



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

January 18, 2008

TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager

FROM: John M. Lamerato, Assistant City Manager/Finance & Administration
Carol K. Anderson, Director of Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program
Sanctuary Lake Golf Course

Background:

- The Stewardship Program represents collaboration between government agencies, the turfgrass industry, Michigan State University, and environmental advocacy groups. It is designed to make fundamental advances toward environmental protection on golf courses. The program was developed at Michigan State University with the assistance from the Michigan Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Quality, Golf Association of Michigan and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.
- The mission of the program is to:
 - Maximize the protection of natural resources
 - Engage the golf industry, regulatory agencies, MSU and environmental groups into productive communication.
 - Clearly identify environmental laws & regulations and advance compliance.
 - Enhance wildlife habitat, indigenous vegetation and protect water resources with buffer zones.
 - Recognize, promote and award environmental achievements.
- From the beginning of the golf course development, emphasis has been placed on environmental stewardship of the property. Staff pursued certification for Sanctuary Lake to ensure that the practices in operation are appropriate and to recognize the stewardship practices in place.
- A site visit was completed by representatives of the program which examined the natural resources on the property and identified aspects of the operations that may have an impact on resources. Twelve modules were given to evaluate the protection of groundwater, surface water and soils. Representatives examined the location and condition of pesticide, fertilizer and fuel storage areas, wash stations and pesticide mix and load areas, etc., and evaluated how the areas affected resources.
- On January 9, 2008 the City of Troy was awarded certification in the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program.
- Sanctuary Lake Golf Course is one of only two landfill golf courses in the state to be certified.
- Both Sanctuary Lake and Sylvan Glen Golf Courses are now certified.

- To date only seventy one (71) out of eight hundred sixty five (865) courses in the state are certified.

Financial Considerations:

- There are no financial considerations.

Legal Considerations:

- There are no legal considerations.

Policy Considerations:

- Certification in the program solidifies the City's commitment to the safety and well being of the public and the environment. (Goal #1)
- Effective use of a landfill recognized by state organizations as a model for environmental stewardship enhances the livability of the community. (Goal #1)



Committed to Compliance and Protection of Michigan's Natural Resources

J. Dugal

President, Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

A. Christ

Director, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Don Koivisto

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

