

SustainAbility

A joint publication from Audubon Lifestyles and The International Sustainability Council

The Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program Launches!

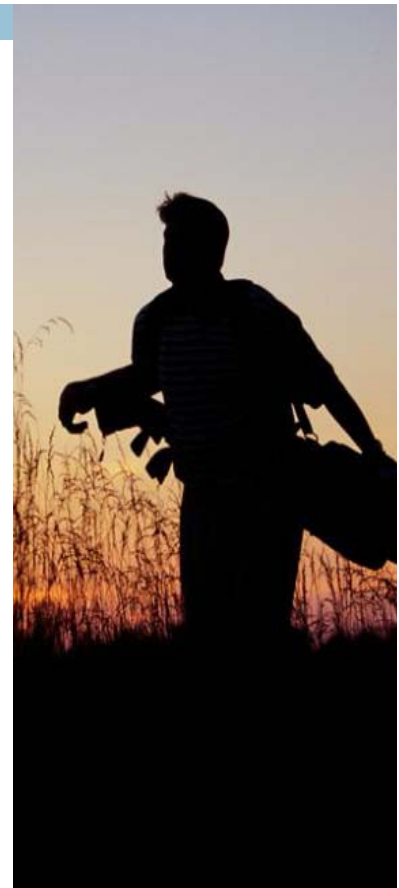
Audubon Lifestyles has answered the call made by many, and after many tireless months of developing the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program, we are proud to have the program available for interested golf courses who wish to participate!

The program will be used not only to assist golf courses owners, superintendents and managers looking for ways be more sustainable in how they operate their golf course, but also calculate their level of sustainability and earn recognition for their actions. Unlike traditional certification programs who simply award (or deny) certification, the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Course Rating Program will gauge a golf course's level of sustainability, and provide incentives in which future activities on the golf course can take place and earn recognition.

The program went through a peer review process by a range of golf course industry leaders, governmental agencies, and conservation groups who reviewed (among other things) the program audit, which includes the following five sections: "Economics & Business", "The Maintenance Facility", "Water Quality and Conservation", "Turf, Natural Areas, & Wildlife", and "Outreach and Education".

The Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Advisory Group has been hard at work during this collaborative process, and are pleased to finally be able to provide this program to golf courses throughout the United States and beyond. We are currently seeking pilot members who wish to participate in the program, and welcome any golf course interested.

Learn more at: www.audubonlifestyles.org/programs/golf.html



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University of Alaska Fairbanks Awarded \$4.6M for Geothermal Study

ISC supporter University of Alaska Fairbanks UAF recently received a \$4.6 million grant that will help the University researchers study geothermal exploration techniques.

The Department of Energy grant will aid researchers at UAF's Alaska Center for Energy and Power.

They will use remote sensing to identify potential geothermal resources throughout Alaska and determine their potential. The grant requires a \$1 million match. The university will seek matching funds through the state Renewable Energy Fund.

The remote-sensing technique is being used for volcano research. Data obtained will be verified through traditional, ground-based geophysical surveys and drilling. Pilgrim Hot Springs near Nome will serve as a testing site.

Colorado Golf Carbon Project Gains Support

As the initial stages of the Colorado Golf Carbon Project continue, the number of organizations supporting the initiative is growing. In recent letters of support the National Turfgrass Federation as well as the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and The Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) show their appreciation of the project:

"This project is a logical extension of previous groundbreaking environmental projects completed in Colorado by Colorado State University, the USDA/ARS, and the Allied Golf Associations of Colorado. The National Turfgrass Federation and its allied associations believe that resources from a diverse group of stakeholders make the Colorado Golf Carbon Project an undertaking that will provide valuable environmental information. There is no doubt that the information generated by this project will have a lasting impact on the management of energy, water and other environmental issues encountered by the users of turfgrass and other businesses in Colorado, and throughout the United States," says the National Turfgrass Federation.

The Colorado Golf Carbon Project is a first of its kind not only in the way that it presents a partnership between a diverse group of representatives within the golf industry and research entities, but also in what it is setting out to accomplish:

- To develop a carbon emission and carbon sequestration data collection system for golf courses of Colorado. Results documenting the total carbon effects of sequestration and emissions will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.
- To document the sequestered carbon at Colorado's golf facilities on an annual basis and create marketable offsets, thus creating a self sustaining funding mechanism for this and future projects aimed at improving conservation and environmental stewardship at golf facilities.

The Colorado Golf Carbon Project is a joint effort between Golfpreserves® and the Allied Golf Associations of Colorado, including the Colorado Golf Association, the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendent's Association, the Colorado Section of the PGA, the Colorado Women's Golf Association, the Colorado Chapter of the Club Managers of America and the Colorado Chapter of the Golf Course Owners Association and is supported by the USGA Green Section, Audubon International, the International Sustainability Council, Sustainable Golf & Development and Audubon Lifestyles. Research partners participating in the development of the project include Colorado State University and the USDA/ARS.

"This project is supported by representatives from every section of golf, as well as the USDA/ARS, Colorado State University, Audubon International, the International Sustainability Council, Audubon Lifestyles and the turf grass industry. To have the National Turfgrass Federation as well as the GCSAA and EIFG joining us in our quest is not only a welcomed addition in support, but also solidifies our strong belief that the project will contribute to make the industry of golf even stronger for the future," says Noble Hendrix of Golfpreserves®.

Learn more at: www.golfcourseproject.com

Electrified Cars are Coming in 2010 from GM, Toyota, and Fisker

Automakers are intensifying the pace to roll out electrified vehicles, with General Motors Corporation (GM), Toyota, and Fisker Automotive announcing their production schedules at the Los Angeles Auto Show in California in early December. GM announced that its Chevy Volt, an extended-range electric vehicle, will be available late next year in California only, and in additional markets later. GM is investing \$336 million in its Detroit-Hamtramck assembly plant to begin Volt production in late 2010. GM is also partnering with three California utilities and the Electric Power Research Institute in a real-world demonstration to establish vehicle charging programs and to introduce the Volt to consumers. GM is drawing on more than \$30 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds from DOE for the project.

Meanwhile, the 2010 Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid vehicle (PHV) made its North American debut at the Los Angeles show. Based on the third-generation Prius, the latest version adds a lithium-ion battery that enables all-electric operation at higher speeds and longer distances than the conventional Prius hybrid. The new Prius PHV is designed to use the all-electric mode for trips of about 13 miles. After that, it reverts to the hybrid mode like a regular Prius. Toyota plans to deliver 150 vehicles to the United States early in 2010, placing them in regional clusters for consumer tests and technical demonstrations. For instance, Toyota will place 10 Prius PHVs with residents of Boulder, Colorado, under a regional partnership with Xcel Energy's SmartGridCity program. The residents will participate in an interdisciplinary research project coordinated by the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute, a new joint venture between DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the University of Colorado at Boulder.



CEO Henrik Fisker unveils the Karma Premium Plug-in hybrid at the 2009 Detroit Auto Show. The Karma has an all-electric range of 50 miles, and will be available in the 3rd quarter of 2010.

Member Highlight: The Charlotte- Mecklenburg Housing Partnership

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, Inc. (CMHP) is an ISC member and is a broad-based, private, nonprofit housing development and financial corporation organized to expand affordable and well-maintained housing within stable neighborhoods for low and moderate-income families in the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County with a continuing interest in the ability of occupants to more fully enter the economic mainstream.

The CMHP vision is to significantly expand the ability of the organization to create affordable housing and remain a community development force committed to continued collaboration with the private sector, along with neighborhood and government partners in promoting and developing economically integrated neighborhoods.

The CMHP was incorporated as a 501 (c)(3) corporation in 1988 in response to the research and recommendation of a local citizens' forum. This group believed that there was a gap of housing affordability between families served by the public housing authority and those served by the market. After studying other housing partnerships and reviewing research funded by City of Charlotte, an Implementation Committee was established to develop local housing partnerships. The group's main focus was the relationship between private business (banking institutions) and government (the City and the County).

The ISC and Audubon Lifestyles are proud to have the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership as a program member and support.

To learn more about The CMHP visit: www.cmhp.org

The Blume Community Development Project

Taylor Properties Group is a commercial real estate firm specializing in land sales for development or investment. The Taylor Properties Group has recently registered the Blume Community Development project in the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Development Program.

The 360 acre property has been used for various forms of agriculture for nearly 100 years, and with the population growth of the Harrisburg, NC region the vision associated with the Blume Community Development Project is to spur the region toward sustainable community development.

View a video about the Blume Community Development Project at:

www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org/blume.html

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation



The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is the only independent 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to restoring and protecting the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers.

Since their founding 40 years ago, their goal has been to improve the Chesapeake Bay's water quality by reducing pollution.

From the landmark EPA study of the Chesapeake Bay in the 1970s to Virginia's comparable legislative commitment in 2005, CBF has been saving the Bay. They believe that the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers, broadly recognized as a national treasure, can become highly productive and in good health as measured by water clarity, lack of toxic contaminants, and abundance of natural filters in the water and on the land.

CBF has agreed to partner with the ISC in regard to our Sustainability Campaign efforts. In that regard, the CBF and several other organizations, including the United States Golf Association (USGA) have recently launched the "Links to the Bay Campaign" which is focused, among other things, on growing the number of golf courses participating in environmental and sustainably based education programs in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Sustainable stewardship programs like the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Golf Facility Program could play significant roles in helping to protect water quality in areas like the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Learn more at: www.cbf.org

For more information

35246 US Hwy 19 #299
Palm Harbor, FL 34684

Phone: 727-744-6831
Fax: 727-733-0762
Email: info@audubonlifestyles.com



Additional Resources & Sources

Audubon Lifestyles	www.audubonlifestyles.org
The International Sustainability Council	www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org
General Motors	www.gm.com
Toyota	www.toyota.com
Fisker Automotive	karma.fiskerautomotive.com
Golfpreserves	www.golfcourseproject.com
Chesapeake Bay Foundation	www.cbf.org
Charlotte –Mecklenburg Housing Partnership	www.cmhp.org
University of Alaska Fairbanks	www.uaf.edu
Taylor Properties Group	www.taylorpropertiesgrp.com