What is Signature Sanctuary Certification?

- Our most elite and customizable environmental certification verifying sustainable design, construction, and long-term management of golf courses, communities, and resorts.
- A way to unify your team. By pursuing certification, architects, owners, managers, key stakeholders, and Audubon International work together to outline economic and environmental goals now and in the future.
- A science and data driven certification ensuring economic and environmental goals are achieved, verified, and sustained in the long-term.

Who is eligible?

- Golf courses (new construction and renovating)
- Resorts (new and renovating)
- Communities (new)

Are there different levels?

- Four levels of Signature Sanctuary certification (bronze, silver, gold, platinum) offer options for every property.
- The certification is flexible and adaptable to each property, but generally involves:
  - Developing a Natural Resource Management Plan
  - Meeting Natural Resource Management (Maintenance) Center -or- Maintenance Plan guidelines
  - Conducting environmental monitoring
  - Creating or adding to native plantings (percentage varies per level)
  - Establishing a Resource Advisory Committee

Focal areas:

- Environmental Planning
- Construction Timeline & Management
- Best Management Practices
- Landscaping & Cultural Practices
- Integrated Pest Management
- Water Conservation & Water Quality Management
- Environmental Monitoring
- Natural Resource Management Center
- Waste Management & Energy Planning
- Wildlife and Habitat Enhancement
How does it work?

Certification Process:
1. Enrollment
2. Initial site assessment visit & site plan reviews
3. Monthly reporting
4. Development & approval of Natural Resource Management Plan
5. Final environmental audit & site visit

Recertification Process:
1. Annual Reporting (inc. EIQ chart and water quality results)
2. AI recertification site visit (every 3 years)

What is the cost?

One time registration fee of $15,500* includes:
- Three site visits (excluding travel expenses)
- All Audubon International labor through certification
- First year membership fee

There is a $950 membership fee each year thereafter and an $1,000 recertification site visit fee every three years.**

*Base fee for a single 18-hole golf course in North America (bronze, silver, gold level). International, multi-part projects and platinum level projects will receive a customized proposal.

**Additional site visits are available at the expense of $1,000/day plus travel expenses.