



3168 Braverton Street  
Suite 400  
Edgewater, MD 21037  
443.951.2000  
443.951.2020 fax

thebrickcompanies.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Jeff Davis, APR

Office - 410 372.0827 / Cell - 410 916.4835

[jeff.davis@sawmillmarketing.com](mailto:jeff.davis@sawmillmarketing.com)

**Queenstown Harbor Recognized as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary**

**QUEENSTOWN, Md. (May 14, 2008)** – Maryland golf destination Queenstown Harbor has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, an Audubon International program.

"Queenstown Harbor has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program and they are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Jim Sluiter, staff ecologist for the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs. Queenstown Harbor is one of 688 courses in the world to hold the certification.

In order to achieve Audubon Certification, a golf facility must demonstrate that it is maintaining the highest degree of environmental quality in several areas, including Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach & Education, Chemical Use Reduction & Safety, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

John Anderes III, superintendent of the golf retreat located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, led the effort to obtain sanctuary status and is being recognized for Environmental Stewardship by Audubon International.

"Protection and enhancement of our natural environment is central to our corporate environmental stewardship program for all of our properties and we're proud to have achieved this designation at Queenstown Harbor," said Lex Birney, CEO of The Brick Companies, owner of the course. "Our long-term commitment is to increase awareness of environmental issues and engage people at every level."

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Environmental practices at Queenstown Harbor include capturing 80 percent of rainwater for irrigation, maintaining wide buffers of no-mow zones around ponds and streams, restricting golfers from entering sensitive areas, using fertilizer manufactured from chicken manure and participating in a ride-sharing program for employees. Equipment is cleaned at a central “wash down station” where water is captured and recycled, and beverages are served in corn-based biodegradable cups.

Birney said golfers can use the same kinds of environmentally friendly techniques that certified golf courses use as they work on their yards, build homes or operate their businesses.

**About Queenstown Harbor**

Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, the nationally acclaimed Queenstown Harbor is a Mid-Atlantic golf destination ideal for golf events and corporate tournaments that has earned a 4½ star (*Golf Digest*) rating. Designed by Lindsay Bruce Ervin and set on 735 waterfront acres, the Baltimore golf retreat consists of two 18-hole courses – The River and The Lakes. The course is owned by The Brick Companies of Edgewater, Md. For more information call 800-827-5257 or visit [www.qhgolf.com](http://www.qhgolf.com).

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