Fire, continued from page 7 Most are weakened by strong detergents.

A fire site will be isolated and secured; waste and runoff may be toxic. Federal, state and local authorities will be contacted for disposal instructions and approvals. Waste and runoff will be handled the same way as a product spill. Personal protective equipment is required.

Let's hope no one in the MAAGCS ever has to face this horror, but a little preparation can certainly avoid a larger problem. Inspect where you store pesticides and fertilizers and eliminate fire hazards. Have a pre-fire plan in place and an up-todate set of material safety data sheets on hand. A brush-up course in first aid, especially dealing with pesticides, would be of benefit as well.

Get to know your local fire marshal. If he inspects your facility and suggests or requires changes, make them quickly. Call him for a reinspection. Your concern with safety and complying with fire codes will go a long way to establish a good rapport with the department.

This article was adapted from one that appeared in The Greenerside, newsletter of the GCSA of New Jersey. Thanks also to Robert Nemchin, Montgomery County Division of Emergency Management who helped with the adaptation.

Pieces, continued from page 2 O Don't Forget! Ladies Night is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, from 6:30-10:00 on the cruise ship Spirit of Baltimore. The Ship will leave promptly at 7:00 p.m. More details will follow in future issues of **Turfgrass Matters**. This is a great event, so don't forget to bring your wife, or your girlfriend, but definitely not both! See you there! Mr. Ralph McNeal, former superintendent of the Talbot Country Club, Easton, Md. for 26 years died on June 23 at the age of 69. Ralph was a longtime member of the MAAGCS and the Eastern Shore Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and was named an Honorary Life Member of this organization at the time of his retirement. He was highly respected by his peers for his quality of performance, endless energy and sense of humor. Ralph never had the privilege of enjoying his retirement as he had a stroke that resulted in paralysis on the left side and never recovered. His strength of character was evident during the two and a half year period of illness as he never showed remorse nor expected sympathy. He will be missed by those who knew him. He was a man of character, ability, pride of workmanship and a true "Eastern Shoreman."

Ken Baker, MAAGCS retired

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