Thomas C. Atkins was presented the Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Association Nurseryman of the Year Award for 1977 at the PNA Annual Banquet held in conjunction with the 1978 Pennsylvania Nurserymen's and Allied Industry Conference at Pennsylvania State University. The award is presented to the individual who has, through his accomplishments, achieved great strides in advancing the nursery industry in Pennsylvania.

Atkins is currently president of Erb Brothers, a wholesale nursery and landscape firm in Lancaster. He is also serving as chairman of the PNA Research Fund and was co-chairman of the aforementioned conference. He is a registered landscape architect.

Wayne J. Watkins has been appointed sales representative for Rancho Verde Turf Farms. Watkins attended California State Polytechnic University where he studied ornamental horticulture with emphasis on turfgrass management. He also was the recipient of the Southern California Golf Course Superintendent Scholarship for 1977.

David J. Hayes has joined the staff of Great Western Seed Company at their headquarters in Albany, Oregon. Hayes' new capacity will include production, marketing, and new product development, with special emphasis on expanding the company's existing position in the forage seed markets. He had been working as an agronomic consultant throughout the Willamette Valley. Great Western Seed is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lofts Pedigreed Seed Company of Boundbrook, New Jersey.

William D. Ruckelshaus is the featured speaker at the opening of the Pacific Horticultural Trade Show scheduled for the Anaheim Convention Center in California, September 20-22. Ruckelshaus has served as Federal Administrator of EPA, acting director of the FBI, and deputy attorney general of the United States. He is currently senior vice president of the Weyerhaeuser Company based in Seattle.

Cuyahoga County presiding probate judge Francis J. Talty has announced the appointment of Eleanore B. Kapel to the Cleveland (Ohio) Metroparks System Board of Park Commissioners. Kapel, the wife of northeastern Ohio builder and developer Milan S. Kapel, is actively engaged in the management and operation of Kapel Management which has its headquarters in suburban Euclid, Ohio. She serves as an elected officer and director of several Kapel corporations in Ohio that are involved in real estate, recreation and lodging.

"The appointment of Eleanore B. Kapel to the Metropolitan Park Board is the most recent extension of a long line of services to worthy private and public causes that have characterized her and her family," Judge Talty said in announcing Mrs. Kapel's appointment.

Among the enterprises of Milan S. Kapel is the Berkshire Hills Country Club in Chesterland, Ohio. Because of this personal involvement and activity in golfing, tennis, horseback riding and other outdoor recreation, Mrs. Kapel's prime interest, no doubt, will be the operation and improvement of the Metropark system's six championship and excellent golf courses, plus the nearly 20,000 acres of prime recreational facilities provided by the Parks system in a wide, three-county area.

The Weathermatic Division of Telisco Industries has awarded their annual scholarship to Robby D. Layton. The $500 stipend is awarded annually to a park administration major at Texas Tech's School of Horticulture. Layton was chosen because of his excellent scholastic record. He is also active in the student chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and has worked summers with park departments in Austin, Texas and Boulder, Colorado.

Deputy Administrator Karl S. Bowers has been named acting administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. He took over the new post following the May 1 resignation of Administrator William M. Cox, who is returning to his home state of Kentucky.

A native of Estill, S.C., Bowers joined the Federal Highway Administration as deputy administrator a year ago after having served three years as the first chairman emeritus (1976) and state highway commissioner with the South Carolina State Highway and Public Transportation Commission. He is a captain in the Air National Guard, and a former judge of Magistrate's Court of Hampton County, S.C.