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Hyatt Hills Golf Complex Recognized for Environmental Excellence

CLARK, NJ – Hyatt Hills Golf Complex has achieved designation as a “Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary” by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), the educational division of Audubon International. Joe Flaherty, Superintendent, has led the effort to obtain sanctuary status on this course and is being recognized for Environmental Stewardship by Audubon International. Hyatt Hills Golf Complex is the 19th course in New Jersey and the 607th in the world to receive the honor.

“Hyatt Hills Golf Complex has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. The property contains diverse habitats, and we commend them for their efforts to protect these natural areas for wildlife on the golf course,” said Shawn Williams, Staff Ecologist for the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs.

“To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas,” explained Williams. These categories include: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Chemical Use Reduction and Safety, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

“The Hyatt Hills Golf Commission would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the many volunteers who helped bring about certification,” states golf course superintendent, Joe Flaherty. “The communities of Clark and Cranford are proud to have and provide a safe, first class facility to all golfers after having a *brown field* problem within its boundaries.”

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, endorsed by the United States Golf Association, provides information and guidance to help golf courses preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources. Golf courses from the United States, Australia, Canada, Central America, Europe, and Southeast Asia have also achieved certification in the program. Audubon certified courses in New Jersey also include: Ballyowen Golf Course in Sparta, Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, Blue Heron Pines Golf Club in Cologne, Brigantine Golf Links in Brigantine, Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park, Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, Edgewood Country



Club in Riverdale, Edison Club in Rexford, Fiddler's Elbow Country Club in Far Hills, Harbor Pines Golf Club in Egg Harbor Township, Hidden Creek Golf Club in Egg Harbor Township, Laurel Creek Country Club in Mt. Laurel, Manasquan River Golf Club in Brielle, Metedeconk National Golf Club in Jackson, Newton Country Club on Newton, Pine Valley Golf Club in Pine Valley, Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, Somerset Hills Country Club in Bernardsville, and the Tournament Players Club at Jasna Polana in Princeton.

Audubon International is a not-for-profit environmental education organization dedicated to educating, assisting, and inspiring millions of people from all walks of life to protect and sustain the land, water, wildlife, and natural resources around them. By helping people make sound environmental decisions and actions, and building from individual to organizational, and eventually, community-wide involvement, Audubon International seeks to foster more sustainable human and natural communities. The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs were created to provide information and guidance to help people preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources where they live, work, and play. Currently, Audubon International has program members throughout the United States, and in over two-dozen countries. For more information, contact Audubon International, 46 Rarick Rd., Selkirk, NY 12158, USA, (518) 767-9051, e-mail them via the Internet at acss@auduboninternational.org, or visit their website at www.auduboninternational.org.

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