

correct rate of herbicide for the weed you want to control. You'll get better results from your application, and reduce the chances you'll have to re-apply.

It's important to select a

postemergence herbicide that does the job well the first time you apply it. Confront* herbicide is a good choice. Nothing controls tough broadleaf weeds longer or better. It delivers the fastest

keep weeds from coming back in cool or warm season turf-grass. It's also a good choice for your sensitive accounts where you prefer a herbicide without dicamba, 2,4-D or MCPP.

d that doesn't use words or destroy.

action you can find on clover. Confront gets to the roots to

Of course, there isn't room here to outline an entire weed control program. That's why we created The Turf Manager's Guide To Responsible Pest Management.



Careful scouting helps you get effective weed control using less herbicide.

It's 44 pages on the latest techniques for controlling weeds, insects and turf diseases.

For a free copy return the coupon, or call our toll-free number. After all, why use any more herbicide than it takes to do the job?



Send me the following Management Guide(s):

- Cool Turf
 Warm Turf
 Nursery and Landscape.

Mail To: DowElanco, P.O. Box 33489, Indianapolis, IN 46203-0489. Or call: 1-800-770-4514

Name _____

Company _____

Business Category:

- Nursery Lawn Care Municipal
 Landscape Contractor Golf Course

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

 **DowElanco**

The chemistry is right.™

*Trademark of DowElanco. © 1994 DowElanco. Always read and follow label directions. 03

GOLF 'SCAPING

Sand replacement, weather or not...

Off-season jobs can be complicated by inclement weather. This project at Terrace Park went as planned during a break in January's bitter cold.

■ If you travel Ohio much in winter, you've felt the widely ranging temperatures between the state's northern and southern halves. If it's 32 degrees in Cleveland, it may be 40 or higher in Cincinnati. Usually.

But this has been a most *unusual* winter—with record cold north and south—and it made Rick Grote's latest project at Terrace Park Country Club near Cincinnati tougher than he thought it would be.

The project: new sand in each of the course's 42 bunkers.

"We knew two or three years ago this project was going to come about," says Grote. "The members didn't care for the sand we had (crushed limestone); they wanted a looser, silica-type sand."

Never-say-die guy that he is, Grote turned the cold mid-January weather into a positive.

"This kind of job is easier in winter anyway, when the ground is frozen," he says. "We don't have the problem of wet sand, and the snow helps pack the sand down. By April it'll be playable, with no more 'fried eggs' (buried golf balls); and you won't be able to putt out of the sand."

In less than a week's time, Grote and crew—Karl, Joe, Gene, Doug and Mike—replaced the old crushed limestone with 850 tons of higher quality, silica sand.

The truck used to transport and spread the sand—called a "floater" due to the large flotation tires—was assembled by the R.K. Hydro Vac company of Covington, Ohio. A high-speed conveyor boom propels



The swinging conveyor used for this job can fill a bunker in about 10 minutes. The tires exert a mere 9 psi of pressure on the turf.

the sand at distances of up to 35 feet. Driver Jim Hart says the R.K. Hydro Vac company sanded the tire treads down to make these heavyweight jobs possible.

"It's a hell of a lot easier with the Hydro Vac, rather than rutting up the course with dump trucks and utility vehicles," says Grote. There's also less back-and-forth for refills, which can make it a monotonous, time-consuming job.

Neighboring superintendents visited the course throughout the week to view the job's progress.

Project cost—This job wasn't cheap. The 900 tons of silica sand was the big-ticket item: \$30 a ton, delivered.

The Hydro Vac rented for \$4000 a week, including driver wages. A week's use of a Case front end loader cost \$1600.

Grote planned well in advance to secure the funds needed for the job.

"We try to have at least a five-year plan on capital expenditures. That way, it's easier to get the money because the club

planned for it. Members can only take so many surprises every year."

Around the course—Terrace Park has bentgrass greens, tees and fairways. Greens are mowed at 1/8 inches with a Toro Triplex.

But Grote always tries to minimize heavy equipment traffic on greens. Turf groomers are used about twice a week. Rollers are used sparingly; Grote doesn't want to encourage compaction-related problems.

Grote believes Scott's growth regulator, Enhance, helps keep greens fast without having to use equipment as often. It slows turf growth down for about three weeks, he says.

"We topdress only after we aerify, and once or twice during the summer to fill in unhealed ball marks or to slick the greens up a bit," he notes.

Grote often makes test plots available for control product testing. Recently, Monsanto tested its new Vantage, for



We reduced
our trimming
labor by 50%.

"Edging and trimming, plus timely mowing, get us many compliments for the groomed look of the turf in our parks, sports fields and community center grounds. This 'finishing touch' would be cost prohibitive without Embark, which we apply three or four times yearly. With this PGR, trimmed edges hold three times as long."

*Mel Crudge
Park Superintendent
City of La Verne
La Verne, California*

Get the Embark® edge!

EMBARK® LITE® FINE TURF REGULATOR

Manicured turf requires a great deal of tedious trimming and edging. Did you know that up to two-thirds of this time-consuming and costly labor can be avoided? Simply make a banded application of Embark Lite following each string trimming. Trimmed edges will generally hold for six weeks on most species.

Embark Lite can be applied with a handgun or backpack

sprayer. And now, while supplies last, we'll ship you a \$95.00 SP-1 Back-Pack Sprayer for only \$35.00 when you buy two gallons of Embark Lite.

Simply send your proof of purchase and a check for \$35.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling to PBI/Gordon Corporation prior to August 30, 1994. Delivered via UPS. Limit one per customer.

Always read and follow label instructions.

**\$95.00 SP-1
Back-Pack
Sprayer**

Only **\$35⁰⁰**

See the details
at left.



**G pbi / GORDON
CORPORATION**

1217 W. 12th Street • P.O. Box 4090
Kansas City, MO 64101 • 816-421-4070

Apply Embark Lite where you string-trim most (but want to less).



Along fences



Around trees



Poles and posts



Walkways



Around beds



Monuments



Walls



Water's edge



Rick Grote: Keeps a 'clean' course, plans well ahead for expensive projects.

nutsedge control, at the course.

Grote's next project might be cart paths; but he's not sure.

"A lot of the members like to walk, the course" he explains, "and there's not a lot of room for cart paths," because of Terrace Park's narrow layout.

Grote's a busy man; he's currently on the board of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation.

Terrace Park was built in 1931, and is situated along a busy ribbon of winding road in Milford, Ohio, about 15 miles east of Cincinnati.

—Terry McIver

Computers a worthwhile adventure in trial and error, say these superintendents

■ We all know by now that a computer can make your life easier. It's just a matter of admitting that you need one—and granted, you might not need one...yet—and then taking the plunge.

"I don't think there is a low to medium budget golf course that would not be receptive to a \$1000-\$3000 expense to buy a computer," says **John Carlone, CGCS**, of the Middle Bay Country Club, located in Oceanside, N.Y.

"We're in the information age, and we need a way to manage that information," says Carlone, whose computer skills progressed slowly, to a point where he's now comfortable enough about the subject to give a speech to his peers. Carlone told his story of computer enlightenment to superintendents at the recent GCSAA International Show in Dallas.

Payroll, irrigation scheduling, budgeting, landscape management, it's all possible with a good computer system.

To narrow his learning curve, Carlone turned to a colleague more skilled in computer science, superintendent Duane Patton at Lawrence Country Club in Lawrence, Kans.

Patton visited Carlone twice to lend a hand.

Carlone says having someone help with initial computer training is "the most valu-

able thing you can do. Trying to teach yourself can be very frustrating, not knowing where to start or where to go for help. My computer was off for a number of months before I had someone come in and teach me."

A good reference book helps, too. Carlone's computer bible is "*DOS for Dummies*." (DOS stands for disk operating system); he'll page through it at any spare moment.

Corey Haney, super at Bristow Manor Golf Course, Arlington, Va says computers are not a cure-all, but they are helpful business tools.



Carlone: Hire a tutor for computer help

for tools we use everyday.

"The computer can process and store large quantities of information, and help

"They're not going to solve all your problems but they're certainly going to help you with any you have now," he promises.

Haney says computers are "nothing more than electronic replacements



you use it in different ways; it can also help you make decisions."

What's right for you may not be right for the super down the road, but Haney believes the common computer denominator is how it improves efficiency.

Word processing is "an electronic typewriter, no more or less. Newsletters can be written to communicate with the golfers, and help explain course projects. Spread sheets can be used for budget calculations, cost per acre, annual costs, all faster, neater and more professional.

"(Computer skills) could certainly become a career requirement," says Haney—and the superintendent who ignores the technology might be overlooked for someone who can operate even a most basic system.

"The popularity of golf has led to what seem like longer seasons," says Haney. "We have tougher conditions and more demanding golfers. Computers will reduce the time we spend indoors."

—Terry McIver

LAWN CARE

POLY-S®

TECHNOLOGY

PATENTED

Even The Government Agrees: There's Nothing Else Like Poly-S.®

No one else can make a controlled-release fertilizer like Poly-S. And now we have a patent to prove it.

More importantly, no other controlled-release fertilizer can *perform* like Poly-S. Which is why, in a little more than a year since the introduction of SCOTTS® Poly-S technology, Poly-S fertilizers are being applied successfully by over 5,000 turfgrass managers in the U.S., Canada and worldwide — the fastest selling fertilizer in history.

And the reason Poly-S is so popular is performance, with consistent nutrient release over a

longer period of time. Because of the improved nitrogen efficiency, you get more value from the fertilizer you apply, with an overall improvement in turf quality.

And because Poly-S offers the capability to choose specific release rates appropriate to different applications, it has proven its effectiveness under a variety of agronomic conditions in every region of the country.

Of course, Poly-S fertilizers also come with a Scott Tech Rep, agronomically trained to help you develop a total turfgrass program.

Scott Tech Reps aren't "patented," but like Poly-S fertilizers, they are a SCOTTS exclusive.

For more information on Poly-S fertilizers, contact your Scott Tech Rep. Call 1-800-543-0006 or fax 513-644-7679.



Poly-S® Fertilizers

LAWN CARE INDUSTRY

Quiet Capitol Hill signals deceiving lull

LCOs keep up their guard, say reinforcements are desperately needed during PLCAA's fifth annual 'Day on the Hill.'

■ Lawn care pesticide safety hearings appear unlikely this spring.

Industry-crippling legislation, long threatened by Sen. Joseph Lieberman, (D-Conn.), simmers on a back burner. It's apparently not robust enough—not even after four years of cutting and stitching—to fight its way to a committee hearing.

LCOs paid scant attention to either issue during the Professional Lawn Care Association of America's (PLCAA) "Day on the Hill" early this past February in Washington, D.C. And it doesn't look like a significant revision of FIFRA is going to make much headway on The Hill in 1994 either.

No crises.

No controversy.

Few real issues with any emotional



Joel Blackwell, far left, gave LCOs excellent advice on communicating with legislators. The others (left to right): Doug Hague, Al Cortez, Gene Pool and Phil Fogarty, all of Ohio.



A march in February: LCOs traveled together to the Old Executive Office Building to learn about Pres. Bill Clinton's Health Care Reform Package.

weight behind them surfaced during PLCAA's fifth annual legislative foray to the U.S. capital.

But Andrew Hines, president of Shrub & Turf, drove the 13 hours from Athens, Ga., to attend the event. So he wanted to get his say—which was that LCOs are like an opossum creeping across a super highway with "enviro-nuts" working the gears of a smoke-belching 18-wheeler.

"We just stuck our heads out of the hole and we're going to get hit with the back side of the hurricane," Hines insisted, admitting that some of this skepticism over this apparent lull in anti-lawn care feeling was fueled by seeing activists give his industry, and a fellow green industry business owner, a public relations and regulatory keel-hauling in Georgia in 1992.

"The entire purpose of some of these people is to destroy our industry," insisted Hines. "They tell us they're going to whip our butts. Then they do everything they can to do it. The scary thing is, they've been involved with politics a lot longer than we have."

The feisty, red-haired Hines (Read his letter in the "Hot Topics" section.) was one of about six LCOs asking the tough (well, as tough as they got anyway) questions of U.S. EPA's Victor Kimm, three congressional agricultural committee staffers, and Capitol Hill columnist Charlie Cook.

Some other LCOs speaking out about their continuing concerns over misguided regulation included people like Coloradoan Don Kurtz of Lawn Medic; Don Tannahill, co-owner of Tridon Lawn Service, Olathe, Kans.; and Sam Lang, Fairway Green, Raleigh, NC.

These people received their political experience—and sometimes their first regulatory bloody noses—on local and state

issues. They obviously felt confident enough to take their concerns to a higher level. That they did.

To the person, however, they urged many other LCOs, the ones back home, to become similarly involved. That means visiting lawmakers—local, state and federal (or their legislative aides)—then keeping in regular touch with them.

"Our legislators want to hear from us. They want to hear our story," pleaded Tannahill. "They want to know how their decisions are affecting our industry, but they're not hearing from enough people in the industry."

Against this backdrop of two raw, sunless days in Washington D.C., the LCOs, with no dragons to fight off, practiced their presentations. Then they launched themselves to The Hill to reintroduce themselves and their concerns to the legislators and the hand-shaking cadre of cautiously smiling assistants, appearing almost by magic, one each from the senate and congressional offices.

For the most part, LCOs found a warm welcome from many Senators and Congresspeople and their assistants too.

The lawn pros touched on all the usual matters—preemption, pre-notification, registries, etc.—but primarily they offered themselves as sources of information, particularly regarding the use of specialty chemicals.

But in spite of the sporadic outbreaks of incredulity—which, on one occasion, filled the Old Executive Building like a bad stink during a patronizing discussion of the administration's health care proposal—this was about as close to a Capitol Hill love-in as LCOs have mustered to date.

That is, until glaze-ice crept over the



Now Poly-S® Performance Comes In Two Unbeatable Sizes.

The traditional formulation of SCOTTS® exclusive Poly-S Technology has proved its effectiveness on over 5,000 golf courses in the U.S., Canada and worldwide. And now, for more demanding, fine turf applications, Poly-S Technology is also available in smaller particles for use on all turfgrasses, including low-cut fairways and tees.

The smaller particle Poly-S fertilizers provide the same extended nutrient release and improved nitrogen efficiency that has made Poly-S the fastest selling fertilizer in history. And they are available in a variety of formulations to meet different application needs.

High K Turf Fertilizer provides a high level of available potassium to enhance the hardiness of the turf — in addition to initial green-up and extended residual.

Nitrogen/Potassium Turf Fertilizer offers a balance of nitrogen and potassium to strengthen the turf while providing quick initial green-up (without surge growth), sustained growth, and extended residual for more predictable long-term feeding.

Turf Fertilizer provides more initial green-up while supplying maintenance levels of readily available phosphorus and potassium.

Turf Nitrogen offers extended nutrient release for up to 10 weeks, while supplying sufficient sulfur to help correct deficiencies and maintain adequate soil levels.

Turf Fertilizer Plus Iron includes sufficient iron in plant-available form to correct and prevent deficiencies.

Super Turf Fertilizer offers the

longest residual currently available from any Poly-S fertilizer — up to 12 weeks.

Of course, Poly-S fertilizers also come with a Scott Tech Rep, an agronomically trained professional who is ready to help you develop a total turfgrass program.

For more information on Poly-S fertilizers, contact your Scott Tech Rep. Call 1-800-543-0006 or fax 513-644-7679.



Poly-S® Fertilizers



'We're learning how the game is played,' says Don Kurtz of Lawn Medic, Colorado.

area's three major airports, and an American Airlines jet slid off a National Airport runway (fortunately with no injuries).

That sealed Washington, and about half the LCOs spent an extra day there, an expense in time and money some of them didn't need (particularly since an eight-ounce draft cost \$2.30 at the hotel bar). Most operate businesses grossing \$500,000 or less annually and they don't, as a rule, have fat travel budgets. In fact, a few of the stranded LCOs fretted over snow-removal accounts waiting for them back home. Snow, it turned out, fell in the East everywhere there wasn't freezing drizzle.

But, it was the lack of an obvious legislative or regulatory threat that may have been the most unnerving of all for some of the LCOs.

—Ron Hall

**OUTDOOR
PROFESSIONALS
NEED
PROFESSIONAL
SUN
PROTECTION**



DEFLECT Occupational Sunscreen

DEFLECT Occupational Sunscreen protects you from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. The kind which are responsible for long term tissue damage.

DEFLECT is waterproof, greaseless and PABA and fragrance-free. It won't rub off or run into your eyes. And, it lets your skin breathe. The SPF-15 formulation provides fifteen times your skin's normal protection from the sun.

Don't get burned by inferior products or exorbitant retail prices. Call today for your nearest distributor.

SBS
The Total Skincare Company

1-800-248-7190

Circle No. 101 on Reader Inquiry Card

Kimm says administration wants more reduction in pesticide use

■ The lawn care operators didn't expect to find government officials asking them to use more chemical pesticides: they weren't disappointed.

"Many of us have long believed it is quite likely that pesticides are used more than they need to be used," said Victor J. Kimm, EPA Deputy Assistant Administrator, addressing 85 LCOs (from 24 states) and nine representatives of chemical product suppliers at the Professional Lawn Care Association of America's (PLCAA) Day on the Hill on February 7.

Kimm, in fact, said that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) met in June 1993 to begin mapping policies to:

- 1) encourage the growth of integrated pest management practices, and
- 2) promote, through licensing activities, replacement products that are just as effective as and "inherently safer" than classic hard chemicals.

"A good deal of attention is going into the general notion of trying to reduce the



EPA's Kimm says lawn care industry needs better data concerning applicator and customer exposure—and quick.

Kimm said the timetable for these, and all, pesticide-related issues isn't clear-cut, an observation coming into clearer focus when Kimm admitted that the EPA's re-registration of pesticides, begun several years ago, won't even be near completion by century's end.

"I do believe that there will be significant debate about pesticide legislation beginning in the next couple of weeks," he predicted.

—Ron Hall

presence of persistent toxic chemicals in society," he said. These efforts, mostly aimed at production agriculture, will increasingly include lawn care.

But Kimm's message to the LCOs was multi-pronged and included warnings of other approaching pesticide-related concerns.

For instance, he briefly touched on a National Academy of Science (NAS) study concerning the health implications of pesticide residues on children's diets. This particular five-year investigation, Kimm said, will likely grow into related studies dealing with the additive impact of other exposures to pesticides on children.

He urged the lawn care industry to initiate investigations of its own to determine and document homeowner, particularly children, exposures on treated lawns. "It's absolutely critical to get that work started quickly," Kimm said. A task force being readied by three trade associations and 17 product registrants may, in fact, already be moving in that direction, he reported.

Even within the EPA itself, reforms are being sought to better deal with pesticide issues, the most significant being a drive to replace the Delaney Clause (zero risk, zero tolerance for any chemicals that seem to cause cancer in man or animal) with a new standard based on "no reasonable certainty of harm"—as is the case in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act as it relates to other food additives.

The EPA, Kimm said, is also looking for authority:

- ✓ to revise its pesticide cancellation/suspension process which, Kimm said, is "antiquated, takes forever, and doesn't work very well;"

- ✓ to institute "phase out or phase down" of a pesticide when concerns arise over its risk;

- ✓ to issue pesticide licenses that run out after 15 years so that re-registrations can be carried out on a more routine basis;

- ✓ to ask that all pesticide label changes become effective on one date each year.

"We're Very Pleased"

with the performance of Oregon Turf Type Tall Fescue. The quality is excellent and its durability and low maintenance make it superior for athletic fields."

— Steve Renko and Tom Turley, Mid-American Sports Complex, Shawnee Mission, Kansas

TURF • TYPE
OREGON TALL FESCUE

Complete games are played on this field seven days a week (sometimes twice a day) and it still looks great! With Oregon Grown, Turf Type Tall Fescue seed you're getting fresh, pure seed of the highest quality—and more fun from your turf. Contact your seed dealer for seed from the world's largest producer of Turf Type Tall Fescue seed—Oregon.

OREGON TALL FESCUE COMMISSION
866 Lancaster Dr. SE, Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 585-1157

Circle No.102 on Reader Inquiry Card



Not everyone is lower cost of using

You'll be happy to know you can now get the superior crabgrass control of Dimension® turf herbicide at a lower cost per acre. So you don't have to be afraid of the cost of using Dimension ... unless you're a clump of crabgrass!

That means now is the most affordable time to step up to Dimension. And if you're already treating your tees and greens with Dimension, why not start using it on your fairways and roughs, too? It's safe for most turfgrasses and *completely* non-staining, so you can apply it with confidence anywhere on your course.

Dimension fits easily into any turf management program. It controls crabgrass in both pre- and early postemergence stages, giving you the widest application window of any turf herbicide. Plus, you can get Dimension in either a liquid formulation or as fertilizer granules. No other herbicide gives you so much flexibility.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS FOR DIMENSION TURF HERBICIDE. Dimension® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company. Baricade is a registered trademark of Sandoc, Ltd. Team is a registered trademark of DowElanco. © Monsanto Company 1993 DIM-30004