Dear Carolinas GCSA member,

It is my hope that life for you and your team is moving in a positive direction now that restrictions are slowly being lifted in both states. In Macon County, NC we had only 3 cases until March 22nd, when the number jumped to 21 cases and then 44 cases and today, it topped 50. Keep in mind, these numbers are relatively high given the rural nature of the county. It's a stark reminder that we are far from being out of the woods. We realized numbers would likely increase once testing became more common, but it also shows we need to continue to take the necessary precautions to protect ourselves.

I have talked to a number of fellow members who expressed concern over pesticide education points and the ability to obtain those during this time. I've also been asked a number of times about November's annual Conference and Show. Let me first say that your board, along with our generous sponsors, are looking at creating webinars that will allow you the opportunity to get points during this pandemic. I would also like to say the we are planning to move forward with the 2020 Conference and Show, November 16-18 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Tim has been in regular contact with the folks who manage the facility and they are willing to work with us in any way possible to make this event happen. We are working on modifications and contingencies in case something changes by November. In any event, while it's too early to get into specifics, please know you will be hearing more on the topic in the coming weeks.

Finally, I want to once again recognize our sponsors and thank them for staying with us through challenging times. I am grateful for these businesses because they have made us all better superintendents by supporting our continuing education and the events that allow us to get out and network with one other. During these times, their support is obvious on a daily basis and my appreciation for their support grows stronger each day. Please take the time to thank and support the folks who make us better at our profession. Without them, we wouldn't be who we are.

Best Regards,
Brian J. Stiehler, CGCS, MG