## By EDDIE SNIPES Selva Marina Country Club

## 'Flirting With Disaster?'

NORTH FLORIDA

The number of times superintendents pass in and out of their maintenance facilities in a day would probably stagger the imagination. The same old walkways, entrances, storage areas take on a mesmerizing affect as the daily routine drags on. We are conscious but unconscious to situations that lurk off our beaten path. What will make one take notice of potential disasters to be; a lost finger, an eye put out, severe burn or a maintenance facility destroyed in the night?

But wait, I have been in the business 25 years, no such thing has happened to me. Why all the fuss and bother?

Have you ever stopped and thought why local, state and federal agencies spend millions of dollars a year for something called SAFETY? Are these people crazy or is there a justified need for fingers, eyes, legs and life?

When we determine as professional managers how safe our maintenance facilities and programs are, we in essence have put a value judgement on human life. Sound a bit dramatic? Life and Death sound more than dramatic to me.

How does one know when and if he is flirting with disaster? Compiled in this article is a list of questions partially taken from HEW Publication No. (NIOSH) 75-119 pages 67-84 that I feel pertain to the golf course industry environment. Use them as an aid to help you look for potential disaster areas.

Let us collectively take pride in our industry by showing to our peers, members, and staff that safety is of utmost concern. (Continued on page 45)



we know turfgrass from the roots up!

| 1.  | Are all places of employment kept clean and orderly?   | YES   | NO |
|-----|--|-------|----|
| 2.  | Are floors, aisles, and passageways kept clean and dry and all spills cleaned up immediately?  |       |    |
| 3.  | Are floor holes, such as drains, covered?  |       |    |
| 4.  | Are permanent aisles appropriately marked?   |       |    |
| 5.  | Are wet surface areas covered with non-slip materials?   |       |    |
| 6.  |  | h     |    |
| 7.  | Are all doors that must be passed through to reach an exit always free to access with no possibility of a person being locked inside?      | a<br> |    |
| 8.  | Are all exit routes always kept free of obstructions?  |       |    |
| 9.  | Are eye wash fountains and safety showers provided in areas where chemicals, such as caustics, are used?                                   | e     |    |
| 10. | Are all containers, such as vats, storage tanks, etc., labeled as to their contents?   |       |    |
| 11. | Are employees required to wear personal protective equipment when handling hazardous material (gloves, eye protection, respirators, etc.)? | 5     |    |
| 12. | Are flammable liquids kept in closed containers when not in use (e.g., parts cleaning tanks, pans, etc.)                                   | ? 🗆   |    |
| 13. | Are all spills of flammable or combustible liquids cleaned up promptly?  |       |    |
| 14. | Is combustible waste material (oily rags, etc.) stored in covered metal receptacles and disposed o<br>daily?                               | f     |    |
| 15. | Are gasoline and other flammable liquids stored in approved containers?  |       |    |
| 16. | Do storage rooms for flammable and combustible liquids have explosion-proof lights?  |       |    |
| 17. | Are LP-gas storge tanks guarded to prevent damage from vehicles?   |       |    |
| 18. | Are storage cabinets for flammable and combustible liquids labeled "FLAMMABLE-KEEP FIRMAWAY"?  | E     |    |
| 19. | Is personal protective equipment provided, used, and maintained wherever it is necessary?  |       |    |
| 20. | Is eye protection available where debris or flying objects could be a hazard?  |       |    |
| 21. | Is the proper respirator in use for the hazards present? (For example, dust masks do not protec<br>against solvent vapors.)                | t     |    |
| 22. | Are respirators provided where necessary?  |       |    |
| 23. | Is the user instructed and trained in the proper use of respirators?   |       |    |
| 24. | Are respirators cleaned and disinfected after use?   |       |    |
| 25. | Are restrooms and washrooms kept in clean and sanitary condition?  |       |    |

(Continued on page 46)



## (Continued from page 45)

|     | A LOW AND A  | YES | NO |
|-----|--|-----|----|
| 26. |  |     |    |
| 27. | If employees are permitted to eat on the premises, are they provided with a suitable space for that purpose?   |     |    |
| 28. | Are employees prohibited from eating in areas where toxic materials are present?   |     |    |
| 29. | Are first aid supplies readily available, inspected and replenished?   |     |    |
| 30. | Is at least one employee on each shift currently qualified to render first aid in the absence of a nearby clinic or hospital?  |     |    |
| 31. | Are medical personnel readily available for advice and consultation on matters of emloyee health?  |     |    |
| 32, | Is there a first aid kit easily accessible to the work area?   |     |    |
| 33. | Are emergency phone numbers posted?  |     |    |
| 34. | Where employees may be exposed to injurious corrosive materials, are they provided with quick-<br>drenching and flushing facilities for immediate emergency use?       |     |    |
| 35. | Are extinguishers selected for the types of combustibles and flammables in the areas where they are to be used?  |     |    |
|     | Class A. Ordinary combustible material fires<br>Class B. Flammable-liquid or grease fires<br>Class C. Energized-electrical-equipment fires                             |     |    |
| 36. | Are extinguishers fully charged and in designated places?  |     |    |
| 37. | Are extinguishers locations free from obstruction or blockage?   |     |    |
| 38. | Are extinguishers located along normal paths of travel?  |     |    |
| 39. | Have all extinguishers been serviced, maintained, and tagged at intervals not to exceed one year?  |     |    |
| 40. | Are air tanks drained regularly?   |     | Π  |
| 41. | Are pulleys and belts on compressors and motors completely guarded?  |     |    |
| 42. | Is the pressure-relief device and gauge in good operating condition?   |     |    |
| 43. | Is battery charging on electric units performed only in designated areas?  |     |    |
| 44. | Are "NO SMOKING" signs posted near electric battery charging units?  |     |    |
| 45. | Are chain hoists, ropes and slings adequate for the job?   |     |    |
| 46. | Are motorized vehicles and mechanical equipment inspected daily or prior to use?   |     |    |
| 47. | Are goggles or face shields always worn when grinding?   |     |    |
| 48. | Are jacks checked periodically to see if they are still in good condition?   |     |    |
| 49. | Are tools and equipment (both company and emplyee-owned) in good condition?  |     |    |
| 50. | Have employees been instructed that the use of compressed air to blow debris from clothing or body is prohibited because it can enter the body and cause serious harm? |     |    |
| 51. | Have deteriorated air hoses been replaced?   |     |    |
| 52, | Have employees been made aware of the hazards caused by faulty or improperly used hand tools?  |     |    |
| 53. | Are cylinders secured and stored where they cannot be knocked over?  |     |    |
| 54. | Are cylinder protective caps in place except when the cylinder is in use?  |     |    |
| 55. | Are only instructed employees, who are judged competent by the employer, allowed to use oxygen or fuel gas equipment?  |     |    |
| 56. | Is welding always conducted at a safe distance from flammable liquids?   |     |    |
| 57. | Are all compressed gas cylinders legibly marked for identifying the content?   |     |    |
| 58. | Have exposed wires, frayed cords, and deteriorated insulation been repaired or replaced?   |     |    |
| 59. | Is all metal fixed electrical equipment grounded?  |     |    |
| 60. | Do storage rooms for flammable and combustible liquids have mechanical or gravity ventilation (at least six air changes per hour)?                                     |     |    |

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