle Pines we have had ozone in place for an entire growing season and we are now able to document cost savings.

Even without being able to document until recently, the benefits of using the ozone system have been numerous, such as improved infiltration, improved turfgrass color and a better response to hand watering. Many of my initial observations have led to an actual dollars saving enjoyed by the country club.

The savings come in two different forms. The first was a significant reduction in the use of surfactants, and secondly a reduction in overall water usage. Each and every year we make numerous surfactant applications to our tees to combat chronic hydrophobic spots. This past year we were able to eliminate the need for these applications to the tees due to the increased infiltration and reduced surface tension of the water being treated. The elimination of these applications saved The Country Club nearly \$5,500. The second area that we were able to save a significant amount of money was in the total reduction of water used for the year. We were able to reduce the amount of water used by nearly 10%, or just over eight million gallons, or \$7,000. This number was calculated based on several inputs such as degree-days, total precipitation and comparisons to historical usage.

Another area in which I believe we saved money this year would be in the reduction of labor hours used to hand water. This is a figure that I have not yet been able to accurately calculate, but there were many occasions when the staff was able to focus on other details rather than hand water.

Realizing these savings after the first year is very exciting to see, and offers great promise for increased savings for the future.

Sean K. McCue, Golf Course Superintendent