

wide reaching authority over waters that are currently under state jurisdiction or even considered private. Land use and land management activities that currently do not will need federal permits to be legally completed. There is quite a bit of discussion centered on this topic and it continues. The GCSAA does not support the EPA or Army Corps of Engineers expanding the jurisdictional reach of the Clean Water Act as proposed. Their reasoning, "The proposed rule would bring nearly every river, stream, creek, wetland, pond, ditch and ephemeral (land that looks like a small stream during heavy rain but isn't wet most of the time) in the U.S. under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. Under the rule, all tributaries and adjacent waters, including adjacent wetlands, would be categorically subject to federal oversight, with no additional analysis required. Additionally, the EPA is proposing a sweeping "other waters" category that could include almost everything else. Golf courses that have these waters on them or near them will likely be required to obtain costly, federal permits for any land management activities or land use decisions made." At present, the GCSAA has set up an action alert for you to contact your U.S. Senator to co-sponsor S2496 through the GCSAA website at <http://cqrcengage.com/gcsaa>

Current Action Alerts

Stop EPA's Water of the United States" Proposed Rule
Protect the H-2B Visa Program for Golf Facilities
Support Passage of CWA NPDES Pesticide General Permit Relief

Current Open Comment Periods

Rule to Expand Definition of Waters of the U.S.

elevate this issue so that other house leaders will fight to move this forward without any other legislation tied to it.

GCSAA Ambassador Program

The GCSAA Grass Roots Ambassador program began on July 1, 2014. The overall goal of the program is to link one GCSAA Professional Members with every member of Congress. Ultimately the end goal is to make sure our voice is heard on Capitol Hill when issues arise that impact the golf course management profession.

GCSAA is seeking Ambassadors throughout the country, with a few requirements that each will have to meet:

- Attend more than 50% of events on Ambassador Engagement Calendar (mostly online training and meetings).
- Meet personally with assigned policymaker or his or her key staff twice a year.
- Attend the Advocacy Boot camp if attending the GIS.
- Provide feedback through the GCSAA GR Online: cqrcengage.com/gcsaa/

GCSAA will conduct 4 classes per year for Ambassadors (summer, fall, winter, spring), all web based training. GCSAA Service and Education Points are available for those who take part in the program. The general time commitment is estimated to be an hour per month throughout the year through meetings, communicating and following up. So far, the Midwest has a couple of members that have signed up to be Ambassador in the program. We need many more. @

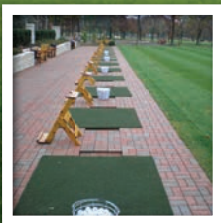
NPDES Pesticide General Permit Update

GCSAA is working with a national coalition to ensure passage of H.R. 935, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2013, a bill that would eliminate the EPA's new CWA NPDES Pesticide General Permit for chemical spraying activities that went into effect on October 30, 2011.

House representatives have sponsored a plan to request floor time for final passage of H.R. 935 as a stand alone bill. 290 affirmative votes are needed for passage. Passage is necessary to

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