

## Restoring *Natural* Landscapes

**A** CSP members are routinely advised to pick a little spot where few people go, where golf balls never land, or where habitat can be restored for educational purposes, and try to put it back the way nature intended. Pull out the exotics, plant the natives, quit mowing, and watch birds and other wildlife move in.

Over the past ten years, we've had the opportunity to hear from hundreds of members who have done just that...and it's working. Flowers are blooming, birds and wildlife are moving in, and people are enjoying the change.

A recent survey of our members revealed that efforts to restore prairies, forests, stream banks, wetlands, and deserts are among the many projects underway on ACSP properties. The average size of these restoration projects is one to four acres, but many larger projects have also been implemented.

The practice of restoration is part science and part art. It involves research, patience, cooperation, and commitment, combined with a willingness to really get involved with a piece of land. We applaud all of our members who have taken on this meaningful challenge. Here, we present a small sampling of these endeavors to improve the quality of the environment for people, wildlife, and the natural systems upon which we depend.

### Native Wildflower Landscaping—½ acre

*Manfred and Helen Angermann Property  
Wintergreen, Virginia*

The certified backyard sanctuary of Manfred and Helen Angermann is located within a resort community in the picturesque Blue Ridge Mountains. The property serves as proof that even a half-acre backyard can support small-scale ecological restoration. Among the Angermann's favorite projects is rescuing native wildflowers from building sites and transplanting them into their landscape. Ninety percent of their "garden" is naturalized with rescued plants, including 10 species of trillium, three species of lady slippers, 12 species of ferns, as well as bloodroot, Dutchman's breeches, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Turkscap lily, Solomon seal, and many more. In all, the property boasts more than 60 different wildflower species.

"We're very ecologically minded," shared Mr. Angermann. "Everybody here is." In fact, the Angermanns are among nearly 50 property owners within the resort who participate in the



M. Angermann

*The Angermann's wooded backyard is landscaped with native wildflowers that were "rescued" from construction sites.*

"rescue missions." Coordinated by the Wintergreen Nature Foundation, a resort-based conservation organization, the wildflower rescues take place whenever new development is slated. Foundation botanists survey and flag all native wildflowers and dedicated homeowners replant everything, thereby saving thousands of plants while restoring diversity to backyards throughout the resort.

### Meadow Restoration—2 acres

*Fauquier Outdoor Lab  
Warrenton, Virginia*

Certified ACSP school member, Fauquier Outdoor Lab is a 17-acre environmental education center serving schools in Fauquier County, Virginia. The Outdoor Lab has involved local students and community members in restoring two acres of land that was overgrown with invasive

exotic plants, such as multiflora rose, *ailanthus*, Japanese honeysuckle, and oriental bitter-sweet. After extensive work to clear out the invasive plants, staff and volunteers are now in the process of restoring the site to a meadow with native grasses, wildflowers, and islands of native trees. Recently, as 30 acres of land adjacent to the Outdoor Lab were bulldozed to make way for a 269-home subdivision, lab staff watched as wildlife flocked to their property. Hence, the restored area will increasingly serve as a small, yet valuable refuge for wildlife in the years to come.



E. Fox

*Local students are helping ACSP school member, Fauquier Outdoor Lab restore two acres of native grasses.*

*(continued on page 2)*

# Audubon International Vision

Over the last several years, I've spent a considerable amount of time in a small community in southeastern Alabama. The focus of these visits has been working with the City of Eufaula to develop a prototype—both a way of working and an actual demonstration city—for our Sustainable Communities Program.

What is happening in Eufaula is amazing. It's hard to describe the level of interest and excitement except to say that it is contagious and it is everywhere. On my last visit, after several days of nearly non-stop meetings, I stopped in a local coffee shop and the people eating there were talking about the same things we were talking about the day before in a meeting. They saw me and started introducing me to more people in the restaurant. Such momentum and enthusiasm for community-wide efforts is astounding.

The city has involved people from all walks of life in its discussions on sustainability and the circle continues to grow each time I visit. Over the past four years, we've established a Sustainable Eufaula Committee, and have seen many homeowners, business properties, and government properties become certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries. All of the public schools in the city are enrolled in the ACSP and all of the elementary schools have been certified. That's an incredible commitment to good stewardship!

But what is really significant is that all of these properties are linked. They share a common landscape, natural resources, economy, and cultural and historic heritage. The tremendous interest expressed by Eufaula's residents led Mayor Jay Jaxon to open discussions with us recently regarding the development of a city-wide strategic plan based on the Audubon Principles for Sustainable Resource Management. The first phase of the proposed 18-month planning process is aimed at involving all of the 15,500 city residents in discussions regarding their concerns, desires, and dreams for their community.

Our best actions are shaped by our visions for the future. The Sustainable Communities Campaign started as a vision for blending together economic security, ecological integrity, and social/cultural heritage to build more livable and sustainable communities. Thanks to the people of Eufaula, I'm confident that they, and others, will achieve it.



Ronald G. Dodson  
President and C.E.O.

## Restoring Natural Landscapes

(continued from page 1)



C. Leach

Full-scale restoration involves a great deal of planning and work during the establishment phase. Here, new plantings are marked and protected at Cypress Ridge.

### Coastal Chaparral Restoration—47 acres

*Cypress Ridge Golf Course  
Arroyo Grande, California*

Cypress Ridge, a certified Audubon Signature Sanctuary, contains 47 acres of designated permanent open space that includes remnants of coastal chaparral. Unfortunately, a non-native grass, *Ehrharta calycina*, dominated the area, seriously diminishing its value as wildlife habitat. Restoration efforts aimed to accomplish three primary goals:

- Re-introduce native plants and increase their density to at least 70%,
- Control the *Ehrharta* and reduce its density to less than 10%,
- Reestablish native oak trees to portions of the project area.

"This was a huge challenge and my staff and I are proud of our work and the successes we have achieved," reported Natural Resource Manager Carolyn Leach. Now in their third year of restoration work, Leach and her staff have seeded 18 acres with 17 native shrubs, grasses, and annuals and installed 12,450 plants, including over 1,000 coastal live oaks.

## Restoration Tips

Restoration projects generally require technical expertise, site specific planning, and often capital expenditures. Here are a number of general considerations to keep in mind that will help you undertake a successful restoration project:

- Clearly define your goals. What do you want the area to look like? How will the area be used? How will changes affect current property users or neighboring landowners? What type of maintenance will be needed in the short-and-long term? If the restoration project will significantly alter the landscape or require a large capital expenditure, seek the input of key stakeholders before proceeding.
- Seek help from experts.
- Review the hydrology and geology of the site.
- Identify wildlife that live on the site, the wildlife species you would like to attract, and the natural history of both.
- Develop a site plan based on the natural history of your region and the plant and animal species you want to sustain.
- Determine the native plants appropriate to your ecoregion and find a source for them.
- Prepare the site. This is one of the most important steps in insuring that desirable plants become established and invasive weeds are controlled.
- Control any weeds or exotic species.
- Monitor and maintain the site as appropriate.
- Communicate with those who will be affected by or interested in the project throughout its planning, implementation, and maintenance phases.



D. Pearis

Since joining the ACSP, Blue Hills Country Club widened no spray zones around water features to 25 feet and increased natural areas from 2 to 21 acres.

## Stream Restoration—1.8 acres

*Blue Hills Country Club  
Kansas City, Missouri*

Certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary since 1996, Blue Hills Country Club has been involved in conservation efforts for many years. The course recently restored an eroded stream that had drainage and algal problems into a functioning stream with a small wetland area. The wetland filters pollutants coming onto the course from surrounding areas, removes excessive nutrients from the water, and collects sediments. In addition, the restoration project beautified the stream and significantly improved habitat for ducks, herons, and other wildlife species.

## Prairie Restoration—4 acres

*Keller Golf Course  
Maplewood, Minnesota*

Located within the greater St. Paul area, Keller Golf Course is striving to provide an urban nature preserve within the golf course setting. Despite being a public golf course with a



P. Diegnall

Native prairie adds attractive wildlife habitat on Keller Golf Course.

tight layout and limited areas for naturalization, three separate areas totaling four acres have been restored to native Minnesota prairie. Prairie grasses and wildflowers were dormant seeded in the fall of 1997 and are now becoming well established. “Every year we see something new in the way of visual display,” says Paul Diegnall, CGCS. “The areas are very popular with wildlife, especially birds.”

## Meadow Naturalization— $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

*St. Agnes Cemetery  
Menands, New York*

When St. Agnes Cemetery joined the ACSP in 1995, Grounds Maintenance Foreman Tim West and cemetery managers looked for a place on the 162-acre property to provide visitors a special place for prayer and reflection and



J. Mackay

Mown turfgrass was transformed into a meadow and walking path at St. Agnes Cemetery.

the enjoyment of nature. Established more than a century ago, the cemetery’s many mature trees already provided habitat for cavity-nesting birds, while offering a distinctive, natural setting, especially in the cemetery’s original sections. Yet several highly visible areas near newer burial plots offered little more than expanses of open lawn and few incentives for visitors to linger. West chose one such area and transformed it into a small meadow and nature walk.

“We want the cemetery to serve as a resource for people in the community. It’s a peaceful place where visitors can stroll the grounds, observe local history, and enjoy the natural setting,” said West. “By altering our mowing practices and planting wildflowers, we’ve developed an attractive meadow that gives people new reasons to walk, rest, or just listen to the birds here.”

Check us out online at:  
[www.audubonintl.org](http://www.audubonintl.org)

Find out more about our organization, programs, and educational resources, or browse our online store!

## Top of the Class

*Lake Country Land School provides students real-life lessons in conservation*

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Property Name:     | Lake Country Land School  |
| Location:          | Glenwood City, Wisconsin  |
| Ecological Region: | Southern Great Lakes—Maple-basswood forest  |
| Major Projects:    | Community organic farm, forest and prairie restoration, nature trail, nest boxes, and various bird habitat enhancements |

The Lake Country Land School is a 160-acre rural extension of the Lake Country School, a private Montessori school for 300 pre-school through eighth grade students in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Acquired in 1996, the campus consists of agricultural land with forests, fields, a pond, and ravine in Dunn County, Wisconsin. The Land School provides urban students the opportunity to work together to develop a deep relationship with the land over an extended period of time through community farming and other outdoor educational experiences.

The Land School joined the ACSP in 1998, developed an environmental plan, and achieved certification in Wildlife Habitat Management last September. Through the program, it hopes to implement ecologically appropriate land use practices and expand natural history programming for students.

### Restoring Forests, Prairies, and Connections with the Land

In just a few short years, The Land School has begun a number of projects that have launched students on an exciting educational journey. In 1999, they enrolled in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's *Conservation Reserve Program*, which encourages private landowners to plant trees on former farmland to prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, and improve the quality of the environment. As part of that program, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders at The Land School planted 6,000 hardwood and softwood trees on eight acres and installed nearly two acres of prairie. This spring, they will plant an additional six acres of trees and four acres of prairie.

In addition, students have developed two bird-feeding areas, created brush piles, developed a nature trail, and mounted nest boxes. Inspired by these activities, several students completed related projects, including a guide to tree planting, a tree identification booklet, a bird field guide for the property, and a nature trail guide.



D. Alkici

*Students at Lake Country Land School planted 6,000 trees. This spring, they'll double that number at their rural campus.*

Through these outstanding conservation and educational projects, The Land School has been able to provide its primarily urban students with a genuine involvement in meaningful conservation work. Equally important, it is fulfilling its promise to inspire an appreciation for the dignity of manual labor, enhance understanding of the interdependence of the natural world, and manage its land in an ecologically sensitive way.

We applaud the educational philosophy, dedication, and hard work of the students and faculty of the Lake Country Land School and look forward to helping them earn status as a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in the near future.

“  
Real awareness and appreciation of the natural world is developed through direct experience, not through books, lectures, or nature videos.

”  
—The Land School

# Newly Certified Audubon Signature Sanctuaries Showcase Stewardship and Sustainability

Members of the Audubon *Signature* Cooperative Sanctuary Program make a serious commitment to environmentally sensitive design, development, and management. Working alongside the developer, Audubon International’s team conducts site reviews and recommends appropriate conservation and management strategies so that each project showcases environmental sustainability and stewardship right from day one. Our recently certified Audubon Signature Sanctuaries are no exception—which means that they are, in fact, quite exceptional.

## Haymaker Golf Course

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

*1st Certified Audubon Signature Sanctuary in Colorado*

Built by the City of Steamboat Springs Parks and Recreation Department, Haymaker Golf Course covers 233 acres of degraded land formerly used as a hay production field. The site presented the City and Audubon International an attractive opportunity to restore shortgrass prairie, enhance wetlands, and increase overall biodiversity on site. Conservation highlights include:

- Haymaker boasts a core golf course with no housing. The course’s links-style design successfully integrates the pastoral background of the county’s ranching community amidst the backdrop of the Rocky Mountains.



Haymaker, CO

Wetlands between golf holes at Haymaker Golf Course provide a break in the rolling mound design created to blend into the surrounding landscape of the Rocky Mountains.

- 120 acres, or 50%, of the 233 acre site is devoted to wildlife habitat, including: 30 acres of undisturbed wetlands, 20 acres of created wetlands, 50 acres of undisturbed native grassland, 2400 linear feet of naturalized shoreline, a 360 degree view of the valley and mountains. Wildlife species include: beaver, badger, mink, fox, deer, and elk.
- Grasslands were revegetated with a mixture of wheatgrass, mountain brome, wildrye, flax and Rocky Mountain penstemon.
- Disturbed wetland areas were revegetated with redtop, meadow foxtail, strawberry clover, tall fescue and reed canarygrass.
- The site’s few cottonwoods and willows were preserved and protected throughout construction. These are now

growing and multiplying, providing much needed habitat for birds, such as the western kingbird and the mountain bluebird.

## Turning Stone Casino Resort Golf Courses

Verona, New York

*1st Certified Audubon Signature Sanctuary in New York*

Through the Audubon Signature Program, the Oneida Indian Nation created 159 acres of native vegetation, and preserved 50 acres of wetlands and ponds and 37 acres of uplands on tribal land developed for golf. Turning Stone Casino Resort’s nine-hole Sandstone Hollow and 18-hole Shenandoah Golf Courses in central New York integrate golf play areas with natural site features. Conservation highlights include:

- Native habitat areas and wooded buffer zones lie between the fairways and around waterways to provide travel corridors, cover, nesting sites, and food for wildlife.
- Construction included creating 12 acres and enhancing 7 acres of wetlands with vegetation such as swamp white oak, creeping snowberry, and sweet flag.
- The courses are irrigated with reclaimed water generated by a local treatment plant. The course receives between 300,000 and 600,000 gallons of filtered water daily, which would otherwise be released into Oneida Creek.



N. Richardson

Narrow fairways buffered by native grasses cut down on the amount of managed turfgrass at Turning Stone Casino Resort’s Shenandoah Golf Course. The Signature Program advocates the least amount of turfgrass possible on a golf course to cut down on pesticide and fertilizer use.

## No Harm Here...

# Reducing common hazards and threats

Frogs and salamander populations are in serious trouble throughout much of the world. Species deformities are well recorded. Reversing this trend requires local, regional, and national action. To reduce environmental hazards and other threats to the health and safety of amphibians and their habitat for frogs and salamanders, the collective efforts of Audubon International members are essential.

All sorts of factors have been identified as potentially harmful to frogs and salamanders. Some, like global warming, acid rain, and the thinning of the ozone layer, are too large to be effectively addressed by the individual property owner—although certainly each of us can support efforts to deal with these issues at the appropriate level. Other factors are more local in their impact. Simply by making the right decisions about how to manage our own properties, we can improve the survival of amphibians that are present on site.

Local hazards to amphibians can be divided into two categories:

- Threats that cause direct mortality, and
- Loss of habitat.

Read on to assess whether these threats are present on your property and how you can best address them.

### Direct Causes of Mortality

**What?** Direct causes of death result from having hazardous factors in the same place that an amphibian is trying to live. The solution always involves reducing or eliminating the threat from that location.

**Where?** Direct threats can occur to sites where amphibians spend part or all of their lives. These include aquatic breeding habitat, terrestrial (land) habitat that is used during most of the year, and the travel pathways between the two.

### ► Unnatural Predators

Predators are a natural part of any ecosystem, and certainly we would not suggest that anyone try to eliminate them. However, there are at least two instances where *introducing* unnatural predators to amphibian habitats causes problems. The first is when we put predatory fish (mosquito fish are not a problem) into amphibian breeding sites. The second is when we introduce domestic or farm animals.

**What you can do:**

- Restrict animals from specific sensitive locations, such as breeding ponds and wetlands.
- Don't stock fish in a shallow pond.
- Fence cattle or chickens away from marshy areas.
- Keep pets indoors—domestic cats are probably the worst offenders.

### ► Lawn Mowers

Lawn mowers and other mechanical devices cause problems mainly in marshy areas or on the wetter edges of wetlands or streams where turfgrass is maintained. There are a lot of places that have *hydric soils*—soils that are dry enough (especially in the summer) to be mowed, but still wet enough to keep an amphibian alive and happy. Such areas might have some standing water in the wettest times of the year and be the greenest part of your lawn or schoolyard in the hottest times. There is tremendous local variation in how these areas are treated, whether they are considered “wetlands,” and how they can be used. *Regardless, they are important to amphibians.*

**What you can do:**

- Naturalize wet or seasonally wet areas with appropriate native plant material and keep mowers away. Wet meadows can be beautiful!
- Create buffers of taller grasses or native plants along the shoreline of a stream or edge of a wetland.

J. Mackay



*From a frog's perspective, mowing wet lawns presents a definite threat.*

### ► Automobiles

Automobiles are a big problem on wet nights, especially in the spring, near major breeding sites. You may know of a stretch of road in your community that is covered with hopping frogs and slithering salamanders on a good wet spring night. The problem is that as traffic increases in rural and suburban areas, the amount of roadkill along these roads can become intense.

**What you can do:**

- The ultimate solution to this problem is to construct small animal crossings, such as tunnels or overpasses. *(For more information see the Federal Highway Administration's web page on "Critter Crossings" at [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/wildlifecrossings/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/wildlifecrossings/).)*

# reats to amphibians

planet. Significant population declines and and global solutions, including measures to ans. By taking individual action to improve bers will make a sizable positive difference.

Ken and Mary Campbell



ACSP members can improve the survival of amphibians by eliminating hazards to frogs and salamanders on their properties.

- Where funding is not available, many communities have groups of volunteers that go out with flashlights on wet nights to slow traffic and help move amphibians across the road more quickly than they can crawl or hop. Start or join such a group in your area.

## ► Chemicals

The use of chemicals, including fertilizers and biocides (insecticides, weed killers, fungicides, etc.), is another cause of amphibian mortality. Chemicals can kill amphibians by being sprayed directly where they are, when the chemical aerosol is carried through the air to new locations, or when run-off gets into water. Amphibians absorb chemicals through their skin, which may cause immediate death, or sub-lethal effects, such as inhibiting the growth of tadpoles.

### What you can do:

- Adopt a solid integrated pest management program with a goal of reducing chemical use and choosing least toxic products when needed.
- Always apply chemicals according to label instructions and under proper weather conditions to prevent drift and runoff.
- Establish *no mow-no spray* vegetative buffers around key habitats and route run-off from managed areas into treatment areas, such as a swale or filter, rather than water bodies.

## Indirect Mortality Through Habitat Loss

**What?** All wildlife need food, water, shelter, and living space. Amphibians are no exception. However, frogs and salamanders are more complicated than other types of wildlife, because they live both on land and in water during the course of the year. If a population does not have access to its wetland or breeding pond, it cannot breed and produce a new generation. If it does not have access to its terrestrial habitat, it cannot store enough energy to survive the winter. Thus, they need both types of habitat, as well as safe passageways to travel between them.

**Where?** Wetlands, ponds, and seasonal pools, as well as woods, and the travel corridors between the two are critical.

## ► Wetland Loss

Historically, our culture has demonstrated a tendency to fill in wetlands and convert them to other uses. That practice resulted in the loss of perhaps half of the amphibian-breeding habitat in this country and the decline of numerous species. Fortunately, we now have regulations that protect our large remaining wetlands from destruction. However, small wetlands and areas of *(continued on page 8)*



Ken and Mary Campbell

Wetland protection is key to the survival of our native amphibian populations.

## No Harm Here... Reducing common hazards and threats to amphibians

(continued from page 7)

hydric soils are frequently not covered by these regulations. These are *very important* resources for amphibians.

### What you can do:

- Preserve small wetlands and seasonal ponds or pools.
- Naturalize places where hydric soils predominate.
- Create new breeding habitat by adding littoral shelves and emergent vegetation to farm ponds, golf course water features, or other small bodies of water.

### ► Degraded Woodlands and Other Terrestrial Habitats

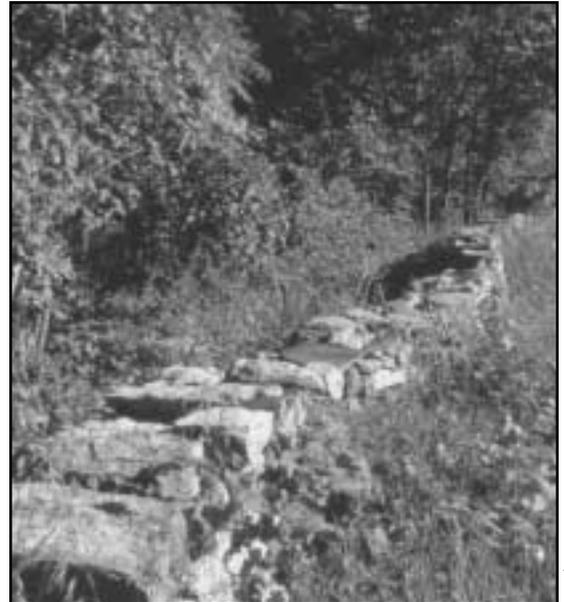
A variety of frogs and salamanders rely on terrestrial areas during much of the year. As natural areas are converted to residential or commercial uses, valuable habitat is lost. Management practices such as thinning the shrub layer in woods and removing understory vegetation, dead tree snags, downed trees, and leaf litter also remove food and cover needed by amphibians. Cover objects, including logs and rocks, are particularly valuable.

### What you can do:

- Refrain from cleaning up woodlots. Let downed limbs and leaves and tree snags remain.
- Maintain diverse levels of growth in woodlands and property borders.
- If planning a land use change, limit large scale clearing by incorporating natural areas into design plans when possible.

### ► Habitat Fragmentation

Woods are routinely separated from wetlands and ponds when large habitats are divided into small, isolated parcels. Very few properties retain good connections or corridors between aquatic and terrestrial habitats. This



J. Mackay

*Naturalized property borders can provide travel corridors and sheltered areas that connect larger habitats.*

makes it increasingly difficult for frogs and salamanders to travel between the two habitats they need to survive.

### What you can do:

- Retain or create habitat corridors connecting wetlands and woodlands together. A corridor is a section of undisturbed terrestrial habitat (e.g., woods or tall grass) that runs from the main area of summer habitat down to the edge of the wetland breeding site.
- Limit traffic and maintenance activities and maintain good ground cover.
- Assess the amount of disturbance to corridors on your property. Restrict traffic as needed during the spring breeding season.

## Leap Into Action

This issue of Stewardship News brings you the third feature in our series on frog conservation. Audubon International is one of the conservation organizations that participated in the founding of **Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC)**. As a part of that effort, we have launched a new initiative to help conserve frogs and other amphibians from significant population declines. Working closely with the **United States Geological Survey (USGS) North American Amphibian Monitoring Program (NAAMP)** and PARC, the initiative involves collecting valuable data about amphibians and educating ACSP members about conservation activities that enhance and protect habitats for frogs and salamanders.

Contribute information about the frogs on your property to nationwide research efforts underway at the USGS- NAAMP. For details and additional resource, contact:

NAAMP: <http://www.mp1-pwrc.usgs.gov/amphib/>

Frogwatch USA: <http://www.mp2-pwrc.usgs.gov/FrogWatch/>

Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC): <http://www.parcplace.org>

## Audubon Stewardship Network Provides Valuable Local Support

Have you ever started a conservation project as part of your participation in the ACSP and wanted to talk with someone else who has done the same type of work? Ever had a question about certification that would be best answered by someone who is certified? Did you know that Audubon International has members in many states who have volunteered to help answer just such questions?

The Audubon Stewardship Network comprises Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary members who have volunteered to provide local support to our members. Our stewards are incredibly knowledgeable and dedicated individuals who are eager to assist members or potential members advance their environmental efforts. As working partners with Audubon International staff, stewards are a great resource "in the field." To find out who the Audubon Steward is for your area, please contact Jennifer Fink, membership secretary,

at (518) 767-9051, extension 12, or look online at: [www.audubonintl.org/programs/acss](http://www.audubonintl.org/programs/acss).



Manilla Southwoods

*Audubon stewards take the lead in offering local assistance to ACSP members.*

## North American Birdwatching Open Set for May 12, 2001

Spring is in the air, which means it's time for Audubon International's fourth annual North American Birdwatching Open. Scheduled to coincide with International Migratory Bird Day on May 12, this friendly competition generates valuable data about the diversity of birds that frequent Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries all across North America. Birdwatching teams from more than 85 ACSP properties will participate in this year's 24-hour competition and the one that records the greatest variety of birds will take first prize.

The purpose of the event is to gather data on specific bird species that use "managed" lands, such as golf courses, school grounds, business properties, and backyards. In addition to generating valuable wildlife inventories for their own properties, participants contribute to Audubon International research

efforts. When the results are in, we hope to answer such questions as: What are the most common species sighted? What types of landscapes have the greatest diversity of species? How do the numbers and types of bird species compare with previous years? What do differences and similarities tell us?

In addition to this scientific aspect of the event, the North American Birdwatching Open serves to demonstrate publicly that stewardship efforts to protect and improve wildlife habitat are effective ways to sustain diverse bird populations. By maintaining small or large areas of field, woods, wetlands, or other native habitat on our land, we contribute to the overall health and diversity of birds in North America.

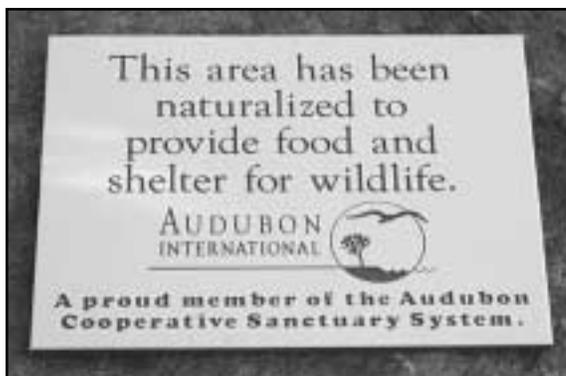
## Signs Communicate Good Stewardship

Audubon International is pleased to provide three new signs that will allow you to share your stewardship efforts with the public. Each sign is made out of Enviropoly, which is 100% recycled thermoplastic. Enviropoly is UV stable, resists graffiti, and creates long-lasting, maintenance-free signs. The 11.5" x 15" signs are tan with hunter green lettering. Choose from three wording options:

- *This shoreline is being managed to protect water quality.*
- *This area has been naturalized to provide food and shelter for wildlife.*
- *This property has been designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. (For sale to certified members only.)*

Price: \$65/each

To order, call Paula Realbuto at (518) 767-9051, extension 11, or order online at: [www.audubonintl.org/store](http://www.audubonintl.org/store).



# membership

## NEWS

### Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program

#### New Members Golf Program

##### CALIFORNIA

Airways Golf Course, Fresno  
Eureka Golf Course, Petaluma  
PGA of Southern California Golf Course,  
Calimesa  
Ridgemark Golf and Country Club, Hollister  
Rose Bowl, Pasadena  
Rossmoor Golf Course, Walnut Creek  
San Clemente Municipal Golf Course,  
San Clemente

##### COLORADO

Beaver Creek Golf Club, Avon

##### CONNECTICUT

Madison Country Club, Madison

##### FLORIDA

Weston Hills Country Club, Werton

##### ILLINOIS

Bon Vivant Country Club, Bourbonnais

##### INDIANA

Sultan's Run Golf Course, Jasper

##### MASSACHUSETTS

Sterling Country Club, Sterling

##### MARYLAND

Baltimore Country Club, Timonium  
Bulle Rock, Hebre DeGrace

##### MICHIGAN

Rouge Park Golf Course, Detroit  
Woodlawn Golf Course, Adrian

##### MINNESOTA

Legends Club, Prior Lake

##### MISSOURI

Loch Lloyd Country Club, Belton

##### NORTH CAROLINA

Eagle Point Golf Club, Wilmington  
Skybrook Golf Club, Huntersville  
Smoky Mountain Country Club, Whittier

##### NEW HAMPSHIRE

Pease Golf Course, Portsmouth

##### NEW JERSEY

Hollywood Golf Club, Deal  
Lake Mohawk Golf Course, Sparta  
Little Mill Country Club, Marlton

##### OHIO

New Reid Golf Course/Springfield, Springfield  
The Golf Club at Yankee Trails, Centerville  
TPC Rivers Bend, Maineville

##### OKLAHOMA

Greens Country Club, Oklahoma City

##### PENNSYLVANIA

Lake View Country Club, North East  
Olde Homestead Golf Club, New Tripoli

##### RHODE ISLAND

Beaver River Golf Club, Hope

##### SOUTH CAROLINA

Berkeley Hall (North), Bluffton  
Daniel Island Golf Club, Charleston  
Furman University Golf Club, Greenville  
World Tour Golf Links, Myrtle Beach

##### TEXAS

Fair Oaks Ranch Golf & Country Club,  
Fair Oaks Ranch  
Freese and Nichols, Inc., Austin  
The Club at Falcon Point, Katy

##### VIRGINIA

Hidden Valley Country Club, Salem  
Williamsburg Country Club, Williamsburg

##### VERMONT

Brattleboro Country Club, Newfane

##### WISCONSIN

Yahara Hills Golf Course, McFarland

##### INTERNATIONAL

Windsor Golf & Country Club, Nairobi, Kenya

#### School Program

##### DELAWARE

Rehoboth Elementary, Rehoboth Beach

##### KENTUCKY

Eastview Elementary, Owensboro

##### NEVADA

Ollie Detwiler Elementary, Las Vegas

##### NEW YORK

Norman Howard School, Rochester

#### Business Program

##### KANSAS

GCSAA, Lawrence

##### MINNESOTA

Cragun's Golf Resort & Conference Center,  
Brainerd

##### OHIO

Oak Hill Cemetery, Cincinnati

##### SOUTH CAROLINA

Kiawah Island Community Association,  
Kiawah Island

##### VIRGINIA

The Parke at Ocean Pines, Burke



*Building young stewards—  
Tournament Players Club  
of River Highlands, a certified ACSP golf course  
located in Cromwell, Connecticut, recently hosted  
local Cub Scouts for a program on constructing song-  
bird nest boxes. The scouts  
mounted the nest boxes on  
the golf course and will  
monitor them every two  
weeks to help ensure nest-  
ing success.*

#### Backyard Program

##### ARKANSAS

Tad Bohannon, Little Rock

##### CALIFORNIA

Mike and Jill Mallon, Groveland

##### COLORADO

Jeannine Fitzgerald, Aurora  
Corrine and O'Brien McGarey, Castle Rock

##### FLORIDA

Bob and Brenda Haley, Palm Coast

##### GEORGIA

Katie Black, Decatur

##### NORTH CAROLINA

David B. Aspinwall Sr., Highlands  
Martha Hall, Corolla

##### VIRGINIA

Barbara Van Raalte, Burlington

#### Recently Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries

#### Backyard Program

Jan and James Lisenby, Ozark, AL  
Manfred and Helen Angermann, Wintergreen, VA

#### Golf Program

Mountaingate Country Club, Los Angeles, CA  
Cordillera Valley Club, Edwards, CO  
Naples Lakes Country Club, Naples, FL  
White Bear Yacht Club, White Bear Lake, MN  
Oswego Lake Country Club, Lake Oswego, OR  
Sea Marsh Golf Course—Sea Pines,  
Hilton Head Island, SC  
Augustine Golf Club, Stafford, VA  
Kingsmill Golf Course Woods Course,  
Williamsburg, VA  
Hawthorne Valley at Snowshoe, Snowshoe, WY

#### Re-Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries

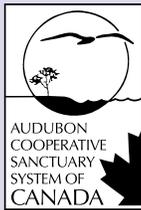
#### Golf Program

Castle Pines Golf Club, Castle Rock, CO,  
certified since 1994  
Woodway Country Club, Darien, CT,  
certified since 1994  
Foxfire Golf & Country Club, Naples, FL,  
certified since 1998  
Old Marsh Golf Club, Inc., Palm Beach  
Gardens, FL, certified since 1998  
Sand Creek Country Club, Chesterton, IN,  
certified since 1996  
Hyannisport Club, Hyannisport, MA,  
certified since 1994  
TPC of Michigan, Dearborn, MI, certified  
since 1994  
Izatys Golf & Yacht Club, Onamia, MN,  
certified since 1996  
Keth Memorial Golf Course, Warrensburg, MO,  
certified since 1998  
Kinston Country Club, Kinston, NC, certified  
since 1999  
Ridgewood Country Club, Paramus, NJ,  
certified since 1996  
Greenbrier, White Sulpher Springs, WV,  
certified since 1998

#### Audubon Signature Program

#### New Signature Members

Flagstaff Ranch Golf Club, Flagstaff, AZ  
Canyon Club at Snake River Canyon Ranch,  
Jackson Hole, WY



## From the Martin House

Scott A. Martin, National Coordinator, ACSSC

It sure is nice to be seeing some green again after another very long winter. We're definitely ready for a warm, colourful spring and summer. There are many things we can all do in our yards, school grounds, and business or golf course properties to add a lot of colour and flash this season. Let's get to it!

One easy project that brings immediate results is to put up a hummingbird feeder. These can be purchased in most home and garden stores and via many mail order garden supply catalogs. You can make the nectar solution yourself by mixing 1 part sugar to 4 parts boiled water. Red food coloring is not needed so long as there is some red on the feeder itself. Hang the feeder out of direct sunlight to prevent the solution from fermenting. Then sit back and watch as hummingbirds dart in to feed on this sweet 'nectar'.

Another great way to enjoy hummingbirds is to supply water in a fine mist. The birds will zip back and forth through the mist and drink the water as they fly. I have done this by throttling down the spray nozzle on my garden hose to the finest mist setting and hanging the hose from a tree branch. I then have a battery-operated timer on the hose so it is only turned on for an hour, twice per day. Any drips from the nozzle are caught in the birdbath I have placed under the hose, and the dripping helps to attract more birds.

Enjoy warmer days, the return of birds, and the frenzy of activity and growth that defines this season. Feel free to call or email me with any questions about your ACSP projects or certification efforts; telephone (705) 446-1532, or email at [acss@cois.on.ca](mailto:acss@cois.on.ca).



S. Martin

*Once your hummingbird feeder is in place, be sure to change the solution and clean out the feeder at least once per week to ensure that your hummers are not ingesting fermented feed or bacteria.*

## Blue Turns Green

Monterra Golf at Blue Mountain Resorts in Collingwood, Ontario has become Canada's 22nd Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary golf course. Since joining the ACSP for golf courses just two years ago, **Ron Heeson**, director of golf and tennis at Monterra, has shown a high level of dedication to the program. Monterra Golf at Blue Mountain Resorts has been

ranked as one of the top ten resort courses in Canada for many years. Their work within the ACSP for golf courses has greatly added to the aesthetics and challenge of the course, and helped them retain this high status.

One of Ron's first tasks upon joining the ACSP was to set up a resource advisory committee. From staff to neighbours, many individuals responded to the call. Among Ron's greatest finds were local residents **Diane and Ron Tadman**. While both have degrees in zoology, they are better known as "Jack and Jill of all trades, masters of none." With the Tadman's help, Ron and his committee set to work implementing a variety of ACSP projects.

A strong suit for Monterra has been its outreach and education efforts. The course adopted Admiral Collingwood Public School in the ACSP for Schools and invited students to a field trip on the golf course. Diane and Ron Tadman led Grade 5 students on a nature tour and staff taught them about healthy property maintenance. Pictures and stories now hanging in the maintenance shop are evidence that students got a lot out of the day.

To further spread the word about their commitment to stewardship, Monterra lined clubhouse walls with environmental posters and displays, made a wildlife sightings book available for golfers to add to, and encouraged neighbouring homeowners to participate. Several bird nest boxes have been placed on neighbouring properties to expand available habitat and educational opportunities.

Ron Heeson, the Tadmans, and the staff of Monterra Golf at Blue Mountain Resorts should all be very proud of their accomplishments. Not only have they made a serious commitment to protecting and enhancing the natural habitat of their area, they have also done a terrific job of sharing their enthusiasm, knowledge, and appreciation of the local environment with children and adults alike.



Monterra Golf

*Outreach and education efforts have been a strong suit for Monterra Golf at Blue Mountain Resorts, Canada's 22nd certified ACSP golf course.*

## Membership News

### New Golf Members

*British Columbia*  
The Victoria Golf Club

*Ontario*  
Mill Run Golf and Country Club, Uxbridge  
National Pines Golf Club, Barrie  
Wildfire Golf Club, Woodview

### New Backyard Members

*British Columbia*  
Margaret Atkinson, Golden

*Ontario*  
Deborah Johns, Oshawa  
Marg and Iain Maciver, Newcastle  
Grace Moores, Hampton  
Jan and Elizabeth Vanderluit, Hampton

### New School Members

*Ontario*  
Nobleton Senior Public School (Adopted by Nobleton Lakes Golf Course)

### New Supporting Members

*Silver Level*  
Rousseau Lefebvre, Laval, QC

## Restoring Natural Landscapes



ACSP members take action to restore the natural habitats and native landscapes that make their corners of the world unique. Flowers are blooming, birds and wildlife are moving in, and people are enjoying the change. Find out more *in this issue*.

# STEWARDSHIP news

Audubon International publishes *Stewardship News* six times a year. Inquiries, contributions or letters to the editor should be addressed to:

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Or sent via e-mail to: [jmackay@audubonintl.org](mailto:jmackay@audubonintl.org)

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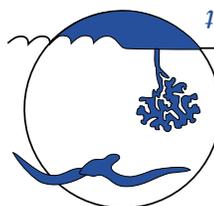
Start a wildlife inventory list for your property. Display your list in a handy location—school classroom or hallway; break room, or even on your refrigerator door—to generate interest and remind people to add to it.



## ACSS QUICK TIP

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*Helping people help the environment*



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