

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.ohbaonline.org>

Our Green Obsession: A Beautiful Lawn without Polluting?

HOUSTON, TX, FEBRUARY 15, 2010—A green lawn is an obsession with many homeowners, public entities and many in the landscape industry. But can we have a healthy, sustainable lawn without the necessity to over-fertilize, over-water and over-use pesticides? **Paul Tukey**, nationally known expert on organic lawn care management and founder of the non-profit *SafeLawns.org* will be in Houston on Monday, March 8 and Tuesday, March 9 to help answer this timely question when he addresses lawn care professionals and consumers on ways to have a green, “safe” lawn. Three exciting events featuring **Tukey** are planned and hosted by the Organic Horticulture Business-Education Alliance (OHBA), a committee of Urban Harvest, and Texas AgriLife Extension/Texas Sea Grant’s WaterSmart Program.

On Monday evening, March 8 from 6:30-9:00pm, **Tukey** will teach a class for the general public on the topic of organic lawn care and sign copies of his book *The Organic Lawn Care Manual*.

This will be an Urban Harvest class event at Oberholtzer Hall on the University of Houston’s Central Campus. Cost for the event is \$20 at the door with no pre-registration necessary.

Directions for location can be found at the University of Houston, Oberholtzer Hall “classes” link on the front page of the website www.urbanharvest.org.

More

On Tuesday, March 9, an **Organic Turf Management Seminar** for landscape industry professionals will be held from 8:00am—12:30pm at the United Way, 50 Waugh Drive, Houston 77007. As keynote speaker, **Tukey** will delve into the science, programs, reasons, economics and business side of going organic. Soil fertility along with weed, disease, and insect control will be discussed. For the agenda and registration go to www.ohbaonline.org .

Then on the evening of March 9, 6:00—8:00pm at the United Way, we will be privileged to host the first Texas screening of **Tukey's** new documentary, *A Chemical Reaction*, about Canada's lawn and garden pesticide revolution. After drawing rave reviews and winning awards at film festivals in 2009, the movie quickly drew the support of numerous organizations eager to reduce synthetic fertilizers and pesticides from the environment. Cost is \$10.00 at the door. Free for those registered for the Organic Turf Management Seminar. Light refreshments will be served courtesy of Ruggles Green™.

Sponsors include the Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation and the Houston Galveston Regional Watershed Protection Program.

For more information:

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