

# LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

is a proud member of these  
green industry professional  
organizations:

## ALCA

**Associated Landscape Contractors of America**, 405 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 241-4004.

**American Sod Producers Association**, 1855-A Hicks Rd., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; (708) 705-9898.

**Golf Course Superintendents Association of America**, 1421 Research Park Dr., Lawrence, KS 66049-3859; (913) 841-2240.

**International Society of Arboriculture**, P.O. Box 908, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 328-2032.

**International Turfgrass Society**, Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences, VPI-SU, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0403; (703) 231-9796.

**National Arborist Association**, The Meeting Place Mall, P.O. Box 1094, Amherst, NH 03031-1094; (603) 673-3311.

**National Golf Foundation**, 1150 South U.S. Highway One, Jupiter, FL 33477; (407) 744-6006.

**Ohio Turfgrass Foundation**, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, OH 43210; (614) 292-2601.

## PGMS

**Professional Grounds Management Society**, 10402 Ridgland Rd., Suite 4, Cockeysville, MD 21030; (301) 667-1833.



**Professional Lawn Care Association of America**, 1000 Johnson Ferry Rd., NE, Suite C-135, Marietta, GA 30068-2112; (404) 977-5222.

**Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment**, 1155 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 296-6085.



**Sports Turf Managers Association**, P.O. Box 98056, Las Vegas, NV 89193-8056; (702) 739-8052.

**Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association**, 8500 Normandale Lake Blvd., Suite 1200, Bloomington, MN 55437; (612) 831-8515.

## AS WE SEE IT

RON HALL, SENIOR EDITOR



## Next stop: Capitol Hill

*Monday a.m., Feb. 24.*

The bus creeps out of New Haven while the town sleeps; even the southbound traffic on I-95 is sparse and drowsy.

It's 5:15 a.m. and Washington D.C. is a far piece down the road. So, who can be chipper so early? Not even Paul McDonough. And he brought the coffee.

The driver's a pro; you can see that. As much emotion as he shows, this could be a drive in the park for him, except he's a bit concerned about New York City. He wants to enter and escape that city's orbit before the commuters get a chance to tie themselves into knots.

Bridgeport. Norwalk. Stamford. The bus gobbles up Connecticut in a hurry. It's a small state—even for a small state.

The morning finally gains a foothold on a wintry sky that looks like somebody tried to smudge it out with a dirty eraser. New York's skyscrapers grow, then shrink, then dissolve into rain and lowering clouds. Uhm, that's easy.

*Hello New Jersey; good-bye New Jersey.*

*Philadelphia, you're looking kinda grey, kinda solemn this morning.*

The riders' spirits, buoyed by box lunches packed aboard by Lesco, rise.

The 26 Connecticut lawn care company owners and managers are at the door to the Hotel Washington before noon. They're almost cheery. Sandoz supplied the bus. DowElanco is preparing a tasty spread for them and other lawn care professionals arriving to participate in PLCAA's "Day on the Hill '92."

In all, 130 lawn care business owners and managers show up, most from mid-Atlantic and mid-east states. The Connecticut contingent, the one that comes by bus, is the largest from any one state.

*Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. February 25.*

Sen. Joe Lieberman doesn't arrive right away. When he does walk into his own office, his eyes widen. His lips seem to form the words—"Oh, my God!" But he

doesn't say it.

His surprise is evident. At least to some of the 26 lawn care professionals zippered into his office on this raw, drizzly Tuesday morning, yes, he seems surprised. Maybe even a little amused.

Lieberman (D-Conn.) regains his composure and smiles broadly. He comments about how unusual it is for his constituency to arrive in mass (or something very much like that).

But, for whatever reason, he's in fine mettle, downright genial.

Is this the same Sen. Joe Lieberman that took the chemical lawn application industry to task on Capitol Hill last May? (And may or may not do so again this spring.) *You bet.*

The same Sen. Lieberman who proposed legislation to—what many in the lawn care industry insist—hamstring chemical lawn applications? *You bet.*

But, his demeanor on this Tuesday morning is saying—*these are constituents and business people, people I represent.*

Several of the lawn care professionals outline their concerns. Conversation is abbreviated. Pointed. Polite.

Lieberman is attentive, inquisitive, but he makes no promises.

*Tuesday evening.*

Conversation from the tired riders is muted, but upbeat. They went to the capital to convince lawmakers of the importance of their work. In the process, they receive an education of their own.

It's been a long couple of days; miles of walking, a pow-wow with an aide to Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.), and meetings with several U.S. Representatives and their staff members too.

The headlights of the northbound bus slice through the drizzle of the moonless, starless night.

New Haven, next exit.