There is another concern I have. By focusing on a hypothetical risk, like that from pesticides, not only do people find their anxiety levels elevated, but by focusing on a straw man, they also feel they are doing something to improve their health.

In doing so, they often neglect all the other things that they could be doing more readily, more legitimately and with greater effect, such as paying attention to smoking, alcohol, exercise, balanced diet and so on.

Our food is not only the safest but also the most abundant in the world. Science and good sense will eventually prevail, but not until the pesticide terrorists have had another lick or two.

Bethesda Country Club will host a GCSAA technical training seminar on Thursday, November 18. These meetings are designed to provide additional training for the superintendent’s support staff.

Specifically, Bethesda’s seminar is designed for Irrigation Specialists discussing irrigation efficiency and system maintenance. Participants will learn about:

- Soil-plant-water relationships to improve field judgment
- Reducing water usage by raising efficiency
- Using evapotranspiration values to calculate plant needs
- Measuring soil infiltration rates
- Troubleshooting components
- Evaluating water quality and effluent use
- Head layout and sprinkler performance

Cost: $95 per person. Reservations can be made (with a credit card) through GCSAA: phone-913-832-4444 or fax-913-832-4449.

As always, if you need further information, please contact me at 301-365-0100.

Dean Graves,
Education Chairman

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Terry Asphalt

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