GCSAA members attending this year's U.S. Open are cordially invited to a GCSAA hospitality reception, according to Scott Smith, GCSAA public relations manager.

The reception will be held Friday, June 14, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel South in Bloomington, Minn. “This is an excellent opportunity for our members to visit with fellow superintendents and other industry representatives from across the country who come to the Open,” said John Schilling, GCSAA executive director. “Last year's reception in Chicago was a big success. We're looking forward to the same results this year.”

VIPS from the USGA and PGA, plus other golf and turf industry officials also will be attending the reception.

The 1991 U.S. Open will be played June 13-16 at Hazeltine National GC in Chaska, Minn., where Chris Hague, CGCS, is superintendent. Hague and his staff will be honored at the reception.

In addition to GCSAA's reception, the Minnesota GCSAA chapter will host a hospitality tent on the Hazeltine course grounds during the tournament. All GCSAA members attending the Open are invited to stop by to enjoy the shade and some cool refreshments.

Smith reminds GCSAA members who hold gold membership cards that the USGA will provide them with complimentary daily admission to the U.S. Open. Spouses who accompany those members will receive the same admission privileges.

To receive complimentary daily admission, superintendents should present their gold membership cards at the “Will Call” window each day that they wish to attend. Smith recommends that members who plan to attend the Open should call ahead to the USGA or Hazeltine to arrange for their complimentary tickets.

Wetlands Conviction Stands

Does the punishment fit the crime? The U.S. Supreme Court refused to review a case in which a developer was sentenced to a three-year prison term and fined $200,000 for illegally dumping landfill in a wetlands area.

The defendant's law firm claimed that the punishment was not proportionate to his act. However, the sentence was clearly meant to send a message, especially to those who recklessly disregard the law.

To help control the loss of wetlands, superintendents should recognize the presence of any wetlands on the course, obtain the necessary permits and carefully maintain them. For more information on wetlands, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, DC 20240.