



GCSAA AFFILIATE

Turf Times

Update
November, 1992
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The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

ALERT! Do Not Pay Michcomp

A fraudulent group of people calling themselves **MICHCOMP** is soliciting \$50.00 from anyone who may have an underground storage tank. Do not pay these people anything.

All official UST correspondence will be mailed on State of Michigan letterhead.

For your safety, check references on all consulting companies.

GCSAA offers time management course

Not enough hours in the day to do everything you need to do, plus everything you want to do? A new correspondence course offered by the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America (GCSAA) was designed especially to help overcome this "time-less" problem.

The "Time Management" correspondence course was written by one of the GCSAA's most popular seminar instructors, Bree Hayes, Ph.D., president of the Hayes Group. She says the course was designed to be comprehensive, practical, and challenging - "a real journey of self-exploration."

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New NMTMA Board of Directors Meet and Set 1993 Goals

The NMTMA Board of Directors for 1993 consists of: Officers - Jeff Holmes, President; Mike Morris, Vice President; Tom Reed, Executive Secretary; Class A Directors - Kathy Antaya, Jeff Dorrell, Brian Holmes, David Little, Dave Pretznov, Jon Maddern, and Mike Meindertsma; Class G Directors - Tom Heid and Kim Olson.

The Board met for their first meeting on November 4th at the Grayling Holiday Inn. The Board welcomed the newly elected directors: Jeff Dorrell of Cadillac Country Club, Dave Pretznov of McGuire's Resort, and Kim Olson of Turfgrass Incorporated.

The business of the day focused on committee selection and goal setting for the 1993 season. Some of the goals include better coordination of summer golf outings and educational sessions, expanding our early season educational meetings, expanding the duties of the membership committee, continuing our long range planning for fund raisers and the Christmas Party, and continuing to build upon our mechanic's group.

If you have any ideas you would like to share, please contact any director. Also, if you are interested in participating on a committee, please contact a director. The Board encourages member involvement as a means of better serving the NMTMA.

Applicator Recertification

by David Little, CGCS

EDITOR'S NOTE: I am reprinting this article from our July '92 Quarterly for your information. We all have to recertify, and it's time to seriously start thinking about how to do it. Following the article is a list of the meetings and dates you may have attended, and which may have offered recertification credits.

This article was written intending to tell our membership how nice it will be not having to retest for our M.D.A. Pesticide Applicators License this year. This is what I was planning on doing myself this year, after patiently waiting in the sign-up lines at the MTF/MSU Conference, Rossi Seminars and other functions sponsored by the NMTMA and other organizations.

I called the MDA to get some background information and also to get a running total on my point accumulation to know if I needed more credits and in what areas (Turf/Ornamentals/etc.).

What I was told by the MDA was that they had no idea of my credit accumulation and that it was my responsibility to keep track of the date, seminar name, location and the number of credit points assigned to each event.

After giving the date, name, and location, MDA told me they could not find these functions listed on their official log. We decided it would be best to send me a copy of the log, so I would be able to tally my credits earned myself.

After receiving my information packet from MDA, I did find some of the seminars I had attended, but not even half were listed. I also found that the points received for

(Continued on next page)

"Represent your organization with class. Nice sport clothes are required for all golf outings no blue jeans, t-shirts, or 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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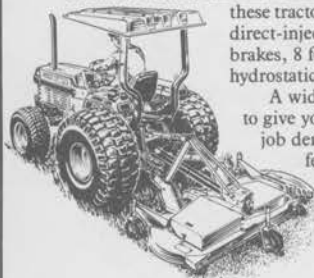
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If you're in the business of "keeping grounds" take a close look at our new Kubota L Series tractors designed specifically for the landscaping and turf professional. Available in both two-wheel and four-wheel drive, our new line of rugged and dependable tractors comes with 20.5 to 33 PTO horsepower.



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Applicator Recertification...

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attending and consuming all this information were less than 1 receive for attending a similar length seminar sponsored by GCSAA.

If we are going to be able to recertify by attendance at these functions, the sponsoring group must be responsible for putting the number of credit points received at the place of sign-up so we will be better able to tally our points received.

More work needs to be done to make this option easier to obtain. Get started now if you plan on recertifying by attendance, otherwise good luck on your MDA Applicators Tests. **All licenses expire on 12-31-92.**

1990

NMTMA/GAM Meeting	March 13	Gaylord
NMTMA Mini-Conference	April 9	Grayling
"Handle with Care" Frank Rossi Seminar		Gaylord

1991

MTF Conference	Jan 21-23	Lansing
NMTMA Seminar	March 4	Grayling
"Train the Trainer"	March 21	Grayling
NMTMA Mini-Conference	April 8	Grayling
"Is it Safe?" Seminar	May 3	Traverse City
MSU Turf Mgt.	Dec. 2-6	Hickory Corners

1992

MTF Conference	Jan 20-22	Lansing
NMTMA Mini-Conference	March 31	Grayling

If you have questions about certification call or write:

Michigan Department of Agriculture
Pesticide & Plant Pest Management Division
611 W. Ottawa, 4th floor
P.O. Box 30017
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-1087

Welcome New Members of the NMTMA

Chet Puroll	Shanty Creek
James Bluck.....	Grand Traverse Resort
Brian Anderson.....	Wilbur-Ellis
Norman Martin.....	Fast Play Technology
Clifford Lacy.....	Twin Oaks Golf Course
John Farrell.....	Mobil Oil Company

Golf and Our Community: Setting the Record Straight

*EDITOR'S NOTE: In response to a recent political campaign in the 104th District, the NMTMA published the following article in the **Traverse City Record Eagle** on October 31, 1992.*

Please feel free to use any or all of this material to promote or defend your profession. These are not empty statements - live up to your profession.

In her recent campaign advertisements, the candidate for the 104th Congressional District Gerry Green implies that the golf course industry in Northern Michigan could be detrimental to our community and environment.

The Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association (NMTMA) objects to Gerry Green's rhetorical question, ". . . is another golf course worth what we could stand to lose environmentally?" The NMTMA also disagrees with her statement; "This is one place we can't afford to build another golf course." As a group of individuals dedicated to the art and science of managing golf course operations and protecting our environment, the NMTMA asserts that the golf course industry offers Northern Michigan everything to gain. Please consider the following benefits the golf industry affords our community and environment.

Regarding wetlands specifically, when a golf course is responsibly developed and constructed. . .

- new wetlands may be created;
- water entering the wetlands is effectively filtered by the turf covered soils;
- managed turfgrass controls erosion and keeps silt from entering wetlands;
- a golf course can be an effective buffer between other forms of development (i.e., roads, building, parking lots) and wetlands.

Golf Courses provide an effective wildlife habitat with . . .

- nesting, feeding, and mating grounds;
- a safe haven for endangered species (i.e., the Bald Eagles at Garland Golf Course in Lewiston, MI);
- a resting place for migrating waterfowl;
- a complete wildlife food chain from vegetation to insects, birds, predators, scavengers, and decomposers;
- a safe haven for game animals such as Whitetail Deer.

Other environmental benefits of golf courses include. . .

- an effective recharge and filtration area for ground water supply;
- the recycling of organic debris;
- the recycling of drainage water and effluent water;
- the creation of recreational and educational arboreta;
- the production of oxygen and consumption of carbon dioxide;
- the filtration of airborne contaminants through rainfall (12 million tons annually on all turfed areas of the U.S.);
- the control of runoff and drain water with drainage systems and pond construction.

The economic benefits of the golf course industry for our community include the creation of jobs and revenue through:

- the employment of many skilled and unskilled laborers;
- the patronage of local businesses, regional companies, and local contractors by the golf course;
- generating tourism revenues for local businesses;
- increasing the tax base for schools and government by increasing the land value and real estate;
- attracting professionals and their businesses to our community;
- providing a place for charity fund raisers and benefits.

The golf course industry also offers our community areas for non-golf recreation such as bird watching, cross country skiing and running, walking trails and fishing.

Other benefits the golf course industry provides include. . .

- providing employment and a positive working environment for high school and college students;
- providing scenic landscaping for the community;
- providing a playing ground for high school golf teams at minimal or no charge.

The NMTMA would also like you to know that the Golf Course Green Superintendent is a responsible environmental manager. As individuals we are mostly college educated and have a high priority for environmentally safe management practices. We use mechanical and cultural agronomic practices, and use fertilizers and chemicals only as needed— a practice commonly called Integrated Pest Management. And we are actively involved in continued education through our local and national organizations.

As a group the NMTMA works closely with state and federal regulatory agencies, eg., the Environmental Protection Agency, the Michigan Department of Agriculture, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Cooperative Extension Agency, the Department of Labor, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. We have organized a program for the safe and proper disposal of unusable and outdated agricultural chemicals. We are licensed and certified by the state to use pesticides properly. And we are at the forefront of underground storage tank cleanup, container recycling, and worker safety.

Nationally, the golf course industry is actively doing its part for the environment. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has an accredited certification program for the continued education of the leaders in this industry, as well as funding environmental research projects around the world. The United States Golf Association has committed \$3,200,000 for environmental research at major colleges and universities focusing on water issues, pest and drought tolerant grass species, and the effects of golf course activities on people and wildlife. The United States Golf Association has also joined forces with the Audubon Society, and is actively educating golf course superintendents about developing "natural areas" as part of their Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

It is easy to be misled by the scare tactics and emotional politics of environmentalism. Therefore, we urge you to consider the preceding facts about golf courses and the golf course industry as you decide about their value to our community. We would like political candidates such as Gerry Green to refrain from erroneous accusations about the golf industry, ultimately hurting an industry which is putting its heart and soul into environmental protection and research. And finally, we invite you to talk to your local golf course superintendent about the facts of our business, and to research the proactive scientific work being done by our national organizations and universities.

Sincerely,

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
3733 Apollo Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684

New Reference Book Available for Superintendents:

Golf Course Management and Construction: Environmental Issues.

This book presents a comprehensive summary and assessment of technical and scientific research on the environmental effects of turfgrass system construction and maintenance. The book is a great introduction to the concepts of nonpoint source environmental impacts of turfgrass management for turfgrass scientists and specialists, and golf course superintendents.

Features of the book include:

- New, easy-to-read reference with chapters on wildlife, water use and pesticide applications and more, each with an extensive reference section at the end of the chapter.
- Covers the scientific rather than emotional analysis of the environmental effects of golf courses and should prove invaluable to those working with golf course development and maintenance.
- The first complete book on golf and the environment, it contains over 900 pages of information. When you need valuable, credible information, this book has it.
- Golf Courses, architects and turfgrass managers are challenged by providing quality operations while balancing this with limited water supplies, pesticides, wetlands, wildlife, in short the entire environment. **Golf Course Management and Construction: Environmental Issues** will help to achieve this balance.

Call Toll Free 1-800-272-7737 Monday through Friday or (407) 994-0555. OR WRITE LEWIS PUBLISHERS, 2000 Corporate Blvd., N.W., Boca Raton, Florida 33431. The cost of the book is \$65 U.S., \$78 Outside U.S.

...Time Management Course (Continued from front page)

During the course, the student will analyze personal time expenditures, assess time "wasters" and "thieves," and learn how to set goals, delegate work, and stop procrastinating. The course also includes "essential" time management tips.

GCSAA also has correspondence courses on the topics of media relations, underground storage tank management and hazard communication. GCSAA and its entire curriculum of seminars and correspondence courses are nationally accredited by the Accrediting Council on Continuing Education and Training, which is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

Successful completion of the "Time Management" correspondence course earns 0.7 CEU towards GCSAA certification or renewal. The course costs \$50. To order by credit card, contact the GCSAA education department at (913) 832-4444, FAX (913) 832-4433. Mail written orders to GCSAA Education Department, 1421 Research Park Dr., Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.

Expert Panel Meets at GCSAA to discuss pesticide exposure study

A distinguished committee of industry and university research experts met recently at the headquarters of the GCSAA to discuss possible studies examining the issue of pesticide exposure and its effects.

The government, media and public have expressed concerns about the potential for adverse health effects caused by exposure to the pesticides used on golf courses. Because turfgrass pesticides are perceived by some people to be used only for aesthetic purposes, critics suggest that they pose an unacceptable health threat with little benefit to offset the risk.

GCSAA held this meeting to discuss the feasibility of sponsoring studies on human exposure to pesticides through its Scholarship & Research program. Such studies would be utilized to document worker safety, address public concerns about pesticide exposure, and guide GCSAA education and research programs.

GCSAA is completing its summaries of the meeting for presentation to the association's board of directors, who will decide later this fall which studies to undertake.

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