

GCSAA Offers Coursework In Environmental Specializations

By Colleen Smalter Pederson
GCSAA Senior Director
Of Education and Marketing

Historically, the golf course superintendent's profession has emphasized responsible stewardship of the land.

Today, GCSAA offers a unique continuing education opportunity for superintendents who seek to become recognized leaders in the application of proven, environmentally sound management practices.

The new Environmental Management Program (EMP) consists of six distinct areas of specialization:

Underground Storage Tanks; Integrated Plant Management; Employee Safety and Right-To-Know; Water Quality and Application; Golf Course Development, and Storage, Disposal and Recycling.

EMP's development is a result of a combination of factors. Over the past several years, the general public and government regulatory agencies have shown increased interest in the environmental impact on golf course maintenance practices. In response, GCSAA has assumed the industry's environmental leadership role and created new programming to meet the demand for up-to-date training on environmentally safe practices.

GCSAA's Environmental Management Program has been structured to meet superintendents' complex environmental training needs. When a superintendent successfully completes

a specialization, he or she will be current with the issues involving that particular area, and the community will have strong evidence of the superintendent's commitment to preserve and protect precious natural resources.

The UST and IPM specialization programs will be the first of the Environmental Management Programs to be offered; the remaining four areas will be developed over the next two years.

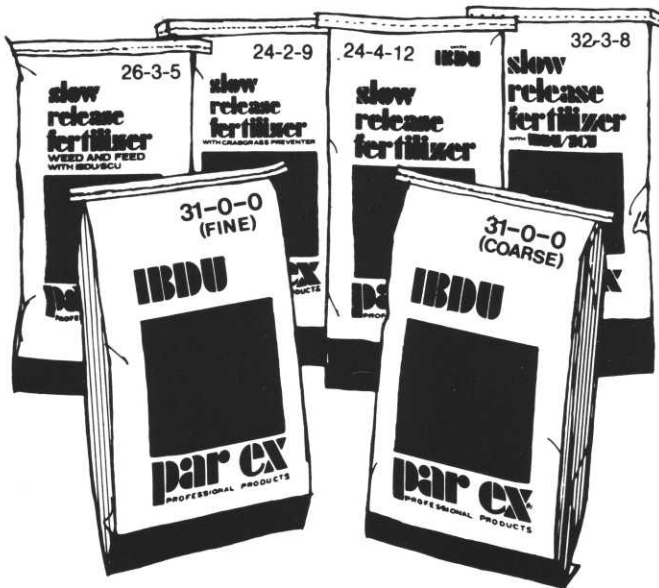
Two EMP seminars have already been implemented: "Developing Your Hazard Communication Program," which will be a requirement for the Employee Safety and Right-To-Know specialization (scheduled for full implementation during 1991-92), and "Environmental Considerations in Golf Course Management," which will be a required course for all specializations. The environmental considerations seminar covers the inter-related consequences of various management practices; topics include water rights, environmental regulations and community relations.

GCSAA piloted three EMP seminars—"Protection of Water Resources," "Scouting, Sampling and Monitoring Golf Course Pests" and "Underground Storage Tank Selection and Installation"—at the 1991 International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas. Correspondence courses on "Underground Storage Tank Monitoring and Record Keeping" and "Haz-

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GCSAA Coursework—

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ard Communication” also will be available to members early this spring.

In addition to the environmental considerations seminar, required courses for the UST specialization will include “Protection of Water Resources,” “UST Selection and Installation” and “UST Monitoring and Record Keeping.” The IPM specialization will require completion of the environmental considerations seminar, “Scouting, Sampling and Monitoring Golf Course Pests,” Turfgrass Stress Management,” “Implementing Strategies and Plans for Turfgrass Environmental Systems” and “Options and Their Applications in Pest Management.”

GCSAA will award a specialist certificate to superintendents who successfully complete the required coursework in any single program. The association also plans to publish an annual *Directory of Environmental Specialists in Golf Course Management*, listing each superintendent who has earned a specialist certificate and his or her area(s) of specialization.

Because environmental science and government regulations change rapidly, GCSAA will require EMP specialization certificates to be renewed after three years.

The Environmental Management Program is not intended to replace GCSAA’s current professional certification program; it is simply a means for the golf course superintendent to further his or her professional credentials in a specific area of environmental interest.

For more information on the Environmental Management Program, contact GCSAA’s education department.

ABOUT THE COVER

Joe Moris, head golf course superintendent at Tartan Park Golf Course in Lake Elmo, displays some of the golf equipment that has been gathered for Operation Desert Shield, the MGCSA’s campaign to support U.S. troops operating in the Persian Gulf. (See Pages 4-5 for more information and photos.)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS—DECEMBER 17, 1990

John Luetke	Mississippi National	Class	BII
Joseph Rondeau	Hillcrest CC		BII
Michael Daly	Ciba-Geigy		F
Joe Churchill	North Star Turf		F

RECLASSIFICATIONS—DECEMBER 17, 1990

David Sime	Mankato	Class	D to BII
Benjamin Retzlaff	Wedgewood Valley		DII to B

NEW MEMBERS—JANUARY 7, 1991

Thomas Dimberio	Rolling Green	Class	D
Robert Yost	River Falls, Wis.		BII

RECLASSIFICATION—JANUARY 7, 1991

Jerry Kline	Oak Glen		A to B
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Mike Olson, Membership Chairman

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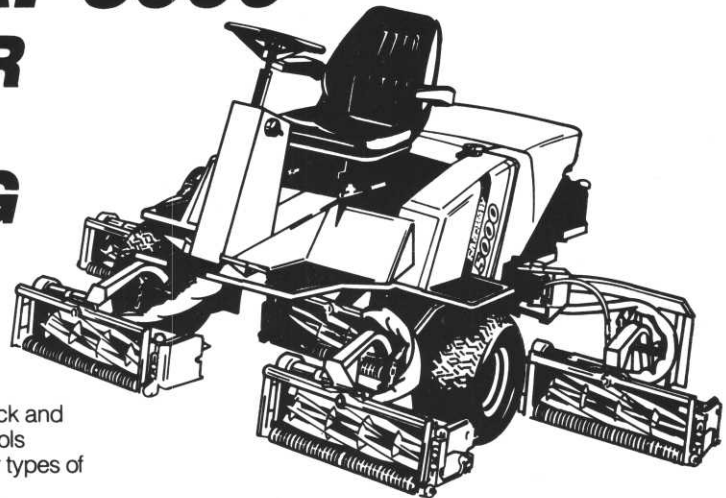
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