

**The Venice Golf and Country Club**

250 Venice Golf Club Drive  
Venice, Florida 34292

**Green Facts**

- Recycles over 55 percent of its wastestream, which saves nearly \$3,000 annually in avoided collection and disposal costs.
- Buys recycled-content products, including water-permeable recycled tire paving material for golf cart paths.
- Uses rechargeable batteries in electric golf carts.
- Composts grass clippings and landscaping debris onsite and applies finished product to golf course.
- Certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.
- Plants Florida native and drought resistant plants and trees, while eradicating invasive species.
- Established no fertilizer zone along waterways and lakes.
- Utilizes the community's stormwater runoff to irrigate the golf course and community commons areas, reducing total nitrogen releases into rivers by 2,000 pounds per year.
- Uses EnergyStar® appliances.
- Includes Environmental Management in long-range Master Plan.



The Venice Golf and Country Club has implemented many notable environmental management practices as part of its “preserve and protect” philosophy, several of which are listed in the sidebar. Approximately 55 percent of its wastestream is recycled or composted, including cardboard boxes and all types of mixed office paper, as well as commingled beverage containers from food and beverage operations and the clubhouse.

According to General Manager Jim Schell, “The comprehensive recycling program was started because commercial recycling is mandatory in Sarasota County; however, we soon found that it also made economic as well as environmental sense.” Recycling and composting alone have saved the company nearly \$3,000 annually in avoided collection and disposal costs.

The facility also prevents waste from being generated, through purchasing policies and practices and reusing office supplies, boxes, pallets and other items. It minimizes the number of disposable products purchased and selects or works with vendors to minimize product packaging. It also supports recycling through the purchase of recycled-content copy paper, printer and toner cartridges, and numerous other products. Recently, a library was established comprised solely of books donated by the club's members.

The Venice Golf and Country Club is a 120-acre property with a challenging 18-hole golf course, 26 lakes and 52 acres of diverse wildlife habitats and wetland preserves. The clubhouse is approximately 20,000 square feet, and the golf shop, which includes the cart facility and business center, is about 5,000 square feet. The club has a staff of 85 employees and offers championship golf, tennis, modern fitness facilities, a clubhouse and gracious Florida living encompassed by natural surroundings.

