

Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses

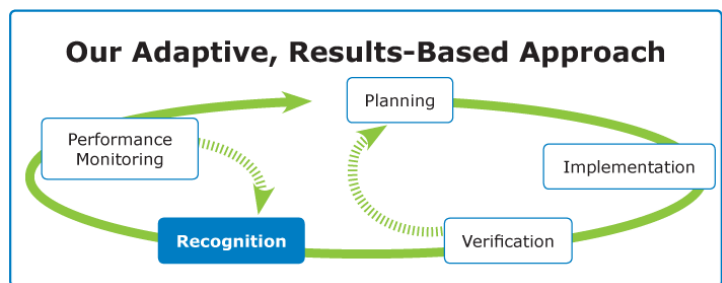
What is the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses?

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP) is an environmental education and certification program that helps golf courses protect the environment, preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf, and gain recognition for their efforts. Through collaborative efforts begun in 1991 with the United States Golf Association, membership in the ACSP has steadily grown to include more than 2,300 golf courses in the United States and three dozen countries worldwide.

How does it work?

The ACSP assists each golf course member to take stock of its environmental resources and any potential liabilities, and then develop a plan that fits its unique setting, goals, staff, budget, and time. Audubon International provides information to help golf course personnel with six key environmental components:

- Environmental Planning
- Wildlife and Habitat Management
- Chemical Use Reduction and Safety
- Water Conservation
- Water Quality Management
- Outreach and Education



Beatrice Country Club, NE

Certification

Certification provides an efficient way to work directly with members regarding their unique property while also providing motivation to take action on the key environmental components.

Designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary is awarded to the golf course upon meeting environmental management standards in each area. Achieving certification demonstrates an organization's leadership, commitment, and high standards of environmental management.

To be designated, golf course personnel develop and implement an environmental management plan, document the results, and host a site visit with Audubon International staff. Recertification is required every three years to maintain the Certified Sanctuary designation.

For more information, please contact:

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"The strongest part of the certification process is that it forces us to rethink our methods and manner of conducting business. It challenges our "status quo" by directing our thoughts and actions toward environmental awareness and changes our definitions of responsibility."

- Nancy Miller, Golf Course and Grounds Superintendent, Maple Leaf Golf & Country Club, FL