

(Keepers of the Green continued)

was usually to mix up a vat of arsenic-based nasties and apply liberally, isn't necessarily the best long-term way to ensure lush greenery. Superintendents today have the sophistication of an ecobiologist who understands both chemical and natural means of killing pests and turf diseases. On-course studies of chemical effects and after effects are up, and the use of harmful stuff is down. Today's golf course is usually built with a special concrete wash-up area for draining and flushing chemical-bearing equipment, again to prevent unwanted runoff."

"Still, misinformation is ripe in today's green age. The New York State Environmental Protection Bureau issued a report in 1991 on health-related questions about golf and the environment. The report was provocatively titled 'Toxic Fairways', but the authors could only **speculate** about potential dangers of pesticides leaking into the groundwater: they simply **didn't have enough evidence**. Later, a team of scientists investigated ground water at four golf courses on Cape Cod, and while they found toxicologically significant levels of chemicals in the water, **none were pesticides being used on the golf courses.**"

"Still, the battles between environmental protectionists and developers trying to make a buck (or a few million of them) are joined almost every time someone says **golf course.**"

Mr. Pollard finishes his article with a nightmarish story about the Arthur Hills Construction of the Sanctuary Golf on the island of Sanibel. After over 3 years in delays and over \$13 million in environmental cost over runs, \$2 million of which included the construction of a new sewage treatment plant that the owner John Naumann **donated** to the city, the golf course was finally completed.

It is obvious that Mr. Pollard is on our side, I for one am glad he is not a member of Green Peace. Every seat on every airplane that United Airlines owns has this magazine in it. Quite possibly millions of people have read his story.

I felt compelled to relate some of his story to you so that you would all know that these problems are not going to disappear or be capably managed by anyone other than ourselves. We are on 'the front lines' every day. Our careers, our livelihoods, and our environment depend on the daily decisions that we make. I hope that Mr. Pollard's words help us all to realize more that the environmental battle wages on a national front. We must take the offensive, we must be proactive in our cause and take the initiative to show the world that we are true ... keepers of the green.

P.S. — If anyone would like a complete copy of 'How Green Are The Greens', give me a call and I'll send it to you.

EPA Mows Down Pollution

The Environmental Protection Agency is slapping pollution controls on gas-powered garden tools to clear the air in places like Phoenix, where desert heat and piped-in water make lawn mowing a year-round chore.

The nationwide standards announced Wednesday in Washington are expected to add about \$5 to the cost of a mower, leaf blower, weed trimmer or other tool.

Running a mower for an hour creates as much pollution as driving a new car for 11½ hours, the EPA said. One hour of using a leaf blower equals 34 hours of driving; for a chain saw, 63 hours of driving; for a weed trimmer, 21 hours.



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