

# LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

is a proud member of these green industry professional organizations:

## ALCA

Associated Landscape Contractors of America, 12200 Sunrise Valley Dr., Suite 150, Reston, VA 22091; (703) 620-6363.

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

JERRY ROCHE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



## Bush, or Clinton?

During the 1980 Republican National Convention, a noted broadcast commentator made a startling observation:

"The line between politics and show biz is so thin that it's sometimes hard to find," said David Brinkley, then of NBC-TV.

As November 3rd fast approaches, the campaigns don't seem to have changed much over the past 12 years.

The typical landscaper or golf course superintendent should feel right at home. After all, for the past decade or so, we've watched the likes of Jay Feldman and Meryl Streep, with their unfounded attacks on agricultural pesticides, develop media manipulation into an exact science.

Hopefully, we've learned that, as responsible voters, we cannot afford to make judgments about the candidates based strictly on the information we glean from the all-powerful television box.

There are more accurate measures of the presidential candidates, like national newsmagazines and newspapers. With the exception of Sunday morning's excellent news commentaries, television seems to place more entertainment value than news value on its shows, emphasizing "sound bites" over the heart of the issues.

Thank goodness for the print media, which can dedicate more time and space to the actual issues. They can take a two-minute broadcast story, amplify and clarify it, and write a story that takes a reader 7 to 8 minutes (newspapers) or even 15 to 20 minutes (magazines) to digest.

With all that in mind, we're going to put the green-oriented issues in black and white, right here, for the record. Thanks to DowElanco's publication "The Bottom Line," here is how the two presidential candidates shape up:

### George Bush:

"I am an environmentalist; always have been.

"If we can probe the depths of space and engineer the genetic building blocks

of life, we can surely protect the quality of our environment."

- Proposed a redefinition of "wetlands" that would allow protected areas to decrease from 100 million acres to 60 to 80 million acres.

- Supports expansion of biotechnology into agriculture, which could lead to the development of pest-resistant crops.

- Opposes legislation that would close the "circle of poison," whereby chemicals banned in the U.S. are used in other countries and then shipped here after being used on foods such as coffee or bananas.

### Bill Clinton:

"As president, I will work to ensure that we have strict regulation of pesticides so that our food supply is as safe as possible for our families.

"The wetlands policy of a Clinton Administration will be based on science, not politics."

- As governor, implemented an environmental reform program in Arkansas that gives the state attorney general authority to enforce environmental law and prosecute violators.

- Supports an international climate-change treaty that would require the U.S. to stabilize carbon dioxide levels.

- Supports a national wetlands restoration and protection program.

The "bottom line," as DowElanco would say, is this:

Before heading to the polling place next month, be sure to form good objective opinions. Read a lot. Talk to friends. And yes—if you must—watch TV, too.

Remember, though: voters (not presidents and senators and congressmen) are ultimately responsible for our country's well-being. It's thus more patriotic to completely avoid voting than to vote as a misinformed or uninformed citizen.