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James B. Beard

Turf Times

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Update

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The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

New program insures fuel tanks on golf courses

Why should golf courses have to worry about insuring underground fuel storage tanks?

"Because they are an uninsured liability . . . and because it's the law," says Richard L. Shanks, president of Financial Guardian of Kansas City.

Financial Guardian worked in cooperation with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to develop the only insurance program that specifically covers pollution resulting from underground and above ground fuel tanks on golf courses. Coverage under the new program actually exceeds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's financial responsibility standards that require owners of tanks to prove that they can pay for the costs of a leak.

According to Tom Atkins, GCSAA government relations manager, the U.S. golf community had "few, if any, options that would help courses meet the October 1990 deadline for financial responsibility." The GCSAA-sponsored program "puts golf courses in compliance with the law and also fills a real liability void," Atkins says.

As required by federal law, the policy covers clean-up costs and third-party liability for each pollution incident up to \$500,000 and all incidents up to \$1 million annually. Furthermore, the policy also provides \$250,000 annually for legal defense costs arising from a pollution incident.

For more details contact the Pollution Liability Department at Financial Guardian at 800-727-0250. Credit: GCSAA News Release

Meeting and Golf at "The Rock" Thursday, July 19th

Kathy Antaya will be the host superintendent and speaker for the July NMTMA meeting on Drummond Island. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. and golf will start (shotgun) at 1:00 p.m. This cost for lunch, golf and prizes is \$30.00, payable to "The Rock at Dominos Lodge". There will be individual prizes for long drive and closest to the pin. Kathy has set aside some rooms at the lodge for anyone wishing to stay overnight. You can call her for information and reservations: 906-493-5658.

Directions to Drummond Island: From St. Ignace (past the Mackinac Bridge) take I-75 north to M-134. Turn east and follow to Detour (56 miles). Take ferry boat to the island. **Next Meeting:** August 13 at Fox Run in Grayling. Mike Hlywa will be speaking about Petroleum Storage.

In Brief . . . by Tom Atkins, GCSAA Government Relations Manager

- The Alliance for a Clean Rural Environment has a new publication entitled "Water Quality Protection: Frank Answers to the 20 Most Frequently Asked Questions." Free copies of the document, which attempts to answer questions about the relationship of pesticides to our water supply, are available by calling 800-545-5410.
- The "1989 Annual Turfgrass Research Report" is now available. The yearly summary, published by the USGA/CGSAA Turfgrass Research Committee, is a compilation of twenty major research project summaries, ranging from new heat- and disease tolerant bentgrasses to drought-resistant buffalograsses. Information about the report can be obtained by contacting the USGA Green Section at 201-234-2300.
- Recent information from field studies reported by the University of Kentucky have shown that a primary means of applicator exposure to pesticides is skin contamination, primarily on the hands and forearms. Don't overlook the simple practice of wearing rubber gloves during mixing - studies have shown it can reduce the potential dermal exposure to a pesticide by more than 95 percent.

FOR SALE: 1979 Cushman Truckster, Manual Dump, Plus Additional Truckster for Parts. Call Rob Britton at Traverse City Country Club. (616) 947-0487.

Hold everything!

1990 membership cards and other membership paraphernalia will not be mailed immediately. We are waiting for official approval to use the GCSAA logo which appears on all of our association's business materials. If the use of the GCSAA logo is denied we will have to design a new one of our own. Any ideas?

Important!

Please check the information on your mailing label. Send any immediate or future changes to Tom Reed, 3733 Apollo Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684. Future newsletters will be mailed bulk rate: Correct addresses are necessary for delivery, no forwarding.

"Represent your organization with class. Nice sport clothes are required for all golf outings - no blue jeans, t-shirts and the like. Sweaters or jackets with ties are recommended for all dinners and meetings. Good golf etiquette, fairness and sportsmanship are expected at all golfing events."

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Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
 C/O Tom Reed
 3733 Apollo Drive
 Traverse City, MI 49684

Dr. James B. Beard
 1812 Shadowwood Drive
 College Station, TX 77840

