

Pesticide Application and Storage Key Elements in Environmental Forum

The requirements for the application and storage of pesticides will be more stringent in the near future. That's the message that came from a recent environmental forum hosted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Arty Williams, chief of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Field Operations Division, said the requirements for people who apply restricted-use pesticides (RUPS)—especially certified applicators, will be getting tougher.

The proposed recommendations are based on a 1985 task report on the certification and training of RUP applicators. These recommendations reflect the need to address several areas of concern including groundwater protection, worker protection, endangered species protection, chronic toxicity of RUPs and waste and container disposal.

The federal law that covers pesticide application is the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). FIFRA's Section 3 requires that any pesticide classified by the EPA for restricted use "shall be applied only by or under the direct supervision of a certified applicator." Section 4 gives each state an opportunity to implement its own pesticide applicator program. Virtually every state has its own version of this program.

The new rules will require certified applicators to keep records of site-specific training, as well as show competency of non-certified applicators who are applying RUPs. In

addition, recertification will be required at least every five years for all certified applicators. Some states already have regulations similar to these. Williams said the final rule should be "on the streets" in 1992.

GCSAA Director Randy P. Zidik said, "A recent survey has shown that over 95 percent of all golf course superintendents have at least one certified applicator on staff. Many courses have more than one. Although these new requirements will be tougher, they shouldn't place more of a demand on the superintendent because many of them already have these record-keeping elements in place."

Dennis Howard of EPA's Environmental Effects and Fate Division next addressed the forum on pesticide storage. Regulations concerning pesticide storage and mixing/loading are still under development, Howard said, and are not expected to be effective until 1993 and 1994, respectively. The storage requirements are not expected to affect the majority of golf course superintendents because they would apply only to facilities that store 11,000 pounds or more of pesticide product.

Rinse pads will likely be required in areas where concentrated pesticides are routinely transferred. This regulation would affect golf courses that do most of their mixing in the same location.

"Even though the storage requirements may not affect golf course superintendents, they should provide good standards to those courses who are building or remodeling their pesticide storage facilities," said Zidik.

Mascoutin Hosts WGCSA June Meeting

Mascoutin Country Club was the site of the June 24th meeting of the WGCSA. The weather was absolutely perfect, a match for the golf course under the management of Glenn Gerth. He received compliments and praise all day for the excellent playing condition of the course.

After lunch, 80 golfers went out to test their skills with the following results:

Two Best Ball Foursome:

First Place—Dennis Robinson, Kelly Reilly, Kurt Bostack and Ralph Heckel - 120.

Second Place—Ed Devinger, John Feiner, Skip Wilms and Ed Schutte - 121.

Third Place—Kent Cobren, Mike Handrich, Steve Allen and Ric Lange - 122.

Low Gross—Skip Wilms, 74

Low Net—Kelly Reilly, 58

Closest to the pin on #4—Erv Graf

Closest to the pin on #8—Gren Kallenberg

Closest to the pin on #12—Tom Schaller

Closest to the pin on #17—Charlie Shaw

The WGCSA extends a special thanks to Glenn, his staff and the officials at Mascoutin Country Club for hosting their third meeting in recent years. That kind of generosity and hospitality is greatly appreciated.

Cover-up.

Underneath some beautifully conditioned, championship golf courses are mountains of trash, the scars left by years of garbage replaced by a beautiful, invaluable green belt. And, landfill covers are only one way today's professionally managed golf courses are helping make our world a better place.

Who's in charge of keeping these amazing ecosystems in harmony with nature? Today's golf course superintendents. They're part troubleshooter, part business manager, part scientist and all environmentalist—dedicated to making our world a greener place.

WE KEEP GOLF GREEN.