

## Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act

As you may already know, the Illinois state legislature has passed the Lawn Care Products Application and Notice Act, which takes effect January 1, 1990. This act is mainly geared toward the lawn care industry, and applicators for hire, and addresses three main concerns: 1) notification of homeowners as to pesticide/fertilizer applications to their lawns, with installed warning makers ("posting"); 2) prior notification of an upcoming application to neighboring dwellers when requested; and, 3) requirement for wash water and rinsate collection systems.

However, there are separate sections of this legislation with specific wording toward **golf courses**. A "blanket posting" procedure has been established for golf courses to satisfy the notification requirement for application of pesticides. A sign with specific size, lettering and wording requirements must be posted in conspicuous places such as the pro shop, locker rooms and 1st tee. The sign explains that plant protectants are periodically used on the golf course, and further information can be obtained by contacting the superintendent.

Golf course superintendents will have to notify adjacent residents of upcoming spray applications, when requested by the neighboring parties. This "prior notification" is to be made at least 24 hours before a scheduled application. If an emergency application must be made, residents requesting notification should be notified immediately. This point is not addressed directly in the bill, but the bill does to preclude emergency applications.

Finally, the bill states that no washing or rinsing of pesticide residues can be made at a facility except in designated wash areas that satisfy specific construction requirements (concrete pad, capture tank, etc.) Again, this applies mainly to applicators for hire, but many golf operations will be subject to this section. **NOTE** that this rinsate collection system must be in place by Jan 1, 1992 — not 1990. Also, as presently interpreted, the rinsate collection requirement may not apply to golf courses where spray tank loading, rinsing, and cleaning can be done out on the golf course away from the shop or other buildings. If you have specific questions, contact the Ill. Dept. of Agriculture at Springfield, preferably in writing.

R. T. Kane, U of I/CDGA Turf Advisor

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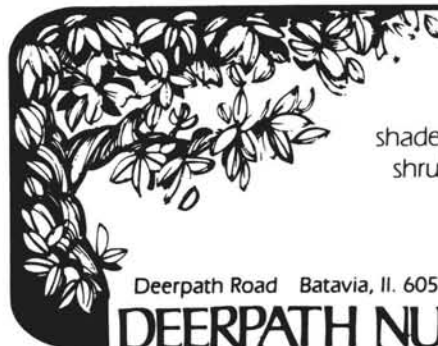


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