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- FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL government regulators
- MANY TURFGRASS MANAGERS
- MANY HOME OWNERS
- AVERAGE CITIZENS, ALL SIZES, SHAPES

PLCAA (the Professional Lawn Care Association of America) supports the idea. At a recent congressional subcommittee hearing to re-authorize FIFRA, PLCAA recommended requiring all lawncare operators to post sites on which they apply pesticides.

Posting will help notify people to take care when entering the area where a pesticide application has been made. It will notify post office workers, service personnel, delivery people, people walking their dogs, home owners coming home from work, housewives coming home from running errands, latch key kids coming home after school—anyone who might walk onto a treated area. These are all excellent reasons for requiring the posting of pesticide treated turf areas. Taken in toto they provide a overwhelming reason for the adoption of posting requirements on the federal level.

All that having been said—there is one more reason that outweighs all of the above. Put the issue on a personal level. If I am going to apply a pesticide to a turf site, posting the site is a matter of courtesy. From the proverbial "wet paint" signs of painters and the "wet floor" signs used by janitors to the "please excuse our progress" signs used by highway departments, this kind of courtesy is just plain good business.

A modest proposal

IN FACT, I THINK TURF MANAGERS should take this concept of "just plain good business" one step further. I propose that all turfgrass managers voluntarily agree to make a major effort to see that all non-target applications of any material applied to turf sites be removed from any surface where it might become a source of non-point pollution. Put more simply, we should remove any applied materials that have landed on roads, sidewalks, driveways and any location where water may move the materials into ponds, creeks, rivers, bays or any body of water.

From a practical standpoint, granular applications should be swept or blown from these surfaces. Liquid applications require that the applicator be careful to avoid spraying non-target areas.

As practicing turfgrass ecologists—or at least as professionals who read the handwriting on the wall, we should make sure that our activities are not the source of any potential pollution. It is not only the correct thing to do, but

Fed issued "final" rules on training for workers who transport hazardous materials

THE U.S. DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION has issued final rules governing the minimum training requirements for workers who transport hazardous materials. Every two years employees, who handle or transport such materials must receiving training aimed at increasing their general awareness as well as specific job and safety training.

Industry group issues new standardized MSDS format

THE CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION reports that it has established new voluntary standards for the format for Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). The new format simplifies the reporting of MSDS information and makes it more consistent.

Product labels are no substitute for MSDS's in California

AS OF THIS PAST JANUARY, California began requiring that manufacturers, distributors, and dealers provide MSDS's directly to pesticide purchasers. Unlike many other states, California had exempted this requirement and allowed the pesticide label as a substitute for MSDS's.

Ohio puts labeling of possible carcinogens on the ballot

THE OHIO SUPREME COURT has let stand a carcinogen labeling proposition set to appear on the ballot in November. If approved by Ohio voters, the proposition will require extensive labeling of products that are possible carcinogens or that pose reproductive threats. In addition, chemical companies, farmers and others will have to issue warnings to area residents of possible risks.

Hazardous waste water generator

MANY COMPANIES ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS of determining how the hazardous waste regulations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) apply to their operation. Here are two sources of additional information:

- "Understanding the Small Quantity Generator Hazardous Waste Rules: A Handbook for Small Business". Call the EPA's RCRA/Superfund Hotline at **1-800-424-9346**.
- Information packets are also available from several companies that specialize in helping small companies with regulatory compliance, including

Compliance Corp. of America Inc.
The Woodland Bldg.
4243 Dunwoody Club Drive, Suite 103
Dunwoody, GA 30350-5611. ■

any pollution that might develop from the failure to remove these non-target applications could prove to be disastrous to an industry that is struggling to prove to society in general that we are competent professionals and deserving of society's trust. ■