

Two Juvenile Raptors Released at Los Lagos Golf Course

After spending several weeks at the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley (WCSV), two juvenile red-shouldered hawks (*Buteo lineatus*) were released at Los Lagos Golf Course on Thursday July 15, 2004. The golf course is adjacent to Coyote Creek, an area that provides native habitat for numerous species. Los Lagos was the 30th golf course in the state of California to be certified as a cooperative sanctuary by Audubon International last April. The two hawks were found in the San Jose Area and required some rehabilitation at the WCSV before re-entering the wild.

Alan Andreasen, CGCS, Superintendent at Los Lagos, initiated a relationship between the golf course and the WCSV, an organization that provides high quality care and rehabilitation of injured, sick, and orphaned birds and mammals within Silicon Valley. The successful working partnership between the WCSV and Los Lagos led to the adoption of a raptor and its release at Los Lagos Golf Course.

"There has been a lot of bad press on golf courses and

their effect on their environment," said Andreasen. "At Los Lagos Golf Course and CourseCo, Inc., we really pride ourselves on being environmentally friendly; we're well aware of things that can harm the wildlife and have gone out of our way to increase the wildlife. This raptor release is a nice symbol of the potential harmony between gold courses and wildlife."

Trudi Burney, Director of Education with the WCSV, cannot hide her excitement when discussing the developing relationship with Los Lagos Gold Course. "We've come full circle: This is an organization that has supported us and we've got a great collaboration going with CourseCo."

After the release, the birds soared in the air, wings spread to a full three feet, examining their new territory along Coyote Creek. "These birds offer a lot beautiful sights and sounds for those of us who slow down enough to take notice," said Burney.

CPR, Defibrillator as Effective as Paramedics, Studies Say

By Robert Davis, *USA Today*

Bystanders performing CPR and using automated external defibrillators save as many cardiac-arrest victims as highly trained paramedics – and send more of them home with normal brain function – according to studies out today. The findings may lead to sweeping changes in the way emergency medical systems across the nation allocate resources, experts say.

The chances of surviving a cardiac arrest nearly quadruple if fast-acting lay people perform CPR instead of waiting for paramedics, according to one of the studies in today's *New England Journal of Medicine*. The study found that the chances of survival more than triple if a shock from a defibrillator is delivered within eight minutes.

Paramedics could not save more lives than people who performed CPR and used an automated external defibrillator (AED), according to the study, the first of its kind.

A second study in the prestigious medical journal shows that twice as many lives are saved when an amateur

rescuer uses an AED to deliver a shock to cardiac-arrest victims before emergency medical services crews arrived.

About 60,000 people suffer a short circuit of the heart and require such a shock each year. In recent years, easy-to-use, foolproof AEDs have saved tens of thousands of lives.

And the devices have exposed shortcomings in EMS.

Paramedics simply can't reach victims fast enough, *USA Today* found in an investigation published last year. Thousands of lives are lost each year because of fragmented, inconsistent and slow emergency medical services.

"These two studies will change the way we think of EMD," says Robert O'Connor, chairman of the EMS committee for the American College of Emergency Physicians. He says more cities may now deploy more AEDs. "This changes the playing field."

In The News

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Golf Course Superintendents of Northern California Jump on Board in Support of Play Golf America

The GCSANC is pleased to announce its support of LinkUp2Golf through Play Golf America, an industry-wide player development initiative designed to welcome new golfers to the game while also bringing former players back to the sport. The GCSANC is supporting these efforts by providing free ball mark repair tools to golfers participating in LinkUp2Golf clinics taught by PGA and LPGA professionals throughout Northern California.

"We are excited by the golf industry's efforts to attract new players to the game and we want to be a part of it," states GCSANC past president Bob Lopic. "There's no better time for golfers to learn about ball mark repair than when they are new to the game." Each ball mark repair tool is packaged in a small folder that displays the correct way to make a repair. "If repaired properly, the surface will restore more quickly to its original condition," explained Lopic. "Golfers with good turf maintenance etiquette, improve the golf experience not only for themselves, but for those who follow."

Industry leaders are praising the efforts of the GCSANC in their commitment to help educate new players about the nuances of course maintenance. "We applaud the efforts of our local golf course superintendents for their donation and support," said Shim LaGoy, Northern California PGA honorary president and

Play Golf America advocate. "Fortunately, now ball mark repair tools are getting into the hands of new golfers early-on, through LinkUp2Golf clinics that teach the game, increase etiquette awareness and provide on-course playing experiences in a fun and inviting manner."

While the support to local LinkUp2Golf classes is new for the GCSANC, community outreach programs involving the distribution of ball mark repair tools is far from new to the chapter. In years past, chapter members have volunteered in distributing free repair tools at PGA tour events and have spent time greeting spectators and educating them on the importance of proper ball mark repair. In addition, several chapter directors have participated on local television and radio programs communicating the importance of the ball mark repair message. Public service announcements about ball mark repair provided by GCSAA headquarters continue to air on television within the chapter boundaries.

This nationwide player development initiative is supported by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, Northern California Section of the PGA, Northern California Golf Association, PGA of America, PGA TOUR, Ladies Professional Golf Association, National Golf Course Owners Association, United States Golf Association, Executive Women's Golf Association, and Golf 20/20. To learn more about clinics and classes for new and returning golfers, please visit www.playgolfamerica.com.

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Drought, Possibly Worst in 500 Years, Threatens Water Supply

By Laurence Rake, Las Vegas Sun

The dropping level of Lake Mead could require an investment of at least “several hundred million dollars” to keep water coming to Las Vegas, water officials said Thursday. Lake levels are dropping and may soon fall below pump intake levels.

The cause is the drought plaguing the West and the Rocky Mountains, the worst, say scientists studying tree rings, in more than 500 years. The drought threatens to effectively empty Lake Mead’s upstream reservoir, Lake Powell, within a few years, at which point Lake Mead will begin to “drop like a stone,” Southern Nevada Water Authority General Manager Pat Mulroy has warned.

Lake Mead is at 1,128 feet above sea level, down more than 85 feet from where it was four years ago. It now holds only 55 percent of its capacity. Lake Powell is down 136 feet from capacity.

All the news about the lake’s level this week was bad: Deputy General Manager Kay Brothers told the water authority board that new projections show the lake level at 1,125 feet by Jan. 1, a level that would require the Federal Bureau of Reclamation to cut off access to the so-called “surplus” of unclaimed water from the Upper Basin states for Nevada, California and Arizona.

It would also set further restrictions on water use, which could include reducing the number of watering days and levying larger fines for water waste. Water rates could be raised, less productive uses of water could be banned, and a ban on

driveway car washing could be reinstated as well.

The states could collectively set an elevation to protect, slashing water deliveries to some users to keep the lake level in balance.

Las Vegas and its surrounding suburbs have done well with conservation efforts, last year trimming about 15 percent off of 2002’s water use rates. But Las Vegas’ effort does not significantly affect the lake level.

Nevada has an annual take of 300,000 acre-feet of water from Lake Mead. Arizona has an annual allocation of 2.8 million and California has 4.4 million acre-feet.

All users on the Colorado River, including Mexico, have a legal allocation of 15.5 million acre-feet. According to the Bureau of Reclamation, the inflow to the river this year is less than 8 million acre-feet. “The result is that we are going to have to do more to deepen an intake,” Mulroy said. “We are going to get to a critical level.”

Technical staffs from across the basin states have met over the last five weeks in an effort to find at least a temporary way to bridge the drought, which the agencies also hope will be temporary.

“Hopefully at the end of the discussions there will be some common agreement,” Mulroy said. “We have to protect the users on the river system.” However, that could mean urban users, who take, according to Mulroy, about 15 percent

of the river’s water, could be at odds with the agricultural users, who use 85 percent for the production of alfalfa, cotton and vegetables in California and Arizona.

If the lake’s elevation is to be protected, Mulroy and other urban water agencies expect the cuts in use to come from the agricultural users. Agricultural users are not eagerly embracing the concept.

Mulroy, in the morning in Las Vegas, said she hoped to have a “protected elevation” for the lake by the end of the day, a lake level that would require cutting off or limiting some water users to protect against the lake’s depletion.

She said that the conference of the basin states failed to set that protected elevation, but the agencies would come together July 22 and 23 in Salt Lake to take up the issue once again.

Mulroy said in the meantime, the water authority “has to plan for the worst.” Work to lower the intakes for Southern Nevada’s water system has to begin as soon as possible.

“It is an emergency,” she said.



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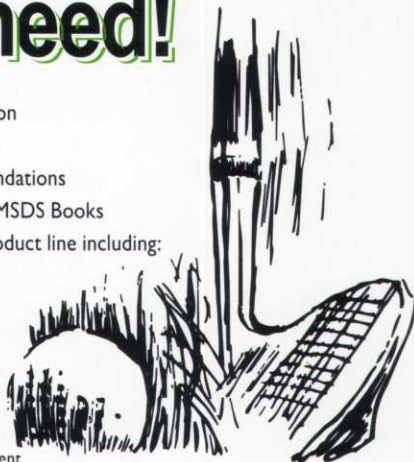
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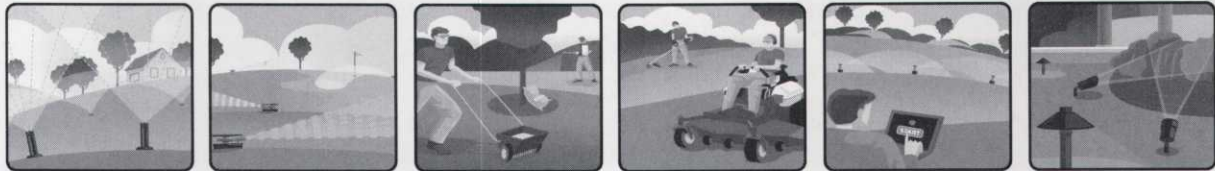
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