

NATIONAL NEWS

GCSAA Joins Pesticide Partnership Program

The GCSAA has announced it will participate in the federal government's new Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program. Under the program, GCSAA will work in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to develop a strategy that further reduces risks from the use of pesticides on golf courses.

"We are absolutely committed to using responsible management practices that pose little, if any, environmental risk," said GCSAA President Gary Grigg, CGCS. "Through this partnership, we'll be able to work with the leading federal authorities to find new and innovative ways to use pesticides effectively and safely and to minimize any potential harm to people, wildlife and the environment."

The stewardship program is the first under a commitment made by the three agencies before the U.S. House of Representatives in September 1993. The program commits the agencies to work jointly with pesticide user groups.

In a news release announcing the pesticide initiative, Carol M. Browner, EPA Administrator, said, "I congratulate the companies and grower groups that are joining with us for their forward-thinking approach to environmentally sound pesticide use practices and look forward to seeing others follow their lead."

The EPA's Anne Leslie, who will coordinate GCSAA's strategy development, said, "We are very pleased that GCSAA has joined our Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program, and I look forward to working with this professional organization in developing their strategy."

The framework for the strategy emphasizes education, training, research

and continued development, and careful use of pest control products that pose risks. According to Leslie, superintendents are already doing many things very well. "GCSAA has already demonstrated a commitment to educate their members in less risky pest control methods by initiating an IPM curriculum as a part of their certification program. GCSAA has also established its own Environmental Stewardship Awards Program, which highlights the efforts of individual superintendents to reduce the risk of pesticides to the environment. A large number of superintendents have enthusiastically adopted the New York Audubon Society's Cooperative Sanctuary Program, which is an important part of this," she said.

Plans call for the strategy to be developed in 1995 and announced during the Environmental General Session of the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show next February in Orlando, Fla.



Lou Holtz to Keynote GCSAA Conference And Show

One of the most successful football coaches of all time, Lou Holtz, will bring his brand of motivation and inspiration to the GCSAA 1996 conference and show. Holtz, the head coach at the University of Notre Dame, will keynote the conference's Opening Session scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 7.

The Opening Session and Reception, presented in partnership with United Horticultural Supply (UHS), will kick off GCSAA's 67th International Golf Course Conference and

Show, the largest event in the golf course management industry. The event will be held Feb. 5-11 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla.

Holtz has led the Fighting Irish to a 70-14-2 record during the past seven years, including a school-record, 23-game winning streak. Through nine seasons at Notre Dame, he has had 83 victories — at least nine more each than legendary coaches Ara Parseghian, Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy accumulated during their first nine years at the University.

Prior to coming to Notre Dame, Holtz built successful programs at William & Mary, North Carolina State, Arkansas and Minnesota.

Holtz' keynote speech will show attendees how to apply the principles of a winning edge to their personal and professional lives.

Before Holtz' presentation, an awards ceremony will recognize the recipients of GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award and Leo Feser Award.

Following the Opening Session, UHS will sponsor a complimentary reception with drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

GCSAA Gala To Feature Country Music Star

John Michael Montgomery, a rising star on the country and pop music scene, will be featured in concert at the GCSAA Gala '96.

The GCSAA Gala '96 is part of the festivities surrounding the association's 67th International Golf Course Conference and Show. The Gala (formerly the Closing Banquet and Show) is presented in partnership with the Textron group of companies: E-Z GO, Jacobsen and Textron Financial Corporation.

GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held Feb. 5-11, 1996, at the Orange County

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