

Silver Signature Sanctuaries

Mediterra Courses Earn Recertification from Audubon International

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Here is yet another example of how responsible development can allow man to co-exist with nature. Congratulations to Bonita Bay Properties.*

By Cheryl Garn

The golf courses at Mediterra, championship courses designed by Tom Fazio, have received recertification as Audubon International Silver Signature Sanctuaries. The Club at Mediterra is the world's only 36-hole facility to carry Audubon International Silver Signature Sanctuary program status.

"Audubon International is proud to recognize Mediterra as a leader in environmental stewardship and resource conservation," said Bud Smart, director of environmental. "The recertification of The North and South courses as Audubon International Silver Signature Sanctuaries is another example of The Bonita Bay Group's philosophy of environmentally sensitive development."

The Bonita Bay Group, the developer of the 1,697-acre master-planned community, is an international leader in the Audubon International program, with more golf holes certified through the Audubon Signature Program than any company in the world.

Recertification signifies that a site and its management are committed to environmental quality and sustainability, the main components of the Audubon program. To achieve recertification, work begun the previous year continued in six key areas: site assessment, wildlife habitat enhancement and management; waste management; energy efficiency; water quality and conservation; and inte-



Win – win – win! Homes, golf course and wildlife co-existing lakeside at Mediterra. Photo courtesy of Bonita Bay Properties.

grated pest management. Silver designation includes two additional steps: the preparation of a natural resource management plan by environmental planning experts from the Audubon International Institute and the submission of periodic status reports plus participation in on-site audits by Audubon International.

Smart conducted an audit of the courses in June. The audit report confirmed the benefits of the golf course as wildlife habitat with the number and diversity of several species increasing substantially. One example of the wildlife diversity, noted in the audit, was the presence of small, medium and large gopher tortoises thriving within the gopher-tortoise preserve.

Another benefit of the site enhancements completed on The North and South courses was the increase in the community's native and migratory bird populations. The enhancements, which included reforestation, preservation of Mediterra's 400 acres of wetlands and the installation of 73 bird boxes, have proven to be successful in attracting native species. During a Christmastime bird

survey, more than 612 birds were counted in 40 different species.

"We are extremely proud to receive the Silver Signature Sanctuary designation a fifth year in a row," said Joey Garon, vice president of operations for The Bonita Bay Group. "This is a true barometer of our commitment to the environment and doing the right thing at Mediterra, and we look forward to a strong, continuing relationship with Audubon International to ensure continued preservation, enhancement and management of both The South and North courses."

The Bonita Bay Group is developing Mediterra with the same commitment to meticulous planning, environmental stewardship, integrity and attention to detail that is evident at its flagship community, Bonita Bay. Bonita Bay received the development industry's highest international honor when it was named the Outstanding Large-Scale Community of the Year by the Urban Land Institute.

Mediterra recently has been named Community of the Year by the Collier Building Industry Association for the fourth consecutive year and



Lake shorelines buffered with native plants protect the water quality of the golf course lakes. Photo courtesy of Bonita Bay Properties.

received the Award of Excellence for Open Spaces from the Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. The community is being created with the intimacy, charm and classical style of the Mediterranean region of Europe. The overall master plan for the 1,697-acre community may include up to 950 residences and more than 1,000 acres of open space. Residents are eligible for membership in The Club at Mediterra, which offers a 25,000-square-foot clubhouse, named best clubhouse in 2004 by the CBIA, and a tennis, swim and fitness center in addition to the two Fazio golf courses,

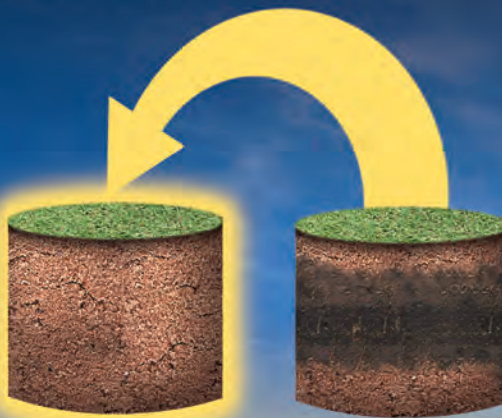
The private Mediterra Beach Club on the Gulf of Mexico features an elevated swimming pool, expansive sundeck, and indoor and al fresco dining overlooking 200 feet of shoreline. All residents enjoy miles of bicycle paths and nature trails leading to a series of themed neighborhood parks.

ECLIPSE

Identifying and treating the root causes of Black Layer, new Eclipse from Parkway Research attacks from many different angles.

- Ties up toxic gases damaging root growth
- Provides beneficial Calcium which displaces Sodium and Iron bound to clay particles
- Populates treated area with beneficial microbes designed to reverse the Black Layer
- Provides enhanced water movement and drainage

Read product label before use.



21 DAYS AFTER TREATMENT WITH ECLIPSE, PLUS AERATION

BLACK LAYER BEFORE TREATMENT WITH ECLIPSE

GREENS GRADE BLACK LAYER CONTROL GRANULES

FREE TRIAL BOX

To receive your FREE trial box of Eclipse (enough to treat 3000 sq. ft.) along with an Eclipse brochure, e-mail your name, club name, shipping address and telephone contact to: techsales@parkwayresearch.com



Parkway Research
A Division of
BRANDT CONSOLIDATED

13802 Chrisman Road
Houston, Texas 77039
www.parkwayresearch.com
800.442.9821

Parque Celestial, featuring an array of astrological references, was awarded the American Society of Landscape Architects' Florida Chapter Award of Excellence. The community's second park, Calusa Play Park, offers children and adults an opportunity to learn more about the Calusa Indians, the earliest inhabitants of Southwest Florida.

The Club at Mediterra has been honored with the 2002 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and Golf Digest magazine in the private course category.

Scott Whorral, CGCS director of golf operations at the Club at Mediterra takes the lead in all aspects of the Audubon certification program. He is also the past recipient of the 2002 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award in the private sector from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and Golf Digest magazine.

Orchid Island G&BC Florida's 71st to be Certified by ACSS

Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, the educational division of Audubon International. Matt Turner, superintendent, and Peggy Ogden, Audubon coordinator, have led the effort to obtain sanctuary status on this course and are being recognized for Environmental Stewardship by Audubon International. Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club is the 71st course in Florida and the 570th in the world to receive the honor.

"The Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their

efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Shawn Williams, staff ecologist for the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs,

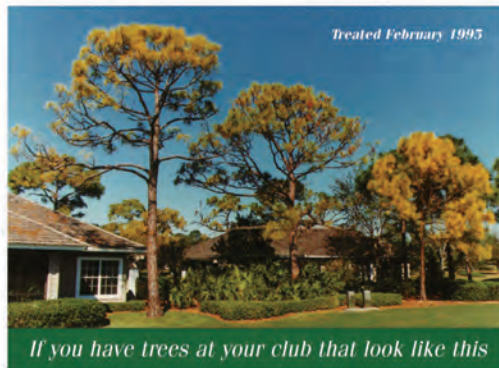
"To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas," explained Williams. These categories include environmental planning, wildlife & habitat management, outreach and education, chemical-use reduction and safety, water conservation, and water quality management.

"The members of Orchid Island are very proud to receive this certification," states Rob Tench, general manager. "Our members are all very concerned about our environment and enjoy the beautiful wildlife throughout our wonderful community. We are especially proud of our diverse bird population. For many years we have been fortunate to have scores of white

EmeraldTree™



ARBORJET



We can do the same thing for your trees – GUARANTEED!

Do you have sick yellow trees? Do you have some "Key" trees you're worried about? Don't cut down another tree needlessly – Save those trees – Treat them with EmeraldTree. Over 95% of our treated trees regain color and vigor and we guarantee the treatment to last a minimum of **THREE YEARS!!** We now offer the Arborjet insecticidal system to protect your trees from Bark beetles. Call Neal Howell @ 251-402-9848, Robert Howell @ 561-523-1295 or call toll free @ 877-779-TREE (8733). Visit our web site @ WWW.Emeraldtree-inc.com.



An iguana is a rare addition to the wildlife inventory. This one visits the Hobe Sound Club regularly. Photo by Roy MacDonald.

pelicans return seasonally. They compliment the many other species that make Orchid Island their home. These include snowy egrets, spoonbills, wood storks, cormorants, ibis, several different species of ducks, and many other of our feathered friends. We even occasionally have a bald eagle visit us! “

“It is with great pride that we enter into a long-term commitment with Audubon International and the continued care of our environment.”

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, endorsed by the United States Golf Association, provides information and guidance to help golf courses preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources. Golf courses from the United States, Australia, Canada, and Central America. Europe

and Southeast Asia have also achieved certification in the program.

Audubon certified courses in the Treasure Coast GCSA in Florida also include Loblolly Pines in Hobe Sound, Hawk’s Nest Golf Club in Vero Beach, Grand Harbor in Vero Beach, The Floridian in Stuart, IGM - Aquarina Golf Club in Melbourne, IGM – The Habitat in Malabar, IGM – Spessard Holland G.C. in Melbourne Beach, IGM – Savannahs at Sykes Creek in Merritt Island, IGM – Sandridge GC in Vero Beach, Harbour Ridge Y & CC in Palm City and John’s Island Club, West Course in Vero Beach.

In addition to golf courses, the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System also provides programs for schools, individual homeowners, and businesses. ■

ACSS Update

Congratulations to the following new Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System member courses and current members that have become fully certified, renewed their certification or are working on certification this year.

New Member Courses and Chapter

Lake Jovita G&CC North and South Courses, Ridge
River Wilderness G& CC, Suncoast
Six Lakes CC, Calusa

Fully Certified in 2005

Audubon CC, Everglades
Crown Colony G &CC, Calusa
John’s Island West Course, Treasure Coast
Orchid Island G & BC, Treasure Coast
Stonebridge CC, Naples

Recertified in 2005

Gainesville CC, Seven Rivers
Hammock Dunes Club Links Course, North Florida
Palencia GC, Everglades

Working on certification (Progress through 2005)

Crandon Golf and Key Biscayne, South Florida - EP
Lakewood Ranch, Suncoast - EP, IPM, RC and WHM
Ritz-Carlton Jupiter, Palm Beach – EP, IPM, RC and WQM
Southwood. Coastal Plains – EP

Six areas of certification

Key: **EP** – Environmental Plan; **IPM** – Integrated Pest Management; **OE** – Outreach and Education; **RC**- Resource Conservation; **WHM** – Wildlife Habitat Management and **WQM** – Water Quality Management.

SPREADRITE, INC.

CUSTOM SPREADING
FERTILIZER • DOLOMITE • GYPSUM
ARAGONITE • HYCAL LIME

FAIRWAY TOP DRESSING

**LAMAR SAPP
ART SAPP**

**6001 S.W. 19th STREET
PLANTATION, FL 33317**

**MOBILE:
772-201-4000 (ID 158-81-10962)
954-444-0820**

AFFORDABLE

aerial imagery

- Renovation Planning
- Irrigation Management
- GPS Mapping

www.ragantechnical.com
dave@ragantechnical.com

RTS 561.776.9713

Ragan Technical Solutions, Inc.

Upstart Products, Inc.

GreenHoover Brushes
Fits Toro, John Deere & Jacobsen

CASCADE PLUS
LIQUID OR GRANULAR

PHYTO-FOS
FAST RELEASE SYSTEMIC PHOSPHOROUS

AMINO ACID BIOFERTILIZERS
Quelant-Ca — Quelant-K
Macro-Sorb radicular — Macro-Sorb foliar

1 800 203 5629