

Air Quality Regulations (Cont'd)

things with probably more expensive equipment, more hand labor, and yes, probably with more increased water usage. Increased water usage you may say? A little fun fact that you may not know is that the hand/backpack blower was invented as a response/need resulting from the 1977 California drought. People couldn't hose off their driveways or sidewalks anymore and a need to keep areas clean and free of debris were realized. Hence the invention of the backpack blower and a savings of water usage. It would be probably safe to say that with these items gone from the California marketplace our water usage at our facilities would increase. Either that or we would have to use more manpower to keep clubhouse areas neat and tidy.

These two-cycle engine products attribute to only less than 1% of all the total air emissions in the state of California, yet make up over 8% of the total U.S. market in sales; a huge figure that suppliers and manufacturers wish to keep improving on. These suppliers/manufacturers that are fighting this proposed regulation change belong to an organization called PPEMA or The Portable Power Equipment Manufacturers Association. Hopefully with allied industry help the PPEMA will be able to stall and keep the CARB regulations of 81% reduction from being implemented. The CGCSA is presently being advised by our lobbyist, George Steffes, on how to respond properly to this issue. More updates will be give as issues materialize.

CGCSA Cadre Of Volunteers Being Organized

This past year has been a good one for our profession on the government relations end. The CGCSA hired a lobbyist out of Sacramento and that lobbyist, George Steffes, and his firm succeeded in helping us introduce, sponsor and pass legislation that will eventually legalize the sterile grass carp throughout the state of California. That project was just the first of what we hope

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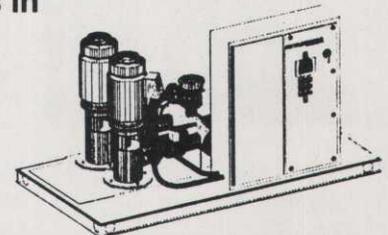
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Volunteers Being Organized (Cont'd)

to be many forays into Sacramento as we try and get the message to our legislators on just who we are and what we do.

This coming year, George Steffes will help us plan for the future by helping our members organize into a tight cadre of volunteers who wish to enlist in a grass roots program. These volunteers will be trained in the grass roots basics of politics and will be asked for possible suggestions on possible grass roots events. From there we will find out who our friends are in the state legislature (golfers) and invite those legislators to attend our meetings and events to perhaps heighten their awareness of our profession. Right now George Steffes, Inc. is developing a computer file that would be able to match any particular golf facility with the legislator in that district. All we need now is the volunteers. Anyone interested? If so, please give me a call or drop me a line via email at: jchust@softcom.net.

I will be traveling a lot next year to each of the chapters with George Steffes hopefully, to explain this program and to enlist those individuals that want to help and make a difference. Why wait though . . . give me a call . . . drop me a line and volunteer. Better do it before I call and ask you! 

Did You Know?

Did you know that rain keeps the earth dry? The process that results in rain, gathers moisture from the air and concentrates it in clouds, which later deposits the water in the form of rain. If this moisture didn't condense to form rain, then the atmosphere would be unbearably humid, the entire earth would be covered with moisture, and life, as we know it, probably wouldn't exist. If it brings any comfort, you can look at this winter's excessive rainfall as simply . . . "moisture gathering."

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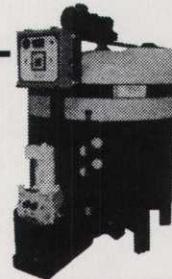
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