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Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE BOAR'S HEAD GOLF COURSE IS SO GREEN IT IS RECOGNIZED
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE**

Charlottesville, VA (June 1, 2009) – In the summer of 2006 The Boar's Head's Birdwood Golf Course achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), the educational division of Audubon International. The resort's golf course has again retained its designation through the Sanctuary Program.

Participation is designed to help course personnel plan, organize, implement, and document a comprehensive environmental management program and receive recognition for their efforts.

"The Boar's Head's Birdwood Golf Course has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Jim Sluiter, Staff Ecologist at Audubon International.

Birdwood Golf Course is one of 22 courses in Virginia and 693 courses in the world to receive this honor. Golf courses from the United States, Africa, Australia, Central America, Europe, South America, and Southeast Asia have also achieved certification in the program. After designation, courses go through a recertification process every two years.

The original plan was developed by Matt Wade, Birdwood Superintendent. This year, the recertification process, again coordinated by Wade, required a visit by a local environmental expert. Mark Robb, a Wildlife Specialist with the USDA conducted the site visit and sent his observations to Audubon International. To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas including: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Chemical Use Reduction and Safety, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

Robb was pleased with the environmental stewardship efforts in the property, stating “Birdwood is making an admirable effort toward stewardship of wildlife habitat and the diverse species that are attracted to it.” The golf course continues to be involved in projects that enhance habitat for wildlife and preserve natural resources for the benefit of the local community. These projects include: placing nesting boxes for cavity-nesting birds such as bluebirds and swallows, utilizing integrated pest management techniques, conserving water and maintaining food and cover for wildlife.

“We are proud to receive this recertification from The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses,” said Martin Winters, PGA Director of Golf at The Boar's Head's Birdwood Golf Course. “We are thrilled to be working together with such a prestigious environmental

organization as we are always striving to become better stewards of our land and natural resources.” And, The Boar's Head's green initiatives haven't gone unnoticed as *Golf Digest* rates Birdwood Golf Course as one of the “**Best Places to Play**” with a prestigious 4½-star rating in 2009.

The Boar's Head, a 170-room resort situated on 573 acres in the Virginia countryside, offers Four-Diamond dining, a state-of-the-art sports and fitness center, award-winning tennis, championship golf, a luxury spa, children's programs, currently 22,000 square feet of meeting space, and close proximity to attractions such as Monticello, the Blue Ridge Mountains and numerous wineries. The Boar's Head is owned and operated by the University of Virginia Foundation.

For more information about The Boar's Head or to make reservations, please call 434.296-2181 or 800.476.1988 or visit the resort's web site at www.boarsheadinn.com. For golf tee times or membership information, please call (434) 293-GOLF (293-4653).

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