

GCSAA headquarters joins Audubon business/corporate program

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) national office here has joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) for Corporate/ Business Properties.

Located at 1421 Research Park Dr., the grounds at GCSAA headquarters cover nearly 11 acres, including three acres of native grasses. Staff members have worked on a volunteer basis to enhance the property for wildlife with deer licks, bird feeders and nesting boxes as well as selecting shrubs and trees that serve as food sources when replanting. Day-to-day work activities also include energy conservation and paper/aluminum can recycling programs.

"The program gives people an opportunity to do something good for the environment right where they live, work and recreate," said Neil Gifford, environmental educator for Audubon International. "We welcome GCSAA's commitment to man-

aging the property in an environmentally sensitive manner."

GCSAA has developed a strong relationship with Audubon International and nearly 2,000 golf courses nationwide participate in the ACSP. Audubon International and GCSAA, in partnership with Rain Bird Golf Irrigation, are the sponsors for the ACSP for

Schools. In that program, superintendents work with schools to create projects that foster resource conservation and wildlife enhancement.

In addition to the current onsite activities, plans call for the development of a nature trail lined by bluebird nest boxes. Native plantings will be used to enhance the trail that will pass a section of prairie grasses that will be left undisturbed.



Huntsville GC earns Audubon certified status

LEHMAN, Pa. — The Huntsville Golf Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, a program of Audubon International, and endorsed by the United States Golf Association. Huntsville Golf Club is the fourth in Pennsylvania and the 82nd golf course in the nation to receive the honor.

In 1993 Huntsville Golf Club joined the program which provides information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

"The goal at Huntsville is to preserve and enhance the environmental quality of the golf course through information, education, and involvement with the Audubon program," according to Karen Balchunas, horticulturist/ environmentalist. "A few of the efforts at Huntsville include building and monitoring nest boxes, creating a wildlife inventory, using only native shrubs and trees in the landscaping, providing food and cover for wildlife, building feeders for supplementary winter food, monitoring water quality on the course. and increasing wetland habitats.

"As a result of this, the diversity of the wildlife population at Huntsville continues to grow. Great blue herons, spotted sandpipers, bluebirds and the threatened great egret have become common sights."

"Huntsville has also become active with Wyoming Seminary Lower School [7th and 8th grades]. The science teacher, Mrs. Carol Turner, has coordinated efforts with her students and Huntsville to learn about and build two wood duck and five bluebird nest boxes for the course. They were also able to visit Huntsville and place the boxes they built.

"In addition, three members from the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Audubon Society have graciously donated their time and expertise to provide programs at Huntsville, such as, birding and wildflower walks."

GOLF COURSE NEWS