

## Course Superintendent Testifies On Golf's Environmental Impact

Speaking about the environmental safety and benefits of golf courses, William R. Roberts, CGCS, an officer of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), testified March 28 before the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Toxic Substances.

As part of the hearing on the use, regulations and potential health risk of commercially applied chemicals on turfgrass, Roberts' testimony highlighted two areas in which GCSAA is considered to be the industry leader:

**Research into the Effect of Turf Chemicals on Groundwater** — An independently conducted, GCSAA-funded study completed on Cape Cod, Mass., showed that virtually no turf chemicals move through the soil structure into groundwater and that golf courses which employ best management practices in their application of turf chemicals can greatly minimize the risk of potential groundwater leaching.

**Educational Programs** — The membership of GCSAA is responsible for preserving the delicate balance of the golf course environment and, to that end, has developed a highly structured educational and certification program for its members.

Roberts, a golf course superintendent at Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., was invited to testify by Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) because of GCSAA's recognized leadership in the field of turf chemical application and research.

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