

# Industry News

## GCSAA Conference To Draw Over 5000

More than 5000 people are expected to attend the Golf Course Superintendents Association's Conference and Trade Show in San Antonio, Texas, February 12-17, 1978. The 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show will offer turfgrass managers a varied program of educational sessions, industry exhibits, a golf tournament, the GCSAA annual meeting and election of officers, and a golf course tour. The six-day event will take place in the 130,000 square foot San Antonio Convention Center.

Exhibit space was sold out three months before the conference is due to open. Some 52,000 square feet of space has been sold to 180 companies. Thirty-three new companies have joined the show so far.

The exhibit hall will be open Feb. 14 and 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Feb. 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Opening day, Feb. 12, has traditionally been reserved for superintendents only to view the show, and the afternoon of Feb. 13 has been set aside for dealers to preview the show.

Seven educational sessions will feature 38 speakers from universities, industry, and GCSAA. Earl L. Butz will deliver the keynote speech, entitled "I Don't Want to Live in a No-Growth Society," at the opening session Monday morning, Feb. 13. Butz is now dean emeritus of agriculture at Purdue University.

Sessions on northern and southern turfgrass management, research, weather, and public golf-owners and operators are among those offered. Four seminars will be offered simultaneously on Feb. 11 and 12. They will cover the principles of landscape design, chemical and fertilizer usage; leadership, motivation, and employee relations.

The annual GCSAA membership meeting and election of officers will take place Wednesday afternoon in the Convention Center.

The 39th GCSAA National Golf Tournament will be played at three

Corpus Christi, Texas golf courses on Feb. 9 and 10, and a victory banquet is planned for Friday night to honor winners at the Corpus Christi Country Club.

A tour of four area golf courses on Friday, Feb. 17, will take some 500 superintendents to Fort Sam Houston Golf Course, Oak Hills Country Club, San Antonio Country Club and Willow Springs Golf Course.

More information about the conference and show can be obtained from GCSAA Headquarters, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kansas 66042.

## AAN Presents Landscape Awards

Mrs. Jimmy Carter honored a number of commercial and industrial firms, institutions and municipalities at the recent Landscape Aware Program of The American Association of Nurserymen. It was the eighth time in its 24 year history that a First Lady has headed the ceremonies, and the fourth time they have been held at the White House.

Awards were presented to 17 outstanding environment landscaping projects. Another 24 projects were presented with Certificates of Merit.

## Social Security Taxes May Rise Significantly

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed a bill that will significantly increase Social Security payroll taxes paid by both employee and employer. The next decade would see a rise from the present \$965 per year to \$2,982 per year, shared 50/50 by employee and employer.

The tax would rise, according to the House bill, from the present 5.85% on income up to \$16,500 to 16.5% of \$19,000 in the next two years. By 1986, the tax would be up to 7.1% of \$40,000.

Legislation pending in the Senate would also raise the tax to 7.1% in 1986 with the employee paying a maximum \$2,279 on income up to \$32,100 and the employer paying a maximum of \$5,325 on up to \$75,000.

The Senate bill would also raise the earnings limit for recipients under 72 to \$4,500 in '78 and \$6,000 in '79. The House version would phase out the limit entirely by 1982 for all retirees between 65 and 72.

The Social Security system is presently paying 8.2% more than it is receiving.

## Be Aware of Potential Nonpoint Pollution

Agricultural runoff, known legally as nonpoint source pollution, doesn't really seem to be a concern of most grounds managers. In fact, turf is one way to control runoff. However, with legislation the way it is, and some apparent confusion over what is law and what is not, it is wise to know about and avoid trouble.

Under section 208 of the 1972 Water Pollution Control Act, each state is required to maintain what is called a 208 planning process, whereby the state Water Pollution Control Agency sets standards for water pollution control in each area of the state. This is basically a water management plan and relies heavily on management practices in areas that are open to erosion. For example, the plan may call for certain kinds of cover to be planted. In an area that is already covered, such as a golf course, the plan might call for controlled use of fertilizers and pesticides, to avoid runoff into area streams and lakes.

The best thing to do, if you are unaware of the implication of any existing plan, is to contact the state Water Pollution Agency. It might also be possible that your extension service is aware of the plan and might be able to warn you of possible hazards.

The states were required to do this about two years ago after a court decision.