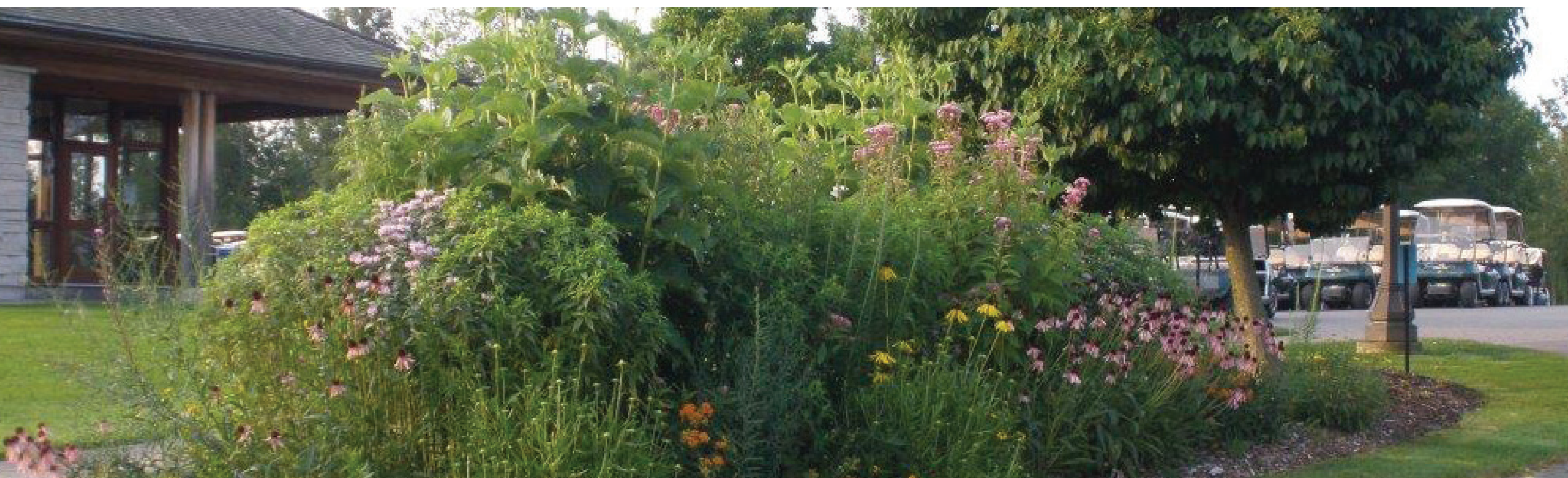


Designated Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Legends on the Niagara

In February 2014, Niagara Parks' Legends on the Niagara Golf Complex achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. Niagara Parks has been working to achieve this designation with the Audubon International since 2004.



Niagara Parks achieved course certification by maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas:

1. Wildlife & Habitat Management

- Legends on the Niagara and the Battle of Chippawa sites are comprised of 177 hectares (438 acres) of protected natural areas
- Six hectares (15 acres) of previously managed turf grass has now been naturalized, including utilizing prescribed burns to help regenerate native habitat
- Four hectares (ten acres) of wetland is protected with six gardens for birds/wildlife/native pollinators added
- Reforestation of nine hectares (24 acres) of former agricultural fields

2. Chemical Use Reduction & Safety

- Significant reduction in chemical and fertilizer use since the opening of the course
- Adaptive strategies and thorough Integrated Pest Management Program
- Mechanical, physical and biological controls before the use of chemicals
- "No spray" zones established, buffer zone expansion, licensed applicators only

3. Water Conservation

- Removal of 14 hectares (35 acres) of land from the irrigation grid
- Soil management programs and storm-water collection/retention efforts
- Annual irrigation system upgrades and remote site control of irrigation system

4. Water Quality Management

- Enhancement of Ussher's Creek habitat and expansion of vegetative buffers
- Regular water testing and aquatic insect sampling
- Strategies to reduce dissolved solids in water and spoon feeding nutrients as required
- Installation of drainage on 'in play' areas

5. Outreach & Education

- Increase in community organizations and expert involvement (e.g. nesting box program)
- Clubhouse display, course signage, habitat protection areas
- Host IPM Accreditation Public Meetings; staff involvement/communications