



Stewardship

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News

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National Park Concessionaires Go Green

BY JEREMY TAYLOR, Staff Ecologist
and JEAN MACKAY, Director of Educational Services

National parks protect and showcase some of North America's most spectacular natural wonders, as well as cultural and historic treasures. It seems only fitting, then, for park concessionaires—private companies that contract with national parks to cater to visitor needs for food, lodging, and recreation—to make a commitment to good stewardship. In fact, the U.S. National Park Service stipulates that concessionaires take “measures necessary to ensure the protection,

conservation, and preservation of resources” of the parks in which they serve. Participation in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) is helping fourteen National Park Service and Parks Canada concessionaires to meet that mandate and provide exceptional services to park visitors.

On the pages that follow, we feature two certified ACSP members and some of the outstanding environmental management practices they have initiated to improve visitor services and protect the environment.

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Involvement in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program helps concessionaires meet national park conservation requirements, enhance visitor services, and gain a competitive edge when bidding on park service contracts. We salute the following members for their outstanding participation in the ACSP:

U.S. National Parks

- Bandelier Trading Company, Bandelier National Monument, NM (Certified)
- East Potomac Park Golf Course, National Capital Parks-Central, Washington DC*
- Furnace Creek Golf Course, Death Valley National Park, CA (Certified)
- Jackson Hole Golf and Tennis Club, Grand Teton National Park, WY (Certified)
- Langston Golf Course, National Capital Parks-East, Washington DC*
- Presidio Golf Club, Presidio of San Francisco, CA (Certified)
- Rock Creek Golf Course, Rock Creek Park, Washington DC*
- Wawona Golf Course, Yosemite National Park, CA (Certified)
- White Sands Trading Company, White Sands National Monument, NM*

Canadian National Parks

- Fundy National Park Golf Course, Fundy National Park, NB*
- Highland Links Golf Course, Cape Breton Highlands National Park, NB (Certified)
- The Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, Jasper National Park, AB (Certified)
- The Fairmont Banff Springs Golf Course, Banff National Park, AB (Certified)
- Waskesiu Golf Course, Prince Albert National Park, SK*

*Certification in progress

NPS, BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT, NM

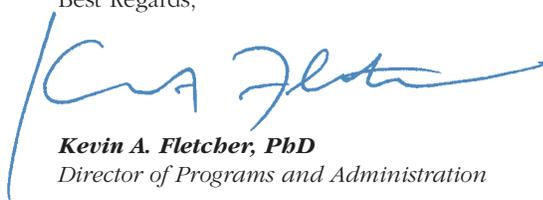
Dear Members and Supporters,

It's easy to get lost in the life's day-to-day tasks—with your head down, getting work done, taking care of family obligations, etc. Sometimes we need a big push or a whole new season to wake up and look around with fresh eyes. And, at other times, all it takes a small gesture—a child's smile, a story in the news, an unexpected phone call—to reawaken our sense of purpose and direction.

This issue of *Stewardship News* helped me wake up. My temporary winter hibernation has ended thanks to butterfly wings in a small Florida community, unusual and effective environmental actions in our city, state, and national parks, golf course members opening their doors through verification site visits, and other good news. All of these stories are uplifting in their own ways—from youth stewardship to improved environmental management to the growth of sustainable communities.

The fact that Audubon International helped play a role in each of them is secondary, but worth celebration as well. With each passing winter there is always spring; and with you, our members and supporters, it feels like spring all the time at Audubon International.

Best Regards,



Kevin A. Fletcher, PhD
Director of Programs and Administration

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Don't miss our many member stories and accomplishments throughout this issue.



FOUR SEASONS GOLF COURSE AT PENINSULA DE PAPAGAYO IN COSTA RICA

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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Peter Bronski, Manager



Bethpage State Park Black Course hosted the 2002 U.S. Open.

New York State Park Golf Courses Join the ACSP

New York State recently became the first in the nation to register all of its state-run golf courses in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Thanks to strong leadership and commitment within the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, fifteen golf courses joined nine registered previously in the program to achieve 100-percent participation. The move aims to build upon the successful outcomes achieved by four Audubon certified New York State park golf courses: Bethpage State Park: Black, Red, and Green courses, and Sunken Meadow State Park Golf Course.

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Acting Commissioner Carol Ash said, "We are delighted to partner with Audubon International to promote environmentally-friendly best practices at our state golf courses throughout New York. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program has been successfully implemented at the famed Bethpage State Park, including the Black Course. And we anticipate many additional benefits to wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety, water conservation, and water quality management at our existing golf operations in state parks from Montauk to Western New York."

ACSP Program Manager Joellen Zeh and USGA Agronomist Jim Baird recently conducted a seminar on environmental planning and turfgrass management to help park superintendents from across the state get started in the program. We salute NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for its significant commitment to environmental stewardship and we look forward to working with park golf courses in the coming years!

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program is currently assisting more than 200 state and municipal parks in 33 states manage natural resources responsibly on golf courses and within the parks themselves. The Audubon Signature Program has also assisted in the development of five municipal recreational facilities.

Sign Up Now for the 2007 North American Birdwatching Open

Birdwatching teams from golf courses throughout North America are beginning to register for this year's North American Birdwatching Open, held on International Migratory Bird Day, Saturday, May 12. The event is free and open to all Audubon International golf program members. Southern members may choose to participate on Saturday, March 11, or Saturday, April 8, to take advantage of peak migration.

We hope to top last year's number of participants and total number of bird species seen. To participate, register online at: www.auduboninternational.org/projects/bird-watchopen/. You can download registration forms, rules, a bird checklist, and tips for success. If you would like to participate, but do not have internet access, please call Jennifer Batza at (518) 767-9051, extension 12, or contact Jen with questions at jbatza@auduboninternational.org.



MARILE BARBE

Persistent birders may be fortunate to spot an owl during the North American Birdwatching Open. The burrowing owl is often out during daylight hours.

National Park Concessionaires Go Green *Continued from page 1*

NATIONAL PARK: Bandelier National Monument, New Mexico

CONCESSIONAIRE: Bandelier Trading Company

When it comes to environmental champions, Bandelier Trading Company is a leader. The company recently became the first property in New Mexico and the fourth concessionaire serving the National Park System to earn designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Bandelier Trading Company operates the concession area and gift shop for Bandelier National Monument, located in Los Alamos.

"By initiating this partnership with Audubon International, we commit to being conscientious stewards, actively preserving the natural balance of life which surrounds us at Bandelier National Monument," shares Shane Ortega, Environmental Manager for Bandelier Trading Company. Bandelier National Monument encompasses 32,000 acres across northern New Mexico and is home to hundreds of ruins of Anasazi cliff houses and pueblo-style dwellings. Pueblo ancestors called this area home around 600 years ago, and many archeological sites are scattered across the region.

Environmental Education and Action

Housed in historic Civilian Conservation Corps buildings at the entrance of the park, the restaurant and gift shop are run in an environmentally-friendly manner under the guidance of Environmental Manager Shane Ortega, General Manager Sarah Wilson, and Store Manager Melanie Paytiamio. The company is an U.S. EPA Green Power Partner, purchasing green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use. It also places a strong emphasis on reducing waste, and its staff works with suppliers to ensure that materials

purchased and packaged are made from recycled materials or can be recycled once used.

"The return on investment for some of our recycling and reuse procedures is extremely high," reports Ortega. "Supply and utility costs are decreased drastically. Because of technological advances and rising energy costs, many environmental procedures that didn't make financial sense a couple decades ago are now paying off within a very short time frame. Well thought-out conservation procedures can green the bottom line by keeping supply and utility costs low across the board."

In addition to ensuring environmental performance in all aspects of its operations, Bandelier Trading Company staff works to educate the park's 300,000 yearly visitors about local Native American cultures, native plants and wildlife, and the benefits of energy and water conservation and recycling to local environment. Employees undergo intensive training to understand and articulate local environmental and cultural concerns. In addition, information is displayed throughout the restaurant and gift shop regarding the historical significance of the region and the efforts that Bandelier Trading Company is taking to help preserve and protect the environment.

Bandelier Trading Company's many efforts have not gone unrecognized. In addition to its certification from Audubon International, the company also is designated as a Certified Green Restaurant by the Green Restaurant Association, and recently passed its first ISO 14001 audit, which recognizes organizations for their environmental management practices. It also received an award from the Governor of New Mexico in 2006 for its conservation measures.

"I am particularly excited about working with Audubon International because of its strength in dovetailing resource conservation with wildlife

protection," reflects Ortega. "It is relatively easy to recycle or to put up a solar panel. It is more difficult to approach the larger picture and to ask how every little thing that I do impacts wildlife habitats."

"I saw my first wild bear at Bandelier when I was six years old," continues Ortega, "and I will never forget the thrill of it. I love that the ACSP is bringing us the tools to not only preserve on a larger level, but to protect those treasures that I saw when I was a boy."



Bandelier Trading Company employees undergo intensive training to understand and articulate local environmental and cultural concerns, including the protection of Ancestral Pueblo dwellings found among the pink mesas and sheer-walled canyons of the park.

Congratulations to Shane Ortega and the staff at Bandelier Trading Company for becoming the first Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in New Mexico! Ortega is also currently working with the staff at White Sands Trading Company in Alamogordo, New Mexico, which should soon be joining Bandelier as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.



NATIONAL PARK:
Grand Teton National
Park, Wyoming

CONCESSIONAIRE:
Grand Teton Lodge
Company/Jackson Hole
Golf & Tennis Club

BY JUSTIN BROWN,
Golf Course Superintendent

If you are planning a round of golf at the Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club in the Grand Tetons, you needn't worry about whether you'll be playing in an extraordinary setting. Panoramic views of the Teton Range and great playing conditions combine to make the course one of Wyoming's best. Golfers also enjoy playing in an environmentally friendly setting, where we take our special responsibility to the land seriously.

Because the club borders Grand Teton National Park, there has always been a conscientious effort by the club and its operator, the Grand Teton Lodge Company, to do its part to sustain the spectacular environment around us and be good stewards of the land and resources we rely on. Among the many things we have done to maintain this synergy with the environment is to embark on an aggressive recycling effort, which now serves as a hub for the entire north end of Jackson Hole.

Our efforts began modestly when, several years ago, the club purchased a self-contained recycling trailer for use by club members and guests. Parked in the maintenance yard, the trailer was used regularly.

At first, we recycled aluminum and tin cans, plastic and glass bottles, newsprint, and magazines. After several months of operation, it became apparent that the community wanted to recycle more. Several users frequented the golf maintenance shop and requested that we take their other recyclables to the town recycling center when we serviced the trailer. We began to accept cardboard boxes, large bottled water containers, and office pack (paper, envelopes, file folders, junk mail, etc.).

Soon, the recycling effort grew beyond the capacity of Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club. Use of the recycling trailer was so overwhelming that it needed to be emptied at least once a week. As a result, we formed an alliance with Jackson Hole Community Recycling, a non-profit organization that seeks to decrease demand for raw materials by minimizing the amount of waste that reaches the landfill. We opened our facilities and asked them to supply and service another recycling trailer, offering different recycling options and helping to hold some of the overflow from our trailer.

Because of the increased activity and overwhelming support from the community, we decided to find a permanent location for our new recycling center. The golf course had recently donated a piece of land to Teton County to be used as school bus turnaround—and this proved to be a perfect location. Jackson Community Recycling services the trailer weekly, while the golf course provides regular maintenance, including clean up and snow removal.



Top, left: ASCP members find it easy to make the connection between their management actions and the natural resources they are protecting when surrounded by the stunning scenery of a national park. Credit: Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club, WY

Above, right: Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club's recycling initiative continues to grow, thanks to the dedication of its staff, including Superintendent Justin Brown.

It keeps growing...

Having had such great success, the club decided to expand its efforts again in 2006 with the addition of a set of recycling receptacles for every golf hole. Alongside the usual ball washer, bench, and garbage can, there now stands a recycling bin. A member of the maintenance team picks up the recycling from around the course and takes it to the trailers each morning.

Club General Manager Guy Evans further expanded the efforts into the restaurant, clubhouse, and pro shop. The restaurant now has a designated location to store and sort all of its recyclables and the pro shop has a complete set of recycling receptacles beside the comfort station.

"Everywhere you look, there is recycling happening at the club and the community is responding very well to our efforts," says Evans.

Indeed, the partnership with Jackson Community Recycling has helped the club and lodge to divert nearly 150 tons of cardboard, paper, glass, metals, and plastics each year. The recycling trailer investment was fairly inexpensive and requires only minimal weekly maintenance—a small price compared to how much the community uses the facility and how much the environment benefits from our efforts. ●

Flying High

**BY PETER BRONSKI,
Manager, Sustainable
Communities Program**

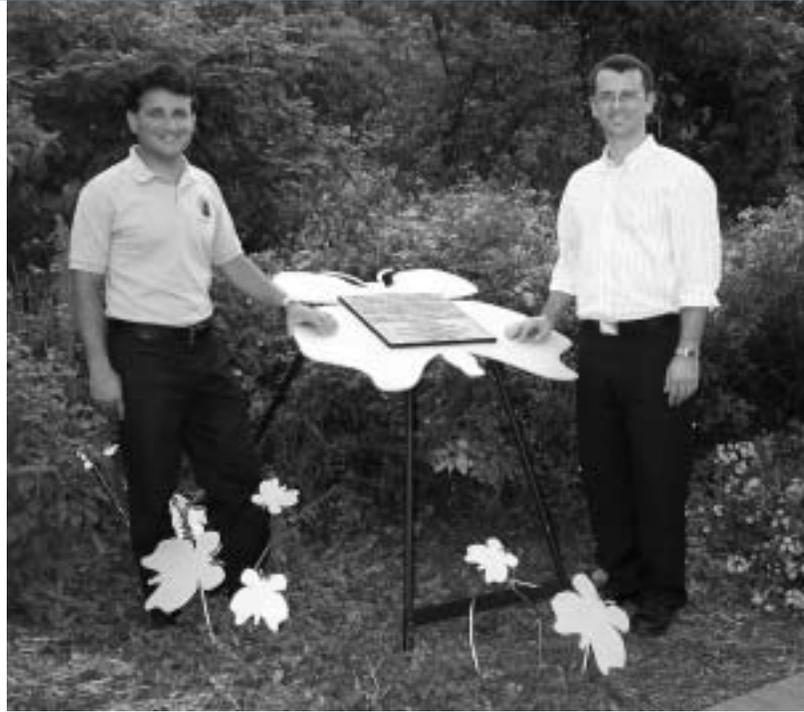
As Planning Projects Coordinator Todd Henry-DeJesus guides me through the native-plant landscaped grounds of City Hall in Coconut Creek, Florida, he points with enthusiasm to the butterflies swirling in the air around us. “That’s a Zebra Long Wing,” he says. “Over there is a Variegated Fritillary. And a Gold Rim Swallowtail.” Pulling back the leaves on a small shrub, he shows me the bright-orange caterpillar of yet another species whose name I’ve since forgotten.

Less than an hour into my visit, it’s becoming clear why Coconut Creek is hailed as the Butterfly Capital of the World. The title is much more than a tourism ploy (the city passed an official resolution in 2002 designating itself with the title), or a nod to Butterfly World, the world’s largest butterfly aviary with more than 80 species and 5,000 individual butterflies, located in nearby Tradewinds Park. Rather, Coconut Creek backs up its claim with extensive natural and landscaped habitat that draws butterflies in droves.

And yet the butterflies are just the tip of the iceberg for a community looking to make sustainability its cornerstone and defining attribute. Coconut Creek had earned many accolades, including Tree City USA designation and National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat certification, to name two. But city officials were looking to take their environmental commitment further and integrate sustainability into the city’s planning and policies more comprehensively.

Beyond Butterflies

The Sustainable Communities Program became the vehicle for doing just that,



Butterflies have become a unifying symbol for sustainable community efforts in Coconut Creek, Florida. Planning Projects Coordinator Todd Henry-DeJesus (left) introduced Sustainable Communities Program Manager Peter Bronski to several species, as well as to the significant aspects of the city during a recent visit.

and, in mid-2006, Coconut Creek became the program’s newest member. My site visit served to kick off the process, and allowed me to get acquainted with the community and its leaders: the city manager, planners, staff from Parks and Recreation and Public Works, the city’s Environmental Advisory Board, and school administrators. What I saw and learned was inspiring.

City officials lead by example, implementing policies on government properties and at their own homes before asking residents to do the same. Coconut Creek is planning a greenways project to build naturalized trail corridors throughout the community, linking residential and retail areas, and promoting alternative transportation. Planners have set forth ambitious plans for a project appropriately called Main Street, designed to build a focused downtown for the community, with sustainability principles at its core. And in early 2006, the City passed affordable housing legislation, working to ensure that families and the local workforce—teachers and firefighters, for example—can live in the community

where they work.

During an exhaustive tour of the community, I saw other examples of sustainability in practice. At Hillsboro Pineland Park, open space preservation efforts have permanently protected a remnant forest ecosystem and wetland. At Lyons Creek Elementary School, Principal Washington Collado showed me a landscaped courtyard between buildings where students would design, plant, and maintain their own butterfly gardens. And at Broward Community College’s North Campus, I saw where students, faculty, and government officials had collaborated to build nest sites for burrowing owls.

Together, these highlights showcase a commitment to the environment in Coconut Creek and a resolve to expand that commitment in the future. For Coconut Creek and Audubon International, that future is now. As we look to the year ahead, it is a time filled with promise, and, we hope, with action. “There is a great buzz about the program here,” says Henry-DeJesus. “We’re excited and looking forward to making significant strides towards sustainability.”●

Breaking Ground for an Audubon Sanctuary

BY LINDA MORRISON AND PAULINE EMELSON,
Teachers, T.J. Connor Elementary School

In the spring of 2006 the third grade students at T.J. Connor Elementary School in Scottsville, New York, became very aware of the natural habitats in their schoolyard, as a result of our participation in the Audubon Partners for the Environment Program. With the help of Laurie Broccolo, from Broccolo Tree and Lawn Care (a certified ACSP member), the students selected a mowed lawn area of the schoolyard to transform into an Audubon Sanctuary.

Using the Audubon *Habitat Mapping* project as a guide, the students applied their map making skills to create a large map of the school. They accurately laid out the buildings, ball fields, play areas, driveways, and parking lot. With their “observation journals” in hand, students recorded in words and pictures what they saw and heard in their schoolyard. They looked for food, water, shelter, and space needed for wildlife to raise their young. The project greatly increased students’ awareness of their surroundings, and they discovered that aside from a few trees and shrubs, we weren’t offering much in the way of wildlife habitat.

We then implemented the *Go Wild at School* project to plan the new natural area. Students did some

research in the classroom, and combined with their observations and map, determined what was needed to create the Audubon Sanctuary. More trees and shrubs to attract birds and butterflies were on the list of needed plants.

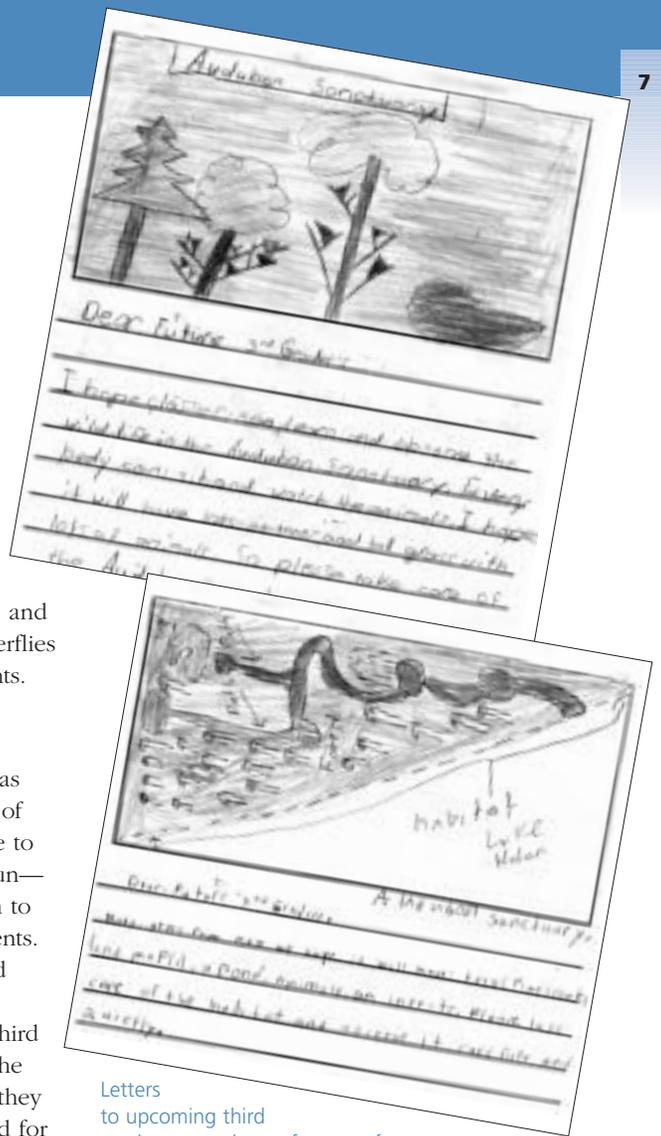
Passing the torch

By this time, the school year was drawing to a close. This group of third graders would not be able to complete all that they had begun—they would have pass the torch to the upcoming third grade students. To finalize all of their work and accomplishments, the students wrote letters to the upcoming third graders. They explained what the Audubon Sanctuary was, what they had done, and what they hoped for the future of this project.

Their letters and drawings stressed the value and the beauty that this natural habitat would provide for the birds, animals, and people of their community. And most importantly, the students let the future third graders know that they were inheriting this project. It would be their responsibility to carry on the work that was already started and become caretakers of the Audubon Sanctuary.

This past fall, the new class of third graders enthusiastically scattered milkweed, sunflower, and Queen Anne’s Lace seeds throughout the sanctuary area. Now, they are anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring to see if anything will be sprouting. In addition, they will also be busy this spring planting butterfly bushes and other flowering plants to attract their favorite birds, butterflies, and insects.

This project is a wonderful example of authentic learning; the students learned by doing and making



Letters to upcoming third graders were the perfect way for students to pass on what they had learned and express their hopes for the project (not to mention practice writing skills!)

connections to their lives. They also experienced the satisfaction of becoming stewards of the Earth. This activity taught them the value of even the smallest creature and that all plants and animals should be respected. These children are the future caretakers of this planet and the Audubon Sanctuary Project has helped them to get started on that big job! ●

Audubon Partners

To find out more about joining Audubon Partners for the Environment or adopting a school in your community, visit www.auduboninternational.org/programs or contact Jen Batza at jbatza@auduboninternational.org.



Third graders at T.J. Connor Elementary chose an unused corner of their schoolyard for their future Audubon Sanctuary area.



Seeing is Believing

BY JEAN MACKAY
AND JEREMY TAYLOR

Verification. It's a critical issue when it comes to running any certification program. How do you know that people are doing what they claim? Without verification, the credibility of the program and the integrity of its members are both at stake.

We know that only too well at Audubon International. Since the inception of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP) in 1991, we have grappled with how to verify the environmental best practices of members, without adding undo costs or burden to participants. Though written and photographic documentation have always been required, and certified golf courses have long been environmental leaders in the golf industry, the question of on-site verification remained crucial for program critics and supporters alike.

To address the credibility gap, Audubon International changed its recertification requirements in 2005 to include a site visit—and the results

A site visit to Prairie Dunes Country Club in Kansas was conducted by Dr. Max Terman, Professor of Biology at Tabor College. Terman remarked: "Prairie Dunes is a leader in habitat preservation and management of native vegetation. Its use of fire as an ecological management tool is commendable."

have exceeded all expectations. To date (February 1, 2007), 115 golf courses have hosted a site visit. Within the next four years, all 595 currently certified golf courses will have had a third-party site visit.

About Site Visits

Site visits are designed to help Audubon International verify some of the more visible aspects of golf course environmental management activities. They are conducted by a third-party representative not affiliated with the golf course, such as a local conservation organization, governmental agency, cooperative extension, or Audubon International staff or steward. The site visit generally takes several hours, with course personnel touring the course with the third-party verifier, who then completes a checklist and returns it to Audubon International for review. Used in combination with written and photographic documentation, certification is strengthened dramatically.

Equally important, the site visit provides an opportunity for golf course representatives to demonstrate some of the voluntary actions they have taken to protect the environment. In some cases, the reviewer is already

aware of the ACSP and somewhat familiar with the efforts that the golf course has taken to protect the environment. But for the majority of golf courses, the site visit brings new eyes and a fresh perspective to the course—with much to be gained by both parties.

"[The reviewer] was impressed with the program and said 'I had no idea' quite a few times," reported Greg Blied at Tahoe Donner Golf Course in Truckee, California. "I think it comes as a shock to most people that we actually care about the environment."

Blied's perception was echoed independently by Scott Terrell of the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, who conducted the site visit. "As an individual who has been involved in green business and personal practices, I was very pleasantly surprised to see the amount of green practices being conducted at Tahoe Donner Golf Course," Terrell commented on the site visit report.

Blied and Terrell's experience are no exception. Similar comments appear again and again on site visit reports:

"It was a great opportunity to show an independent third party the projects we are involved in at our course. It allowed us an

opportunity to receive constructive criticism and new ideas for existing and future projects.”

— *Ben Kozlowsky, Assistant Superintendent Barton Creek Resort–Palmer Lakeside Course, Spicewood, TX*

“Our [third-party verifier] just reviewed our golf course and some had some very insightful and positive things to say. He seemed to be quite happy about the whole situation. It was actually a very good experience.”

— *Chris Hart, Assistant Superintendent, Coyote Moon Golf Course, Truckee, CA*

“After visiting Brooks Golf Club for the ACSP, I am very impressed with all the efforts they are putting forth to maintain and improve the environment and water quality.”

— *Mark Ingwersen, Commissioner, Dickinson County Soil & Water Conservation District, Site Visit for Brooks Golf Club, Okoboji, IA*

“Forest Hills Country Club exceeds the expectations of environmental stewardship that an ecologist would expect from a golf course.”

— *Cory Ritterbusch, Ecologist, Native Landscapes, Site Visit for Forest Hills Country Club, Loves Park, IL*



Site visits offer a great opportunity for golf courses to showcase their environmental efforts. Larry and Jan Schlippert of Commonwealth National Golf Club in Horsham, Penn., show off their Audubon display during their site visit.

Golf Courses Invited to Join the Audubon Green Golfer Challenge

Throughout 2007, Audubon International is inviting golf courses in the United States, Canada, and worldwide to take part in the *Audubon Green Golfer Challenge*. The challenge is simple: Get as many golfers as possible to pledge to take steps to support environment stewardship while playing the game. From replacing divots to picking up trash, the simple actions for golfers to take are good for the game, good for the golf course, and good for the environment.

Find out more about the challenge, prizes, and the Green Golfer Pledge at www.golfandenvironment.org.

“Heron Lakes Golf Course staff and management practices demonstrate a strong commitment to good environmental stewardship in the Columbia Slough watershed.” — *Charles F. Sams III, Executive Director, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Site Visit for Heron Lakes Golf Course, Portland, OR*

“Notre Dame and the managers of the Warren Golf Course have done a terrific job at preserving this property as wildlife habitat while simultaneously keeping a lot of golfers happy. Audubon International could use Warren Golf Course as a model for training other golf courses.” — *Laura Fuderer, Conservation Chair, South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society, Site Visit for Warren Golf Course, IN*

By participating in the ACSP, golf course representatives gain assurance that they are doing right by the environment and develop the ability to invite others in with confidence. It is clear from the site visits that have been conducted thus far that ACSP golf courses are making new allies, while maintaining Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary certification. And who would have guessed that on-site verification might become some of the best public relations a golf course could have? ●

Audubon Green Golfer Pledge

We value the nature of the game and accept our responsibility to ensure that golf courses are managed in harmony with the environment. We pledge to:

- Be kind to the course: repair ball marks and replace divots to help maintain playability.
- Walk, rather than use a cart, if health permits. Walking promotes physical fitness, healthy turf, and a clean environment.
- Look for consistent, true ball roll on greens, rather than speed. Lower mowing heights required for fast greens are at the root of many turf and environmental problems.
- Keep play on the course and stay out of natural areas. Respect designated environmentally sensitive areas and wildlife habitats within the course.
- Use trash and recycling receptacles and encourage others to do the same. If you see trash, don't pass it up...pick it up!
- Appreciate the nature of the game. Watch for wildlife as you play and support the course's efforts to provide habitat.
- Educate others about the benefits of environmentally responsible golf course management for the future of the game and the environment.
- Encourage the golf course be an active participant in environmental programs for golf courses, such as those offered by Audubon International.

Good News

We love to hear about the good things happening on our member properties! Here's a small sampling of recent successes to inspire your own. If you have news or a good idea to share, send it along with a photo to Jean Mackay, Director of Education, at jmackay@audubon-international.org.



FOUR! Audubon International salutes Peggy Ogden, Assistant Superintendent at Arlington Ridge Golf Club in Leesburg, Florida. Peggy spearheaded the club's recent designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, making it the fourth course she has helped to achieve certification. No matter where she goes, Peggy makes it clear that the environment comes first. *Congratulations Peggy!*



The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Albany Pine Bush Commission have selected **Farnsworth Middle School** to be the site of a Karner blue butterfly rearing program. "I think we may be the only school in the country (world!!) doing this," reports Alan Fiero, Ph.D., science teacher at Farnsworth. "We will pilot the protocols this year and then go to full production next year." The Audubon Partner school has been involved in habitat restoration, research, and public education on the endangered Karner blue and other butterflies for a number of years. It's Butterfly Station and public tours attract more than 2,000 visitors to the school each summer. *Congratulations!*



MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY November 29, 2006 through January 26, 2007

AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY PROGRAMS

NEW MEMBERS

City of Eufaula–Fairview Cemetery,
Eufaula, AL

Golf Program

International

Blackhawk Golf Club, Spruce Grove,
AB, Canada
Canmore Golf & Curling Club,
Canmore, AB, Canada
Coral Creek Golf Course, Hagersville,
ON, Canada
Deer Ridge Golf Club, Kitchener, ON,
Canada
Fort McMurray Golf Club, Fort
McMurray, ON, Canada
Foxbridge Golf Club, Uxbridge, ON,
Canada
Mountain View Golf Course,
Whitehorse, YT, Canada
Temenos Golf Club, The Valley, BWI,
Anguilla

Arizona

Arizona Country Club, Phoenix

California

Mission Viejo Country Club, Mission Viejo
The Crosby Club, Rancho Santa Fe
Yolo Fliers Club, Woodland

Florida

Adara Golf Club, Crestview
Eastpointe Country Club, Palm Beach
Gardens

Iowa

Des Moines Golf & Country Club, West
Des Moines

Kentucky

Kearney Hill Golf Links, Lexington

New Hampshire

Blackmount Country Club, Inc., No.
Haverhill

New Jersey

Colonia Country Club, Colonia

New York

Battle Island State Park Golf Course, Fulton
Beaver Island State Park Golf Course,
Grand Island

Bona Vista State Park Golf Course, Ovid
Chenango Valley State Park Golf
Course, Chenango Forks
Dinsmore Golf Course Mills-Norrie State
Park, Staatsburg
James Baird State Park Golf Course,
Pleasant Valley
Jones Beach State Park Pitch and Putt
Course, Wantagh
Pinnacle State Park Golf Course, Addison
Robert Moses State Park Pitch and Putt
Course, Babylon
Sag Harbor State Golf Course, Sag
Harbor
Saratoga Spa State Park Golf Course,
Saratoga Springs
Soaring Eagles Golf Course/Mark Twain
State Park, Horeheads
Springbrook Greens at Fairhaven Beach
State Park, Fair Haven
St. Lawrence State Park Golf Course,
Ogdensburg
The Sedgewood Club, Carmel
Wellesley Island State Park Golf Course,
Fineview



Oldfield, a private club community on the banks of the Okatie River in South Carolina, produced a 2007 calendar entitled *The Nature of Oldfield*. The calendar features outstanding wildlife photos taken by Marvin Bouknight, Oldfield Staff Naturalist/Outfitters Center Director. "We felt that this project would be a good way for Oldfield members to further develop a sense of pride in their commitment to preserving our natural resources," says Bouknight. "The calendar has been very well received." Oldfield achieved the *Audubon Neighborhood for Nature Award* in 2006 for its participation in the Audubon Partners for the Environment Program for Neighborhoods.

Around the front nine holes of the **Four Seasons Golf Course at Peninsula de Papagayo** in Costa Rica, Superintendent Jay Miller and his staff developed a "Trail of Giants," highlighting the giant trees of the region's endangered dry tropical forest. Each giant is identified with a sign and an accompanying brochure offers background information to educate guests about the forest, which supports a myriad of wildlife, including white-face and Howler monkeys. "We recommend the *tree trail* concept because of its ease of maintenance and reasonable cost to produce," reported Miller. "Golfers and guests seem to have increased awareness and curiosity concerning these giant trees and the life they support."



Little River Inn Golf Course, a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary on the Mendocino coast of northern California, hosted local high school students for a two-day environmental field event, called *Topics in Sustainability*. Forty students from Mendocino High School and their teacher, Tobin Hahn, walked the links and saw first hand various aspects of the course's environmental program. Highlights included discussion of efforts to reduce pesticide use, conserve water, and enhance wildlife habitat. Superintendent Terry Stratton moderated the event. According to Stratton: "The kids saw blacktail deer, squirrels, frogs, and a horde of birds—acorn woodpeckers, osprey, vultures, robins, finches, blackbirds, and more—which confirmed Little River Inn Golf Course's certification in the ACSP." Above: Students check out solar panels that provide some of the electricity for Little River Inn.

Ohio

Kenwood Country Club, Cincinnati

Oregon

Oak Hill Golf Course, Sutherlin

Texas

Bear Creek Golf Club, Dallas
Tenison Park Golf Course, Dallas

Virginia

General's Ridge Golf Course,
Manassas Park

Washington

Tumwater Valley Municipal Golf Club,
Tumwater

RECENTLY CERTIFIED AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARIES

Arlington Ridge Golf Club, Leesburg, FL
Broadmoor Golf Links, Fletcher, NC
Daniel Island Golf Club, Charleston, SC
Evergreen Marriott Conference Resort,
Stone Mountain, GA
Four Seasons Golf Club at Peninsula
de Papagayo, Peninsula Papagayo,
Costa Rica

Granite Club Limited, Toronto, ON,
Canada

Shadow Glen the Golf Club, Olathe, KS
The Heritage Club, Wake Forest, NC

RE-CERTIFIED AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARIES

Certified for 10 Years or more

Lords Valley Country Club, Hawley, PA
Pottawatomie Golf Course, St. Charles,
St. Charles, IL
Valderrama Golf Club (Club de Golf
Valderrama), Cadiz, Spain

Certified for Five Years or more

Shadow Valley Golf Course, Boise, ID
Simsbury Farms Golf Course, West
Simsbury, CT
Stone Tree Golf and Fitness Club, Owen
Sound, ON, Canada
Troon Country Club, Scottsdale, AZ
Vail Golf Club: Vail Recreation District,
Vail, CO

Certified for Two Years or More

Venice Golf & Country Club, Venice, FL

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NEW MEMBERS

Little Compton Community Center, Little
Compton, RI
MTD Products, Valley City, OH

AUDUBON SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

NEW SIGNATURE MEMBERS

Corte Velho, Lisbon, Portugal
Grand River, Birmingham, AL

RECENTLY CERTIFIED SIGNATURE SANCTUARIES

Bull's Bridge Golf Club, Kent/New Milford, CT

RE-CERTIFIED SIGNATURE SANCTUARIES

St. James Bay Golf Club, Carrabelle, FL
certified since 2004
The Sanctuary, Charlotte, NC. certified since 2004
Turning Stone (Shenendoah, Kaluhyat,
Sandstone), Verona, NY, certified since 2000

Celebrating 20 Years

This year Audubon International has achieved a milestone—twenty years of *helping people help the environment*. Through its award-winning education and certification programs, Audubon International has helped more than 5,800 businesses, golf courses, schools, communities, and new developments improve environmental performance and manage natural resources responsibly on more than one million acres of land.

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Stewardship News

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