

HOW THE EPCRA WORKS IN CALIFORNIA

As a response to growing concerns about the effects of chemical releases on communities, the U.S. Congress enacted the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) in 1986. The act supports state and local emergency planning efforts and provides citizens and local governments with information concerning potential chemical hazards present in their communities by requiring reports from businesses—including golf courses—that deal with hazardous chemicals.

California's Hazardous Material Release Response Plans and Inventory law requires businesses with specified quantities of hazardous materials to develop emergency contingency plans. The law was amended in 1988 to mesh state business plan requirements with federal EPCRA requirements.

The California Office of Emergency Services administers the law. Each county must implement the law except where a city has assumed responsibility

and has exclusive jurisdiction. The city ordinance must contain business reporting requirements similar to or more restrictive than the state law, and the city must notify the county of its ordinance and coordinate efforts to avoid duplication.

The law covers all employers that store or use hazardous substances. Golf Course operations that use or store a hazardous substance or a mixture containing a hazardous substance equal to or exceeding 500 pounds, 55 gallons or 200 cubic feet of compressed gas must develop a business plan. Additionally, any facility with an extremely hazardous substance that exceeds the chemical's threshold planning quantity must develop a business plan.

Business plans must include:

- chemical inventory list
- emergency response plans
- evacuation plans
- procedures for the mitigation of a release
- employee training programs

Business plans are subject to biennial review. Individuals reviewing the business plans are granted immunity from liability for damages or injuries resulting from an inadequate or negligent review of the plan. Any business plan revisions must be reported to the administering agency.

Releases or threatened releases of a hazardous substance must be reported immediately to the administering agency. Any business required under EPCRA to submit follow-up notification of a release must do so on forms approved by the California Office of Emergency Services.

Any employer who fails to file a business plan may be assessed a civil

penalty not to exceed \$2,000 per day. Any employer who fails to report a release or threatened release may be fined \$25,000 per day of violation, and for subsequent convictions for release non-reporting, the employer may be fined up to \$50,000 per day.

If a violation contributes to an emergency response activity, including a fire, the business is also responsible for the full cost of the county or city emergency response and the costs of cleaning up and disposing of the hazardous materials.

A reward of up to \$5,000 is available for any person who provides information contributing to the assessment of civil penalties for noncompliance.

RELATED LAWS

Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, prohibits the discharge of chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. Proposition 65 also requires employers, including golf courses, to provide the public with a clear and reasonable warning of chemicals in products that may cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.

Further regulations have been proposed to expand the list of chemicals covered under Proposition 65 and to clarify the warning requirement.

An air toxins law, known as the Hot Spots Law, requires facilities to submit biennially a proposed emission inventory plan for on-site hazardous substances reportable under a state-developed list.

COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW CONTACTS

For emergency release notification, call 800/852-7550.

For general information, call the Office of Emergency Services at 916/

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BACK TO THE FUTURE

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On the other hand, maybe we can prepare to the future now, since the change is inevitable and superintendents will be virtually powerless in its wake. Pesticides will be banned no matter how many lobbyists we employ. Golfers are going to have to accept that fact.

Those Scottish chaps have not nurtured the game of golf for centuries by accident. They have something to teach us. Perhaps the way back to the future lies on the other side of the Big Pond.

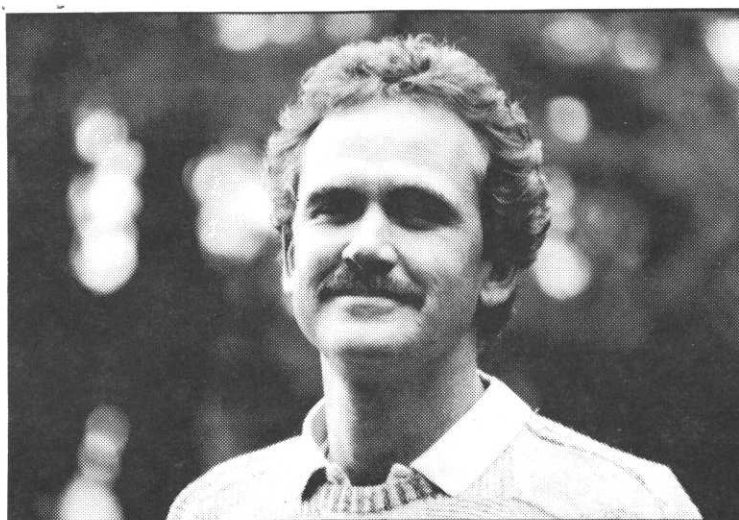
Article by Mike Bailey, Superintendent at The Falls CC, Lake Worth, Florida. As seen in *The Florida Green*, Winter 1990.

EXCELLENCE IN TURF MANAGEMENT AWARD WINNER

Dean Gump, superintendent at Pasatiempo Golf Club in Santa Cruz, was recently awarded the Excellence In Golf Turf Management award for Northern California.

"I was very flattered and honored to have received the excellence in Golf Turf Management Award from my peers," Dean stated in a recent letter to the editor. "Thank you again and I will definitely work harder this year to support our association!"

Congratulations Dean!



**Dean Gump, Pasatiempo G.C. Superintendent
Excellence In Turf Management Award winner**

NEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE GCSANC FOR MAY

Please join us in welcoming to our Association the following new members.

Class D

Thomas Bender, Silverado CC
Virginia Lozier, Palo Alto GC

Class F

Frank Martin, Martin Irrigation
Supply, Seaside

Pending Exams

Carol Lozito, Snowcreek GC Class A
Darshan Dass, Canyon Lakes CC
Class B

Ed Thiele, CGCS, superintendent

of Napa Valley CC has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). Thiele has been Superintendent of Napa Valley CC since 1984. Congratulations Ed!

DEL MONTE GOLF RESULTS

LOW GROSS

Armando Claudio	74
Alasdair Brownlie	74
Steve Good	77
Ross Brownlie	78

LOW NET

Clayton Hughes	67
Terry Stratton	68
Fred Hanker	69
Gale Wilson	70
Sohan Singh	71
Barry Sheppard	72

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427-4287. For emergency planning notification and document submissions, call Chemical Emergency Planning and Response Commission (CEPRC) at 916/427-4287.

Submit follow-up release notification, material safety data sheets (MSDSs) and chemical inventories to CEPRC, 2800 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA 95832.

Submit annual toxic chemical release forms to Office of Environmental Affairs, P.O. Box 2815, Attn: Section 313 Submittals, Sacramento, CA 95812.

Information provided in this article was supplied by GCSAA

A LOOK AHEAD

May 7	Sequoyah CC	Sept. 7	Mira Vista CC
May 20-21	CGCSA State Meeting The Inn and Links at Spanish Bay	Sept. 20, 21	GCSAA Sierra Nevada Seminar
June 8	De Laveaga GC	October 9, 10, 11	Supt. Institute at Mt. Springs, Sonora
July 16	Supt/Pro Tourney Palo Alto Hills CC	November 9	Claremont CC
August 16	Northgate CC-Reno Joint Meeting with Sierra Nevada	December 7	Larry Lloyd Memorial Tournament at Rancho Canada