

Georgia Golf



A Good Citizen

Georgia's golf industry invests in being the best economic, environmental and community citizen it can be.

- › Through the Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation, the state's golfers, clubs and organizations fund programs and research that help golf courses best serve the environmental, recreational and economic needs of their communities.
- › Golf injects \$2.4-billion in direct economic impact in Georgia every year with an overall economic impact - through tourism, residential construction, retail sales and other goods and services - of \$5.1-billion.
- › The industry supports nearly 57,000 jobs in the state.
- › Of 401 golf facilities in Georgia, some 97 percent have signed written commitments to Best Management Practices for water conservation sanctioned by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
- › Nationally, since the mid-90s 96 percent of golf courses have instituted at least one environmental improvement and 57 percent have instituted at least five.
- › Over the same period, nearly half the golf courses in the country have transferred at least 10 acres of maintained turf to native landscape.
- › Golf accounts for one half of one percent of all water withdrawn annually in the U.S. and only 14 percent of facilities across the country use any water from municipal systems.
- › Golf courses provide important green spaces and wildlife habitat, often in highly urbanized areas.
- › Golf green spaces produce vast amounts of oxygen while cleansing the air of pollution and cooling the atmosphere.
- › Healthy turfgrass is an excellent filter that traps and holds pollutants in place where microbial activity breaks it down; courses actually serve as catch basins for residential and industrial runoff; many courses are effective disposal sites for effluent wastewater.

