Texas officials say their standards for certification conform to and surpass those of the Environmental Protection Agency.

**North Central**

**COLLEGES GET CASH**

CHICAGO — Cash awards were presented to eight colleges and universities for participation in the Career Center at the Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show held here last January. Joliet (Ill.) Junior College received $600 in recognition of having sponsored the highest attendance, with 65 students participating in Career Center activities. Other schools in the top four, receiving $450 each, included the University of Illinois at Champagne (27 students), College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn (21 students), and College of Lake County in Grayslake (16 students).

Cash awards of $200 went to Milwaukee Area Technical College of Mequon, Wis.; Gateway Technical College of Kenosha, Wis.; Iowa State University at Ames; and Illinois Central College of East Peoria. A total of 29 educational institutions participated in the Career Center.

Attendance at the Career Center gave students the chance to meet and discuss employment opportunities with representatives from 91 participating companies. A total of 227 students were on hand for this year’s event, up from 153 in 1995.

**Mountains**

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONCLAVE SET**

DENVER, Colo. — More than 30 topics will be offered this year at the Rocky Mountain Turf Conference, Dec. 4-6, in a new format in the form of workshops, technical seminars and service seminars.

Held at Currrigan Hall, the workshops will precede the concurrent seminars, plus several key topics of the program will be repeated throughout the conference to enable everyone who is interested to attend. Service Technical Seminars will also be included in the program once again this year.

**Southeast**

**$45K RAISED FOR ENVIROTRON**

HOMOSASSA SPRINGS, Fla. — The fourth annual Envirotron Golf Classic, held by the Seven Rivers Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association at World Woods Golf Resort here, raised $45,000 for the Envirotron Research Laboratory at the University of Florida.

The tournament’s net proceeds will go to the Envirotron research equipment fund. The inaugural event in 1991, yielded a $22,500 donation, followed by $30,000 in 1994 and $35,000 in 1995.

Funded in part by the Florida Turfgrass Association, the Envirotron is a 3,100-square-foot research field laboratory, which opened in 1993. It includes a greenhouse, four climate-controlled glass houses, two walk-in growth chambers, two labs, study areas, classrooms and offices.

Designed to study and develop new grasses, the Envirotron's research focuses on turfgrass with biological, environmental and cultural factors, the Envirotron allows scientists to study the entire turfgrass system from root to blade. Its primary studies deal with temperature modifications, noise abatement, pollution and water purification, as well as the aspects of turfgrass culture.