Greg Hubbard, former editor of Hole Notes and our likeable colleague at Manitou Ridge, sent along some interesting information about environmental safety.

A new research report from The Center for Golf Course Management (CGCM) confirms that golf course superintendents consider environmental safety to be an extremely important priority in maintaining their courses.

In its nationwide study, CGCM concludes that superintendents are "very concerned about choosing maintenance practices that will not negatively affect the environment."

This reaction was very evident from the responses.

When asked to rate their level of concern about the environment when making maintenance decisions, responses from superintendents averaged 6.27 on a 7-point scale, where "7" represented the highest level of concern.

When asked to rank special areas of concern, superintendents gave groundwater protection the highest priority. Notifying the public of chemical applications, water-use restrictions and regulations on underground storage tanks and hazard communication also were cited as priority concerns.

John Schilling, executive director of our national association, notes that the survey provides "strong evidence that our members are fully committed to doing their jobs in an ecologically responsible manner." He also said that "the study clearly shows that golf course superintendents are very well informed about our nation's environmental priorities."

Known as Buying Habits of Golf Course Superintendents, the study was conducted by CGCM as part of a major new research effort to determine trends in golf course maintenance and to track the purchasing and budgeting practices of superintendents.

A recently created GCSAA subsidiary, CGCM performs market research to document facts and trends in the maintenance and management of golf courses. Several prepared reports are now available through the Center, and companies can custom design reports on individual research topics.

According to Schilling, several of the industry's leading corporations already have purchased copies of the Buying Habits report, which is available through CGCM for $945.

The Maintenance Trends Report, which documents the opinions of certified golf course superintendents on five key maintenance practices and industry trends, can be obtained for $100. For more information, call CGCM at 1-800-472-7878.

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Jack Kolb from Turf Supply has informed me that Calo Chlor will not be accepted by UPS for shipment. Calo Chlor is a fungicide used to control snow mold on golf course greens and tees. Golf courses in the outlying areas will have a very difficult time obtaining the fungicide if UPS will not deliver it.

—Bill Johnson, Editor