

Create a nature guide

Creating a "Nature Guide" for your golf course would be an easy to implement education and outreach program. It could be as elaborate as a brochure with photos, or as simple as a one page informational sheet left in the proshop for golfers to take with them during their round of golf.

The text at right offers a brief example:

This guide has been created to educate and promote better awareness of the environmental aspects of our course and this property. As you enjoy your round of golf, please note the following programs and practices that have been implemented to help further protect and enhance the environmental benefits of the golf course:

Tree snags are left standing when they pose no safety hazard to golfers. These snags are important for cavity nesting birds such as woodpeckers.

A variety of nest boxes have also been placed around the golf course to attract purple martins, bluebirds, and bats. All of these consume large numbers of insects and in particular, mosquitoes. They will help us reduce our reliance on chemical control treatments to some degree.

Native plants are utilized in landscaping of the golf course to provide habitat and food sources for wildlife, as well as reduce maintenance inputs and aid in water conservation in out of play areas.

Aquatic and shoreline plantings are important for minimizing the potential for pesticide and fertilizer runoff, as well as bank stabilization. Furthermore, aquatic plant material improves water quality, is important for wildlife habitat and is an aesthetic highlight.

Please be aware that the wetland areas between the 5th and 7th holes and the 12th and 13th holes are extremely sensitive sites. Their boundaries are designated by the green topped stakes, and in accordance with USGA Rules, a local rule is in effect. Please see the scorecard for exactly how the local rule applies. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in not searching for errant shots that go into these sensitive areas.

It would also be pointed out that eradication of weeds and other pest organisms is economically and environmentally impossible. Thus, a management philosophy of establishing and maintaining an acceptable level of control is being practiced as part of our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. We hope that golfers will understand and accept a little more pest activity and weeds in the out of play deep rough areas of the course.

Furthermore, the computerized irrigation system allows conservation of water by only applying supplemental irrigation in accordance with the needs of the turf. We encourage you to become aware of these practices and to even implement them at your own home. If you have any questions or if we can be of assistance, please call the maintenance facility and speak to the golf course superintendent. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND ENJOY YOUR DAY AT THE GOLF COURSE!**

The TPC of Michigan incorporates a nature guide into its scorecard, pointing out specific wildlife to be found on each hole. The wildlife guide for the back nine is enlarged below a reduced version of the entire front side of the scorecard.

HOLE	RATING	HANDICAP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
TPC	127	134	408	411	547	210	394	340	542	182	432	3466
BLULL	127	134	367	383	514	182	360	317	515	160	400	3196
WHITE	127	134	352	363	480	161	316	295	474	152	372	2965
HANDICAP			14	8	2	16	12	10	4	18	6	
TARGETED PACE			:14	:28	:47	:58	1:12	1:27	1:46	1:56	2:11	
PAR			4	4	5	3	4	4	5	3	4	36
RED	127	134	313	309	426	144	267	252	426	112	333	2582
RED HANDICAP			14	6	2	18	12	10	4	16	8	

Measurements are in yards. Approximate yardages are measured to the center of the green. Depth of green is measured to the extreme front edge of the green. Local slope will provide a clear picture of the hole.

The hole in this guide contains a small number of the five items, not available to all. For more information, see the annual or monthly report. The listing is a courtesy reference to a hole in which the animal is commonly found in the area.

COURSE GUIDELINES

Play is governed by U.S.G.A. rules. Yellow stakes define water hazards. Red stakes define lateral water hazards. Out of bounds is defined by white stakes or inside of boundary lines, where applicable. The sand waste area to the left of the 2 fairway which contains a green island and tree shall be played as "through the green" up to the green hole. Beyond the green hole the sand shall be deemed a hazard and played accordingly. Cartways on sprayer heads, cart paths, and 150 marker posts are all measured to the center of the green. All players are requested to jump up with the group in front of them. Pace of the day's round should be kept at or better than four hours and thirty minutes (4:30) as noted by U.S.G.A. format. Please fill drink holes with green sand mixture. Please repair your ball mark and one other.

U.S.G.A. guidelines for a "Ball in Environmentally-Sensitive Area" as marked by MUSH signage on Holes 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 14 and 18. If a ball is in an environmentally sensitive area, which is defined as a water hazard or a lateral water hazard, the player must, under penalty of one stroke, proceed under Rule 30-1.

RED HOLE NUMBERS:
Curb Restricted to Paths

RECOMMENDED GRAPEED GOLF COURSE

AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SYSTEM

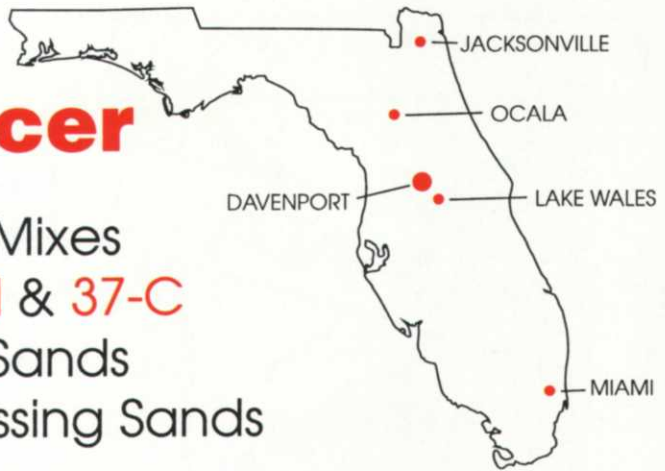
DATE: _____ SCORER: _____

Today's Plus: 1 2 3
ATTEST

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
American Kestrel	Redtail Hawk	Great Blue Heron	Red Fox	Wood Duck	Pheasant	Snapping Turtle	Tree Swallow	Asters

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