

Published four times a year:
On the 25th of January, April, July and October

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$20 for four issues. Contact the FGCSA office.

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EDITORIAL: All inquiries should be directed to the editor, Joel Jackson, CGCS. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs cannot be returned.

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ON THE COVER: Number 6, Palmetto Golf Club, Miami. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

FOREWORDS

Look for BMPs to be Mandatory!

Well summer is definitely here and I hope most of the state has received some much-needed rain, although as usual Mother Nature overdid it in some areas. We sure didn't need water restrictions on top of everything else we're dealing with right now, especially the slow economy.

Over the past three messages I have tried to encourage our members to look at the checklist in the back of the Golf BMP manual, and I hope that a few of you have tried at least to sit down and look through it. I do not think it is going to be much longer before BMPs will not be just a voluntary set of guidelines, but rather they will be mandated by law, especially for new golf courses. Why not look now and see how you stack up?

Methyl Bromide is definitely on the chopping block and it is going to take some support from all of us in order to keep turf on the label as long as we can until a really viable alternative is developed. So if you get a request for letters and comments to EPA please respond and not assume the guy next door is going to take action. The more we put ourselves out there and show numbers, the stronger we become and the more our voices will be heard. Of course that goes for any product facing cancellation, or local regulation of the green industry such as fertilizer and water use. Get to know your county DEP staff and let them know you are interested in the environment too.

This is my last message as president and it has been an honor to have served in this capacity for the last year. I would like to thank the officers and directors for their service this year and extreme thanks to Joel and Jennifer for all of their



Shane Bass, CGCS
President

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hard work. Without these folks representing us and taking care of the necessary association business, volunteer board service for many of us would be impossible.

And as a final thought, I just encourage everyone to get involved at the local, state or national level. Step up and help out. I'm sure every one of us has skills or ideas that would help our association and our industry. See you at the Crowfoot Open in Orlando where I will hand over the gavel to Bill Kistler.