

Community Benefits of Golf

In addition to promoting healthy lifestyles, golf courses also provide economic and environmental related benefits in their communities.

Other benefits of golf courses include:

- **Annual source of charitable events and fundraising activities, with over 25,000 events raising more than \$439 million**
- **Source of employment with over 155,000 jobs nationally**
- **Conserve and protect wildlife, plant and waterfowl habitat**
- **Plants and green space that produce oxygen, capture carbon and urban pollution and reduce the warming effect of hard surfaces like concrete and asphalt**
- **Provide valuable green spaces within communities for people of all ages to pursue an active lifestyle**

Conscientious turf management practices and the implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles ensure the continued health and playability of turf. In IPM programs, all available information and treatment methods are considered in order to manage pest populations effectively, economically and in an environmentally sound manner. IPM aims to reduce pest numbers to levels that minimize damage while protecting human health and the environment.

Pesticides are one of several tools used for controlling insects, weeds and diseases that, if left unchecked, threaten the quality of playing conditions and the economic viability of golf courses.

The golf industry wants to ensure that golfers and the broader community have all the facts about golf operations and the use of pesticides.



Golf course pesticide use – The Facts



Before any pesticide can be used in Canada it must undergo a comprehensive scientific review and risk assessment by Health Canada. This includes a review of hundreds of scientific studies related to the potential effects on humans, animals and the environment. Studies are also done to ensure there are no unintended impacts on beneficial insects or plants. Through this process pesticides receive a greater breadth of scrutiny than any other regulated product and only those products that meet Health Canada's strict health and safety standards are registered for sale and use.

Pesticides are used for a variety of purposes in Canada, from controlling pests that are a threat to human health such as disease-transmitting mosquitoes, to protecting farmers' crops for a safe and bountiful food supply, to helping control insect and invasive weed infestations in private and public green spaces and on golf courses.

Did you know?

- All pesticides, whether they are intended for agriculture, lawn and garden, forestry, or structural pest control, must meet the high standards for safety set by Health Canada.
- Each and every pesticide approved for use in Canada, including those used on golf courses, has been thoroughly assessed by Health Canada.
- Golf courses are sometimes impacted by insect, weed, and disease infestations. Safe and effective tools are needed to control these pests and maintain healthy vegetation.
- Anyone applying pesticides on a golf course is trained to do so and the label directions are closely followed.



To learn more about pesticides, please visit www.croplife.ca