

PLCAA's stand on pesticide use

■ This is where the Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) stands on pesticide application issues.

PLCAA made the following recommendations in a briefing paper to participants at its Day on the Hill in Washington D.C. this past February:

Customer right-to-know: PLCAA's members endorse providing their customers with a written, "rolling" Customer Service Agreement, given to customers at time of an application. It would include the brand name or common name of the product applied; the general reason for use as stated on the label; the maximum concentration of the end-use product and the rate of application; any special instructions relating to the use of the lawn by the customer after the application is made; and, on request, a copy of the product label.

Notification registry: PLCAA supports the creation of a notification registry in each state. Anyone who pays an initial fee and an annual renewal fee (to be used to defray the costs of operating the registry) would be eligible to be placed on the registry, with provisions for the fee to be waived in bona fide cases of inability to pay. State regulatory agencies would then send the registry list to commercial and "part-time" applicators (e.g. building maintenance personnel) on a quarterly, or as-needed basis.

Pre-application notification: Commercial lawn care companies and part-time applicators should pre-notify the following people one day in advance of intended applications: customers (if applicable); persons on the notification registry that are adjacent to the customer's property; or an appropriate school authority.

Posting: National posting would build public recognition of the industry standard for the size and type of signs. Commercial applicators, part-time applicators and do-it-yourselfers should affix a posted marker or markers at the primary point or points of access to a property at the time of application. Retail establishments would be required to provide posted markers and information on the requirement to their customers.

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