

NPDES Final Permit Issued Nov. 16 - THIS MAY IMPACT YOU!

By ELISE DOUCETTE

Planner Principal, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

MPCA finalized the 4 separate National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/State Disposal System (SDS) Pesticide General Permits on November 16, 2011. Coverage under this permit is automatic for anyone discharging a biological pesticide or a chemical pesticide that leaves a residue to a water of the state until April 30, 2012. After April 30, 2012, entities that exceed a Threshold are required to submit an application for permit coverage – known as a Notice of Intent (NOI) – and pay an application fee. Those that do not exceed the Threshold are not required to submit an NOI or an application fee, but are automatically covered by the permit and must comply with basic permit requirements.

Q: What is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program?

A: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is a federal permitting program under the authority of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that establishes controls on point source discharges of pollutants to waters of the United States. Point sources are defined as discrete conveyances including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, or conduit from which pollutants are or may be discharged. In 1974, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency was given authorization from EPA to issue NPDES permits. Therefore, MPCA is the NPDES permitting authority in Minnesota. MPCA has a responsibility to protect waters of the state under Minn. Stat. § 115.03 and is therefore regulating and permitting discharges to waters of the state.

Q: Why is MPCA requiring NPDES permits for discharges from pesticide applications?

A: The requirement to obtain NPDES permits for point source discharges from pesticide applications to waters of the state stems from a recent decision by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. In its ruling on National Cotton Council, et al. v. EPA the Court vacated EPA's 2006 rule that said NPDES permits were not required for applications of pesticides to, over or near U.S. waters when in compliance with the FIFRA label. Thus, discharges to waters of the U.S. from the application of pesticides will require NPDES permits when the court's mandate takes effect beginning on April 10, 2011.

Q: Which pesticide applications are covered under MPCA's Pesticide Permits?

A: MPCA's Pesticide Permits authorizes discharges to waters of the state from the application of (1) biological pesticides, and (2) chemical pesticides that leave a

residue for the following pesticide Use Patterns: Mosquitoes and Other Flying Insect Pests, Forest Canopy Pests, Aquatic Nuisance Animals, and Vegetative Pests and Algae.

Q: Do the Pesticide General Permits cover discharges from pesticide applications near waters of the state, as described in the Court decision?

A: Yes. Because the Court did not define the term "near" in the context of pesticide discharges, both EPA and MPCA interprets this term to refer to the unavoidable discharge to waters of the state in order to target pests in close proximity to water. The MPCA is relying on Permittees to determine if the discharge to waters is "unavoidable." If so, a permit is required. If the Permittee determines the discharge is "avoidable," then he or she must avoid the discharge to a water of the state and no permit will be required.

Q: What if I apply pesticides adjacent to water bodies?

A: If you determine that a discharge is unavoidable, either because of slope, distance, or some other variable, then a permit is needed. If you determine the discharge is avoidable, then avoid the discharge and a permit is not needed. If in doubt, follow the requirements of the permit.

Q: What are the Thresholds for Nuisance Aquatic Animal Control?

A: The Threshold for aquatic nuisance animal control is 20 acres of treatment area in lakes or 20 linear miles of treatment area in flowing waters. The MPCA assumes that control of nuisance aquatic animals' means the discharge will be directly to water, and has set Thresholds to reflect this. This is a cumulative Threshold and based on a calendar year total. For example, if you apply pesticides in the spring and fall to an eleven-acre lake in a calendar year, you must submit a NOI because you are above 20 acres of treatment area. In the case of a stream or river, if calculating the treatment area, count each pesticide application activity and each side of a linear water body as a separate activity. For example, if treating both sides of a 10-mile stream, that is considered 20 miles of treatment area. Also, if applying to both sides of a 10-mile stream three times in a calendar year, that would be considered 60 miles. Also, the treatment area is the area where the pesticide application is intended to have pesticidal benefits. For example, when applying to a stream or river, the area downstream that will be impacted by the pesticide should be used in calculating the Threshold.

Q: What are the Thresholds for Vegetative Pests and Algae Control?

A: MPCA's intent when setting the Threshold for vegetative pests and algae was to be as consistent as possible with the Department of Natural Resources' Aquatic Plant Management program. The Threshold applies to lakes 20 acres or greater. If you wish to treat greater than 15% of vegetative pests in the littoral zone (where the depth of water is 15 feet or less), you have exceeded the Threshold. If controlling the whole lake for algae in a lake 20 acres and greater, you have exceeded the Threshold and must submit a NOI. Control of algae can occur over the whole lake or parts of the lake, such as bays. Regardless of the area that is applied to, if treating a lake 20 acres and greater, you must submit a NOI.

The Threshold for treating vegetative pests and algae in all other waters of the state is 1,200 acres. This includes all other waters of the state not already mentioned. Some examples of 'waters of the state' where pesticides discharges will occur are road side ditches, drainage ditches, streams, rivers, wetlands, and other waters in Rights-of-Way. In order to address all pesticide applications throughout the state, the MPCA developed the 1,200 acre calendar year cumulative Threshold. For the purposes of this permit, 'waters of the state' do not include curb and gutter. If aerially applying the pesticide, all waters of the state under that area should be added to the "treatment area." If spot spraying and a discharge to waters of the state is unavoidable, then the area that receives application should be added to the calendar year total to determine if the Threshold is exceeded. This Threshold is cumulative and based on a calendar year total. NOTE: If you are treating an area that is intermittently wet, count it toward the threshold total only when visible or standing water is present. MPCA acknowledges that 'waters of the state' is a broad definition. In order to address all pesticide applications throughout the state, the MPCA developed the 1,200 acre calendar year cumulative Threshold.

Q: What about spot spraying? Do I have to include that in the Threshold?

A: Yes. You should calculate the Thresholds using all methods of treatment. If aerially applying the pesticide, all waters of the state under that area should be added to the "treatment area." If spot spraying and unable to avoid a discharge, then the area that receives application should be added to the calendar year total to determine if the Threshold is exceeded.

(Editor's Note: For more information about this program, contact Elise Doucette at 651-757-2316.)

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MDA Concludes EAB Insecticide Special Registration Review

By MICHAEL SCHOMMER

Communications Director

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

A special registration review conducted by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has determined that three insecticides commonly used to control emerald ash borer (EAB) are not likely to result in unreasonable risks to human health or the environment when used according to label directions. However, the review makes several recommendations to further minimize potential impacts.

MDA's review focused on dinotefuran, emamectin benzoate and imidacloprid - the three most common insecticide active ingredients used to control EAB. The review focused on issues related to potential environmental impacts, as well as label enforcement, interpretation and compliance concerns. Based on the results of this special registration review, MDA Commissioner Dave Frederickson determined that no modifications to the insecticides' product registrations are required in Minnesota at this time. The review and recommendations can be found on MDA's website at www.mda.state.mn.us/chemicals/pesticides/eabinsectidereview.aspx

"Emerald ash borer is going to present major environmental and economic challenges for Minnesota," Commissioner Frederickson said. "We conducted this review because we wanted to take a fresh look at the products used to fight EAB, and to see what steps might be helpful for tracking potential impacts in the future."

"EAB is one of the nation's most destructive tree pests. Since its accidental introduction into North America, EAB has killed tens of millions of ash trees in 15 states."

MDA selected the three insecticides for review because they are widely used to control EAB, and as the tree pest spreads across Minnesota the products are expect-

ed to be used more frequently. The review also was prompted by stakeholder environmental concerns and insecticide product misuse complaints. In developing the review, MDA scientists conducted extensive literature reviews and worked with researchers, regulators and educators familiar with the EAB insecticides. MDA is committed to staying current on EAB treatment options, associated pesticide labels and registration information. The department will consider additional information about these products as it becomes available.

EAB is one of the nation's most destructive tree pests. Since its accidental introduction into North America, EAB has killed tens of millions of ash trees in 15 states. Since May 2009, EAB infestations in Minnesota have been discovered in Ramsey, Hennepin, Houston and Winona County. More information on EAB prevention, early detection and rapid response can be found on MDA's website at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab>.

(Editor's Note: Michael Schommer may be reached at 651-201-6629 or



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Tyler MacKenzie Receives Trans-Mississippi Vickers Award

Rutgers University student Christopher Tyler MacKenzie has been selected as the Vickers Scholarship winner among 14 students earning 2011-12 scholarships from the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association (TMGA) through its Turf Scholarship Fund. MacKenzie, 24, will receive a \$7,500 scholarship as he completes his education in the Rutgers' two-year Golf Course Management Program this month. He also receives the Vickers Trophy, a bronze sculpture of Old Tom Morris.



Christopher Tyler MacKenzie, center, with Dr. Bruce Clarke, pictured on the left and Dr. Richard Hurley on the right.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF HECKMAN

"With two people close to me, my father and his assistant, both having won Trans-Miss scholarships, to join them with that -- especially my dad -- it's kind of a legacy deal," said MacKenzie of Forest Lake, Minn. "I didn't know the (TMGA) has been around as long as it has. To know that I was awarded the top Trans-Miss scholarship, it's an honor."

MacKenzie, whose father Jack is Superintendent at North Oaks Golf Club,

currently carries a 3.79 grade point average in Rutgers' Golf Course Management Program and has completed internships at Oakmont Country Club and the TPC Twin Cities. He has volunteered on the maintenance staffs of several key golf events, including the 2009 PGA Championship, the 2008 U.S. Women's Open and two 3M Championships.

"Tyler MacKenzie is a highly motivated

and extremely intelligent individual," says Edward V. Lipman Jr., MacKenzie's academic advisor at Rutgers.

"His roots in the golf turf industry run very deep as his father has been a superintendent for over 25 years, and based on Tyler's performance in his first year in the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School, it is clear that it is his intention to walk in his father's footsteps and become a successful golf course superintendent."

MacKenzie earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Wisconsin-Eau Claire before moving to Rutgers.

"Education is unbelievably important. Every year technology changes and information changes," MacKenzie said. "You've got to keep yourself educated, whether it's reading articles put out in magazines or anything like that...it's like everything nowadays, you just have to stay on top of the turf field."

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MUSING THE MINUTES

By BRIAN BROWN
MGCSA Secretary



The MGCSA Board of Directors met on October 25, 2011 at Golden Valley Golf & Country Club in Golden Valley.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Paul Diegnau, CGCS called the meeting to order. Treasurer Paul Eckholm, CGCS reported that the financials are ahead of last year, expenses are being kept down. Dues and event registration are down. The electronic version of Hole Notes will save on expenses. Revenues from dues are down about \$3,000. Bottom line is up and should remain that way if expenses are kept in line. Revenue from sponsorship is up and down for events.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Executive Director Scott Turtinen reported that five new members signed up after a mailing. A thank you note was sent to Marlow Hansen and Brent Steinke for hosting the Stodola event. A thank you note and team photo was sent to all participants. The web site was updated with a story on the Harold Stodola event. The past minutes are being examined and a book of decisions the board has passed will be created. The sponsorship funds for the year were \$31,150: Mega-Seminar \$3,000, National Hospitality \$7,554, and the remaining \$20,596 goes to (research 60% (\$12,357), Spring/Fall mixers 15% (\$3090) and the Banquet 25% (\$5,149)). A thank you letter was sent to Wee One sponsors and a hat for those that weren't in attendance. The contribution to the Wee One Foundation will be about \$7,100. A thank you and team photo was sent to the Fall Mixer attendees. The Gun Raffle brought in a net profit of \$683.75 for research. A lot of software work has been completed for the association to accept online credit card payments and a Member's Only section on the website. Features will be ready for use soon. January 5 has been reserved with the Hilton for the Past Presidents luncheon. Turtinen added the member service points to GCSAA's site for members attending our monthly meetings.

BYLAWS / HISTORICAL

Turtinen handed out a board decisions list compiled from 2004-2011.

CONFERENCE AND EDUCATION

Aquatics training is on the Northern Green Expo agenda for 2012. The MNLA will be contacted to increase the demand for an Aquatics session with both training and testing on one day. March Mega-Seminar is set for February at TPC of the Twin Cities.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental: No environmental applications were sent in this year. Past recipients will be contacted to form a committee to discuss the award.

Traver reported via Diegnau that Roger Stewart will run for the Vice-President position. Three directors are needed this year and Traver is having a hard time finding people to run. Currently three candidates for three positions have agreed to run for the positions. Affiliates are losing both representatives this year with Dant moving out of the area. Diegnau will keep Churchill on to complete Luke Dants' term and have Churchill find two people to run for the other Affiliate position. This will keep a rotation of one of the two Affiliate positions elected each year.

MINNESOTA TURF & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Eckholm reported that the EPA, Department of Agriculture and Department of Health are in conflict of each other trying to figure out which agency controls which regulations. The National EPA changes could affect the State agencies.

MTGF

Ische talked with Lehman and Ryan of the MGA about the MGA's \$3 dues increase. This brings the MGA projected profits to \$157,000. Ryan said some of the dollars may be available to the MGCSA/TROE Center. The Minnesota PGA received a half a million in an endowment fund this year.

RESEARCH

Hines reported that the gun raffle was lower than he expected. Some comments were received about the gun being a bad image for the association.

UM REPORT

Horgan had a meeting with President Kailer at the research center in September. Grad Students showed their research projects to the President. Hines and Horgan will combine reports for the Annual Committee reports.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Sponsorship menu: The package amounts were reduced with the reduction of one event. Price structure for sponsorship will remain similar with Platinum lowered to \$5,000. A Title Sponsorship category will be added to each event and banquet. The title sponsor will have their name/logo on the registration, name/logo on all event correspondence, present the welcome introduction, and have signage on the Podium. Cost of sponsorship: \$1,500 for Championship, Scramble, and Banquet, \$750 for the fall shoot, and \$500 for the Spring Mixer. 2. 2012 Advertising contract: Due to the elimination of printing costs and mailing the advertising rates will be reduced by approximately 30%. The centerfold category will change to a 2-page category at \$400. Other categories will be inside front cover \$300, full page \$250, 1/2 page \$200 and 1/4 page \$175. Website advertising rate is \$125 and the membership roster will be the same. 3. TROE Center funding concept. MTGF Allied Associations would collect an additional \$25 for the TROE and issue a \$35 coupon to each person for education events. Diegnau will contact the MTGF president Bernick to discuss the concept. This concept would require member approval with a vote at the annual meeting. 4. Member only section: The section will have a login and host the current Hole Notes, past 6 issues of Hole Notes, membership roster, and job postings. Other items can also be added if desired.

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Season's Greetings

HOLE NOTES STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

1. Title of publication: *Hole Notes*.
2. Publication No.: 1082-7994.
3. Date of Filing: October 1, 2011
4. Frequency of issue: monthly, except bi-monthly December-January and February-March.
5. Number of issues published annually: 10.
6. Annual subscription price: \$20.00.
7. Mailing address of known office of publication: 217-D Minnetonka Ave. S., Wayzata, Minnesota 55391
8. Mailing address of headquarters or general business office of publisher: Same as No. 7.
9. Names and address of publisher, editor and managing editor: Publisher and Managing Editor: Scott Turtinen - same as #7. Editor: Jack MacKenzie - same as #7.
10. Owner: Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, 217-D Minnetonka Ave. S., Wayzata, MN 55391
11. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1% or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: None.
12. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates: Not applicable.
13. Publication title: *Hole Notes*.
14. Issue date for circulation data below: 9-15-11

15. Extent and nature of circulation:

Column 1: (Below) Actual number of copies of each issue. Column 2: (Below) Average number of copies during preceding 20 months of single issue published nearest to filing date.

	Column 1	Column 2
a. Total copies printed	850	850
b. Paid circulation:		
1. Mail subscriptions	794	794
2. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	0	0
c. Total paid circulation	794	794
d. Free distribution/ mail	0	0
e. Free distribution/ other	0	0
f. Total free distribution	0	0
g. Total distribution	794	794
h. Copies not distributed	56	56
i. Total	850	850
j. Percent paid and/or requested circulation	100%	100%

16. I certify that all information on this form is true and complete.

- Signed by Scott Turtinen
Publisher

Thank You!

For letting us work with you through the challenges of this season past

The friendships we have made this year we know will always last

The value that we bring to you will pay back every day

Talk to us about next season and we can find a better way

In the mean time take a breath enjoy some Holiday Cheer

We'll see you at Green Expo first week of next year!

See us at Booths 935/937

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR SALE
Dakota 410 topdresser mounted on 2001 Pro Gator. Both units are in excellent condition. Gator has 1500 hours and comes with the box. This is a great combination, and is ready to go! \$18,000 complete. Toro 4000-D three-deck rough mower. 2005 model with 3,000 one-operator hours. Excellent condition -- serviced and ready to mow. A great mower for \$20,000!
Contact: Fred Taylor, CGCS Mankato Golf Club
507-388-2546

November 17
FOR SALE
Smithco Ultra Greens Roller 2008, 873 hours Excellent Conditionn - \$8,000; Ryan GA 30 Aerifier 1400 hours, excellent condition - \$2,000; Jacobsen Walking Greens Mower, 21 inch - \$275
Contact: Bill Larson, CGCS Town & Country Club
651-646-6743 X10

November 17
FOR SALE
1999 Jacobsen GreensKing IV with dirt reels, 3200 hours - \$1000 or best offer.
Contact: Greg Hubbard, CGCS Manitou Ridge Golf Club
651-777-2987 ext. 5

November 15
FOR SALE
3 Miltona Cup Cutters and 4 Miltona Ball Mark Repair Tools \$500, 2 keystone Drag Mats \$500.00
1 1990 Toro GM 3000 with rebuilt reels \$1500
Jacobsen Greens King IV's, gas and has 2990 hours with reels. \$2000
Contact: Jamie Bezanson Oneka Ridge Golf Course
715-699-0178

November 15
FOR SALE
Cart directional signs: Green with white lettering, good shape, mounted on rebar stakes. No longer needed. 6-"Please keep carts outside of white lines" 10-"Please keep carts in right rough" 2-"Please keep carts in left rough" \$100 for all
Contact: Joe Berggren Montgomery National Golf Course
952-297-6165

November 8
FOR SALE
Toro Network 8000 Irrigation controllers. These are 32 station controllers that work fine. Metal cabinet pedestal type. We have upgraded and no longer need these. Quantity of 8 available at \$200 each.
For Sale for Parts:
1985 Olathe Model 61 Debris Blower. 3 pt hitch/PTO design. Broken fan/hub shaft assembly. Good for parts if you have one of these. \$100
Contact: Tom Fischer, CGCS Edinburgh USA
763-315-8575

November 3
FOR SALE
Tri-State Reel Grinding Preseason Reel Grinding Special! Schedule your reel sharpening needs by December 31, 2011 and receive free pick up and delivery ...normally \$1 per loaded mile...\$50 minimum
\$75 (greens mowers and light weight cutting units...22" or less)
\$100 (walk behinds and larger cutting units...over 22")
Contact: Guy W. Leach Spring Valley Golf Course
715-928-0405

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In the winter, when not maintaining turf, what keeps your staff busy?

We disassemble and repair/repaint all on course accessories from ballwashers to signage stakes, etc. Power wash down all equipment, pounding out dents on utility vehicle boxes, repainting and logo-ing them and other equipment in need. We maintain a cross country ski trail if and when it ever snows. When weather permits, we're outside cleaning up deadfall in the native, prepping for spring burns by mowing down some fire breaks, brushing out trees and saplings along the creeks. Also do a lot of updating to our irrigations maps and programming, as well as some equipment fabrications and improvements. Generalized cleaning from another year of chaos that is seasonal employees. Washing and painting all walls and floors in Maintenance facility. The goal is to make the shop sparkle when the first hourly walks in next spring, if they see the clean shop and equipment, maybe they'll help take care of it a little bit more. Same goes for the golfer, if our stuff looks nice, maybe they will fix that ballmark or rake that trap. I almost forgot the most important aspect: a weekend off every now and then and being able to use all that accumulated vacation time!

Kyle Fick
GCS, Bully Pulpit GC
Medora, ND

We like to do tree work if the snow isn't too deep. Of course, all the equipment gets a good going over so we assist the mechanic with this. The golf course accessories get a cleaning or paint job. Snow removal isn't as immediate for us since the club house is closed. This year the maintenance building will get some fresh paint to brighten things up a bit. And we will probably do some cleaning and recycling if things haven't been used for quite some time. Budgets will be refined and we will have meetings to talk about what worked and what can we do better. There are other administrative things like the Audubon to complete, meetings to attend like the open forums, Northern Green Expo and certification. Lots of coffee and donuts will be the order of the day too and having a veteran crew means lots of vacation! Have a good winter everyone.

James Bade
Somerset Country Club

The winter months are our heavy golf season months – we handle 9,000 to 10,000 rounds of golf per month over the three golf courses from October 1 through June 1.

Randy Witt, CGCS
Hong Kong Golf Club



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