

TWIN ISLES COUNTRY CLUB

AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY PROGRAM

What is the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program?

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program helps golf courses to enhance wildlife habitats and protect natural resources for the benefit of people, wildlife and the game of golf.

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program is a cooperative effort between the United States Golf Association (“USGA”) and Audubon International which increases awareness about environmental benefits of golf courses. The USGA is committed to increasing environmental awareness among golf course management programs.

The Program involves developing and implementing plans for wildlife and habitat management, water conservation, water quality management, chemical use reduction and safety, and outreach and education.

TWIN ISLES COUNTRY CLUB

AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY PROGRAM

Twin Isles Country Club (“TICC”) participates in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (“ACSP”). Through its ACSP participation, TICC is committed to:

- Balance the demands of golf with our responsibility to the natural environment;**
- Safeguard the quality of the environment and responsibly care for the land, water, wildlife and natural resources upon which our course is sustained; and**
- Implement management practices and projects to achieve the purposes and goals of the Program.**

Why Participate in the ACSP?

Natural Wildlife / Birds on the TICC Golf Course

Audubon Annual December Worldwide Bird Count

Imperiled Species on the TICC Golf Course

Babies on the TICC Golf Course

TICC - One of a select group of Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries

112 golf courses in Florida

913 golf courses Worldwide

TICC is part of a Bigger Picture – We Care about Environmental Quality

TWIN ISLES COUNTRY CLUB

AUDUBON ANNUAL DECEMBER BIRD COUNT RESULTS

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
BIRDS	454	663	445	676	626	563
SPECIES	43	35	32	40	39	36

The Audubon Annual Bird count is a worldwide event on the 2nd Sunday of December each year

IMPERILED SPECIES ON THE TICC GOLF COURSE

American Alligator

Bald Eagle

Brown Pelican

Florida Sand Hill Crane

Little Blue Heron

Osprey

Roseate Spoonbill

Snowy Egret

Tri-Colored Heron

White Ibis

Wood Stork

* Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

BABIES ON THE TICC GOLF COURSE

American Alligator

Bald Eagle

Coots

Cormorants

Florida Sand Hill Crane

Great Blue Heron

Moorhens

Mottled Ducks

Osprey

Purple Martins

Rabbits

Raccoons

Snowy Egrets

Turtles

Tilapia

ACSP Timeline

2001 – ACSP Initiated

2004 - Hurricane Charley

2013 - ACSP Certification

2016 - Recertification

2001 to 2016 - Over 15 Case Study Projects

2019 - Next ACSP Recertification Required

ACSP Certification Requirements

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

WILDLIFE AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

CHEMICAL USE REDUCTION AND SAFETY

WATER CONSERVATION

WATER QUALITY

CASE STUDIES

TWIN ISLES COUNTRY CLUB
Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program

CASE STUDIES

Project Name

Oak Trees	(2008)
Fountain in Lake # 1	(2008)
Bird Houses and Nesting Poles	(On Going)
Gordy's Place	(2008)
Palm Trees on Hole # 7	(2009)
Waste Bunker on # 5	(2008)
Water Feature	(2008)
Butterfly Garden	(2009)
Burrowing Owls	(2011)
Trees on Course	(2010 – 2012)

Project Name

Re Seeding Greens	(2012)
Eagles Open Golf Tournament	(2012)
Audubon Sanctuary Celebration	(2013)
Plant Identification Signs	(2013)
Island Restoration Project	(2013 -2014)
Charlotte Harbor Oyster Project	(2014 -2015)

Environmental Planning (2002)

Written, comprehensive Tree Plan for golf course

Island Restoration Project

Gordy's Place – Hole # 1

Oak Trees – Hole #s 10, 13, 14, 15

Pine Trees – Hole # 15

Palm Trees Hole #s 4, 5, 7 and Bismarck palms

Clubhouse and Parking lot replanting

[Eradicate Non-Native Invasive Plants](#) – Brazilian Pepper Trees on golf course

[Indicates ACSP Required/Recommended Best Practice](#)

Wildlife and Habitat Management

Overall Purpose:

Enhance natural areas and landscaping on the golf course to protect and sustain native habitats and the wildlife that depend on them for survival.

Goals:

General Knowledge – Continually expand our general knowledge of the plants, wildlife species, and habitats found on our golf course.

Wildlife Habitat: Space, Food, Cover and Water Enhancements – Improve minimally used and landscaped areas to provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

Habitat Protection and Biodiversity Conservation – Preserve the rich biological diversity of our region by protecting existing native habitats and species, and landscaping primarily with indigenous (native) plants.

Wildlife and Habitat Management (2004)

Naturalized Areas – Hole # 8 and Lake Edges

Nesting Platforms used by Ospreys and Eagles – Hole #s 7, 12, 13, 17, 18 and Islands (3 each)

Bird Houses – Hole #s 7, 8, 11, 17, 18 and 2 private owned houses on Hole #s 8 and 18

Annual December Audubon Bird Count – Larry Linn, Patti Linn and Sue Galvin

Wildlife Inventory Book in Pro Shop with Florida Bird Identification booklets

Pro Shop Water Feature

Butterfly Garden

Indicates ACSP Required/Recommended Best Practice

Water Quality Management

Overall Purpose:

Ensure clean water supplies and protect the health and integrity of water bodies, such as oceans, rivers, streams, wetlands, lakes, ponds and aquifers.

Goals:

General Knowledge – Improve the general knowledge regarding water quality protection and pollution prevention as it relates to golf course management, chemical storage and use, and equipment maintenance. Identify local watershed and water sources of the golf course.

Best Management Practices – Employ best management practices or structural controls near all water bodies to eliminate the potential for chemical runoff, nutrient loading, erosion and drift.

Monitoring – Visually and objectively monitor the health of water features to detect impaired water quality, identify causes and correct problems, as needed.

Water Quality Management (2012)

Water Quality Testing

Lake Edge Naturalized Areas

Lake Side Mower Height – at least 3 inch height for at least 30 inches from water's edge

Indicates ACSP Requirement/Recommended Best Practice

Water Conservation

Overall Purpose:

Ensure adequate water supplies not only for irrigation, but also for the healthy ecological functioning of water bodies, such as rivers, streams, wetlands, lakes and ponds.

Goals:

General Knowledge – Identify golf course water sources and commit to judicious water use.

Irrigation Equipment and Plumbing Fixtures – Maintain irrigation equipment for maximum efficiency and minimal water waste.

Watering Practices and Turf Care – Implement water conservation practices. Maintain soil and turf health that maximizes water absorption and minimizes water loss to evaporation and run off.

Water Conservation (2011)

Weather Station to Adjust Sprinkler Use

Golf Course Water from Rain Fed Lakes

Paspalum Grass on the Greens

Indicates ACSP Requirement/Recommended Best Practice

Outreach and Education

Overall Purpose:

Implement management practices that ensure ongoing support for stewardship initiatives, strengthen local community connections, and extend participation in environmental conservation activities.

Goals:

General Knowledge – Improve our ability to communicate our commitment to environmental stewardship and implement conservation projects.

Outreach and Involvement – Provide opportunities for patrons, staff, decision makers and community members to contribute to environmental projects on the golf course.

Education – Educate patrons, staff, decision makers and community members about programs and projects on the golf course which improve environmental quality.

Outreach and Education (2012)

Education

The Happenings articles

ACSP Signs on Hole # 1 and the Tennis Courts

Pro Shop Bulleting Board

Pro Shop Reference Library

ACSP Audubon Bird Print and Certificate in Lobby

Plant Identification Signs at Clubhouse and throughout the golf course

Outreach

Harold Court previously maintained by the TICC Garden Club (2006 – 2014)

TICC member participation in The Nature Conservancy Oyster Restoration Project (Ongoing)

Certification Ceremony with Punta Gorda Mayor and City Council invitees (2014)

Chemical Use Reduction and Safety

Overall Purpose:

Ensure safe storage, application, and handling of chemicals and reduced actual or potential environmental contamination associated with chemical use.

Goals:

General Knowledge – Continually expand our knowledge of integrated pest management, chemical use issues, best management practices, and alternative pest control methods.

Cultural Practices and Integrated Pest Management – Maintain turf grass in a vigorous and healthy state through sound cultural practices and integrated pest management techniques.

Best Management Practices for Chemical Use – Apply all chemical products in a manner that minimizes harmful environmental impacts.

Communication and Education – Ensure that maintenance staff are properly trained and supervised.

Maintenance Facility and Equipment – Ensure that chemicals are properly stored and handled. Maintain equipment to reduce the potential for negative environmental impacts.

Chemical Use Reduction and Safety (2013)

Chemical Use Reports

Locked/Limited Access Chemical Storage Facility

Chemical Spill Kit

Equipment Washing Procedures and Location

Gas Tank Storage Facility - Double Lined since Hurricane Charley

Mole Cricket Wild Flower Project

Indicates ACSP Requirement/Recommended Best Practice

2016 ACSP Recertification

On – Site Visit by Independent Expert - June 2016

Donna Worthley – Master Gardner

Recertification Approved – September 2016

Recommendations –

Naturalize at least 50% of Out of Play Shoreline

Mowing Heights and No Spray Zones