



# Barnegat Bay-Friendly Golf Course Certification Program

## *Businesses for a Better Barnegat Bay*

Thank you for your interest in becoming a **Certified, Barnegat Bay-Friendly Golf Course**. This American Littoral Society program is open to golf courses in the Barnegat Bay watershed, which includes all of Ocean County as well as Millstone, Freehold, and Howell Townships in Monmouth County. The certification process provides an opportunity for golf courses to reduce non-point source pollution going into Barnegat Bay by implementing bay-friendly management practices and by setting an example for others to follow. You will probably find that you already use many of these practices.

This program is funded by a NJDEP Clean Water Act grant, which enables us to offer the certification process for no charge through November 1, 2014. After that, a \$200 fee plus cost of signage will apply.

To become certified, complete the attached form and calculate the number of points for your current management practices. Based on your points, you can be certified at one of the following levels, each with its own benefits:

<b>BRONZE</b> 70 – 79 Points	<b>SILVER</b> 80 – 89 Points	<b>GOLD</b> 90 – 100 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recognition on American Littoral Society's website</li><li>Article in Society newsletter recognizing achievement</li><li>Guidance for achieving higher certification level</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recognition on American Littoral Society's website</li><li>Article in Society newsletter recognizing achievement</li><li>Local Press release and press event</li><li>Framed certificate for display</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recognition on American Littoral Society's website &amp; Businesses for a Better Barnegat Bay site</li><li>Article in Society newsletter recognizing achievement</li><li>Local and National press release plus event in cooperation with GCSAA</li><li>Framed certificate plus outdoor signage for placement at clubhouse or first tee</li></ul>

Submit your completed form and any accompanying documents to: Helen Henderson, American Littoral Society, 18 Hartshorne Drive, Suite 1, Highlands, NJ 07732. For more information, contact Helen at [Helen@littoralsociety.org](mailto:Helen@littoralsociety.org) or 732-575-5701.



# Barnegat Bay-Friendly Golf Course Certification Program

*Businesses for a Better Barnegat Bay*

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Watershed (HUC 14): \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Course Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator/Contact for Bay-Friendly Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information provided below is accurate as of the date I signed this certification document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent's Signature Date Signed

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our golf course can best be described as: (Please check)

Private  Semi-Private  Municipal  County  Residential  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Course:  18 Hole  9 Hole      Year course constructed \_\_\_\_\_

Number of year-round maintenance staff \_\_\_\_\_      Number of seasonal staff \_\_\_\_\_

Our course includes the following areas by the acreage shown:

Total Property Area \_\_\_\_\_

Building Area / Impervious Cover \_\_\_\_\_      Greens and Tee Box Area \_\_\_\_\_

Irrigated Turf Area \_\_\_\_\_      Non-irrigated Turf Area \_\_\_\_\_

Irrigated Rough Area \_\_\_\_\_      Non-irrigated Rough Area \_\_\_\_\_

Meadow Area \_\_\_\_\_      Forested Area \_\_\_\_\_      Wetland Area \_\_\_\_\_      Water bodies \_\_\_\_\_

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (CONT.)

We hope to accomplish the following projects during participation in the Bay-Friendly program:

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## GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

## POINTS

At our golf course we (please check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize IPM to diagnose and correct a turf issue   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consult the short and long range weather forecast for irrigation decision- making  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change irrigation practices to solve a turf problem  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use drought tolerant turf varieties  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have no-mow areas that cover _____ acres of our total site acreage of _____<br>(if greater than 10% of total acreage, add 1 extra point)   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have no-spray areas that cover _____ acres of our total site acreage of _____<br>(if greater than 10% of total acreage, add 1 extra point) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain Stream Buffers that extend _____ linear feet and are _____ feet wide  | <input type="checkbox"/> 3                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Implement the following beneficial reuse/'grey water' practices:   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1                               |

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**Total General Course Information Points (Possible 12)**

# SOIL PRACTICES

# POINTS

The following characterizes our golf course's soil: (2 points for completing this section)					□ 2
	Greens	Tees	Fairways	Roughs	
Texture					
Topsoil Depth					
pH					
Phosphorous levels					
Nitrogen levels					
Potassium levels					
Moisture/Drainage					
<p>We have the following problems with our soil (Please check all that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Growing specific turf: Type &amp; Location _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Specific Disease: Type &amp; Location _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pest problems: Type &amp; Location _____</p> <p>_____</p>					
<input type="checkbox"/> We perform annual soil tests					□ 3
<input type="checkbox"/> We have performed a soil physical properties test					□ 3
<input type="checkbox"/> We monitor soil temperature					□ 2
<b>Total Soil Practices Points (possible 10)</b>					

The current water quality of the streams and ponds on (or near) our course is

- Poor     Fair     Good     Excellent

We have the following water quality problems (e.g. algal blooms, pollution, geese, etc.)

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We have identified the following potential sources or causes (include explanation)

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**Water Quality**

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We use a pond management service  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We treat runoff flow before it enters streams or ponds (i.e. natural buffers, swales) | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We perform water quality analysis tests yearly  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |

Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

**Water Use and Conservation**

- We have a drought management plan and enclose a copy with this application
- The average water usage on our course is: Peak summer usage \_\_\_\_\_ Winter usage \_\_\_\_\_
- Our course has a water use reduction program.     Copy attached or     Details provided below     2

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<b>Water Use and Conservation (Cont.)</b>	<b>Points</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> We perform irrigation suitability tests yearly and attach a copy	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We consult a 3-to-5-day weather forecast when scheduling irrigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We collect rainwater for irrigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We irrigate deeply and frequently	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We use a rain gauge and/or use ET rates to assist with water management decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We use soil moisture sensors	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We irrigate for playability rather than for color	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<b>TOTAL WATER MANAGEMENT POINTS (Possible 20)</b>	

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## **TURF MANAGEMENT**

<b>Pesticides/IPM Chemical Use:</b> When a pesticide is needed, we_ (Please check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use a biological or organic product	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Use a product with low toxicity (% active ingredient or low rate)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Use a product with low solubility	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Rotate products with different modes of action? (I.e. Class of Chemistry)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Create a sustainable damage threshold for a pest/pathogen	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Use endophyte (disease resistant) enhanced seeds	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

<b>Turf Management – Fertilizer Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> We have a nutrient management plan and enclose a copy	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
<input type="checkbox"/> We have a plan for reduction of fertilizer use on	
<input type="checkbox"/> Greens	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Tees	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Fairways	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Roughs	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Areas/Club Lawns	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We use slow release fertilizers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We use organic fertilizers	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We have buffer zones around water bodies where fertilizer is not used	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
<input type="checkbox"/> We use grasses or seeds that require less fertilizer (i.e. Tall Fescue vs. Kentucky Blue grass)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We use bio-stimulants to supplement fertilizer (seaweed, beneficial bacteria, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<b>Turf Management - General</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> We alternate mowing and rolling to limit plant stress	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We mow fairways and trees less to reduce plant stress and fuel use	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We vent turf areas	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We aerate turf areas located near water features	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<b>Total Turf Management Points (possible 32)</b>	

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## CULTURAL PRACTICES

<b>Cultural Practices – Waste</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> We compost organic waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We reuse composted organic waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> We recycle solid waste	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
<input type="checkbox"/> We mow tees or fairways without buckets and return clippings to turf	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

### Cultural Practices – Other

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We use native plants on the grounds (i.e. Bayscaping)   | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We maintain riparian buffers around water features  | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We have bird houses on our grounds  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We have bat houses on our grounds   | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We control non-migratory wildlife as follows <input type="checkbox"/> Geese <input type="checkbox"/> Deer | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |

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- We have performed the following additional habitat enhancement(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Total Cultural Practices Points (18 possible)

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### EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We will make our survey available to our users                              | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We will provide general environmental information to our users              | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We will host a presentation for users at our facility                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We will plant a “Bayscape for Barnegat Bay” native plant garden at our site | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |

### Total Education and Outreach Points (8 possible)

### TOTAL POINTS      (100 possible)

{70 – 79 = Bronze; 80 – 89 = Silver; 90 – 100 = Gold}





**In addition to the information we have provided above, we would also like to share the following comments:**

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