

HOLE NOTES

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of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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From Your President's Desk

New Minnesota Pesticide Law Now In Effect for Applicators



Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
MGCSA President

On January 1, 2002, a new pesticide law went into effect in Minnesota. The law requires all applicators to be licensed in the categories the pesticide is being applied to. General ground, turf and ornamentals, and aquatics are the primary areas where golf course applicators will need licensing. The MGCSA Board has supported licensing spray applicators and encourages our members to become licensed. Until recently, the state only required licensing for restricted use pesticides. With the interpretation of the new law by the Department of Agriculture, an applicator may now need to be licensed in other categories. I have included the phone number and e-mail of Rick Hansen, Dept. of Agriculture, if you need further clarification or to comment (651-296-6715 or rickhansen@state.mn.us). Also on Page 15 and Page 17 is a list of State Congressmen and Senators with e-mail addresses and phone numbers. Take the time to locate your representative. It will be useful for our Association to have our members contact their representatives when legislation is being proposed that directly affects your golf course.

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The GCSAA reprinted an article in the January Golf Course Management written by MGCSA Member Norma O'Leary, CGCS titled "Tackle Big Projects-and Build Better Relationships-With Member Volunteers". Norma received the Watson Award from the MGCSA for the best-written article published in the Hole Notes for 2001. She has my vote for the 2002 Leo Feser Award from the GCSAA.

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Kevin Clunis, CGCS has agreed to serve as GCSAA Certification Liaison for our Association. He will assist in answering questions about becoming certified as a golf course superintendent and help make site visits. Kevin has served on the Certification Committee for the GCSAA and was our chapter delegate in Lawrence at the December delegates meeting. If you are interested in becoming certified as a superintendent, please contact him.

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I received some great e-mails pertaining to Association matters after last month's article. I do appreciate hearing from you and encourage you to contact me. The Association has a very good website and a majority of the Board of Directors have direct links to e-mail also. Send them a note of support as you browse our site.

Respectfully,
Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
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