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BEAR MOUNTAIN GOLF AND TENNIS RESORT COMMUNITY

GREEN BEYOND THE GREENS

**PRESS KIT 2020**



## BEAR MOUNTAIN GOLF AND TENNIS RESORT COMMUNITY GREEN BEYOND THE GREENS

Green is important in the management of the golf courses and we strive to maintain our property with a keen environmental awareness. Priorities include improvements in energy and water conservation, waste management and enhancement of wildlife.

Our Agronomy Team works to create and preserve wildlife habitats in and around the golf courses, choosing to retain relevant dead trees for producing wildlife habitat for resident birds. Wildlife corridors and brush piles provide protection for small animals indigenous to the property. This is supported by an essentially insecticide free integrated pest management program (IPM) approach to managing turf areas. The rare and very limited use of insecticide treatments is a last resort in controlling turf-eating insect larva when acceptable thresholds are exceeded. Bear Mountain has also installed birdhouses and bat boxes to facilitate "in house" insect control.

Using a 'spoon fed' fertilizing program on greens, tees and fairways to minimize the impact of organic and standard fertilizers as application directly to the plant eliminates leaching or runoff. Golf course run-off, tested four times annually over the past 12 years by an environmental monitor, has been consistently positive.

Osborne Pond, situated along with Matson Lake on the Valley Golf Course, has been stocked with juvenile fish known as Parr. Fish ladders have been installed to facilitate migration of fish to and along Millstream Creek. The fish attract a variety of local wildlife, including eagles and otters.

Bear Mountain Golf & Tennis Resort Community has been a significant contributor to Langford area fish habitat projects.

### **WATER CONSERVATION**

Water conservation is ongoing at Bear Mountain Golf & Tennis Resort Community:

- Well water is used on the Mountain and Valley golf courses.
- Our golf course irrigation needs are monitored on a daily basis and applied only as needed. An on site weather station helps with this process.
- Ongoing auditing of our irrigation system ensures that any issues that may cause overuse are eliminated. Since 2014 we have been able to reduce water consumption by 12 million gallons per year.

### **ENERGY**

- Electric carts in the Resort's 150 golf cart fleet reduces the existence of gasoline and harmful emissions. The electric carts travel approximately 600,000 km, thereby significantly reducing emissions.

### **ECOTOURS**

Ecotours are an opportunity for residents and visitors at the Resort to experience the beautiful, natural setting of Bear Mountain Golf & Tennis Resort Community when the Valley Course is closed during the winter months. Our mild west coast climate offers a rare opportunity to highlight the important environmental values of the interface between the natural landscape, the golf courses and creating communities. Ecotours highlight some of the key features of the onsite stewardship program, including nesting trees and different plantings of grasses and brush piles that provide cover and habitat for birds and small animals, pileated woodpecker snags, "bat cave" boxes, and the local salmon enhancement carried out in co-operation with the Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Association.