

Wildlife Habitat Council cites CourseCo work

BURLINGAME, Calif. — CourseCo, Inc.'s environmental management program at Crystal Springs Golf Course has received national certification by the Wildlife Habitat Council for "significant achievements in the creation and conservation of wildlife habitat."

The public course, on San Francisco Water Department land in the Crystal Springs watershed along Interstate 280 in Burlingame, is the first golf course among 231 sites to earn the honor since the council began the program in 1990.

"WHC's certification program is all about companies and individuals that go above and beyond the requirements of environmental regulation to create outstanding wildlife habitats," council President Bill Howard said. "CourseCo's program is exemplary in its benefits to wildlife, the voluntary involvement of the company's employees, and its partnerships with the local community and other conservation organizations."

"We are deeply appreciative of this important recognition," said CourseCo President Tom Isaak, whose Petaluma, Calif.-based company manages several Northern California courses. "We believe strongly that sustainable environmental management should be a core value in golf course operations."

Isaak praised the efforts of Crystal Springs superintendent Ray Davies, environmental coordinator Jim Mocci and the staff at the golf course for their efforts throughout the year.

CourseCo has received a number of environmental program honors for Crystal Springs since taking over management of the property in 1996. The site is considered part of a California Fish and Game refuge and is within the boundaries of a United Nations International Biosphere Reserve.

The Wildlife Habitat Council singled out Crystal Springs for creating an environment that is "suitable and sustainable for native plant and animal life as well as enjoyable for the golfer."

The council recognized CourseCo for using existing materials to create brush piles and nest boxes for wildlife, perches for native raptors, and dust baths for birds. The course was also commended for recycling, chemical use and water conservation and quality.

Certification requirements are stringent. Habitat enhancement programs must be established, monitored and documented for

at least one year before they can apply.

WHC biologists verify and guide enhancement efforts through a site visit and tour. Each certified site is entered into the International Registry of Accredited Wildlife Habitat Programs, which is published and distributed annually.

GOLF AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Carolina Nat'l joins certified courses

BOLIVIA, N.C. — Carolina National Golf Club at Winding River Plantation has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), the educational division of

Audubon International. Carolina National Golf Club is the fourth in North Carolina and the 157th course in the world to receive the honor. The other three courses in North Carolina are Carmel Country Club and TPC at Piper Glen, both located in

Charlotte, and the Wade Hampton Golf Club in Cashiers.

"With the ever-increasing destruction of plant and animal habitat, the need to preserve these areas becomes even more important. That is why I am so excited about the Audubon program here," said Matthew Mays, environmental specialist at Carolina National. "While benefiting the plant and animal species, it

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