







Donald J. Ross  
1922













# Audubon International

- ❖ Established in 1987
- ❖ 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
- ❖ Utilizes environmental education to reduce impacts on nature

# Audubon International Mission

To deliver high quality environmental education and facilitate the sustainable management of land, water, wildlife and other natural resources in all places people live, work and play

# Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) for Golf

Who can join:

Golf Courses

# ACSP for Golf

Categories to achieve certification:

Environmental Planning

Wildlife and Habitat Management

Chemical Use Reduction and Safety

Water Conservation

Water Quality Management

Outreach and Education

# **This training was established by Audubon International for golf courses in 1991**

- Portland Country Club enrolled in 1993
- Certification process took four (4) years
- Fully certified in 1997
- First course in Maine to be certified
- 95<sup>th</sup> course in the world out of 294 enrolled

# Today

- 2,200 courses enrolled in the program
- 912 have received certification

**Audubon International**  
**120 Defreest Drive**  
**Troy, NY 12180**  
**1-844-767-9051**

**[acsp@auduboninternational.org](mailto:acsp@auduboninternational.org)**

**[www.auduboninternational.org](http://www.auduboninternational.org)**

**\$300/year for U.S. courses ~ \$350/year for international courses**

# Currently in Maine

- ❑ **Fourteen (14) active members enrolled in the ACSP for golf courses**
- ❑ **Three (3) have achieved and maintained certification**
  
- **Portland Country Club (1997)**
- **Bangor Municipal Golf Course (2013)**
- **Mingo Springs Golf Club, Rangeley (2016)**

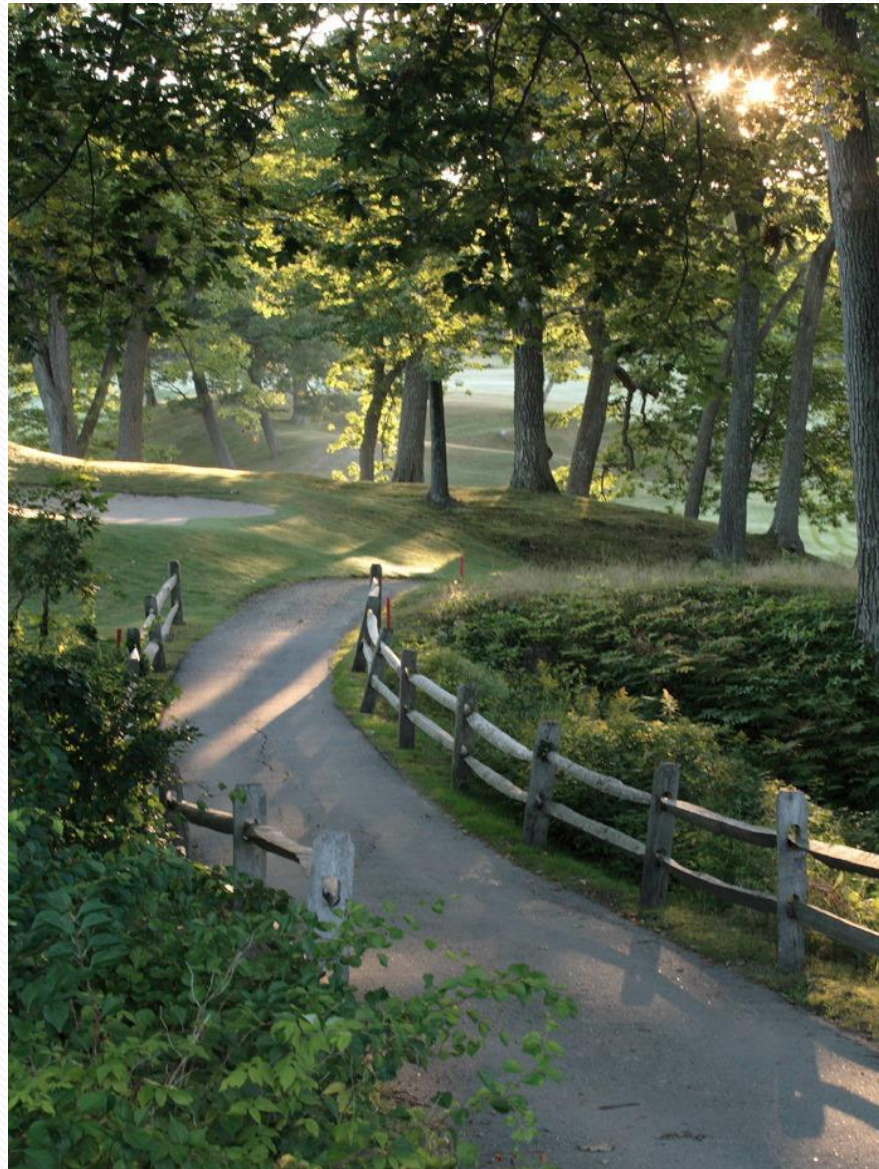


# **Step 1: Planning**

**Fill out a Site Assessment and  
Environmental Plan**







# Environmental Plan

The Environmental Plan is divided into six (6) categories mentioned earlier and encompasses Steps 2 and 3 in the Program which are Action and Documentation.

# 1. Environmental Planning

Purpose: To evaluate, plan and document environmental management practices that balance the demands of golf with our responsibility to the natural environment. To safeguard the quality of the environment and responsibly care for the land, water, wildlife and natural resources upon which the course is sustained.

- Make a commitment
- Data
- Communication



## 2. Wildlife and Habitat Management

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

- Core Habitats
- Natives/Invasives
- Inventories







# 3. Chemical Use Reduction and Safety

Purpose: To ensure safe storage, application and handling of chemicals and reduce actual and potential environmental contamination associated with chemical use.

- Training
- Plant Health
- Safety
- Accomplishments



# 4. Water Conservation

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

- Upgrades
- Wetting agents: products that prevent the soil particles from becoming hydrophobic and help the soil retain moisture



# 5. Water Quality Management

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

- Best Management Practices
- Eliminate Erosion
- Testing



# 6. Outreach and Education

Purpose: To ensure ongoing support for stewardship initiatives, strengthen local community connections and extend participation in environmental conservation activities.

- Involvement
- Information
- Communication



MAINE AUDUBON



Photos by Bill Benn  
at Portland Country Club



MAINE  
Audubon Society  
Portland Chapter  
100 Commercial Street  
Portland, ME 04101  
Tel: 603.761.1111  
www.maineaudubon.org





# Recertification

Helps to ensure the high standard of stewardship at certified properties.

1. Back-up documentation/Case study
2. Third-party site visit

# PORTLAND COUNTRY CLUB

## WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

2016

- 1-22 2 Red fox - parking lot
- 1-26 2 RED TAIL HAWKS \* 1 TREE LINE
- 1-28 Pileated woodpecker \* 16 TEE
- 2-1 2 Flying Squirrels \* 11
- 2-8 BALD EAGLE \* 8
- 2-10 DOWNEY WOODPECKER \* 15
- 2-16 Silver fox - under a Toro-shop
- 2-19 2 PILEATED WOODPECKERS \* 13
- 2-29 Pregnant Red Fox \* Fairway
- 3-10 COYOTE \* 3 Fw
- 3-17 3 DEER 15 Approach
- 3-23 3 Turtles \* 16 Green
- 4-4 Bald Eagle \* 11
- 4-13 12 Painted Turtles
- 4-14 Osprey 3 F.w.
- 4-18 Fox 16 tree line





# Recertification

The independent third party reviewer may be a representative from:

- Non-profit environmental organization (land trust, nature center)
- Cooperative extension
- Local government
- University or College Science or Turfgrass Department



# Benefits of Certification

- Do the right thing for the environment
- Enjoy a new and rewarding aspect of your job and be able to share it with others
- Better organize and coordinate your environmental management efforts
- Track environmental improvements
- Save money through reduced resource use

\*The program has provided the opportunity to reduce chemical, fertilizer and water use by 15 to 25 percent over time.



