

The BullSheet



DECEMBER 2013

Dates to Remember

December 9-12 – Syngenta Business Institute in Winston-Salem, NC.

December 10 – CAGCS Holiday lunch at Pinstripes in Oak Brook, IL. (Note the new location—7 Oak Brook Center)

December 10-11 – Wisconsin Turfgrass Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI.

December 18 – Deadline for applications for the Bayer Plant Health Academy.

January 7-8 – ITF's Turf Conference 2014 at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook, IL.

January 22 – 5th Annual MAGCS/Wee One January Fundraiser at Seven Bridges Golf Club, Don Ferreri and Dave Gelino hosts.

January 28-30 – Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show at the Downtown Des Moines Marriott. Visit www.iowagcsa.org for information.

February 1-6 – 2014 Golf Industry Show in Orlando, FL

February 5 Midwest Hospitality Reception Miller's Alehouse, Orlando, FL

Seasons Greetings to all, and a special holiday welcome to the following new MAGCS members:

Adam Hanson, Antioch Golf Course, Class SM
Cory Von Tungeln, Midlothian Country Club, Class SM
Kyle Schwieter, Sunset Ridge Country Club, Class C
John Thackery, Olympia Fields Country Club, Class C
Stewart Naugler, Midlothian Country Club, Class C
Rick Johnson, The Urban Agricultural Alliance, Inc. Class E

Congratulations to Charlotte and **James Canning**, White Eagle GC on the birth of their daughter Cora Elizabeth (pictured below) on October 28th. Cora was a healthy 6 lb. 9 oz. and 19.5" bundle of joy.

Also congratulations to **Justin VanLanduit** Briarwood CC and **Josh Therrien** of Black Sheep GC on their recent editorial achievements. At last month's 61st Annual Midwest Turf

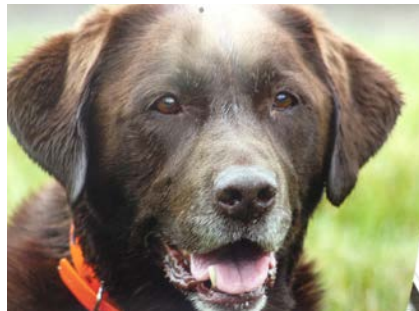


of

Clinic at Medinah CC on the 14th, Justin was presented the Ray Gerber Editorial Award for his article "Seasons of Change", and Josh received the Fred Opperman Editorial Award for his article "Teaming Up With Outside Contractors". Both pieces ran in the pages of this magazine, and were among the many outstanding articles contributed by our very own MAGCS members. Thank you to all who have made the effort to enhance *On Course* magazine! (below: Josh, Justin and Editorial Chair Matt Harstad)



While on the subject of the Clinic, along with the great education program and a really fun time with keynote speaker Pat Foley, some actual business got accomplished. The MAGCS Annual Meeting took place, which not only included a riveting review of last year by outgoing president **Dave Groelle, CGCS** (who was the man responsible for getting Pat Foley), but the election of our next president, **Dave Kohley** of Silver Lake Country Club. Groelle/Foley/Kohley—they kinda rhyme. Our new president will be seeking another vote from you in the near future—that for his dog Bosco in the 11th Annual Dog of the Year contest at the GIS come February. Bosco, Dave's 11-year-old Lab, was one of the dogs chosen for the GCSAA/LebanonTurf 2014 Dog Days of Golf calendar (she's the December, 2013 playmate), and is now eligible to win the coveted Dog of the Year award, which comes with a \$3,000 donation to our chapter, \$500 to Dave's local Humane Society, and \$500 for dog biscuits. Make sure to vote on the trade show floor when you're in Orlando in February. Good luck, Dave and Bosco!



Other Clinic notes, news, and nonsense: The education program was truly high-quality, with much information to be gleaned. GCSAA Government Relations Director Chava (pronounced Hava) McKeel presented her SWMAE (Speech With the Most Acronyms Ever), touching on the association's efforts in Washington D.C. in regard to BMP's, EPA, FCC, ADA,



Pat Foley winding up and giving his "he shoots, he scores" call – after he told us his story about developing it. BTW – Pat refused to accept an honorarium, so the Midwest made a donation to Toys for Tots in his name, thanks Pat!

FIFRA, BMOC and a host of others. Oh, and don't be looking for Methyl Bromide as an option for your next regrassing project—Chava was pretty certain it's a goner. Turf Doctors **Ed Nangle** and **Zac Reicher** covered everything from our year in review and the future of the CDGA Turf Program to the latest in *Poa annua* control. Capping the day was an excellent panel discussion moderated by **Chuck Barber** and featuring **Scott Bordner** (Chicago Golf Club), **Dave Radaj, CGCS** (Green Acres Country Club), **Justin VanLanduit** (Briarwood Country Club),

Dr. Ed Nangle of CDGA and Dr. Zac Reicher from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Topics covered included turf pigments and Turf Screen, *Poa annua* management, and new technologies. More about the Clinic can be found in Chuck Anfield's Education Recap.

Here's an interesting (or perhaps not) little factoid about our industry: The National Hole in One Association, which provides insurance coverage for outings and contests, used data from over 300,000 charity tournaments and outings to establish the likelihood of a payoff on a par three. For the average amateur golfer, the odds are 12,500-to-1. It drops significantly for professionals, who have a one in 2,500 chance for an ace. Now, that all being said, last month at the Annual Men's Closing Day tournament at Kiawah Island (S.C.), SIX holes-in-one were recorded in the same day! The event pairs three club members with one staff member, and on November 6th, five aces were carded on the 118-yard fifth hole with one other happening on the 148-yard 16th hole. How very ODD...

(Note to self: Have the crew finish the day BEFORE the Beer and Arracheras Bash.)



Time is running out for you if you want to be one of 12 superintendents to be chosen for the 2014 Bayer Plant Health Academy to be held at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, KS on March 3-5 and September 24-26. The objective of the Healthy Turf, Healthy Tomorrow Plant Health Academy is to provide golf course superintendents with opportunities to learn more innovative plant health research and practices for the benefit of their facilities, individual careers, and the industry. Twelve superintendents will be chosen on the basis of merit (no Bayer pun intended). The deadline to apply is December 18th—go to www.backedbybayer.com or www.gcsaa.org and find the application form.

Here is a New Year resolution for all of you that play golf and don't keep a Handicap Index. The CDGA provides all Midwest members a free membership each year – all you have to do is let Luke know (luke@magcs.org) and he'll sign you up. You enter your scores online – done. No need to worry about any other resolutions for 2014- you can tell everyone you're done.

Q: What happens when **Scott Witte, CGCS** acts rashly and doesn't think things through?

A: He's liable to make a Cantigny-jerk reaction.



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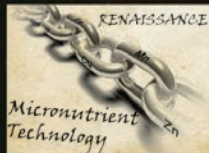


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MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Dan Marco, Jeff Brinnegar. No words necessary.

A local golf facility celebrated quite the milestone late this summer. Tam O'Shanter (Tam) Golf Course (**Jimmy Stoneberg** superintendent) in Niles celebrated the 60th anniversary of its hosting the first-ever national telecast of a golf tournament---The World Championship of Golf aired on ABC in 1953. Very cool piece of history right in our back yard.

The USGA and R&A have announced that effective January 1, 2014, 87 changes to the Decisions on the Rules of Golf will go into effect. Among these changes for 2014-2015 that are noteworthy:

New Decision 14-3/18 confirms that players can access reports on weather conditions on a smartphone during a round without breaching the Rules.

New Decision 18/4 (also known as the "Tiger Rule") provides that, where enhanced technological evidence like HDTV shows that a ball has left its position and come to rest in another location, the ball will not be deemed to have moved if that movement was not reasonably discernible to the naked eye at the time.

Revised Decision 27-2a/1.5 allows a player to go forward up to approximately 50 yards without forfeiting his or her right to go back and play a provisional ball.

You can read all 87 of these fascinating golfy things in "Decisions on the Rules of Golf, 2014-2015" available from the USGA. Knock yourself out.

For the second straight year, the John Deere Classic golf tournament, held at TPC Deere Run in Moline, IL raised over \$6 million for 464 local and regional Quad Cities charities. This makes the event the No. 1 on Tour in the amount of charitable contributions raised per capita based on the population of 375,000.

Next month on the 7th and 8th ITF will hold its TURF Conference at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook. If you haven't signed up, DO! Go to www.iturf.org to register.

Rick Wilson, CGCS will be busy next summer. A \$4.2 million project at his Glenview Park District Golf Course is slated to begin next July that will aim to slow stormwater runoff and improve

play. The finished product will allow the course to hold about 7.1 million gallons of water, more than three times the land's current capacity, while also restricting flow of water to nearby homes by 70%. Sounds like a fun project.

Congratulations go out to MAGCS newest Iron Man **Tom Prichard** of Ivanhoe Club. Prichard competed in the grueling race (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike and 26.2 mile run) in Florida on November 2 and finished it in just over 15 hours. Way to go Tom, not drinking a can of Gatorade at the finish line.



It was another busy month for MAGCS members finding their way into other media outlets. On GCSAA.tv, **Tim Christians** of Makray Memorial Golf Club showed the golf world "What's In Your Cart?" (which had a remarkably large amount of stuff), as well as another segment about his dog Daisy, whose diabetes necessitates Tim administering insulin injections every 12 hours to keep her healthy and happy. On TurfNet TV, **Chuck Barber** of St. Charles Country Club was featured showing off his sump pump solution for wet fairway areas in a "Tips 'n' Tricks" segment. TurfNet's Blog Aggregator had usual suspects **Steve Cook, CGCS, MG** of Oakland Hills Country Club discussing deep-time aeration on greens and Park Ridge Country Club's **Shane Conroy** chiming in on the sodding of south-facing bunker faces with Black Beauty turf-type tall fescue. Last but not least, **Dan Dinelli, CGCS** of North Shore Country Club was mentioned in The Golf Wire for his recycling efforts in building three vermin composters (yes—vermin composters) utilizing red wigglers (earthworms) to help degrade food waste from the kitchen to reduce waste, save energy, and produce a rich organic material that improves soil and plant health. Another note to self: spread kitchen food waste directly on fairways where all those red wigglers will produce a rich organic topdressing for improved soil and plant health.



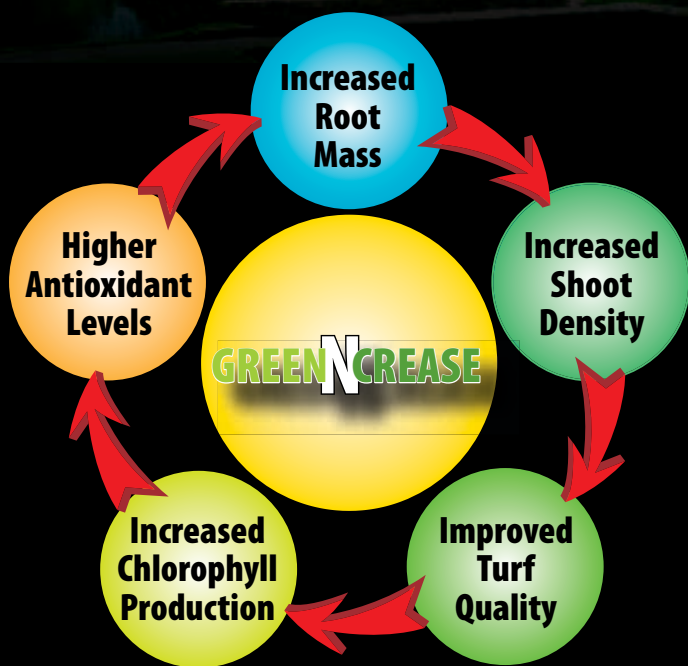
GCSAA reminds you that your membership includes term life insurance and AD&D (accidental death and dismemberment) coverage as a member benefit. If you haven't done so recently, update your beneficiary information and review the Notice of Privacy Policy and Practices at gcsaa.org in the Member Services area.

GCSAA and the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) have become Silver Partners in a collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Turfgrass

Continued on page 16

GREENNCREASE

**Say Hello to GreenNcrease
and Goodbye to Stressed Out Turf!**



GreenNcrease rate effects on creeping bentgrass drought resistance. 2009. Ervin, E.H. and X. Zhang. Virginia Tech.



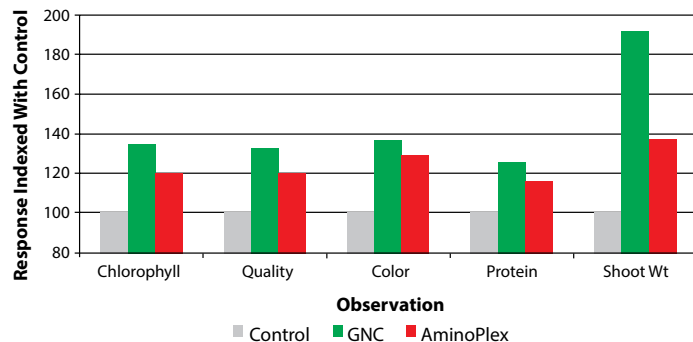
Control

GNC 7.7 oz/M

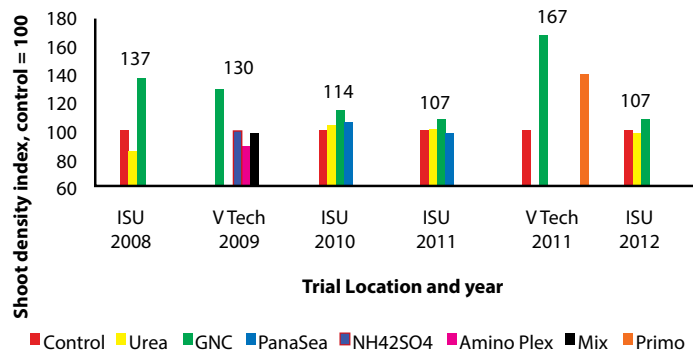
GNC 15.4 oz/M

GNC 23.1 oz/M

Turf response to GreenNcrease applications averaged for 3 months. 2009. Virginia Tech.



GreenNcrease effect on bentgrass shoot density



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Continued from page 14

Federation at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. Dubbed "Grass Roots," the initiative is committed to helping citizens, including national decision-makers, understand new and emerging science underlying our nation's beautiful lawns, athletic fields, and gardens. The multi-year project will feature exhibits, symposia, workshops and demonstrations—directed to audiences ranging from children to policymakers—to showcase the value of turf to the environment and the importance of research to continue to leverage that value. Dr. Nangle went to the groundbreaking ceremony in November and explains what is all about in "News from Allied Groups" on page 18.

GCSAA announced last month a series of important structural changes within the organization, including the naming of new chief operating officer Matt Shatto, who most recently served as city administrator for the city of North Kansas City, MO. Also, a new key executive position was introduced called the chief business development officer, which will be filled by J.D. Dockstader, who most recently served as director of commercial facilities of the city of Mesa, AZ. As part of the changes, Jeff Bollig, senior director of communications and Greg Lyman, director of environmental programs will be moving on to greener pastures. @

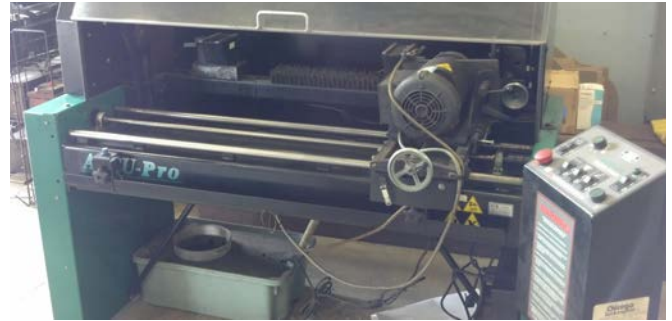
For Sale:



Neary 500SR Reel Grinder (above). It can relief a reel with man indexing from blade to blade. Includes mounts (below) for grinding with or without front roller and a 3 point plate for the rear roller. Asking \$ 1,500.00



Foley Accu Pro 670 BedKnife Grinder (below) in working order, please call for details.



Asking \$3,500.00 Please contact Luke Strojny, Prairie Bluff GC 815-588-0053, or call Kevin Bauer, Equipment Technician directly 815-573-1712.

Don't Miss the
**MAGCS January Meeting &
Wee One Fundraiser**
Register online at magcs.org

January 22, 2014
Seven Bridges Golf Club

Education (CEUs available)

Dr. Thom Nikolai, MSU

Dr. Nikolai is going to speak about new research results on wetting agents and irrigation and new results from recently completed mower studies.

Mr. Timothy Eavenson, Attorney at Law
Mr. Eavenson is a legal counsel for employers and will speak on how to protect yourself once you get hired and steps you can take if you lose it!

Stay after lunch for the Auction to benefit the
Wee One Foundation
(complimentary beverages & laughs)

If you'd like to donate an item for the auction, you can do that online as well. If you have any questions, please contact Luke Cella:

630-243-7900 or luke@magcs.org



The 61st Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting

Thanks again to Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS MG and Medinah for hosting each year.

We also thank our sponsors for the event:

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Laying down roots in Washington

Dr. Ed Nangle, CDGA

In gaining an invite to the ground breaking of the national GrassRoots exhibit recently, I was left in a quandary as to whether or not I could fit the trip into a week where many annual meetings were taking place.

I did manage to take a look at the guest list however and my mind was quickly made up for me – this was an invite I couldn't turn down. Thanks to the MAGCS as they offered to support the initiative and teamed with the CDGA to put the wheels in motion on my visit. So with trepidation and interest at the machinations of Washington I set off to see how the politics of promoting turf is working for us on the ground.

In a short background – the turfgrass industry is somewhat fighting a long term battle to retain its place as a premier surface for recreation in the country and deal with the perception that the industry is environmentally unfriendly. As professionals and scientists we all know that the benefits of turf far outweigh the inputs when managed properly. Research reports have shown that turf sequesters carbon, filters water and stabilizes soil erosion¹²³ – the issue is that the information has NEVER been supported at a Federal Level. Recent research has also shown that there were no chronic health risks to

pesticide vapors for golfers on the course either⁴. Thus when the USDA agreed to allow a space for education and research on site under the prodding and pushing of Scott Aker at the National Arboretum along with Kevin Morris of the National Turfgrass Federation for a four year period, many people rejoiced at the thought of having an exhibit seen by 500,000 people annually educating them about grasses.

The event was focused on the ground breaking and promotion of the exhibit which includes one main location focused on science at the National Arboretum and two other sites. The two other sites are at the National Mall and Arlington National Cemetery with focus on stewardship and service respectively. The overarching goal is to link the three sites to create a National Greenscape Corridor which runs right through the center of Washington. Thus the excitement about the project was evident with the range of attendees making up a very impressive list.



The Grass Roots Initiative: A Science-Based Focus on Turfgrass

Turfgrass has a major impact on our quality of life. The U.S. National Arboretum's [Grass Roots Initiative](#) is a four-year, in-depth look at the science behind this familiar, but often misunderstood, landscape plant.

The event was seated and introductions made by Scott Aker who served as MC for the event. Kevin Morris described the project from its infancy and how the National Turfgrass Federation had been directly involved. (Picture 1) Dr. Colien Heffernan then talked about the aims of the project and the reasoning from her perspective as director of the national arboretum as to why grass is valuable. Dr. Heffernan also mentioned Scott Warnke who is the USDA turfgrass breeder and his focus on more sustainable type grasses. In the list of grasses in the exhibit there is certainly some new species which may offer potential with names such as *Festuca gautieri* 'Pie Carlit' bear skin fescue, *Sesleria autumnalis* Autumn moor grass, *Muhlenbergia capillaris* 'White Cloud' White cloud muhlygrass being uncommon names that really are offering potential for low input turfgrasses. Geoffrey Rinehart the project coordinator then gave an outline of his involvement with all interested entities and how he has been able to channel donations of time, money and work to the right places.

The Goals of Grass Roots

Increase awareness of the importance of turfgrass and lawns to society and the environment

- Demonstrate new technologies within the turfgrass industry that improve maintenance practices and efficiencies
- Review and update national research priorities for turfgrass
- Bring together policymakers and others interested in regulatory issues that impact the turfgrass industry

Following this, Dr. Frank Rossi from Cornell University spoke on the sustainability of turf. Dr. Rossi did not shy away from controversy surrounding turf and the perception that implicates turf negatively with the environment. He then proffered a belief that turf was indeed sustainable as well as badly needed in the landscape due to the scientifically proven benefits. There was one caveat however as he indicated that we may need to change the requirement of green all over the golf course to reduce inputs. Water use and what needs to be done to reduce its use was also brought up and the fact that more education of homeowners may prove to be a bigger priority over looking at golf courses. He also touched on the project and the fact its based in science as all information that will be used has gone through peer review at the Crop Science Societies prior to dissemination. Questions from the public followed with Dr. Rossi ably answering them and ensuring that all sides were agreed on the answer he gave as being factual and correct.




The ground breaking and pictures followed with the USDA, National Arboretum, National Mall, National Turfgrass Federation, Sod Producers all being pictured. Dr. Mike Kenna, USGA Greens Section Director then got in on the act along with Greg Lyman, Environmental Programs Director at the GCSAA and many others who have already supported the project. The project is currently over 60% funded and there are many opportunities to get involved at different levels – if you want to find out more information visit the website.

<http://www.turfresearch.org/>

There is also a facebook page: NTFGrassRootsInitiative and Twitter: @Grass_Roots_NTF

Finally, MAGCS were very strong supporters of the visit and I would like to thank the board for being so flexible and supportive of the idea.

Reference:

1. Steinke, K. Kussow, W.R. and Stier, J.C.(2013). Potential Contributions of Mature Prairie and Turfgrass to Phosphorus in Urban Runoff. *Journal of Env. Quality* 42: 1176–1184.
2. Zhang, Y., Y. Qian, D.J. Bremer, and J.P. Kaye. (2013) Simulation of Nitrous Oxide Emissions and Estimation of Global Warming Potential in Turfgrass Systems Using the DAYCENT Model *Journal of Env. Quality* 42: 1100–1108.
3. Zirkle G., R. Lal and B. Augustin. (2011). Modeling carbon sequestration in home lawns. *HortScience* 46: 808-814. 
4. Wong, H. and D.A. Haith. (2013). Volatilization of Pesticides from Golf Courses in the United States: Mass Fluxes and Inhalation Health Risks. *Journal of Env. Quality* 42: 1615–1622



Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

Turf Clinic - Wrap Up

(Part 1) - Legislative Update



Chava McKeel address the Turf Clinic audience.

The MAGCS Members met at the venerated Medinah Country Club for the 61st Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting. Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS MG and Staff were the hosts for the day.

Chava McKeel, GCSAA's Director of Government Relations made the first presentation of the day. Her topic was GCSAA Government Relations Update: What You Need to Know Now; Be An Advocate For The Profession. She has been with the GCSAA since 1997. As part of her responsibilities, Chava directs all activities of the Information and Public Policy Department of the GCSAA. She helps advance the overall image of the golf course management industry through advocacy-related programs and government relations activities. She provides regulatory compliance information to GCSAA Members to establish themselves as experts on managing risk at the facility. She serves as a liaison with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and collaborates regularly with Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment, Essential Worker Immigration Coalition, United States Department of Agriculture, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, National Alliance for Accessible Golf and many other organizations to advance golf's interests.

The GCSAA's Fundamental Principal in government relations is advocacy.

- Advocacy supports the GCSAA's mission and vision
- Grassroots support is the key to driving GCSAA advocacy efforts
- GCSAA is leading the way in making sure golf's voice is heard

GCSAA's Government Relations focuses on

- State, Federal and Local government activities
- Work guided by priority issues agenda
- Offers compliance support with one-on-one counseling, on-line tools, ombudsman
- Advocacy through grass-roots lobbying, direct lobbying,

educating law makers, regulators and coalitions

Chava went into detail to explain the GCSAA's current main priority issues.

The Americans and Disability Act (ADA Compliance)

- March 15, 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice adapted accessibility standards for golf courses.
- Accessible cars will be under a separate rule making
- Includes new construction and renovations
- Accessible routing on tees, greens, weather shelters is required

Chava indicated there is a tool kit available from the GCSAA to help explain more of the details of this issue.

Fertilizers

- Chesapeake Bay Watershed has become a fertilizer management model for rest of country
- EPA and States are "cracking down" on fertilizer use
- GCSAA is keeping an eye on Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone

GCSAA messages to lawmakers:

- Golf turf is professionally managed
- Golf courses are valuable as green space in the watershed

Several states have been making headway with legislators when it comes to fertilizer use and regulation.

Virginia: Governor signs bill that all golf facilities are required to implement certified nutrient management plans by 2017.

Pennsylvania: Golf courses get credit in watershed modules for using BMP's.

Maryland: Golf is voluntarily complying early with regulations to demonstrate environmental stewardship. A state bill creates a training, licensing and certification program.