



Audubon Signature Program

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RAPTOR BAY GOLF CLUB RECEIVES AUDUBON INTERNATIONAL GOLD SIGNATURE CERTIFICATION**

Bonita Springs, Florida - - **Raptor Bay Golf Club** has recently been designated as a **Certified Audubon International Gold Signature Sanctuary** after meeting strict environmental criteria. Signature certification is awarded only to new developments which are designed, constructed, and maintained according to Audubon International's precise planning standards and environmental disciplines.

Audubon International is an environmental organization whose mission is to improve the quality of the environment through research, education, and conservation assistance. The focus of Audubon International is to develop a comprehensive approach to promoting sound land management practices. These appropriate changes of land use are based on sound scientific research.

The Audubon Signature Program was created for projects in the planning and development stages. "Through this program we work with landowners from the design stages through construction and then assist in establishing a maintenance program that focuses on sustainability," says Nancy E. Richardson, Signature Program Director. The Signature Program is guided by the *Principles for Sustainable Resource Management*.

For the Gold level of certification, Audubon International (AI) is the "environmental partner" for the development. AI is responsible for environmental aspects for the project planning including preparing and/or integrating plans developed by the landowner, architect, developer, contractor, consultant and planner to ensure their consistency with the Environmental Master Plan (EMP). The EMP includes the following documents: 1) Sustainable Resource Management Guidelines, 2) Ecological Design of the Community, 3) Natural Resource Management Plan, 4)