

# NGCOA Canada News

## NGCOA Canada becomes Gold Level supporting Member of Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System

The ACSSC is part of an international program designed to educate and encourage land owners and managers to become actively involved in protecting and enhancing wildlife and their habitats, and conserving and sustaining natural resources on their property. Worldwide, the Audubon System encompasses over 2100 member properties, protecting over 160,000 hectares (400,000 acres) of habitat in all 10 Canadian provinces and all 50 United States, as well as more than 20 other countries.

"The open space of a golf course is utilized not only by golfers, but is habitat for a variety of wildlife species" - Scott Martin, National Coordinator, ACSSC. Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs have been developed for backyards or individual properties, schools, golf courses and business or corporate properties, but programs can be adapted to accommodate any type of property. These programs provide environmental education, advice and networking opportunities to help develop effective conservation and wildlife enhancement for any property.

"The open space of a golf course, school yard, business lot, or even a backyard is utilized not only by golfers, students, staff, or home owners, but is habitat for a variety of wildlife species," explained Scott Martin, national coordinator of the ACSSC. "We welcome the NGCOA Canada's commitment to the environment and to land management with wildlife in mind."

As a Supporting Member of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System of Canada, the National Golf Course Owners Association will be helping to fund and educate others about projects that enhance habitat for wildlife and preserve natural resources for the benefit of the local community and others across Canada. These projects may include: placing nesting boxes for cavity-nesting birds such as bluebirds or chickadees, utilizing integrated pest management techniques, conserving water and energy, incorporating native indigenous plants into the landscape, and maintaining food and cover for wildlife.

"The Cooperative Sanctuary System benefits both people and wildlife," said Martin. "It's a great way for property managers, environmental organizations, and neighbours to work together to become better stewards of land and natural resources."

**For more information, please contact:** Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System of Canada, 115 First St., Suite 116, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 1A5; Tel: (705) 429-2277;

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