



Tee to Green

PUBLISHED BY THE METROPOLITAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

S pecial Feature

Are You Complying With the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act?

A more appropriate question might be, "Do you know what the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) is?" Although this act's been in effect since 1986, many superintendents know little about it. And even fewer know that failure to comply may result in civil, administrative, and criminal penalties. Concerned? You don't have to be—as long as you follow the guidelines outlined in this article.

Thanks in large part to the GCSAA's Office of Government Relations and Hall-Kimbrell's Environmental Management Report, we're able to provide you with an introduction to how community right-to-know laws affect golf course operations.

But be prepared; reading through the maze of rules and regulations may, at some points, seem like more trouble than it's worth. For those who persevere, however, there's a great reward: the confidence of knowing that you're complying with the law—and what to do if you're not.

To start, here's a brief overview of EPCRA and its origin.

EPCRA in the Making

In 1986, EPCRA was born. Concern about chemical disasters in India and West Virginia had fueled congressional action on the issue of a community's "right to know" about chemicals produced, used, and stored at nearby facilities.

Designed to protect communities from chemical hazards in the event of such emergencies as fire, flood, or spills, EPCRA supports a complex network of legislation and regulation at both federal and state levels.

In short, EPCRA:

 supports local and state planning requirements for chemical emergencies
 ensures that citizens and local governments have access to information concerning potential chemical hazards present in their communities
 establishes enforcement procedures

 establishes enforcement procedures and civil, administrative, and criminal penalties for noncompliance

For golf course superintendents, complying with EPCRA basically means reporting any significant quantities of hazardous substances used on the golf course, as well as how much of these substances are released into the environment. But reporting requirements

can—and do—vary from state to state.

There are currently 31 states with a community right-to-know law separate from the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. State laws take precedence over federal requirements and, without exception, are more stringent.

If you're a superintendent in New York, consider yourself lucky. New York State hasn't passed a separate community right-to-know law—at least, not yet. So fulfillment of federal EPCRA requirements constitutes compliance for New York golf facilities.

Connecticut and New Jersey, however, have a number of requirements that vary significantly from federal programs. We'll note some of the differences, here, but for more indepth information on individual state requirements, we strongly recommend that you speak to community right-toknow contacts in your state. For your convenience, we've provided a list of those contacts in the box on page 4.

Three EPCRA Requirements That May Apply to Your Operation EPCRA addresses four basic areas: emergency planning, hazardous chemical reporting, emergency release

notification, and toxic (continued on page 4)

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resident's Message

The Call for Team Effort

Recently, I was invited to attend the Metropolitan Club Managers Annual Business Meeting at Quaker Ridge Golf Club. The main event was a panel discussion with golf course superintendents, golf professionals, and club managers. I was asked to sit on the panel along with Charlie Robson, Met PGA executive director; Jay Mattolla, MGA executive director; Steve Matuza, president of the Long Island Golf Course Superintendents Association; Frederick Goldmann, president of the MCMA; and Bob James, vice president of the MCMA.

The objective of the panel was to discuss ways we could enhance our working relationships, as well as encourage greater teamwork among our associations.

Here's a brief account of what came out of our discussion:

Meeting the challenges of the '90s, we all agreed, was going to require a greater team effort and atmosphere of cooperation among club managers, golf pros, and superintendents.

All three groups will have to address tighter government controls-in one form or another-in the 1990s. And although each group might be working toward different goals or fighting to protect different areas from regulation, it's essential that we all pull together and support each other in whatever way we can-even financially if the need arises.

One thought was to set up an annual meeting and invite members from all three associations to attend. That would offer an opportunity to share ideas and explore ways we could help one another. But whether we meet or not, I encourage all of you to strive to work cooperatively with fellow golf associations.

Another important issue we addressed was the competition among local golf associations to secure golf meeting dates at area clubs. There are eration by all. about 14 local professional and nonprofessional golf-related associations

in the Met area, not to mention a number of commercial groups that book outings at these clubs. So a lot of groups are vying for a choice few meeting sites, making it extremely difficult to schedule our golf meetings.

Though there aren't any simple solutions, we could probably help matters by booking meetings two, even three years ahead—and by offering our own clubs for a meeting now and then. Why not tentatively schedule your club for a '91, '92, or even '93 golf meeting? Your support can-and will-make a difference.

So, as you can see, this meeting was just the first step in forming a valuable alliance among superintendents, pros, and club managers. And I'm confident we'll continue to explore ways to develop our relationships in the future. A large part of our success, however, will depend on our ability to look beyond the requirements of our own jobs and think about-even little ways-we might work in concert with others on our club's management team. Remember: Success in the future will require coop-

LARRY PAKKALA, CGCS President

pcoming Events

1990 Meeting Schedule Update

These two meeting sites have just been confirmed. Don't forget to pencil them in on your calendar.

Invitational Tournament DATE: Monday, June 4 PLACE: Winged Foot Golf Club,

Mamaroneck, NY Host: Bob Alonzi

■ September Golf/Meeting DATE: Tuesday, September 11 PLACE: Rock Ridge Country Club, Newtown, CT Host: Bob Welch



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ADDRESS: P.O. Box 396, Mamaroneck, NY 10543.

Dominick DiMarzo Hosts May Golf Meeting

Dominick DiMarzo, superintendent at Sunningdale Country Club in Scarsdale, NY, will be hosting the May 24 MetGCSA golf meeting.

A long-time superintendent in the Met area, Dominick has been at Sunningdale for 11 years. He began his career in golf course management as assistant superintendent at Pelham Country Club in 1953.

After 10 years there and after completing the two-year program at the UMass Turf School, Dominick accepted his first superintendent's position at Bel-Aire Country Club, now the Canyon Club in Armonk, NY. After Bel-Aire, Dominick served as superintendent at Oak Lane Country Club in Woodbridge, CT, and Bonnie Briar Country Club in Larchmont, NY.

A love of the outdoors is what drew Dominick to golf course management, but it's clearly working with people and teaching them the many aspects of the business that he considers most rewarding. "I really enjoy seeing the satisfaction an employee derives from a job well done," says Dominick, whose dedication, honesty, and, most important, patience have helped him become the successful superintendent he is today.

Dominick and his wife, Virginia, live on club grounds and together have five children: Christopher, Linda, Kim, Brian, and Matthew.

In his spare time, Dominick enjoys shopping—actually, buying—and interior decorating.

BERT DICKINSON Westchester Country Club

N otable Notes

Members on the Move

- Jeff Allen took over as superintendent at Brigantine Golf Links, Brigantine, NJ. Previous position: superintendent at Rumson CC, Rumson, NJ.
- Peter Cavanaugh took over as superintendent at Stafford CC, Batavia, NY. Previous position: crew member, Country Club of New Canaan.
- Harry Nichol took over as superintendent at Manchester CC, Bedford, NH. Previous position: superintendent, Atlantic City CC, North Field, NJ.

New Members

- Charles Denny, Class B, Century CC, Purchase, NY.
- Daniel Dion, Class B, Middle Bay Country Club, Oceanside, NY.
- John Hawthorne, Class CS, Hawthorne Brothers Tree Service, Bedford Hills, NY.
- Stephen Rezac, Class C, Ciba-Geigy Corp., Fair Haven, NJ.
- Charles Smith, Class A, Mahopac GC, Mahopac, NY.

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Are You Complying With EPCRA?

chemical release reporting. Only the first three, however, apply to golf course operations. Here's how:

Emergency Planning (Section (302).

This section of EPCRA specifies reporting requirements for 366 Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs).

To decide whether you're affected by this ruling, consider these two

- Are you storing—even for a short period of time before use-any of the 366 EPA-listed EHSs at your facility? (An EHS can be something as common as ammonia or benzene.)
- Do they exceed the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ) that appears on that EPA list? (Note: If you're in New Jersey, you're expected to abide by a TPQ of zero, regardless of what the EPA list says. Essentially, that means if you use an EHS in any quantity, you have to report it.)

If the answer to both questions is yes, then you're obligated to report the substances to the appropriate authorities in your state (see box below for contacts).

This notification was required by May 1987, or within 60 days after the Threshold Planning Quantity is exceeded for at least one Extremely Hazardous Substance, whichever is later.

Two Notes on TPQs

- 1. The TPQ for each material refers to the total pounds of active ingredient, not the total weight of the formulated material.
- 2. Many EHSs have two TPQs listed because these chemicals are available in different physical forms that make them more or less of a potential hazard. The first number (smaller) represents the TPQ for wetable powders and liquid formulations. The second number (larger) represents the TPQ for granular formulations.

Emergency Release Notification 4 (Section 304).

This section requires that you report a spill if the chemical involved is:

- among the 366 EPA-listed Extremely Hazardous Substances
- among the 700 Hazardous Substances listed in the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)
- above the Reportable Quantity (RQ) specified on those lists (The RQ is the amount of these substances, which, if

released, must be reported.)

Although in New Jersey, just about any level of spill is reportable, you've got to use some common sense, say EPCRA authorities. If a gallon of gasoline is spilled in a driveway, clean it up as best you can. If, on the other hand, a forklift punctures a 55gallon drum of ethylene glycol (antifreeze), you've got a spill that needs to be reported immediately.

If you have a reportable release of either an EHS or a CERCLA Hazardous Substance, you should notify the appropriate authorities in your state (see box below) first by phone and then in writing.

Any time a spill involves a CER-CLA Hazardous Substance, you're also required to notify the National Response Center (800-424-8802).

Exemption to Section 304 An accidental release that doesn't expose people off site is not subject to the Emergency Release Notification requirements. However, you must be able to prove the release did not escape off the property.

n Hazardous Chemical Reporting (Sections 311/312).

Hazardous Chemical Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) Submission (311) Superintendents, as you know, are required to maintain a file of MSDSs for chemicals used or stored on the

Community Right-to-Know Contacts by State

In New York

- For general information, call the New York Emergency Management Office at 518-457-2222
- For Emergency Planning Notification and document submissions, call the New York Department of Environmental Conservation at 518-457-4107.
- For Emergency Release Notification, call 800-457-7362.
- Submit follow-up Emergency Release Notification, MSDSs, Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, Bureau of Spill Response, Room 326, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233.

In New Jersey

- For general information and Emergency Planning Notification and document submissions, call the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at 609-292-6714.
- For Emergency Release Notification, call 609-292-7172.
- Submit follow-up Emergency Release Notification to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Environmental Quality, Bureau of Communication and Support Services, CN 411, Trenton, NJ 08625.
- Submit MSDSs and Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Environmental Quality, Bu-

reau of Hazardous Substance Information, SARA Title III Project, CN 405, Trenton, NJ 08625.

In Connecticut

- For general information and Emergency Planning Notification, call the State Emergency Response Commission at 203-566-4856 and your Local Emergency Planning Committee. There's also a toll-free hot line for general information: 800-535-0202.
- For Emergency Release Notification, call 203-566-3338.
- Submit follow-up Emergency Release Notification, MSDSs, and Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 161, Hartford, CT 06106.

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golf course. But what you may not know is that you're also required to submit to state authorities MSDSs for:

■ any EHS used or stored at your facility with a TPQ above the amount on the EPA list cited under Emergency Planning (Section 302); for New Jersey, remember, that TPQ is zero

 any OSHA-defined Hazardous Substance used or stored at your facility with a TPQ of 10,000 pounds

In New York, you're required to submit MSDSs to both the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the fire department. In Connecticut, MSDSs go to your State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and fire department. And in New Jersey you should submit MSDSs to your state Department of Environmental Protection.

NOTE: As an alternate to submitting MSDSs, you may supply a list of these substances grouped by hazard category.

Chemical Inventory (312)

Under this section, golf courses are required to submit an Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory form. Due March 1 of every year, the inventory form must contain:

- an estimate of the maximum amount of the hazardous chemicals present at the golf course during the preceding year
- an estimate of the average daily amount of hazardous chemicals at the golf course
- where these chemicals are stored on the golf course

In New York you're required to submit the form to the state Department of Environmental Conservation and your local fire department. In Connecticut, the form goes to your SERC, LEPC, and local fire department. And New Jersey, you're expected to send the form to the state Department of Environmental Protection, county health agencies, and local fire and police departments.

NOTE: The form you use for reporting will depend on state requirements. Refer to the box, left, for the chemical inventory reporting contact in your state.

Compliance Tip Sheet

Though time-consuming, compiling the following chemical inventory is the surest way to determine whether you're complying with EPCRA requirements. Jot down a list of:

- hazardous chemicals and substances that you buy, store, and use on the golf course; your list should include pesticides, solvents, paints, and petroleum products
- the largest amount of each chemical or substance you might have on site at any one time
- the total amount of each chemical or substance you use/apply annually
- the amount of each substance generated as hazardous/chemical waste annually

This section also authorizes the local fire department to inspect your facility to acquire information on the specific location of hazardous chemicals.

Exemptions to Sections 311 and 312 There are a number of exceptions found in the definition of a hazardous chemical under sections 311 and 312. The exceptions that might apply to golf course operations are:

- substances used in routine agricultural operations, or fertilizer held for sale by a retailer to the ultimate customer
- a solid substance present in a manufactured item, exposure to which would not occur under normal conditions of use
- substances used for personal, family, or household purpose, or present in the same form and concentration as a product packaged for distribution and use by the general public
- substances used in research under the direct supervision of technically qualified individuals

If complying with EPCRA seems like more trouble than it's worth, just remember: Ignorance is no excuse for disobeying the law. And as we mentioned at the start of the article, failure to comply can result in serious penalties—for you and your golf course.



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Published by C & P Press, this 1,600page volume contains over 640 different Material Safety Data Sheets from 19 different basic manufacturers. In addition to the reference book, you'll receive five bi-monthly updates containing current or revised MSDSs. The updates are cumulative, so when you receive update 2, you can toss out update 1. The cost of the book: \$145.00.

For further information or to order, write: MSDS Reference for Crop Protection Chemicals, 2 Ed, C & P Press/John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Attn: Joan Coleman, 605 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10157-0228.

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At \$10 for members and \$12 for nonmembers, the book is available through the GCSAA Office of Government Relations, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, KS 06047-1707, 800-472-7878. ■



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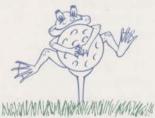


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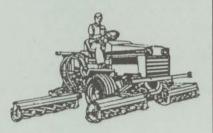
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Year's First Meeting Draws Record-Breaking Crowd

We had a record turnout for our first golf meeting of the season. Held April 26 at Middle Bay CC in Oceanside, NY, the meeting drew 115 members for dinner and an evening of sports stories that only Dave Anderson, veteran sports columnist for the *New York Times*, could tell.

A grand total of 91 played golf on the course beautifully conditioned by Superintendent John Carlone and his staff. Here are the golf results:

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- 2nd Mark Sinto, Madison GC G. Cartier, Guest
- 3rd Dave Griffin, Down to Earth Lwn Mnt Dave Arel, Tamarack CC
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