

# Structure eliminates hazardous spills

BY MARK LESLIE

The president of a lawn-care business told an Ohio Turfgrass Conference audience recently that his firm has "virtually eliminated any serious consequences" from the spills that hazardous materials applicators live in fear of today.

Fred Haskett said that although "accidents are going to happen," the chemical storage building he and other officials at Green World in Dover, Ohio, designed and built provides complete protection.

Haskett said the 2,500-square-foot pesticide containment area — covering half Green World's building — was designed to:

- Contain spills.
- Recycle chemicals.
- Provide for safely handling hazardous materials.
- Protect water, sewer and storm drainage systems.

Installing such a facility, he said, is crucial to golf courses and the lawn-care industry as a whole, and, in a worst-case scenario, provides a payback of two to three years.

"We are being watched by a whole host of groups, for a variety of reasons, from the federal government and national groups, to state and local agencies, to private citizens," Haskett said. "And the underlying question is, can we back up our methods, both in the areas of external and internal operations?"

"One accident, one spill, could result in the loss of your business, or the loss of your insurance carrier and your ability to buy insurance," he said.

"You should, as professional, safety-conscious operators, be in compliance on this issue. Your association (Ohio Turfgrass Association) supports it. Your trade journals supply it. Your suppliers to the industry support it.

"The issues are safety and, especially, waste disposal. They loom very large on the horizon for all of us."

"Sooner or later there will be no choice," he said, "and those of us who have dealt with it on our own terms, head-on, will be better off than those who bury their heads in the sand."

Haskett cited three basic benefits to building the spill-containment structure: economic, environmental, and employee protection.

### Economic benefits

"Our estimates are that a company such as mine could be spending as much as \$5,000 to \$8,000 annually on simply waste-product disposal," he said. His building can reduce exposure to spills and accidents, lower cleanup costs, which can be "astronomical," and can cut insurance rates, he added.

He also said federal and state tax credits are available for the installation and maintenance of anti-pollution systems, for which this structure would qualify.

### Environmental benefits

The major environmental benefit is the reduction or elimination of the potential of ground-water, sewer and water-system contamination, he said.

"You can eliminate the storage, transportation and disposal of chemical waste residue," Haskett said.

### The system

The facility Green World built to protect it from "potentially devastating problems," Haskett said, includes: a secondary containment area, where dry fertilizers, trucks and spraying units are parked; a segregated, primary containment area; and a spill containment area.



Haskett's creation can contain any spill Green World might have.

"Accidents are going to happen. We are limiting their impact by containing them. We have virtually eliminated any serious consequences from these events," Haskett said. "And with our recovery system we can recover or recycle all spilled materials ... by integrating the storage and mixing systems on site."

Stored materials are in a contained and diked area, so that no spill in the building can possibly get outside.

### Recycling system

An effective, comprehensive recycling system can be one of the most important systems for protecting a golf course.

Haskett suggests a three-way mix program of concentrated products, fresh water and compatible dilute residues. With it, he said, a superintendent can "significantly reduce or even eliminate the regeneration of any hazardous chemical waste."

He said his firm uses a triad of recycling systems. The primary one is in the secondary containment area for turf chemicals. It has a 1,000-gallon tank, into which go residues of triple-rinsing from containers, rinsed residues from cleaning out spraying units, and similar turf-associated materials.

A smaller container is used for the same types of residues from ornamental, tree and shrub spray.

A third tank is available for non-selective vegetation control residues.

### Safe handling

"Another aspect of this system is that it can help establish, or enhance, a program of pesticide handling safety," Haskett said.

The separate areas are well-defined, and with the addition of signage and color-cod-

**'Accidents are going to happen. We are limiting their impact by containing them.'**  
— Fred Haskett

ing, they can serve as a warning and a reminder to the employees as they move about the shop.

Additional features such as emergency eye washers and showers and fire extinguishers are easily accommodated within this system, he said.

"We have a segregated sink within the primary containment area for washing or rinsing gloves and small sprayers, things of that nature, and this falls through into the recycling area," he said.

"Finally, all of our offices and public access areas are completely segregated from all shop areas."

### Water and sewer protection

Meanwhile, the system offers protection from contaminating the water, sewer and storm-drainage systems in the area.

The primary protection for fresh water coming into the building is a backflow preventer.

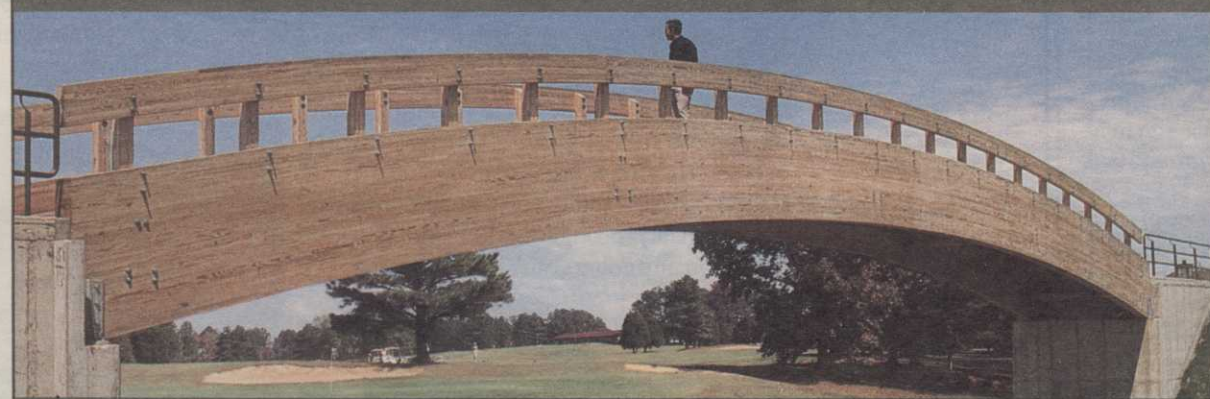
In addition, all water outlets except rest rooms are equipped with hand-siphoning devices.

Ground water and sewer system protec-

*Continued on page 29*

 <p><b>BEAM CLAY</b> THE PROFESSIONAL'S CHOICE ... SINCE 1922</p> <p>THE BASEBALL DIAMOND MIXES USED BY OVER 50 PROFESSIONAL TEAMS PLUS TOWNS AND SCHOOLS ACROSS THE U.S.A. AND CANADA. SPECIAL MIXES FOR INFIELDS, PITCHER'S MOUNDS, HOMEPLATE AREAS &amp; WARNING TRACKS.</p> <p>AS WELL AS • TENNIS COURTS • BOCCIE COURTS AND OTHER NATURAL SPORT SURFACES</p>	<p><b>Terra-Green</b></p> <p><b>TOP DRESSING AND SOIL CONDITIONER</b> IMPROVES DRAINAGE BETTER THAN SAND, YET HOLDS MOISTURE IN HOT DRY WEATHER, FOR HEALTHY TURF WITH DEEP ROOTS!</p> <p><b>PARTAC GREEN SAND FOR DIVOT REPAIRS</b> The Ultimate Solution to Unseen Divots at Televised Golf Tournaments and other Sports Events!</p> <p>AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE <b>1-800-247-2326</b> IN N.J. 201-637-4191 PARTAC PEAT CORPORATION KELSEY PARK, GREAT MEADOWS, N.J. 07838</p>	<p><b>PARTAC GOLF COURSE TOP-DRESSING</b></p>  <p><b>AMERICA'S PREMIUM TOP-DRESSING HEAT TREATED</b> CONTROL THATCH, PROMOTE HEALTHY TURF &amp; SMOOTH PLAYING SURFACES</p> <p>For free info circle #126</p>
--	--	---

# Laminated Wood Structures



Now Order Direct From the Leading Glued-Laminated Wood Manufacturer in the U.S.

## Combined engineering with the aesthetics for greater versatility....

For more than 50 years, UNIT STRUCTURES, Inc. has been designing and manufacturing laminated wood structures from multi-million dollar buildings to park shelters and bridges ... earning the reputation as "The Best of the Best".

- Complete Prefabricated Packages
- Ready for Fast Erection
- Highest Quality-Rigorous Inspection
- 2 Strategically Located Plants  
Morrisville, NC - Magnolia, AR
- Custom Design & Engineering Available
- Direct Distribution



**UNIT STRUCTURES, Inc.**  
The pioneer and leader in structural wood systems since 1934.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
**1-800-777-UNIT**  
P.O. Box A, Highway 54 West  
Morrisville, N.C. 27560



# Storage building

Continued from page 27  
tion is achieved by containment dikes, effectively keeping water runoff from going outside the building. It features a self-contained, stainless steel sump where materials spilled onto the floor or through washing can be recovered and returned into the recycling system.

Green World also has coating on the floors and walls that is chemical- and water-resistant, thus inhibiting spills and allowing workers to recover them.

"The other sections of the building, which support our mowing and maintenance operation, are

equipped with discharges into the normal sewer system; but they are also equipped with oil and sediment interceptors," Haskett said.

Haskett said his company went through the government system, getting authorized documentation and approval from local and state regulatory agencies and departments, starting with local health, water, sewer and zoning officials and ending with the Environmental Protection Agency.

Detailed charts and graphs and schematics were prepared appraising the specifics of the building, where the water comes into the

building and where it leads in various sites and how it's recovered; what is done with container disposal and triple-rinsing; and where the finished product formulation and usage goes.

The result, Haskett said, is "a system that Ohio EPA described to us as the best available technology of this type."

"It provides us with protection from accidents and with handling. It has helped us significantly with public opinion in town among the department heads and municipal people we deal with. It has helped us significantly with insurance

rates. And it has established for us a positive relationship with the people who regulate us," he said.

Haskett, who has formed a consulting and design firm to help businesses interested in this type of pesticide containment building, said: "Let's send a new message: that we are a safety-conscious industry; that we are not afraid of good regulation; that we are protecting the environment in and around our facilities; that we are protecting our employees and our neighbors.

"We are only helping ourselves when we do this."

## States pushing regulation

Many states have become heavily involved in regulating underground storage tanks, according to attorney Thomas M. Walsh, director of government relations for the National Club Association in Washington, D.C..

Walsh, who has begun to monitor state legislative action around the country, reports in NCA's "Club Director" magazine: "A California proposal ... would require a permit before a new tank can be installed and would require future removal or upgrading of most existing tanks.

"Other states are considering or have passed specific legislation to provide environmental impairment considered proposals governing environmental impairment insurance for tank owners."

Walsh said many legislatures have also discussed proposals governing "the proper disposal of pesticide containers."

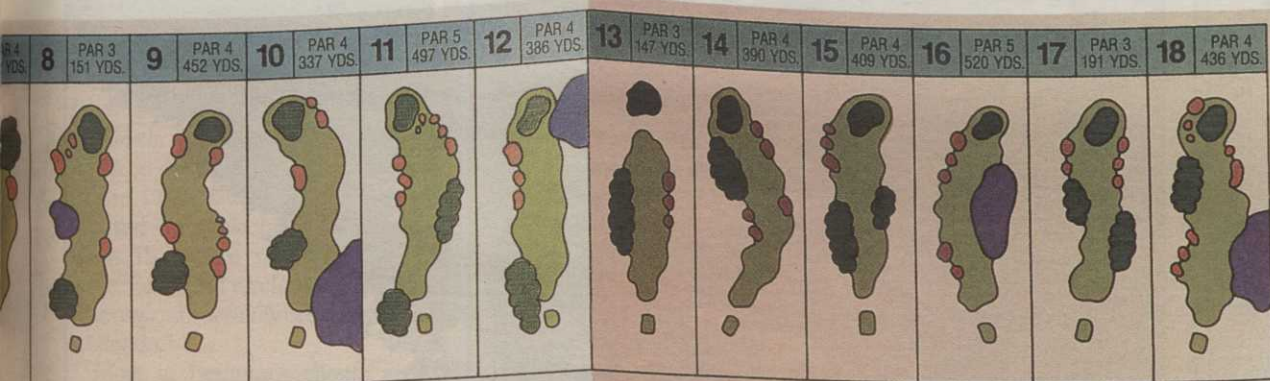
He said other legislatures might offer protection from liability for application of pesticides as long as they are applied legally and in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

Still others, he said, "direct their attention to proposals to control and punish" discharges from tanks into waterways.

Walsh recommended that clubs get involved in the input on pending legislation.

"State legislation concerning underground storage tanks will undoubtedly impose new regulations," he said, "but by helping to develop those proposals, clubs will have the opportunity to make sure that the regulations are reasonably designed to protect the surrounding land, which includes the land of the club itself."

# Mower Ever Designed Of Its Environment.



The design of the Reelmaster 223-D has produced a new standard that other lightweight mowers are sure to follow. It's built cleanly and efficiently for smooth operation and easy servicing. All controls are conveniently arranged in one easy-to-reach location. Maneuverability is unsurpassed due to a short wheelbase and precise, full-power quad-link steering. A taller tire design gives you greater traction with less compaction and faster turning without scuffing.



Golfers expect a well-groomed playing surface. And their standards are rising. Only the Reelmaster 223-D can handle the job. From bent grass to Bermuda, hills to contours, no other lightweight fairway mower gives you this kind of productivity, quality of cut or superior turf. Call your local Toro distributor for a demonstration. Or contact Toro at the address below.



The Professionals That Keep You Cutting.

"Reelmaster" and "Toro" are registered trademarks of The Toro Company. ©1989 The Toro Company. The Toro Company, Commercial Marketing Services, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55420

## Nicklaus, Palmer to design portion of major project

A \$750-million destination resort that will include 45 Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer-designed golf holes is being planned for the U.S.-owned island of Guam.

Johnson Fain and Perreira Associates, a Los Angeles-based international architectural/planning firm, is doing the master plan and design of 1,300-acre Miyama Hills for Miyama Company, Ltd. of Tokyo.

Targeted primarily at the Japanese tourism market (Guam is a two-hour flight from Tokyo), the resort community will include 3,000 single-family homes, duplexes, townhomes and condominiums, plus a 200-room luxury hotel and conference center.