

COALITION FORMED IN RESPONSE TO SUPREME COURT INTERPRETATION OF FIFRA

Until this summer, the job of pesticide regulation and enforcement was clearly within the jurisdiction of Federal and State agencies. Congress and courts interpreted the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) this way until June 21, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the town of Casey, WI had the authority to pass ordinances restricting pesticide applications.

By deciding that FIFRA does not preempt local ordinances, the Supreme Court has opened the door for more than 80,000 local jurisdictions to regulate pesticide use on their own. The potential now exists for a sports turf contractor to have to comply with a different set of ordinances for each jurisdiction in which he or his employees apply pesticides. It could also result in a multitude of restrictions on transportation of pesticides or plants treated with pesticides from one locality to another.

Recognizing the havoc this could cause, nearly 130 national, state, and regional trade associations have joined together to create the Coalition for Sensible Pesticide Policy (CSPP). The initial goals of CSPP are to press for leg-

islation which restores Federal and State regulation of pesticides and to monitor the introduction of local pesticide regulations.

The coalition will seek a legislative change in FIFRA and amendments to state regulations to clearly preempt local ordinances. As Justice White stated in his decision, "Congress is free to find that local regulation does wreak such havoc and enact legislation with the purpose of preventing it. We are satisfied, however, that Congress has not done so yet!"

To stay on top on local pesticide ordinances, CSPP has set up a central FAX number to receive information from anyone regarding such regulations. The number is (703) 204-2271. The information will be disseminated to Coalition members for action.

At the present time, CSPP operates information without a budget. The members donate time, information and services as they are able. Persons interested in learning more about CSPP may contact Steve Russell at (202) 296-0574 or write: CSPP, c/o Resources Policy Dept., U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H St., NW, Washington, DC 20062.

NYSTA TURF AND GROUNDS EXPOSITION

The New York State Turfgrass Association, in cooperation with Cornell University, will hold the Turf and Grounds Exposition November 5-8 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY.

The conference program begins November 5 with three seminars. The first is an "In-depth Workshop on Turfgrass Insects" by Dr. Patricia Cobb of Auburn University and Dr. Patricia Vittum of the University of Massachusetts. The second, "Diseases and Insects of Ornamentals," will be led by Dr. C.C. Powell, Ohio State University, and Dr. Paul Heller, Pennsylvania State University. A Golf Course Superintendents Association of America seminar on "Personnel Functions of the Golf Course Superintendent" will also be held.

The keynote address, on November 6, will feature the 1993 World University Games. The keynote will cover preparations for a major world athletic event with many venues and the economic

impact on the Buffalo area. Also at the opening session, the 1991 Citation of Merit will be awarded. This is the highest honor given by NYSTA.

Two special institutes will be held during the conference. Ed Wandtke, PC Systems Services, national expert of customer relations, will focus on competing for service dollars and customer relations. A landscape architect institute will be headed by Peter Kirsch, American Society of Landscape Architects' director of marketing. A panel of Rochester area horticulturists will participate in the program, "New Alliance," which is an interdisciplinary approach to clients' needs. One of the goals of the program is implementing a predesign meeting involving all professionals who will work on a project. This includes the building and landscape architects, growers, contractors, and construction supervisors.

The golf course sessions on Wednesday and Thursday will focus on issues for management in the 1990s. Steven Cadenelli,

CGCS, president of the GCSAA, will discuss "Current and Future Issues For the Golf Course Superintendent." William Meyer, Turf Seed, Inc., will focus on grasses of the future.

Kurt Bluemel, an authority on ornamental grasses, will address the lawn and landscape services session. Dr. Nina Bassuk, Cornell University, will offer an update on her research on street tree selection.

A session on Wednesday will be devoted to athletic field maintenance. Dr. Trey Rogers, Michigan State University, will discuss correcting compaction and other low-cost field improvements. Arthur Mittelstaedt, Recreation Safety Institute, will discuss how to measure field hardness. On November 7, a split session will be devoted to handling yard wastes. The topics will include disposing of chippings, setting up a compost facility, and using compost in lawn areas and athletic fields. Research updates from Cornell University will be featured through the conference.

A trade show will be held in conjunction with the educational program, with more than 375 exhibits.

For more information, contact: NYSTA, P.O. Box 612, Latham, NY 12110, (800) 873-TURF or (518) 783-1229.

CATTAIL CREEK GROUNDBREAKING

The board of directors of Cattail Creek Country Club, along with Howard County executive Chuck Ecker, hosted an official groundbreaking for the new country club in July.

Bulldozers and earthmovers under the direction of MLI Contractors of Myrtle Beach, SC have now begun the grading for a 6,800-yard, par 72 championship golf course.

Cattail Creek, located in Glenwood, MD, already has more than 165 founding members. Present development plans call for grading to be completed by May 1992. Overseeding of the course and greens will begin next spring and will be followed by a grand opening of the course in early 1993.

Willard Byrd, architect and designer of the Atlanta Country Club course as well as more than 100 other golf course layouts in the Southeast, was selected as the architect for the Cattail Creek layout. The design and routing of the course was completed in April.