Audubon Association Works with USGA & GCSAA

by Ron Dodson, President New York Audubon Association

1991 is going to be an exciting year for New York Audubon. We have just established a partnership with the United States Golf Association (USGA), based in Far Hills, New Jersey, to launch the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System for Golf Courses. This effort recognizes that all green spaces are important. They provide wildlife places to rest, nest and feed. It also recognizes that positive partnerships are the way to make a difference for environmental quality. The USGA is a not-forprofit organization dedicated to the game of golf. The New York Audubon Society is dedicated to wildlife conservation and environmental protection. By coming together in this venture, we have the opportunity to work directly with the more than 7,000 USGA member clubs around the country. We get the opportunity to pass along information concerning wildlife conservation and habitat enhancement, while learning about the intricacies of golf course management. The USGA also works directly, (through their member clubs and publications) with millions of golfers. New York Audubon will have an opportunity to work directly with many people that we have not worked with in the past. From our point of view, that is what New York Audubon is all about.

Another organization, The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, GCSAA has also decided to "adopt" our Cooperative Sanctuary Program. The GCSAA is based in Lawrence, Kansas, and serves as the fraternal and training organization for golf course superintendents. This relationship gives us a chance to work directly with course managers, and offer our thoughts relative to wildlife management for golf courses, that may become part of a certification program for Superintendents.

The Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, and the partnership with the USGA and the GCSAA is certainly a tremendous way to start off the new year.



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