

ERIC GUNESCH

ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT | IRRIGATION & WATER MANAGEMENT

Howey-in-the-Hills, FL • 303-960-3900 • ericgunesch@gmail.com

Florida Commercial Pesticide Applicator License • FL BMP Certified • B.S. Environmental Science

Willing to relocate to Vero Beach / Treasure Coast • Authorized to work in the U.S. for any employer

SUMMARY

Assistant superintendent and irrigation specialist with 9+ years in golf course operations and nearly 20 years across turf, horticulture, and grounds management. Depth in warm-season turfgrass, irrigation programming and central control, IPM and spray program execution, drainage and pump systems, and daily crew supervision. Holds the Florida Commercial Pesticide Applicator License and FL BMP Certification, and has authored a full-season agronomic and infrastructure budget proposal for club ownership. B.S. in Environmental Science aligns directly with Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary standards for water quality, chemical use reduction, and habitat management. Seeking a long-term assistant superintendent seat on a management team where irrigation and agronomic depth contribute immediately and the path runs toward superintendent.

AREAS OF STRENGTH

- Crew Supervision & Personnel Management
- Irrigation Programming & Central Control
- Pump Stations, Mainlines, Valves & Decoders
- Water Management & Evapotranspiration Scheduling
- Fertility, Fungicide & Herbicide Programs
- Daily Course Setup & Hole Locations
- Drainage Design, Installation & Repair
- Application Records & SDS / BMP Compliance
- Crew Safety Training & Onboarding
- Warm-Season Turfgrass (Bermudagrass, Zoysia, Bahia)
- Agronomic Planning & Annual Program Development
- Budget Development & Capital Proposals
- Integrated Pest Management & Scouting
- Spray Calibration, Mixing & Application
- Greens, Tees, Fairways & Bunker Maintenance
- Aerification, Verticutting & Topdressing
- Member Service & Attention to Detail
- Environmental Stewardship & Audubon Standards

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Irrigation Technician Jun 2026 – Present

Victoria Hills Golf Club | DeLand, FL

- Hold playing conditions on an 18-hole course running aging irrigation infrastructure under tight capital constraints — triaging failures, sequencing water, and extending the service life of controllers, heads, and pump equipment past normal replacement intervals.
- Program and adjust irrigation cycles across greens, tees, fairways, and roughs against evapotranspiration, soil moisture, and seasonal agronomic demand using Toro E-OSMAC central control.
- Diagnose and repair controller, decoder, and field-wiring faults at the board level, including legacy satellite and receiver hardware, keeping the system operational without outside vendor spend.
- Assessed the property end to end and authored a costed capital and agronomic proposal for ownership: pump house replacement, controller and rotor replacement (Toro Infinity 35-6 / 55-6, nozzle sizing, full E-OSMAC tower), and a complete annual fertility, fungicide, herbicide, and nematicide program at roughly \$163,000 per year, with nematode pressure and irrigation failure addressed as connected problems.
- Execute fertilizer and pesticide applications and IPM scouting under Florida Commercial Pesticide Applicator License; maintain application records and SDS documentation to state and federal standards.

Irrigation Technician Apr 2023 – Jun 2026

Down To Earth Golf — Legends Golf & Country Club | Clermont, FL

- Supervised golf course maintenance crews; assigned daily work, defined methods and procedures, and supported project scheduling across course operations.
- Maintained and repaired irrigation and drainage systems and operated pump equipment to hold turf quality and water-management targets through Central Florida summer stress.
- Applied pesticides and fertility across greens, tees, fairways, and roughs in line with course standards and regulatory requirements.
- Supported construction and maintenance work on greens, cart paths, and course infrastructure while reinforcing correct equipment use among crew.

Irrigation & Landscape Contractor — Self-Employed Oct 2022 – Apr 2023

Independent | Denver Metro, CO

- Installed, repaired, and winterized residential irrigation systems across Denver-metro properties — controllers, valves, zone wiring, backflow devices, and head replacement.

- Performed landscape installation and renovation for residential clients; relocated for a family matter and returned to Florida golf course operations immediately afterward.

Irrigation Manager / 2nd Assistant Superintendent Apr 2021 – Sep 2022

Down To Earth Golf | Clermont, FL

- Combined irrigation leadership with assistant-superintendent responsibilities: crew direction, project scheduling, repair prioritization, and spray program support.
- Oversaw irrigation and drainage repairs and pump-related work across greens, tees, fairways, and roughs.
- Contributed to construction and maintenance planning for greens, paths, and day-to-day course infrastructure.

Assistant Superintendent / Irrigation Construction Manager Feb 2021 – Apr 2021

Deercreek Country Club | Jacksonville, FL

- Supervised and completed a full irrigation retrofit from Toro hydraulic to Toro electric — delivered without total course closure and with member play uninterrupted throughout.

Assistant Superintendent / Irrigation Foreman Aug 2019 – Jan 2021

Swiss Fairways Country Club | Clermont, FL

- Directed and participated in maintenance of greens, tees, fairways, roughs, and cart paths, supporting daily presentation and playability; trained staff on safe equipment operation.
- Managed enhancement and repair projects including aerification, verticutting, topdressing, bunker repair, sod work, drainage construction, spray applications, irrigation repair, and tee-box renovation.
- Reseeded a portion of the golf course without closures, preserving four days of club revenue.
- Mentored new employees to speed onboarding and reduce turnover; attended meetings and planned the day's play in the superintendent's absence.

Assistant Superintendent May 2019 – Aug 2019

Tusawilla Country Club | Winter Springs, FL

- Assisted in scheduling and directing daily activities of the maintenance staff across greens, tees, fairways, roughs, native areas, ornamentals, and wetlands.
- Supervised and performed fertilizer, herbicide, fungicide, and insecticide applications with full compliance recordkeeping.
- Acted as superintendent in his absence, assuming operational authority for course and crew.

2nd Assistant Superintendent Feb 2019 – May 2019

TPC Treviso Bay | Naples, FL

- Supported the superintendent and first assistant across all phases of maintenance on a TPC-standard facility: staff management, daily setup, agronomic program execution, recordkeeping, applications, and irrigation scheduling and repair.

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

Golf, Turf & Horticulture Roles 2007 – 2018

Eagle Creek Golf Club • Rio Pinar Country Club • Miller Envirocare • Envirofit Turf and Tree • PestBear • Dardano's Flowerland

- Greenskeeper and equipment operator at Eagle Creek Golf Club and Rio Pinar Country Club (2017–2018): full Toro and Jacobsen fleet, bunker work, irrigation repair, course setup, and USGA rules familiarity.
- Turf and ornamental diagnosis, IPM recommendations, and product field-testing across commercial and residential accounts under Florida BMP guidelines (Miller Envirocare, PestBear).
- Superintendent on a contract landscape installation and turf renovation for a large commercial property (Envirofit Turf and Tree).
- Manager / Head Grower at Dardano's Flowerland, Denver, CO (2007–2014): ran greenhouse, nursery, and garden center operations with a staff of 10+ — hiring, scheduling, purchasing, inventory, budgets, and safety standards; directed fertilizer, pesticide, and PGR programs; prepared and presented RFP/RFQ proposals for landscape and lawn service contracts. Relocated to Florida in 2014.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science 1995 – 1999

Metropolitan State University of Denver | Denver, CO

Applied focus across soil science, plant and soil nutrition, IPM, turf management, and water resources.

CREDENTIALS & TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Florida Commercial Pesticide Applicator License • Florida Best Management Practices (BMP) Certification • Valid Florida Driver's License

Toro E-OSMAC central control and field satellites • Toro Infinity rotors • Pump stations and backflow testing • Toro TriFlex and Greensmaster triplexes • Toro Multi Pro sprayers • Jacobsen fairway and rough mowers • Aerifiers, verticutters, sod cutters, topdressers • Tractors, loaders, backhoes, skid steers, trenchers • IBC fertigation