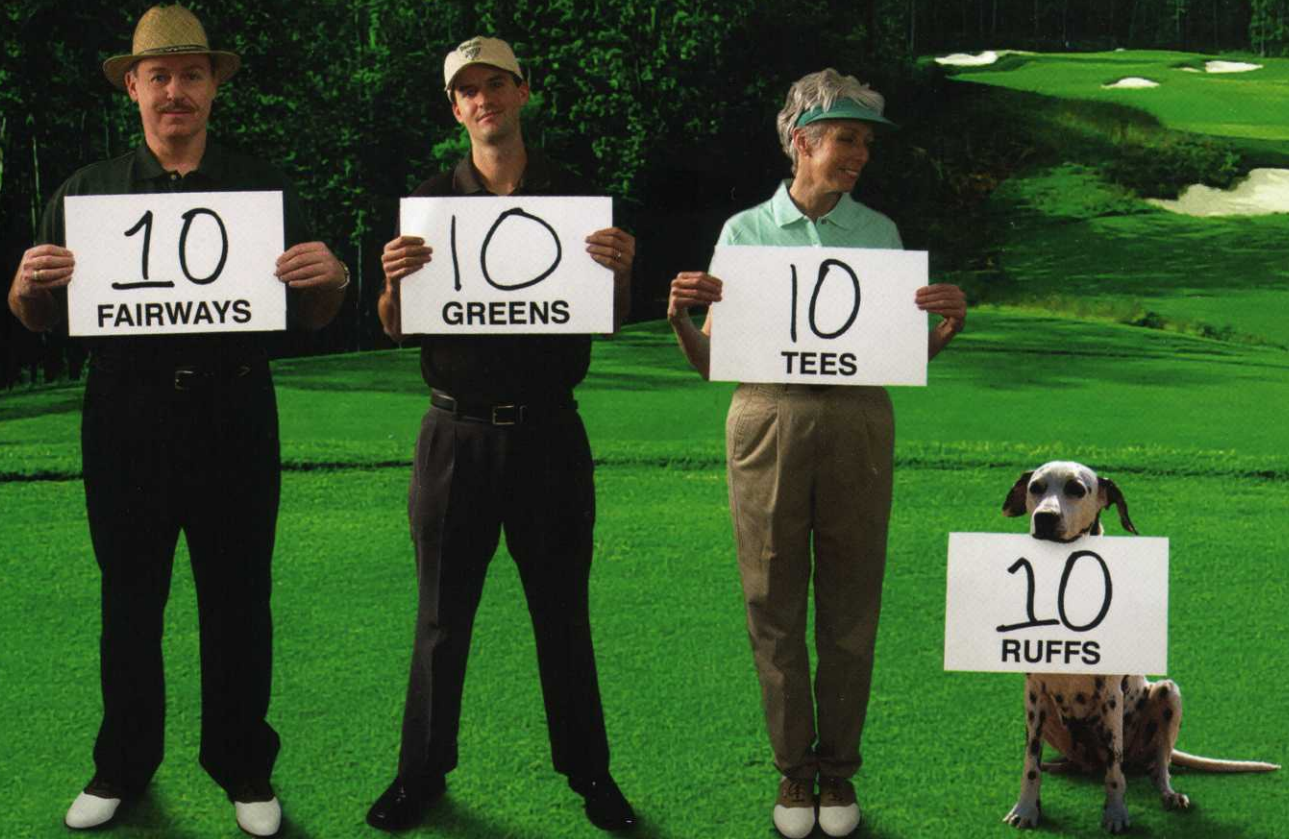


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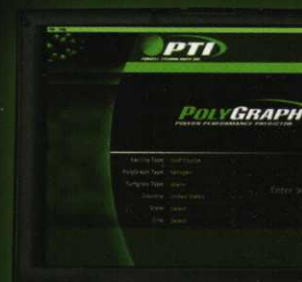
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About the Cover:

No. 17 green at Wild Marsh Golf Club, site of the 2009 MGCSA Scholarship Scramble

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MGCSA EVENTS

June 1
MGCSA SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE
Wild Marsh Golf Club
Host: David Deem

July 6
MGCSA HAROLD STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE
Stone Ridge Golf Course
Host: Jeff Girard

September 14
MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP
Northland Country Club
Host: Chris Tritabaugh

October 5
MGCSA Fall Mixer
Horse and Hunt Club
Prior Lake

December 9
Awards & Recognition Banquet
Oak Ridge Country Club
Host Superintendent: Keith Scott, CGCS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a Great Start to the Year!

By *Richard B. (Rick) Traver, CGCS*

What a great start to the year. Finally, we have a spring where Mother Nature hasn't scared off all the golfers with rain and or snow. With this economy and the financial position of many clubs it is good to see something go our way early in the year. I understand there was some turf damage over the winter out there; I hope it wasn't too bad. We found out where all our low areas or birdbaths are in the fairways and even on a couple greens. Oh well, that's why we're trained on how to seed and sod. I imagine I'll even take this opportunity to test a few spots not in landing areas to see how fast the poa can return. Here's hoping you all got off to a good start and that God blesses you with green grass and good play!

* * * *

We start our summer meeting season shortly and thanks to Tom Proshok and his arrangements committee for the great venues we will be visiting this year. To note a few, we start off with our Spring Mixer at Bellwood Oaks (Host Superintendent Bill Gullicks) on May 18 and then move to Wild Marsh Golf Club (Host Superintendent Dave Deem) on June 1 for the Scholarship Scramble. The season continues with Stoneridge GC for the MGCSA Harold Stodola Research Scramble, then moves to Northland CC for the MGCSA Championship and ends with our Fall Mixer at the Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake.

* * * *

At our last Board meeting we approved bringing a bylaws change to the membership. This change would allow for a new voting position on the Board representing the Class C members. Class C members have been and will continue to be eligible to run for director positions as well, but this position will be a designated position for Class C members that the Class C members vote for themselves. We decided to create this position because due to the stagnant growth in our industry, Class C members are going to have to wait a lot longer than in the past to move into Class A positions and many may even become career Class C members. For those who are concerned that there could be too many Class C members on the board, the bylaws require that the majority of board members must be Class A and only Class A members can serve as Officers. If you have any input or questions, please contact one of the current board members or myself.

* * * *

Also, at our last Board meeting Paul Diegnau presented the speaker schedule for the 2010 Northern Green Expo. There will be some programming changes for 2010, but he and the education committee have again done a fantastic job of bringing in good speakers. Thanks, Paul!

* * * *

On that same note, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the survey about the Northern GreenExpo. We received a lot of excellent comments and positive feedback. Thanks to Jeff Ische for putting the MGCSA Member Survey together and compiling the data when it was completed. (See Page 8 of this issue for the MGCSA Survey results.)

*Take Care,
Rick Traver*

HOLE NOTES

Official publication
of the MGCSA

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jmackenzie426@msn.com

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Wild Marsh Golf Club Set for June 1 MGCSA Scholarship Scramble

By DAVID DEEM
Superintendent, Wild Marsh Golf Club

Wild Marsh Golf Club is an 18-hole championship public golf course located in Buffalo, Minn. The course originally opened as Buffalo Run in 1995.

Landscape Unlimited Inc. purchased the property in the winter of 1998. They along with Senior PGA Tour Player Graham Marsh and Construction Superintendent Dirk Rehbein renovated the entire property in 1999 and re-opened in June of 2000.

In 2004, LUI was beginning to sell off some of its properties due to a down-turn in golf. At that time, the City of Buffalo stepped up and became the new owners. It has been a perfect match for our staffs working together with the goal of making Wild Marsh the best value in Minnesota. I have been the Golf Course Superintendent since 1993.

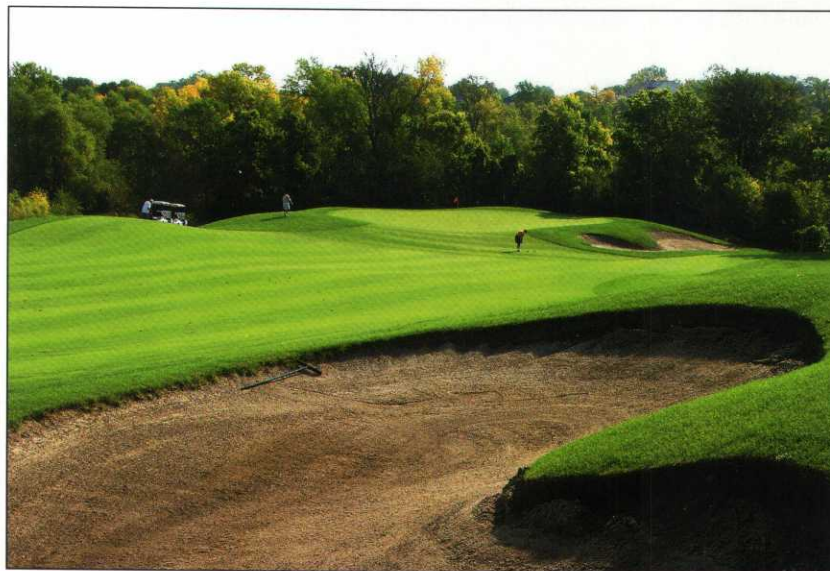
My Assistant Superintendent, Ben Thompson, is 32 years old, lives in Buffalo and is an avid poker player. This will be his sixth season officiating varsity softball for the State High School League. His only hole-in-one is at Wild Marsh.

The Golf Course

Wild Marsh, a par 71 course measuring 6,505 yards, features numerous tees per hole which gives golfers a variety of yardages to carry over six wetlands. The course has bentgrass fairways along with 48 well-placed, deep-faced bunkers. We also have nine treated wooden bridges.

Challenges

We have 32 acres of L-93 and Southshore bentgrasses and, when the summers are dry, you find out how good your irrigation system is. Other challenges



No. 1 at Wild Marsh Golf Club, site of the 2009 MGCSA Scholarship Scramble.

include chemical demands on bentgrasses and poa is beginning to creep in.

Personal Info

I have been married to my wife Nancy for 20 years. Nancy is a Hair Designer / Owner at Salon Bellezza in Plymouth. We

"I spent the next 11 years at Hazeltine and quickly learned that all courses are not created equal."

have two children. Our daughter Alysa, who recently married a Green Bay Packer fan and family and with us being Vikings season ticket holders makes our visits very interesting - especially in the fall. Our son Adam has started to follow in my footsteps. He has been interning at golf courses in Wisconsin, and now this year in Minnesota.

We enjoy family vacations, golfing and fishing. I have a love for Formula 1 and Indy Car racing. My DVR is used a great deal.

I grew up in Faribault where I spent just about all my youth at the Faribault Golf and Country Club. I decided after working in the Pro Shop for three years, I needed to get outside and get a great tan so I went to see if the grounds crew was hiring.

Well, on my first day in 1972, Supervisor Howard Doty showed two of us the first hole and directed us to begin push mowing around all of the tree bases on the golf course. As most of you remember, the Jacobsen push mowers back then felt like a ton

of bricks. Nobody told us how long it would take.

By Friday, when we made it to the 18th hole, we punched out, I mean wrote in our time. I went home and thought, do I want to put on jeans for grounds the next morning or do I want the double knits back on? Well, that was not the last time I mowed around those trees.

In 1977, Craig Waryan, who I knew very well from his time in Faribo, gave me an opportunity to interview for the Superintendent position at Sundance Golf Club in Osseo. I spent four great years there. But, with change always comes good things.

I was job searching in the Carver County area and coincidentally ran into Nick Dunn in Hazeltine National Golf Club's parking lot. I asked him if any jobs were available for the coming year. He took my name and number and said he would look at his staff for the upcoming 1982 golf season. I received a call at home that evening from Nick and he told me to bring a lunch for Monday. That was the greatest interview I ever had. I spent the next 11 years at Hazeltine and quickly learned that all courses are not created equal.

(Continued on Page 6)

Wild Marsh Golf Club-

(Continued from Page 5)

Dunn left Hazeltine that fall and I remember two members on the practice putting green during the hiring process for Superintendent say that a guy from Indiana is going to accept the job. Well, that guy was Chris Hague, whom I owe a great deal, too. He taught me that when you go through the maintenance gate into work, you are there to work and leave all your baggage behind. He also taught me and the staff that showing up early and staying past the normal 8-hour day was a sign of dedication.

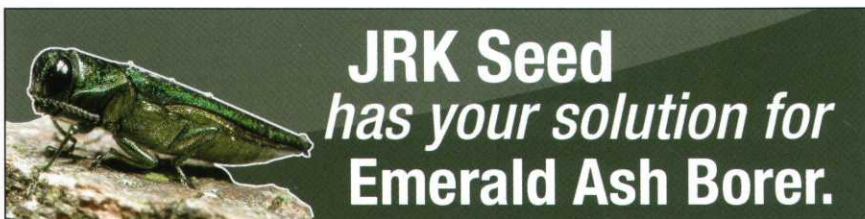
If I could go back and add up all of the hours that I put in over the normal 80, I could be on a beach by now. But, you have to love the game to understand. I became Chris Hague's Assistant Superintendent in 1986 and in 1991 we hosted the United States Men's Open Championship.

In 1993, I was approached by a company based out of Coon Rapids (thank you Mike Redmond) who were looking to hire a Superintendent to help them build a golf course in Buffalo.

We struggled for two years with weather and resources but we did not give up and I am very proud of the effort we put into that project.

But, now after working with LUI on the renovation, it has really turned out to be a terrific golf course that the City of Buffalo is very proud of.

I would like to thank my grounds staff for its dedication and loyalty to me and the golf course. They all do a terrific job. Thanks also to Joe



Introducing Arborjet

Arborjet is a revolutionary system of tree health care that is safer for you and your property than traditional chemical applications like spraying and soil injecting. In one state alone in 2006, there were 2.3 million pounds of pesticide sprayed into the air and deposited in the ground. Across the country, that number approaches 100 million pounds of toxins being applied annually in yards just like yours.

Many federal, state and local agencies are recognizing that chemical spraying and soil applications pose a significant risk to the environment and the public health, and are taking action to restrict or ban these general broadcast chemical applications that contaminate our air, water and soil. In contrast, the Arborjet system is being adopted by federal environmental agencies as the safer alternative to treating trees for nearly every known disease, nutritional deficiency and insect pest, including the exotic invasives like emerald ash borer and hemlock woolly adelgid, which are threatening many areas.

How does it work?

Arborjet's cutting edge injectable formulations and state of the art injection technology deliver small, precise amounts of nutrition, disease suppression and insect control treatments, directly into the vascular system of the tree, treating the tree from the inside without impacting the surrounding environment. The process is very similar to getting a shot or intravenous from a doctor. Once the treatment is inside the tree, the tree's natural processes diffuse it throughout the internal tissues where insects and diseases invade, stopping them before any damage occurs to the tree. Since everything occurs within the tree, there is virtually no risk of chemical exposure to you, your property, your children or your pets. Systemic vascular injection has become the method of choice of the US Forest Service for treating those trees in our national parks which are situated in high people traffic or environmentally sensitive areas. In every independent university study, the Arborjet system has been rated #1.

Arborjet has ranked #1 in every head to head university study.



A Tree Story: Two healthy ash trees were threatened by emerald ash borer. **Tree A** was left untreated and died. **Tree B** was treated with the Arborjet system and continues to thrive. Once a beautiful component of the landscape, Tree A is now an expensive removal.

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"I would like to dedicate this day of June 1 to my brother-in-law Richard Koring who died unexpectedly in 2008. He was Superintendent at Sundance Golf Club for over 30 years."

Malone and his staff for making this day possible for the MGCSA. Lastly, I would like to thank my family for always understanding that when I go to bed in the summer when it is still light, that it's not that I am unsocial, but that I am really tired.

I would like to dedicate this day of June 1 to my brother-in-law Richard Koring who died unexpectedly in 2008. He was Superintendent at Sundance Golf Club for over 30 years.

As all of you know, in your career there is always someone you can call and they will drop everything to talk turf with you. With Rick, I had that. Our family always laughed about when

"I am very excited for you, my peers, to come and play June 1 at Wild Marsh Golf Club."

they would call Rick, he was always too busy to answer. They would say "Dave, you call him, he always answers for you."

I, to this day, still have him as a contact in my phone hoping someday I will get that chance again. Rick, on behalf of myself and your family, we Love You and miss you daily.

It has been a long journey for me here in Buffalo and I am very excited for you, my peers, to come and play June 1 at Wild Marsh Golf Club.

MGCSA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

APRIL 2009

New Members

Jason Habeck
Class A - GCSAA
Hideout Lake Golf Club
Montrose, CO

Dennis Frick
Class C
Southview Country Club
West St. Paul, MN

David B. Lorentz, Jr.
Class C - GCSAA
Fargo Country Club
Fargo, ND

Casey Rice
Class C - GCSAA
Golden Eagle Golf Course
Fifty Lakes, MN

Kevin Godfrey
Student
The Links at Northfork
Ramsey, MN

Julie Ross
Student
Centerbrook Golf Course
Brooklyn Center, MN

Reclassifications

Dan Peluso
Class A-Retired to Class A
Swan Lake Country Club
Pengilly, MN

Peter Jensen
Class A to Retired
Bois de Sioux Golf Club
Wahpeton, ND

Tom Notch
Class SM to A
Bent Creek Golf Club
Eden Prairie, MN

Chris Halverson
Class C to SM
Riverview Golf Club
Elizabeth, PA

Keith Monson
Class C - SM
Kilkarney Hills Golf Course
River Falls, WI

Christian Dunn
Student to Class C
Windsong Farm Golf Club
Independence, MN

*Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Ische, Membership Chair*

*On behalf of the membership of
the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents'
Association, the MGCSA Research Committee
would like to acknowledge the generosity
of the following participating clubs for
the 21st Annual MGCSA Turfgrass
Research Benefit Week:*

*Brackett's Crossing CC
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Golden Valley G&CC
Indian Hills GC
Medina Golf & CC
Midland Hills CC
Minneapolis GC
Minnesota Valley CC
Northland CC
North Oaks GC*

*Oak Ridge CC
Olympic Hills GC
Rochester Golf & CC
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MGCSA MEMBER SURVEY

MARCH 2009

1. How much importance do you put on attending MGCSA-sponsored continuing education opportunities?

+ Very Important	45.5%	60
+ Somewhat Important	49.2%	65
+ Not Important	5.3%	7

132 answered question

2. How are your continuing education expenditures funded?

+ All or majority of expenses are paid by me	17.4%	23
+ All or majority of expenses are paid employer	82.6%	109

132 answered question

3. Do you attend the Minnesota Green Expo on an annual basis?

+ Yes	83.8%	109
+ No	16.2%	21

130 answered question

4. Why do you choose to attend the Minnesota Green Expo on an annual basis? (please select the most important reason)

+ To attend educational seminars that will help with my job	57.0%	61
+ To obtain GCSAA educational points	12.1%	13
+ To attend the trade show	25.2%	27
+ To visit with friends from around the state	5.6%	6

107 answered question

5. Did you attend the Minnesota Green Expo in January, 2009?

+ Yes	78.1%	100
+ No	21.9%	28

128 answered question

6. Why didn't you attend the Minnesota Green Expo in January, 2009? (please choose the most important reason below)

+ Green Expo registration fee is too expensive	0.0%	0
+ Travel and lodging expenses of attending Green Expo are too expensive	25.0%	7
+ Educational topics were not satisfactory	25.0%	7
+ Scheduling conflict	50.0%	14

28 answered question

7. How would you rate the diversity, or variety of the golf and turf-related seminars offered at the 2009 Minnesota Green Expo?

+ Excellent	10.1%	10
+ Above average	31.3%	31
+ Average	44.4%	44
+ Below average	10.1%	10
+ Poor	4.0%	4

99 answered question

8. How would you rate the quality of the speakers for golf- and turf-related seminars you attended at the 2009 Minnesota Green Expo?

+ Excellent	13.3%	13
+ Above average	35.7%	35
+ Average	44.9%	44
+ Below average	6.1%	6
+ Poor	0.0%	0

98 answered question

9. Did you attend the 4-hour extended Thursday morning seminar given by Dr. Watschke on Plant Growth Regulators?

+ Yes	46.9%	46
+ No	53.1%	52

98 answered question

10. For those of you that have not attended the Minnesota Green Expo in recent years, there has been a 4-hour extended Thursday morning seminar on a single golf-related topic. Do you support the continuation of this extended format on one topic, or would you rather have the opportunity to attend two to four shorter seminars, each on a different topic, during the same time period?

+ Continue with the extended single topic format	60.6%	57
+ Switch to the multiple shorter seminar format, each on a different topic	39.4%	37

94 answered question

11. In the years you have attended the Minnesota Green Expo, did you also make an effort to attend the MGCSA Annual Meeting?

+ Yes	57.4%	62
+ No	42.6%	46

108 answered question

12. The MGCSA has been asked to change the time of our Annual Meeting so that it does not interfere with dedicated trade show hours. What time of day would you be most likely to attend the MGCSA Annual Meeting?

+ Mid-morning, even if it reduced the number of golf and turf related seminars I could attend	34.9%	37
+ Mid-afternoon, even if it reduced the number of golf and turf related seminars I could attend	18.9%	20
+ Late afternoon, even if it didn't finish until 5pm, but wouldn't reduce the number of golf and turf related seminars I could attend	47.2%	50

106 answered question

13. Were you aware that part of your Minnesota Green Expo registration fee is used to support industry related research?

+ Yes	77.4%	82
+ No	22.6%	24

106 answered question

14. Did you attend either of the GCSAA sponsored regional educational seminars offered in February?

+ Yes	15.5%	16
+ No	84.5%	87

103 answered question

15. Why didn't you attend one of the GCSAA regional seminars? (please select the one most relevant)

+ Cost of seminar	15.1%	13
+ Travel expense	14.0%	12
+ Educational topics offered were not what I was interested in	17.4%	15
+ I had already attended GCSAA seminars at the 2009 National Conference and Trade Show	15.1%	13
+ I had a scheduling conflict	38.4%	33

86 answered question

16. Did you attend the MGCSA sponsored Mini-Seminar on March 10th?

+ Yes	27.5%	28
+ No	72.5%	74

102 answered question

(Continued on Page 9)

MGCSA Member Survey-

(Continued from Page 8)

17. Why didn't you attend the March Mini-Seminar?

(please select the one that is most relevant)

+ Cost of seminar	10.8%	8
+ Travel expense	13.5%	10
+ Educational topics offered were not what I was interested in	8.1%	6
+ I had already attended GCSAA seminars at the National Conference and Show in New Orleans	4.1%	3
+ I had a scheduling conflict	63.5%	47

74 answered question

18. How would you rate the quality of the educational program at the March Mini-Seminar?

+ Excellent	42.9%	12
+ Above average	46.4%	13
+ Average	10.7%	3
+ Below average	0.0%	0
+ Poor	0.0%	0

28 answered question

19. With the GCSAA sponsored regional educational seminars being discontinued, you are losing the opportunity for continuing education. The MGCSA Board of Directors is trying to decide if and when additional educational programs should be offered. Please select the one statement below that you would like to see happen.

+ The two days of GCSAA sponsored seminars were not important to me. Don't replace them for me.	24.5%	25
+ I liked to attend one or both days when I could.		

I would like to see the March Mini-Seminar expanded to a two day event.	39.2%	40
+ I liked to attend one or both days when I could. I would like to see the Minnesota Green Expo expanded to a four-day event, offering a day long seminar on Super Tuesday.	36.3%	37

102 answered question

20. What educational topics would you like to see included at future Minnesota Green Expos?

74 answered question

21. Who are a couple of speakers you would like to listen to at future Minnesota Green Expo's?

108 answered question

22. What, specifically, could be done to improve your experience, or increase the likelihood of your attendance, at the Minnesota Green Expo in the future?

106 answered question

23. What research topics would you like to see our association funding?

103 answered question

(Editor's Note: Thank you to all members who took time for this survey and also to those who wrote answers to Questions 20, 21, 22 and 23. They are available on-line at www.mgcsa.org.)

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GCSAA Continues Fight Against Federal Pesticide Ruling

GCSAA has taken a substantial stand against a recent federal court ruling that would fundamentally change the way pesticides are regulated in the U.S. and will determine when superintendents and other pesticide applicators are required to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits prior to pesticide applications.

GCSAA's most recent effort has been to partner with 22 agriculture and non-agriculture organizations in the filing of an amicus "friend of the court" brief to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in support of a rehearing of the National Cotton Council v. U.S. EPA case.

EPA has never before required NPDES permits for pesticide applications. The NPDES permit process can be time-consuming, costly and requires public notice. Because of this, golf course superintendents may in the future be subject to new red tape to apply pesticides at the facility.

EPA administers the Clean Water Act (CWA) which prohibits the discharge of pollutants into navigable waters from any point source without an NPDES permit. EPA also regulates the registration, sale, distribution and use of pesticides under the Federal

Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The interplay between CWA and FIFRA law is at the heart of the National Cotton Council case, and since 2000, anti-pesticide interest groups have gone to court under the CWA to stop pesticide applications.

In the National Cotton Council case, a three judge panel from the Sixth Circuit Court overturned a 2006 EPA Aquatic Pesticides final rule that concluded that pesticides applied in accordance with FIFRA labels were exempt from the Clean Water Act's NPDES permitting requirements. Specifically under the rule, if pesticides were used in accordance with FIFRA, no permit would be required for pesticide applications in, over or near waters of the U.S. (40 CFR 230.3).

The Sixth Circuit Court decision concluded that sprayers and nozzles are point source conveyances and that all residues and excesses of chemical pesticides that remain in water after the beneficial use is completed are "pollutants" under the CWA. Further, all biological pesticides are "pollutants" under the CWA. The court's ruling also opened the door to addressing terrestrial pesticide applications. The ruling described how pesticides, as pollutants, find their way into water and trigger the NPDES permit requirement, which

arguably erases the distinction between point and non-point source pollution.

The amicus brief argues that the court's decision misconstrued the elements that must be present to trigger permit requirements. As such, GCSAA and fellow petitioners have called for a rehearing of the whole case by the full panel of 15 judges in the Sixth Circuit Court to include the broad perspective of the 22 industries affected by the Court's decision.

Rehearing petitions were due April 9, and the government (EPA and the U.S. Department of Justice) chose not to seek this option. DOJ instead filed a motion to stay issuance of the Court's mandate for two years to provide EPA time to develop, propose and issue a final NPDES general permit for pesticide applications, for States to develop permits, and to provide outreach and education to the regulated community. To be clear, this mandate is not effective until all appeals are exhausted.

GCSAA will be vigilant as to the development of any rule and seek to discuss this with EPA and other affected groups once the time for appeal has passed.

(Editor's Note: For more information, contact Chava McKeel at 800-472-7878, ext. 3619 or cmmckeel@gcsaa.org.)



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