

PROGRAMS & CERTIFICATIONS



GEO Certified provides certification for sustainable golf courses engaged in improved environmental conservation, enhanced community engagement, economic savings through efficient resource management, and overall enhancement of the golf experience by aligning with sustainability principles.

Get certified at
www.sustainable.golf/about/certification



Superior insight | Better decisions | Healthier turf

POGO Turf Pro is an app designed to help improve turf management with features including real-time monitoring of soil conditions such as moisture, salinity, and even temperature. This allows for data-driven decisions to optimize turf health and performance, leading to improved playing conditions, water conservation, and cost savings. In addition, POGO Turf Pro offers predictive analytics to anticipate issues before they arise, assisting in proactively addressing problems and maintaining the highest quality turf.

Learn more at
www.pogoturfpro.com

TAP INTO WATER-WISE SOLUTIONS



Golf Canada champions and supports sustainable golf course stewardship to enhance conservation efforts and nurture the sport for future generations.



A greener future for golf



PROTECT YOUR WATER TO PRESERVE THE FUTURE



WHY WATER CONSERVATION MATTERS

With the average course spanning hundreds of acres, effective water management is paramount to ensure efficient usage and minimize environmental impact. Thoughtful management requires finding a sustainable balance between recreation, conservation, and community well-being to create more considerate practices.

The role you play in the larger water cycle can protect the delicate ecosystem within your own course, as well as further downstream, and stop wasting a resource that costs your business. Implementing strategies to manage water resources efficiently and responsibly within the golf course environment is important to the health of your business and to sustainability overall.

“No other sport occupies and manages such large areas of green space in the landscape.”

- Sustainability study commissioned by Golf Canada in partnership with the University of Waterloo (2023).

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Using **surface water**, such as lakes, reservoirs and rivers, for course irrigation aids in water conservation initiatives and contributes to the natural aesthetic customers enjoy.
- Swapping hardscaping for grass or gravel pathways allows water to seep back into the soil and recharge the water table, promoting a sustainable water cycle.
- Efficient irrigation systems and optimized watering schedules can decrease the energy needed to pump and distribute water, contributing to lower carbon emissions.



ECONOMICAL BENEFITS

- Water is the largest resource used at facilities and small changes can make a big difference. For example, updating to a smart irrigation system could **save up to 50% in water usage**.
- Purifying water contaminated by fertilizers and pesticides can carry a hefty price tag, therefore consider a more sustainable water management alternative such a recycling rainwater.
- Since plants that are native to an area are often drought tolerant, increasing the amount planted on course **can significantly save on water usage**.
- A small update, such as insulating your hot water pipes can **save up to 4% on annual energy costs**.

TIPS TO HELP MANAGE A GREENER SPACE

Here are a few recommendations to make water conservation a key part of your plan for sustainability.



Keep fertilizers and pesticides away from water sources to avoid contamination.



Plant drought-tolerant turf to minimize water usage.



Swap hardscaping for grass or gravel pathways to allow for water to re-enter the water table.



Replace inefficient irrigation heads to ensure proper coverage and reduce leakage.



Optimize your irrigation schedule by monitoring weather conditions, establishing watering zones, and scheduling irrigation during off-peak hours to reduce water loss due to evaporation and wind.



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