

Crosswater GC restores river

SUNRIVER, Ore. — The Little Deschutes River has undergone a restoration program at Crosswater Golf Course to stabilize its banks and create fish habitats and spawning areas. Crosswater's interest is to protect nature's valuable assets, while at the same time, enhance their natural habitats.

Working closely with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Inter-Fluve, a fisheries, hydrology and resource management enhancement company, Crosswater superintendent Jim Ramey oversaw the restoration.

"We are very serious about the respect-

ful treatment of the rivers for which Crosswater is named," said Ramey. "This program is good for the river and we are exercising the utmost care and caution during this restoration process."

Following a thorough evaluation of the Little Deschutes River banks, flow patterns and erosion levels, different treatments were designed for seven sections of the river based on need. Restoration involved the banks or the creation of habitat areas for wildlife.

Banks were stabilized by adding rock at the toe, reconstructing the slope, laying a biodegradable fabric and then sod. The organic, geotextile fabric holds the vegetation in place until roots are re-established and protects vegetation from river flow fluctuations. Willow stakes now anchor the fabric layer in place until mature willows and native plant roots provide permanent soil stabilization.

Two types of habitat restoration were also employed at designated parts of the

river. Riffles, using various sized rocks, were created where solid clay soil beds existed, thereby establishing protected spawning areas for fish. Along other sections of the Little Deschutes, trees with large trunks were placed at angles across the flow to create fish habitat and feeding environments within their branches. This process will not block the natural river flow.

Arlyn Davis Construction Co. of Lake Oswego did the restoration work, with oversight from Ramey and Ted Wise of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Army Corps of Engineers.



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La Cantera GC Texas' 3rd course to be certified

SAN ANTONIO — La Cantera Golf Club has become the third golf course in Texas — and the 123rd in the world — to earn designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS).

The golf club in 1994 joined the ACSS, the educational division of Audubon International which provides golf courses with information and guidance that help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

Bill Bedford, La Cantera's director of agronomy and golf course superintendent, said the certification had long been a goal for the club, which he described as "a great environment for wildlife and golfers to coexist."

Cindy Bradley, environmental educator for ACSS, said, "La Cantera Golf 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."

La Cantera's efforts are rewarded with the presence of a variety of native animals including black squirrel, coyote, white tail deer, dove, quail, chaparral (roadrunners), hummingbirds and a flock of "about 30 turkeys with chicks," Bedford said.

To keep the environment friendly for wildlife, La Cantera uses organic fertilizers whenever possible. In addition, the La Cantera agronomy staff grows microbes that feed on fungi in order to eliminate fungicide use.

As part of its water conservation program, La Cantera uses a computerized irrigation system with an on-site weather station. The equipment allows the staff to calculate the plants' evapotranspiration rate, so they know exactly how much moisture needs to be replenished.

Still another component in La Cantera's water-efficiency program is use of xeriscape plants like verbena, lantana, butterfly bush, salvia and coreopsis, which are attractive to birds and butterflies and less demanding of water resources.

In certain areas, Bedford said, his staff planted maize for turkeys and deer. Bird houses made for native bluebirds by students at Corbett Junior High School in Schertz also are placed in strategic locations.

Bedford, who is developing plans to work with educators on creating butterfly gar-

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