

Bluebird Recovery Program

In February, BBRP wrote an article for the MGCSA (Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association) March Newsletter. The purpose of that article was to inform Superintendents that golf courses are ideal habitat and to encourage them to start a bluebird trail. Ten Golf Courses responded. We would like to talk about two that had significant success after making a commitment to work with us:

Lori Bluedorn of Tournament Players Club in Blaine contacted us in the middle of March and made a commitment to buy 26 Peterson Bluebird boxes. Lori listened well and learned fast and was awarded with Bluebirds nesting in 9 out of 13 paired-boxes by late June. Lori and TPC are to be congratulated for the fine work they did in creating one of the finest Bluebird trails around.

Jay Gustafson of Wendigo Golf Club in Grand Rapids contacted us in early April. Superintendent Tom Marquardt

and Jay built 12 bluebird boxes of their own design and installed them in 6 pairs. While passing thru Grand

Rapids on his way to an annual vacation spot, Jack Hauser stopped and met Tom and his wife Becky. While waiting for Becky to wait on two golfers, I heard her say: "Look for the Bluebirds on the back nine." Tom showed me three of the six paired-houses. The first pair had 5 Bluebird chicks about 9 days old, the second pair had a bluebird nest with 5 eggs, the third pair had a bluebird nest with no eggs but the male and female were watching us from a nearby tree. Great job Tom & Jay.

BBRP would like to apologize for not getting out to see every Golf Course that called. Many things are still in the planning stage and we should be able to respond faster in the future. We still hope to visit everyone before the end of the year. Any one who has a question, can call Jack Hauser (952-831-8132) or Dorene Scriven (612-922-4586).

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