

## Sustainable Equestrian Facility Program



### Audubon Lifestyles

At its core, Audubon Lifestyles is an organization based in the Principles for Sustainability. We believe that the most natural way to achieve success and to foster sustainability is by working to balance the triple bottom line of people, profit, and planet. We operate with the main purpose of benefiting society, while offering professional and sustainably based programs, products and services.

### Our Mission

Audubon Lifestyles assists people in how they live, work, play, stay and learn to promote sustainable living and lifestyles.

### Our Vision

To be a sustainable leader assisting people who are looking for sustainable solutions for life and business that are reliable, practical, and efficient.

- The program is available to any existing or planned equestrian facility.
- Our approach is an integrated, holistic approach that positively impacts all aspects of an Equestrian Facility.
- As equestrian amenities become more popular at communities and resorts worldwide, real estate developers are discovering that a truly sustainable equestrian amenity involves a comprehensive approach from beginning to end.

The basic objective of the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Equestrian Facility Program is to reduce the consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, create healthy, productive environments, and inform the public, residents, guests, clients and employees about the benefits of sustainably managed equestrian facilities.

Through participation in the program, Audubon Lifestyles assists equestrian facility managers, staff, and planners who desire to manage and operate their equestrian facilities sustainably. The program is geared toward assisting those seeking to become local, regional, national and international models of sustainability by incorporating sustainable principles, concepts, and management strategies.

Once a facility meets all of the requirements of the program which include adopting a Sustainability Charter, and completion of the Sustainability Audit, Audubon Lifestyles will brand the facility as an Audubon Lifestyles Equestrian Facility. In addition, based upon the score earned in the Sustainability Audit the facility will be awarded between one and five stars, and earn the right to use the International Sustainability Council's Seal of Sustainability.

#### About the International Sustainability Council

The International Sustainability Council is a not for profit organization comprised of individuals representing universities, non-profit organizations, government agencies and businesses with a broad range of expertise and experience. The council's main purposes include: promoting the adoption of the ISC Principles of Sustainability, serving as a "think tank" on all topics pertaining to sustainability, acting as a virtual warehouse of information related to topics related to sustainability, showcasing and recognizing specific places, businesses, organizations and individuals who are leading the way toward a more sustainable planet, and to define and encourage scientifically based methods that we, as a society can use to merge sustainability into the operation of our businesses, create new or improve existing "places," foster new products and technology that will improve our lives at home, and provide sustainable lifestyle choices that are economically priced, environmentally healthy and socially beneficial.

## Seal of Sustainability

The Audubon Lifestyles Equestrian Facilities Program coupled with the ISC Seal of Sustainability is a voluntary program that sets the bar for excellence for the equestrian industry at a level that is both difficult and achievable. Not every facility will choose the path toward sustainability, but those that do will become leaders in the industry, setting the standard for excellence and will ultimately stand the test of time.

Striving for and ultimately achieving the Seal of Sustainability from the International Sustainability Council (ISC) means that the equestrian facility is setting the new standard for excellence. The Seal of Sustainability means that the facility has adopted and put into place recognized Best Management Practices that equal environmental superiority, social responsibility in economically vitality. The ISC Seal of Sustainability is the hallmark of excellence not only regarding the facility itself, but in regard to the actual equestrian experience for individuals that enjoy equestrian activities, as well as the symbol of excellence in care of the horses residing in those facilities.

Learn more about the International Sustainability Council at:  
[www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org](http://www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org)



### Sustainability

Convert to green energy, use energy-saving lightbulbs, reduce heating costs, leave the car at home— there are lots of ways to care for the environment and live sustainably. Most of us know what to do, and everyone is in favor – and yet, despite this, every day we hear news stories about climate change continuing to accelerate, biological diversity dramatically declining, and raw materials running out worldwide.

Everyone agrees that it's time to change course, it's time for a new direction - but most people expect someone else to take the initiative.

People urge politicians to take drastic action and draft new laws, big business declares that it is simply following consumer demand and that the consumer is sovereign. Who in turn points out that in reality it is each one of us that truly makes the difference?

## Program Requirements

- **Sustainability Charter**

The facility must adopt and publicly display their Sustainability Charter. The Sustainability Charter (provided by Audubon Lifestyles) sets out the specific actions that are above and beyond the scope of normal operation that encourage sustainable living and lifestyles, and serves as a public declaration of those actions. The Sustainable Charter is an affirmation of the International Sustainability Council's Principles of Sustainability.

- **Nutrient Management Plan**

The facility must have or develop a nutrient management plan (NMP) that addresses the nutrient, sediment, or pathogen discharges produced at their equestrian facility. A nutrient management plan helps to manage commercial fertilizer and animal manure input costs. It also helps facilities to do their part to improve surface water quality. A nutrient management plan for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium should consider all potential sources of nutrients.

- **Completion of the Audubon Lifestyles Equestrian Facility Audit**

The Audubon Lifestyles Equestrian Facility Audit allows for the rating of the level of sustainability an equestrian facility is striving to achieve. The sustainability audit includes five sections: Economics & Business, Horse Care & Safety, Facility & Operations, Environmental, and Outreach & Education, and provides multiple opportunities to receive credit for specific sustainable actions taken, or management strategies implemented. Upon meeting the minimum points required in each section the total score is calculated and the facility will be awarded either a one to five star rating.

- **Additional requirements**

- The facility must require that all persons under the age of 18 wear ASTM/SEI-approved helmets while mounted
- Horses at the facility must have access to clean, fresh water at all times.
- There is no barbed wire anywhere horses are contained on the facility.
- The facility policies include a requirement for proof of negative Coggins test for all horses visiting or living in the facility.



## Program Registration Form

Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Website address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

A one-time registration fee of \$500 is required (first year membership is included). In addition a \$100 annual membership is required in order to continue participation in the program, and to maintain any designations earned.



Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

To begin participation mail or fax this completed form, with check or credit card information to:  
 Audubon Lifestyles - 35246 US Hwy 19 #299, Palm Harbor, FL 34683.  
 727-733-0762

Or email to [info@audubonlifestyles.com](mailto:info@audubonlifestyles.com)

### For More Information

Audubon Lifestyles  
 35246 Us Hwy 19 #299  
 Palm Harbor, FL 34683

(P) 727-744-6831  
 (F) 727-733-0762

[info@audubonlifestyles.com](mailto:info@audubonlifestyles.com)  
[www.audubonlifestyles.com](http://www.audubonlifestyles.com)



*The Audubon Lifestyles Equestrian Facility Program was created through a collaborative process that involved experts in the fields of equestrian facility management, wildlife management, and sustainability. This includes but is not limited to individuals representing Audubon Lifestyles, Equestrian Services LLC, and the International Sustainability Council.*