Top dressing breakthrough: Crumb rubber

By MARK LESLIE

WILMINGTON, Ohio — After five years of extensive study, Michigan State University (MSU) researchers are recommending crumb rubber, or finely chopped automobile tires, as a top dressing for high-traffic areas on golf courses and athletic fields.

"As much as we incorporated it into the soil profile, we never saw the panacea that people wanted. But we did find great results when top dressing it onto established turf," Dr. John "Trey" Rogers III of MSU said of crumb rubber.

"When we incorporated it, the rubber..."

Claims drain funding for UST clean-up

By PETER BLAIS

Nebraska recently delayed the clean-up of some 6,000 contaminated underground storage tank (UST) sites because its state-controlled cleanup fund is almost out of money. This spring, cash-strapped New Mexico diverted half the $14 million in its UST clean-up and indemnification fund to other uses.

Michigan declared its fund insolvent in April and went out of business for good June 29, forcing tank owners there to seek private insurance to meet the federal mandate of $1 million in liability coverage per incident.

State UST funds in Florida and Illinois could soon run out money, according to Dennis Rounds, State UST division director.

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