Eagles dare
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activity. Reports are evaluated each week by the town of Aspen Glen and the Colorado Division of Wildlife.
An eagle's nest can reach nine feet in diameter and weigh up to two tons. Disturbing a nest can lead to its abandonment. It's estimated that there are 50,000 bald eagles in the United States, mostly in Alaska. A bald eagle can live for 30 years and produce offspring every year after maturing at age four.

TROUT-SPAWNING CHANNEL

The second major project that helped the course earn Audubon certification was the creation of two trout-spawning channels on the property. The layout straddles the Roaring Fork River, with the front nine on the west side and the back nine on the east.
"We created these two huge channels from the river in order to create as much trout-spawning habitat as possible," Eide said.
Working with a wetlands consultant from Boulder, Colo., and the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Aspen Glen spent roughly $100,000 on the channels as well as a stabilization project involving 400 feet of river bank.
The larger of the two channels, extending a quarter-mile, lies adjacent to the river and the 18th fairway. The second channel runs beside the seventh green and the eighth tee complex.
"The tee on eight was redesigned several times in the field to best accommodate the spawning channel," said Eide. "Logs were also sunk deep into the channel bank to provide reinforcement."

Both projects have been big successes for Eide and the club. "Our maintenance staff has shown a strong commitment to our environmental program here," said general manager Steven Held. "Their efforts were key to providing a successful sanctuary for wildlife on the property."
The facility is owned and operated by Dallas-based ClubCorp, a strong proponent of environmental responsibility.

"Without their support, I wouldn't have been able to do anything," said Eide, a 17-year veteran of the company. "ClubCorp not only encourages involvement with Audubon International. They insist on it."

Revenge day
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• Play a par-3 or a par-4 50-percent shorter by moving tee markers into the fairway.
• If you have a weak green, give it some rest and don't mow it at all.
• Place pins on side hills, or a foot away from the edge of the green.
• If maintenance is needed on a hole, close it and give an "automatic par."
• Put in a cup with no pin, so golfers will have no idea where to aim shots.
• On the whole course, place all tee markers on the same tee to give other tees a rest. Mix it up so some holes play longer and others play shorter.

Softspikes brand ‘wins’ U.S. Open
TULSA, Okla. — Softspikes brand plastic cleats led the field at the U.S. Open, played here at Southern Hills Country Club in June.
In the field of 156 players, 79 wore Softspikes, including 75 opting for the company’s popular Black Widow cleats.
Fifty-nine players sported metal spikes, and the remaining 16 wore plastic cleats on shoes by Champ, Nike, Adidas or Green Keepers.
This marked the third straight year that Softspikes brand cleats were preferred over metal spikes by U.S. Open contestants.