



# ACSP FOR GOLF

## FACT SHEET

### What is the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf?

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf (ACSP) is an environmental education and certification program that helps golf courses protect the environment, preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf, promote environmental sustainability 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 approximately 2,000 golf courses in the United States and three dozen countries worldwide.

### How does it work?

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

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

“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



## Why certification?

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

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.

## Who is eligible?

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses is for existing golf courses that are interested in strengthening their environmental program on the golf course. Golf courses that are being planned or are under development are ineligible to join the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses and are referred to the Signature Program. Golf courses that are or will be under renovation will find better value with the Classic Program.

## What is the cost?

Annual program membership fees for new members are \$400 (USD) for properties located in the United States and \$450 (USD) for properties in all other countries.

For more information, please contact:

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