



Conservation-minded Crystal Springs Golf Course.

## Crystal Springs wins environmental award

BURLINGAME, Calif. — Crystal Springs Golf Course, managed by CourseCo, Inc., has won the prestigious Business Environmental Award for Land Use Planning/Management from the Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation (PCCF), the first golf course program ever honored by the organization.

In a separate announcement, the California Integrated Waste management Board named Crystal Springs a winner in its 1997 Waste Reduction Awards Program for voluntary reuse and recycling of materials that improve the surrounding habitats of native species and wildlife.

Situated on San Francisco-

owned property in the Crystal Springs watershed along Interstate 280, the course was singled out for CourseCo's efforts in water conservation, pest and chemical management, recycling, wildlife habitat management, education and training.

CourseCo, a Petaluma-based golf course development and management company, was among seven businesses honored at PCCF's awards luncheon Nov. 14 in Redwood Shores.

Eric Montgomery, PCCF awards director, said CourseCo's management of Crystal Springs GC has "helped lead the way to a higher level of environmental awareness and responsibility."

The two honors are noteworthy in the context of an ongoing public debate over the environmental impact of both existing and proposed public golf facilities on the San Francisco Peninsula.

"We know that under the right circumstances and with the will, golf courses can be managed in a sustainable fashion with negligible, and even beneficial, environmental impact," said CourseCo President Tom Isaak. "It's very rewarding to be recognized for our efforts by public and private organizations alike.

"Crystal Springs is a unique environmental trust in a beautiful location that serves thousands of public golfers in a diverse community," Isaak added. "Our goal is to be a model for environmental management, and to achieve excellence in all other areas of the operation as well."

PCCF established the Business Environmental Awards in 1990 to recognize small and large organizations that go beyond compliance to excel in environmental leadership, benefits and commitment.

Among the particular activities at Crystal Springs praised by the foundation are frequent testing for chemical levels, limited use of chemicals, localized treatment for pests, use of mulched landscape waste, construction of nest boxes and dust baths for birds, use of scrap wood to create habitats for field mice and other animals, extensive recycling by the restaurant, office and clubhouse, and public education. CourseCo last year signed a 20-year operating lease with the city.

### SWEDA SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The first Don Sweda Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Ohio State University turfgrass student Jason Burnard. Burnard received the \$1,000 scholarship during the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference and Show here in December. It is given in memory of the former OTF president who died just two years ago.



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