

## March Seminar Hailed Success By Attendees

There were forty attendees signed up for the MAAGCS March Seminar, "Creating an Environmental Plan". Included in the list of registrants were golf course superintendents, general managers, affiliate members, and county environmental planners. The seminar was a success even though it was shortened due to the only significant snowfall of the season.

JoEllen Zeh, the seminar speaker, from the Audubon International is responsible for reviewing all Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs presented by golf courses across the U.S. and Canada. Ms. Zeh discussed the steps required for a golf course to receive Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status and participated in some lively conversations with superintendents on the realities of implementing some of these requirements. The general consensus of all those attending was being certified as a Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary golf course is an attainable goal. Many of the requirements are practiced every day and only need to be documented.

This was the first seminar ever held to specifically instruct individuals on how to acquire certification as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. MAAGCS has forwarded a suggestion to the GCSAA Education Department to consider this seminar as part of their educational program.

Many thanks are due to Dean Graves for his help in contacting Ms. Zeh and his input in outlining the seminar. Also thanks to our sponsors, Egypt Farms, Finch Turf Equipment, Green Meadows Turf Supply, Newsome Seed, Turf Equipment and Supply, G. L. Cornell, Rhone-Poulenc, and Zeneca. Without the generous support of these companies the seminar would not have been possible.

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## April Meeting Recap Fountain Head CC

Mike Farrar from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency talked to MAAGCS members about the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program. This new approach from the EPA to involve the end users of pesticides was discussed in length in the last issue of Turfgrass Matters. Mr. Farrar charged the sixty-one members present to become involved in the program in order to keep the regulators informed of how their decisions can affect our profession. Thanks to Mike for his interest in the golf course superintendent. It is nice to have someone at a high level in the EPA who we as superintendents can approach and will listen to our concerns and problems.

Ken Keller and the staff at Fountain Head did a great job and our hats are off to them for their efforts. And as usual the day would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. We are grateful for their continued interest in providing the MAAGCS members with quality education. The April meeting sponsors were: Ace Trees, Egypt Farms, Finch Turf Equipment, Newsome Seed, Turf Equipment & Supply and Zeneca.

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