

TURFGRASS MATTERS

September/October 2001

Volume 72, Number 4

Stewards of the Chesapeake



Lakewood Country Club Team
Jorge Massa, Chris Ayers, CGCS, Doug McPherson, Bill Karpa

The second annual *Stewards of the Chesapeake* golf tournament was held August 27, at Queenstown Harbor Golf Links. A field of 124 players, or 31 teams, competed over the challenging and wonderfully

conditioned Lakes course. The team from Lakewood Country Club, comprised of Chris Ayers, CGCS, Jorge Massa, Doug McPherson and Bill Karpa took first place, aided by a rare double eagle on the par five fifteenth hole, by Doug McPherson.

The *Stewards of the Chesapeake* was initiated to replace the Superintendent Club Official tournament. While superintendents are still encouraged to bring general managers, green chairpersons, and other club officials, the tournament also affords the opportunity for our turfgrass industry partners to participate and compete. Proceeds from the event help to support the

MAAGCS' education, scholarship, and research efforts. The tournament's name, *Stewards of the Chesapeake*, symbolizes the environmentally conscientious manner in which superintendents and other professionals in the turfgrass industry manage their facilities in one of the most diverse, yet fragile ecosystems in the world, the Chesapeake Bay.

Since its inception, Queenstown Harbor Golf Links has exemplified the concept of environmental stewardship. Our thanks to Lex and Charlie Birney, Bill Shirk, CGCS, Tom Tokarski, Scot Forbis, and everyone at Atlantic Golf for hosting us in such fine fashion. Thanks, also, to all of the participants and sponsors who helped to make the 2001 *Stewards of the Chesapeake* a big success. Please mark the last Monday in August on your calendar for the 2002 event!

Superintendents and the Politics of Nutrient Management

Robert C. Collins, CGCS

Golf course superintendents have many and varied responsibilities. When asked to list them, an informed golfer might list management of maintenance machinery, pesticide and fertilizer applications, running an efficient and professional staff. But participation in the realm of politics and regulation?

In 1998, litigation in federal court between a coalition of "environmental groups" and the United States Environmental Protection Agency was settled. The coalition of the Delaware Sierra Club, Delaware River Keepers and others sued the EPA over en-

forcement of the Clean Water Act, in which a pollution control strategy was to be formed and implemented in waters deemed impaired. The waters in question were two out of three of Delaware's Inland Bays, Rehoboth and Indian River Bays. The pollutants to be managed were nitrogen and phosphorus. According to the agreement, Total Maximum Daily Loads of these nutrients were to be established, and "large-scale" generators and users were to be regulated. In 1999, the State of Delaware passed a nutrient management law.

Among its provisions, the nutrient management law requires that any entity within the state that applies nitrogen or phosphorus to ten or more acres of land develop and enact a nutrient management plan. Obviously, the provisions of the law apply to the state's 40 or so golf courses. Also, a nutri-

ent management commission was to be formed, and its duties were to execute the provisions of the law.

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