



# We have more tools than you might think

*Submitted by Tech Terra Environmental*

Times are changing and due to public demand and new regulations we have to become knowledgeable in other techniques to care for plants. Public pressure, government regulations and good business practices are all telling us to Go Green.

We all have issues with the NJ School IPM Program, the new fertilizer law and the continuing battle over the Safe Playing Field Act. These regulations remove many of the tools we have depended upon for years. On the other hand there are good reasons to rethink some of the methods of the past.

I talk with many people in the industry and many who are environmentally concerned. I hear a lot of misinformation on both sides, from "We can't successfully maintain turf cost effectively without access to pesticides as we currently use

them" to "All these pesticides are killing us". The vast majority of people believe that the truth is in the middle.

**We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.**

*Albert Einstein*



Now is the time to get serious about promoting our profession as being environmental stewards. We should be able to wisely use some pesticides and still embrace the use of more environmentally sensitive methods. There is a growing body of science which describes the benefits of adding organic matter to the soil and the effectiveness of many of the Low Impact Pesticides. They are

being used on many playing fields throughout the country successfully.

There will be a hard fought battle in Trenton this year over the Safe Playing Fields Act. By taking a strategy of compromise, the Green Industry would present itself as having a concerned and reasonable approach towards the future of turf care. 🌱

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