

March Mini-Seminar Offers Variety

One of the annual rites of spring for Minnesota superintendents is quickly approaching—attending the MGCSA Mini-Seminar on March 13, 1995.

This year's event features a potpourri of timely topics and interesting speakers. A special panel discussion dealing with the new OSHA regulations and enforcement will highlight the morning session. Don Strot from the Minnesota OSHA office will offer the specifics of required worker protection that will affect every golf course in the state. This is a must-see discussion for every superintendent, and you will have an opportunity to ask questions!

As every superintendent knows, the hottest topic concerning the golf course today is environmental considerations. Dr. Don Gordon, Professor of Biology, Mankato State University, will bring a different point of view for attendees to ponder. He has written numerous articles concerning the potential environmental risks such as groundwater contamination and pesticide exposure related to golf courses. Some of his comments may not be popular with superintendents, but through controversy and debate comes enlightenment, and all who listen to Dr. Gordon will no doubt be enlightened.

Following Dr. Gordon will be Bob Mugaas from the U of M Extension Office speaking on surface water contamination. He will offer advice on ways to reduce the potential for run-off of pesticides and fertilizer.

Dr. Ward Stienstra's topic is "The Art of Spraying." He will share his experiences and research pertaining to

efficacy of various application methods and procedures as well as common sense solutions to typical spraying dilemmas.

Steve Hamelau, Superintendent at the Alexandria Golf Club, will recall some of his most memorable moments concerning winter injury and the subsequent (and successful) regrassing of a number of Alexandria's putting greens. This presentation will be most humbling and informative for those of us who live with the unpredictable Minnesota winters. Look for many take-home tips on seed establishment from Steve.

Mona Bond, executive director of Iowa Alliance for Environmental Concerns, will inform the audience on "Political Potential." With all of the debate on environmental concerns, it is certain that some piece of legislation will be introduced that will have an impact on how superintendents do their jobs. She will discuss the ways and means to fight such legislation, and how to position ourselves to be more credible in our discussions with those who make the laws.

Finally, our friend from the Minnesota Golf Association, Ross Galarneault, will suggest methods for improving the playability of the golf course—especially as it relates to the rules of golf.

As you can see, this conference is bound to challenge and educate all who attend. Remember, your staff and club officials are encouraged to participate. See you there!

—Fred Taylor, Mankato Golf Club



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