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Woodside Golf Course wins CGSA Environmental Achievement Award

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Airdrie's Woodside Golf Course is the 2013 winner for the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA) Environmental Achievement Award for the course's naturalization process.

"The simple naturalization of 9.2 acres of turf had a much greater impact than we could have imagined,"

Woodside Golf Course Master Superintendent Bruce Constable wrote in his application for the award.

The naturalization process included reductions in fuel, water, fertilizer, labour, equipment use and related inputs, wildlife habitat preservation and creation, and community outreach.

"Woodside is an excellent example of how a golf course in a suburban setting, with a limited budget and small crew can achieve amazing goals," Constable wrote.

The golf course began its naturalization process in 2005 and continues to expand the process to include other areas of the golf course.

The expansion had an immediate impact on fuel and water consumption, fertilizer use, wildlife habitat and community outreach, and has provided annual financial returns.

As the winner of the award, Constable will receive registration for the 2014 CGSA International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, round-trip airfare to Vancouver and four nights' accommodations

It also includes a trip to FarmLinks located at Pursell Farms in Sulacauga, Alabama.

The award is sponsored by Club Car and is awarded annually to the superintendent whose submission is judged, by a selection committee consisting of CGSA superintendent members, to be the best example of an activity, project or management approach that improves the sustainability of the golf course.

The award helps promote stewardship with respect to the environment.

Constable will receive the award at the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show in Vancouver, BC on Feb. 18.

CGSA has close to 1,500 member and hosts the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, organizes frequent regional education seminars and webinars, helps sponsor research through its participation in Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation, and produces a number of publications including GreenMaster.
