

## Terminology in government regulations

As an *easy* reference, here are some of the most common abbreviations used in reference to golf course regulations and environmental controls.

**BMP (Best Management Practice)** — An environmental term comprising stormwater detention ponds, grass-lined ditches, buffer strips of natural vegetation adjacent to water bodies and other measures reducing non-point source pollution.

**CAA (Clean Air Act)** — Federal law which sets emission standards for motor vehicles and stationary sources.

**CFR (Code of Federal Regulations)** — The compilation of United States Laws.

**CWA (Clean Water Act)** — Federal law which regulates the discharge of pollutants into surface waters.

**DER (Department of Environmental Regulations)** — Establishes the broad range of regulations to protect the environment.

**EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)** — The federal agency responsible for enforcement of federal environmental laws. (DER)

**FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act)** — The federal law which governs the registration, application and use of pesticides - probably the most important law affecting course superintendents.

**HazCom (Hazard Communication Standard)** — The federal

regulation which requires employers, including superintendents, to provide employees with information and training on hazardous chemicals in their workplace.

**LUSTs (Leaking Underground Storage Tanks)** — For which courses must take corrective action as required by RCRA.

**MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet)** — Manufacturers and distributors are required to provide an MSDS for each hazardous substance. The MSDS contains safety, first aid and emergency information on the product.

**OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration)** — The federal agency which oversees and regulates workplace health and safety.

**RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)** — The federal law which regulates the management and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes.

**SARA (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986)** — Which expands the earlier Superfund Act.

**TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act)** — The federal law which authorizes EPA to gather information on chemical risks.

**UST (Underground Storage Tank)** — A tank with 10 percent or more of its volume underground with piping attached to the tank, regulated by RCRA.

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## Leaching of Lawn Pesticides Little Threat to Groundwater

by Kurt R. Knebusch

Wooster, OH — Scientists at Ohio State University have found there is little or no downward movement of pesticides applied to lawns and golf courses.

Harry D. Niemczyk and Adam A. Krause say their findings could help allay concern that lawn-care chemicals are leaching into soil and contaminating groundwater.

"People have been saying that pesticides applied to turfgrasses are getting into the groundwater," says entomologist Niemczyk. "Our data says that's not true."

Niemczyk says there was little or no pesticide leaching in their field studies.

To determine the downward movement, or vertical mobility, of the pesticides, Niemczyk and Krause applied six herbicides and nine insecticides to turfgrasses in separate, one-year experiments.

They found that almost all the pesticide residues remained in thatch if thatch was present.

If thatch was not present in the turfgrass, most residues stayed in the top 2.5 centimeters of the soil, he says.

The herbicides tested were benefin, trifluralin, pendimethalin, bensulide, oxadiazon and chlorthal-dimethyl. Insecticides tested were isofenphos, diazinon, trichlorfon, ethoprop, chlorpyrifos, isazofos, fonofos, carbaryl and bendiocarb.

"We wanted to find out what happens when pesticides are applied to turfgrasses," Niemczyk says. "Very few studies have been conducted on how these materials behave once they are applied."

"I would hope people would have confidence that what they're doing to lawns is not contributing to groundwater contamination."

The studies will be conducted again next year.

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## Dr. Waddington Honored

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council announced the recipient of its highest award, the Distinguished Service Award, at the Western Pennsylvania Turf Conference held in Monroeville, Pennsylvania, recently. Dr. Donald V. Waddington, Professor of Soil Science, The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Agronomy, received the award in recognition of his outstanding leadership and contributions to the turfgrass industry. Dr. Waddington has been a member of the Penn State faculty for 25 years, and prior to that position he was at the University of Massachusetts for five years. Waddington is widely recognized for his research dealing with turfgrass fertilization, soil modification, and surface characteristics of athletic fields. Courses taught by Dr. Waddington cover soil related problems on turfgrass areas as well as other aspects of turfgrass management. A number of his former graduate students are active in research, teaching, and extension at other universities. He has been active in professional societies, having served as chairman of the Turfgrass Division in the Crop Science Society of America, and currently serving as editor of the American Society of Agronomy monograph on turfgrass science. In 1986, he was elected Fellow in the American Society of Agronomy, an honor based on professional achievements and meritorious service.

Dr. Waddington serves as a member of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council Technical Advisory Committee and as a member of the planning committees for the Eastern and Western Pennsylvania Turf Conference which are co-sponsored by the Turfgrass Council and Penn State. He has been a strong supporter of the concept of Penn State and the Turfgrass Council working together to provide the best possible educational opportunities for those in the turfgrass industry.