

## CHANGES IN THE PESTICIDE WORKER SAFETY REGULATIONS - Bob Livesey

Only those items that pertain to golf course or park usage are being published. These items are excerpts from a letter received from the Department of Food and Agriculture.

1. The pesticide worker safety regulations provide that employees of agriculture pest control operators shall not hand pour liquid pesticides displaying the signal word "DANGER" on the label after April 1, 1977. Employees of growers, governmental agencies, golf courses and others shall not hand pour such liquid pesticides after July 1, 1977. Extensions of these dates may be granted up to December 31, 1977, if the employer has written evidence that a closed system is being built or has been ordered.
2. Federal law states that no person shall apply restricted use pesticides after October 21, 1977 unless that person is certified or is supervised by a certified applicator. Refer to next article for information on certification requirements.

### CERTIFICATION FOR APPLICATORS OF RESTRICTED MATERIALS

In 1972, the United States Congress amended the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The two key provisions are: (1) the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must classify all pesticide products for either "general" or restricted" use, and (2) restricted use pesticides may be used only by, or under direct supervision of, certified applicators.

General use pesticides are those that will not ordinarily cause unreasonable adverse effects to the user or the environment when used in accordance with their registered labeling instructions. Such products will be available to the public without further restrictions other than those specified in the labeling.

Restricted use pesticides are those which may cause adverse effects to the environment or the applicator unless applied by competent persons who have demonstrated their ability to use these products safely and effectively. Such persons will be identified through an applicator certification program.

California currently has a list of restricted materials (pesticides). However, California intends to add any pesticide which EPA designates as being a restricted use pesticide to California's list of restricted materials.

FIFRA provides for two types of applicators:

- (1) Private applicators--farmers, ranchers, orchardists, or other applicators who use or supervise the use of restricted materials to produce an agricultural commodity on property they own or rent.