Northeast
Environmental information
New Jersey's Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute has established a toll-free telephone information service called Right To Know INFOSource to answer questions on environmental and occupational health hazards.
Trained staff will answer calls at 1-800-483-0054 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
They will respond to questions about:
• health effects and safe handling of chemicals, substances or products
• media, government and industry reports
• Right To Know information such as toxic chemical release inventory reports, hazard warning labels, and material safety data sheets; and
• sources of additional information.

W. Virginia fund-raiser
The West Virginia Golf Association and Murray Industries, Inc., are presenting the $10,000 West Virginia Golfers Club of America Tournament, which kicks off Thursday, July 5, at Kernwood Country Club in Salem, W.Va. and concludes Sunday, July 8, at Bob Whitney Country Club in Canton, Mass.

Mountains
IGCSA eyes changes
The Intermountain Chapter has made by-law changes in member classifications and taken steps to become more visible to the golfing public.
President Steve Budge said the by-law change requires each member to earn a minimum of five “education points” each year to retain a class “A” status in the association. Other classifications are B, C, D, and Inactive. Budge said the move “has significantly increased interest and activity at monthly meetings.

Dr. James Beard of Texas A&M University will speak at the IGCSA annual meeting Nov. 14-16 in St. George, Utah. The conference will culminate with a golf tournament. More information is available from Budge at 801-377-4228.

West
Education tour draws
Three days of educational seminars will highlight the Pacific Coast Turf and Landscape Conference and Trade Show, Dec. 12-13 at the Seattle (Wash.) Center.
The seminars will deal with up-to-date industry techniques and theory on pesticide issues, equipment servicing, and landscape and turf care. Washington Pesticide Recertification credits will be available.
More than 60 industry suppliers and distributors will have displays at the show, which is sponsored by the Western Washington GCSA, Washington State University Cooperative Extension and Jones and Associates. Contact Jones and Associates at Park Center Bldg., Suite 200, N. 908 Howard St., Spokane, Wash. 99201-2261; 800-729-0004.

Downing honored
Kevin Downing of Willowywood Country Club was presented the Florida GCSA's Distinguished Service Award at the 14th annual Crowfoot Open in Orlando. A past recipient of the Heart of America GCSA President's Award, Downing has served on numerous committees of the Golf Course Superintendents of America and is a past president of the Florida Turfgrass Association.
The association also honored several other pioneers and founders. It presented President's and Lifetime Service Awards to Bud Quandt of the Pasadena Yacht and Country Club in St. Petersburg, Carl McKinney, retired from the Palm Beach Beaches, and Paul Tuttle, retired from the South Florida Chapter; Bob Sanderson of Del Tura Country Club in Port Charlotte; and Arnie Groves of Hawks Nest Golf Club in Vero Beach.

Southeast
Florida GCSA officers
Ray Hansen of Del Aire Country Club has been elected president of the Florida GCSA. Other officers are Vice President Tom Benfield of JDM Country Club; Secretary-Treasurer Mark Jarrell of Palm Beach National Country Club; and Immediate Past President Joel Jackson of Isleworth Country Club.

Ground water study
The Florida GCSA in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Regulation, U.S. Geological Survey and Florida Turfgrass Association, will undertake a groundwater study to monitor the effects of irrigation.
The study will pair two golf courses in the state's southwest, west coast and central regions. Four test wells will be located on each of the six courses.

The pairings of the courses will use effluent irrigation water and the other will use deep well or surface water.

Courses with similar management programs will be selected. Samples will be drawn to check for infiltration of pesticides and fertilizers.

The superintendents were “eager to join with DER and the USGS to find out how our Florida soils are responding to our turf management programs,” said Florida GCSA Immediate Past President Joel Jackson of Isleworth Country Club.

Missouri conference
Reports on the grass clippings recycling campaign “Don't Bag It” and the latest in turf management and pest control will highlight the 30th annual Missouri Lawn and Turf Conference in St. Louis, Dec. 10-12.

Dr. Elot Roberts, director of the Lawn Institute was at the first conference in 1960, will speak on “The Turfgrass Industry Then (1900) and Now (1990).”

After the first day, which will be devoted to workshops, the next two days’ sessions will be devoted to golf course construction, fertility, black layer on greens and Zoysia grass, lawn care forecast for the 1990s, employee motivation and safety, thatch, pesticides, biostimulants and the new tall fescue grasses, athletic field seeding, disease control and soil stabilization.

Junior college turf program
Kansas City area junior colleges are offering night courses on a wide range of turf subjects, following successful spring courses on pesticides at Johnson County and Longview community colleges.

The turf program, being supported by the Heart of America GCSA, includes botany, turfgrass management I and II, soils, general chemistry, irrigation and installation, plant identification I and II, pest management, turf/ornamentals, landscape design, ecology and horticulture.

More information is available from HAGCSA President Kal Howorth at 937-648-4848.

Central Turfgrass Exposition
90, Dec. 4-6 in Springfield, Ill.
Superintendents and directors Dec. 4 are: Dr. Joseph Vargas Jr. of Michigan State University, discussing “Patch Diseases and Problems with Sand Turf;” Dr. James Beard, associate professor in the University of Illinois Department of Plant Pathology, who will explain “Fertility Testing” for turf; and Dr. Robert Simmens, assistant professor at the University of Illinois Department of Plant Science and Soil Science, who will take care of ornamental grasses, Dr. Clark Throssell of Purdue University Department of Agronomy will speak on Integrated Pest Management for lawn grasses.

Contact the Illinois Turfgrass Association, 45 North 8th Ave., Suite 1217, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

North Central
Heart of America nominees
As its Nov. 13 annual meeting approaches, the Heart of America GCSA is accepting nominations for officers and directors, and for the annual Mendenhall and Superintendent of the Year awards.
The Superintendent of the Year Award is presented by the HAGCSA golfs course superintendent whose course is considered in a high quality of maintenance and who is active in the association. The Mendenhall Award is presented to an individual whose contributions have greatly benefited the group.

People should submit names for the awards to a HAGCSA board member, and nominations for officers to Dave Fears at Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, Mo. Telephone 8169421187.

South Central
“Don’t Bag It” cited
“Don’t Bag It,” a lawn care program that supports the movement toward recycling of grass clippings, has earned the Environmental Protection Agency’s award of excellence for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Dallas.
More than 35 cities in Texas have adopted the program since it was developed by Dr. R.B. Yano, turfgrass specialist with the Extension Service in Dallas, and piloted by the Tarrant County Extension Office and city of Fort Worth.

The program includes specific instructions for mowing, fertilizing and watering. While it calls for more frequent mowing, studies showed that participants spent 25 percent less time mowing.

“The important thing about ‘Don’t Bag It’ is that people who want to make a difference in preserving the environment can do something that works — and do it immediately with very little time or money,” Knoop said.

During summer months, grass clippings increase the volume of solid waste by 10 percent, and landfill space is disappearing at alarming rates nationwide, he said.

Northwest city officials estimate the program prevented about 25,000 bags of clippings from going into the landfill last year.

City beautification Extension agent Bob Whitney, who directed the Fort Worth program, received the EPA award for solid waste management at a ceremony in Austin.

Superintendents associations and others were invited to send news stories for Golf Course News, P.O. Box 907, Yarmouth, ME 04036.

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