

Sustainable Golf Facility Program



- The program is available to any existing or planned golf facility.
- Our approach is an integrated, holistic approach that positively impacts all aspects of a golf facility.
- As golf becomes more popular worldwide we are discovering that a truly sustainable golf facility involves a comprehensive approach from beginning to end that addresses economic, environmental and social concerns.

Audubon Lifestyles

At its core, Audubon Lifestyles is an organization based in the Principles for Sustainability. We believe that the most natural way to achieve success and to foster sustainability is by working to balance the triple bottom line of people, profit, and planet. We operate with the main purpose of benefiting society, while offering professional and sustainably based programs, products and services.

Our Mission

Audubon Lifestyles assists people in how they live, work, play, stay and learn to promote sustainable living and lifestyles.

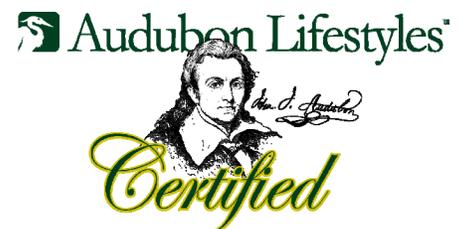
Our Vision

To be a sustainable leader assisting people who are looking for sustainable solutions for life and business that are reliable, practical, and efficient.

The basic objective of the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program is to reduce the consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, create healthy, productive environments, and inform the public, residents, guests, clients and employees about the benefits of sustainably managed golf facilities.

Through participation in the program, Audubon Lifestyles assists golf facility managers, staff, and planners who desire to manage and operate their golf facilities sustainably. The program is geared toward assisting those seeking to become local, regional, national and international models of sustainability by incorporating sustainable principles, concepts, and management strategies.

Once a facility meets all of the requirements of the program which includes adopting a Sustainability Charter, and completion of the Sustainability Audit, Audubon Lifestyles will designate the facility as an Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility and develop an Improvement & Implementation Report specific to the facility. In addition, based upon an evaluation process and the Sustainability Audit the facility may be awarded between one and five stars, and earn the right to use the International Sustainability Council's Seal of Sustainability.



About the International Sustainability Council

The International Sustainability Council is a not for profit organization comprised of individuals representing universities, non-profit organizations, government agencies and businesses with a broad range of expertise and experience. The council's main purposes include: promoting the adoption of the ISC Principles of Sustainability, serving as a "think tank" on all topics pertaining to sustainability, acting as a virtual warehouse of information related to topics related to sustainability, showcasing and recognizing specific places, businesses, organizations and individuals who are leading the way toward a more sustainable planet, and to define and encourage scientifically based methods that we, as a society can use to merge sustainability into the operation of our businesses, create new or improve existing "places," foster new products and technology that will improve our lives at home, and provide sustainable lifestyle choices that are economically priced, environmentally healthy and socially beneficial.

Seal of Sustainability

A sustainable golf facility is an economically sound business that provides safe, healthy and enjoyable environments for all employees, members, visitors, and guests. A sustainable golf facility is sited, designed, and constructed in ways that enhance the local community, and reduce or eliminate its impact on natural resources. It is managed in ways that provide balance between optimum playing conditions for golfers, and good stewardship of the natural environment. Management strategies are based upon scientifically sound site specific best practices that improve the quality of all life on the site, regionally, and beyond. Through outreach and education a sustainable golf facility is a champion and advocate of sustainability.

The Audubon Lifestyles Golf Facility Program coupled with the ISC Seal of Sustainability is a voluntary program that sets the bar for sustainably sited, designed, constructed and managed golf facilities. Not every facility will choose the path toward sustainability, but those that do will become leaders in the industry that stand the test of time.

Striving for and ultimately achieving the Seal of Sustainability from the International Sustainability Council (ISC) means that the golf facility is setting the new standard for excellence. The Seal of Sustainability indicates that the facility has adopted and put into place recognized Best Management Practices that equal environmental superiority, social responsibility in economically vitality.

The ISC Seal of Sustainability is the hallmark of excellence not only regarding the facility itself, but in regard to the actual golfing experience.

Learn more about the International Sustainability Council at:
www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org



How do you become a
Sustainable Golf Facility?

There is no single “one-size fits all” approach, and therefore no single set of rules that can be applied to the design and management of all golf facilities that can define what a sustainable golf facility is. However, with sound management practices and responsible design and construction methods, a golf facility can become economically viable, ecologically healthy, and socially acceptable. These are the generally accepted cornerstones to the definition of being “sustainable”.

Golf is unlike most other sports in that it does not involve a standard playing field or arena. Instead, golf utilizes the landscape, and for that reason maintains a unique relationship with the environment. No other form of development is so dependent on the elements of the landscape to be its playing field, to be its obstacles and its rewards, and to form its character. Understanding and addressing this relationship is essential to the design, construction and management of golf courses. While obviously used for recreation, golf facilities also provide opportunities to preserve wetlands and forests, supply storm-water drainage, and provide wildlife habitat enhancement, resource conservation, and water quality protection.

Program Requirements

- **Prepare and display a Sustainability Charter**

The facility must adopt and publicly display their own version of a Sustainability Charter. A Sustainability Charter sets out the specific actions that are above and beyond the scope of normal operation that encourage sustainable living and lifestyles, and serves as a public declaration of those actions. The Sustainability Charter is an affirmation of the International Sustainability Council’s Principles of Sustainability.

- **Provide a Map of the Golf Facility**

A map of the golf facility must be provided to Audubon Lifestyles that shows where wildlife habitat, water sources, and management zones are located. Maps that depict topography, golf routing, soils, and other natural resource information specific to the site are invaluable tools when evaluating any property type.

- **Complete the Natural Resources and Facility Survey**

The Natural Resource and Facility Survey is used to guide strategies for resource conservation and management, to identify priorities for resource conservation, to evaluate current natural resource management practices, to guide policy development, and to provide information on gardens, open space, trails, habitats, and water quality and conservation.

- **Completion of the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Audit**

The Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Audit is used to evaluate the level of sustainability a golf facility is striving to achieve. The sustainability audit includes five sections: Economics & Business, The Maintenance Facility, Water Quality & Conservation, Turf, Natural Areas, & Wildlife, and Outreach & Education. The audit provides multiple opportunities to receive credit for specific sustainable actions taken, or management strategies implemented. Upon meeting the minimum points required in each section the total score is calculated and the facility will be awarded between a one to five star rating.



Sustainable Golf Facility Program Registration Form

Facility Name _____
Applicant Name _____
Relationship to Facility _____
Address 1 _____
Address 2 _____
City, State, Zip _____
Country _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
Website address _____
Email address _____

Platinum Membership is required for participation in the Sustainable Golf Facility Program. Platinum Membership consists of a one-time registration fee of \$250. Thereafter, annual membership is only \$100.



Name on Credit Card _____
Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

To begin participation mail or fax this completed form, with check or credit card information to:
Audubon Lifestyles - 35246 US Hwy 19 #299, Palm Harbor, FL 34684. - Fax # 727-683-9153

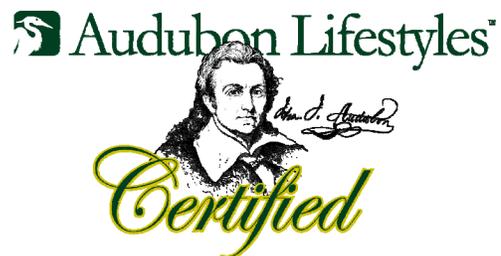
Or email to info@audubonlifestyles.com

For More Information

Audubon Lifestyles
35246 Us Hwy 19 #299
Palm Harbor, FL 34684

(P) 727-733-0762
(F) 727-683-9153

info@audubonlifestyles.org
www.audubonlifestyles.org



The Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program was created through a collaborative process that involved experts from many different fields. This included but not limited to the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program Advisory Group and the International Sustainability Council.