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#TheSustainabilityDrive
2022 - 2025



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Introduction

- ❖ What's new?
- ❖ Current challenges
- ❖ England Golf's Sustainability Plan – progress on The Sustainability Drive
- ❖ Opportunities for golf clubs

#TheSustainabilityDrive





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England Golf Sustainability Plan: **Our mission**



Acknowledge the challenges ahead and raise awareness of golf's responsibility



Provide information, advice, and support by working collaboratively with industry partners



Deliver guiding principles for golfers and golf clubs to help begin or supplement their sustainability journey



Provide recommendations for action items across a broad spectrum of sustainability focus areas



Inspire sustainability to be embedded in all decision-making processes



Shape golf's reputation as a leader in sustainability



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**Time to flip the
narrative... ?**



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Where does sustainability fit in your clubs governance?



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Sustainable Golf in 2024

Water

Diversifying water supplies is fundamental to your club's future. Access to mains and borehole water is changing rapidly, and your club need to investigate, and invest in, on-course storage of grey/harvested water

Biodiversity

On average, 50% of an average 18-hole golf course is 'out of play.' This poses massive opportunities for local wildlife, community projects, social use and even profit making through Biodiversity Net Gain. Increasing your biodiversity is a fantastic way to future proof your course

Energy

Reducing energy consumption across site is a huge opportunity for golf clubs to reduce their carbon emissions and save money, allowing spending to be diversified across other areas of business including course management



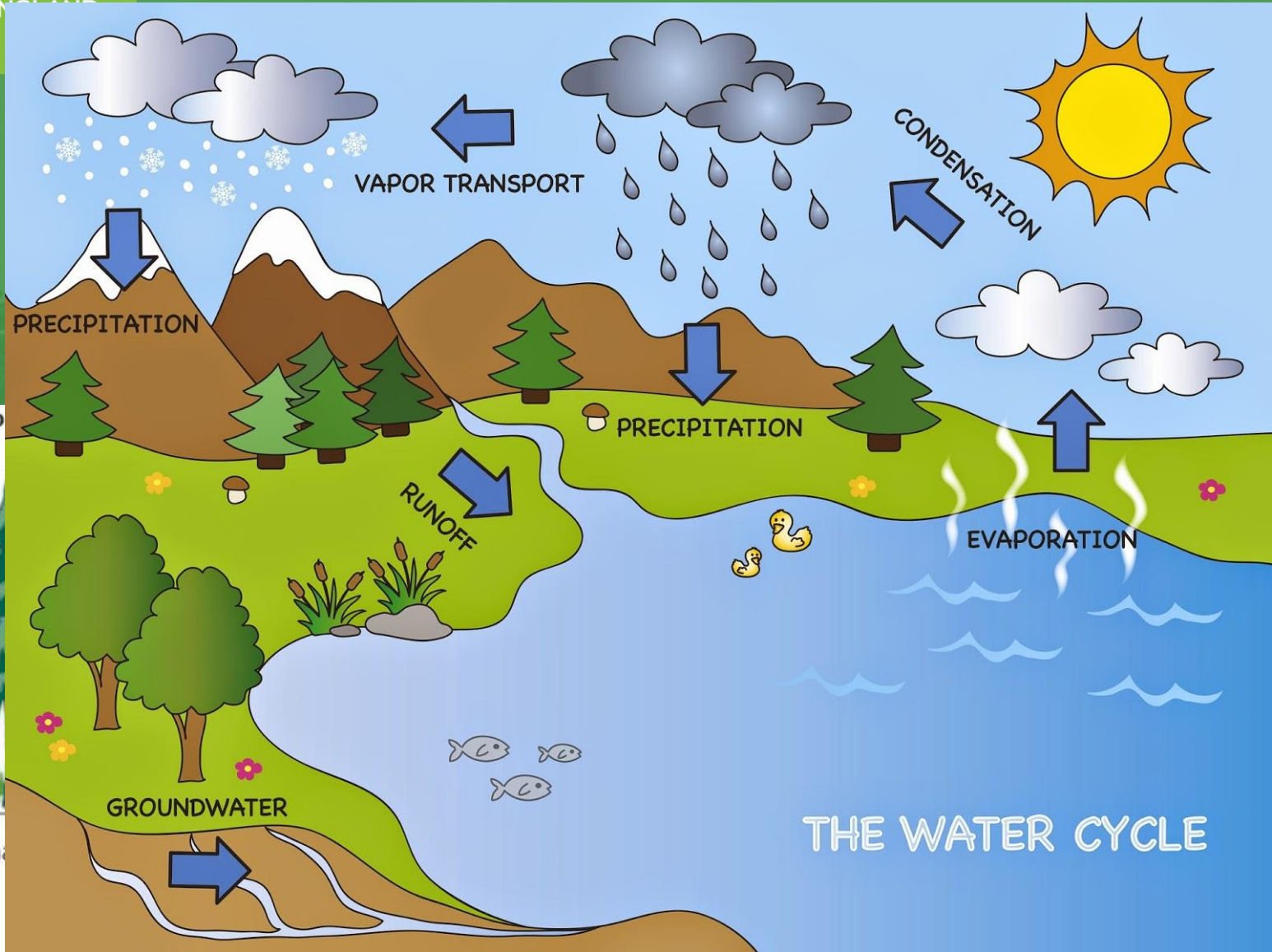
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The 'main' problem...





ENGLISH



THE WATER CYCLE

25% deep infiltration

5% deep infiltration

runoff

25% sh

Typ



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Why

As we have already heard, utilising mains water for irrigation is fast-becoming a critical issue. At England Golf we passionately believe that future proofing golf means moving away from mains

What

#MoveAwayFromMains campaign.

Who/ How

Cross industry collaboration, working with the Water Taskforce, The R&A, BIGGA, GEO Foundation, Home Nations, Government reps and water boards



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Why

Golf is unique in its relationship with the environment. 'Forged by Nature' was the R&A tagline for the 151st Open, yet so many clubs are fighting against nature. With legislation in this area changing too, its important for clubs to recognise the opportunities they have

What

UN Sports for Nature Signatory, Natural England framework and Wildlife Trust collaboration, ambitious habitat mapping project

Inspire sustainability to be embedded in all decision-making processes

Just about everyone who will listen....



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Why

One of the biggest financial drains at any golf club is an inefficient clubhouse. By helping clubs understand their energy use, they will save money, reduce carbon emissions and improve their facility

What

Zellar launch finalised and launched!

Zellar GCMA, CCSOs, anyone else who will listen!



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Deliver guiding principles for golfers and golf clubs to help begin or supplement their sustainability journey

Refining and focusing our energies onto the three areas discussed already, working hard to provide a robust set of tools, as well as our toolkit, for clubs to use to accelerate their sustainability journeys with



Provide recommendations for action items across a broad spectrum of sustainability focus areas

Toolkit already in place on our website, as well as a growing case studies page. Team focus has shifted to a more process driven approach with clubs, utilising GAP analysis as a baseline to work from and providing bespoke help wherever possible.





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The plot thickens...

Europe 17:26, 19-Aug-2022

Translate >

Why are protestors pouring concrete in golf holes in France?

CGTN

Share



TOP NEWS

The water for exemption of golf courses comes at more than 100 French villages are without drinking water. Your capital is at risk.

Two golf courses under threat as Extinction Rebellion turn the screw



CLICK HERE TO LISTEN TO THE NCG PODCAST

Which stars will turn up to LIV Golf Promotions?



Ads by Google
Stop seeing this ad
Why this ad? >

CLUB

By Steve Carroll - Jan 13, 2020

Protests were held in Sussex at the weekend as climate change activists Extinction Rebellion lead calls to create a wildlife haven on two golf courses

World Africa Americas Asia Australia China Europe India Middle East United Kingdom

Climate activists block golf course holes with seedlings and cement to protest water use

By Laura Paddison, CNN

Published 11:53 AM EDT, Tue July 4, 2023

TRENDING TODAY: Storm Ciaran prompts warnings and school closures
Plus the Bank of England's interest rate decision and Ukraine reports heaviest Russian shelling of 2023 >

AP | Associated Press

Climate activists target jets, yachts and golf in a string of global protests against luxury





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COMMENT

We should reclaim all London land used for golf

The Golf Belt

How sustainable development on London's golf courses can help address the housing crisis

03-06-19

Need land for parks and housing? There are plenty of useless golf courses to repurpose

"We have land shortages in lots of our fast-growth cities and suburbs and we have an overabundance of golf courses."



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journalism that swims
against the current.

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Time for Vancouver to Turn Its Golf Courses into Homes

Because we don't have a golf course crisis. We have a housing crisis.

[Patrick Condon](#) and [Scot Hein](#) / 30 Oct 2019 / [TheTyee.ca](#)

Patrick Condon is the James Taylor chair in Landscape and Livable Environments at UBC's School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture and the founding chair of the UBC Urban Design program.

Scot Hein is an adjunct professor in the Master of Urban Design program at UBC. He was previously the senior urban designer with the City of Vancouver.

152 Comments



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England Golf Sustainability Plan: **Our mission**

Many areas of the golf industry are focusing on becoming more sustainable, and many venues are keen to promote their environmentally conscious practices.

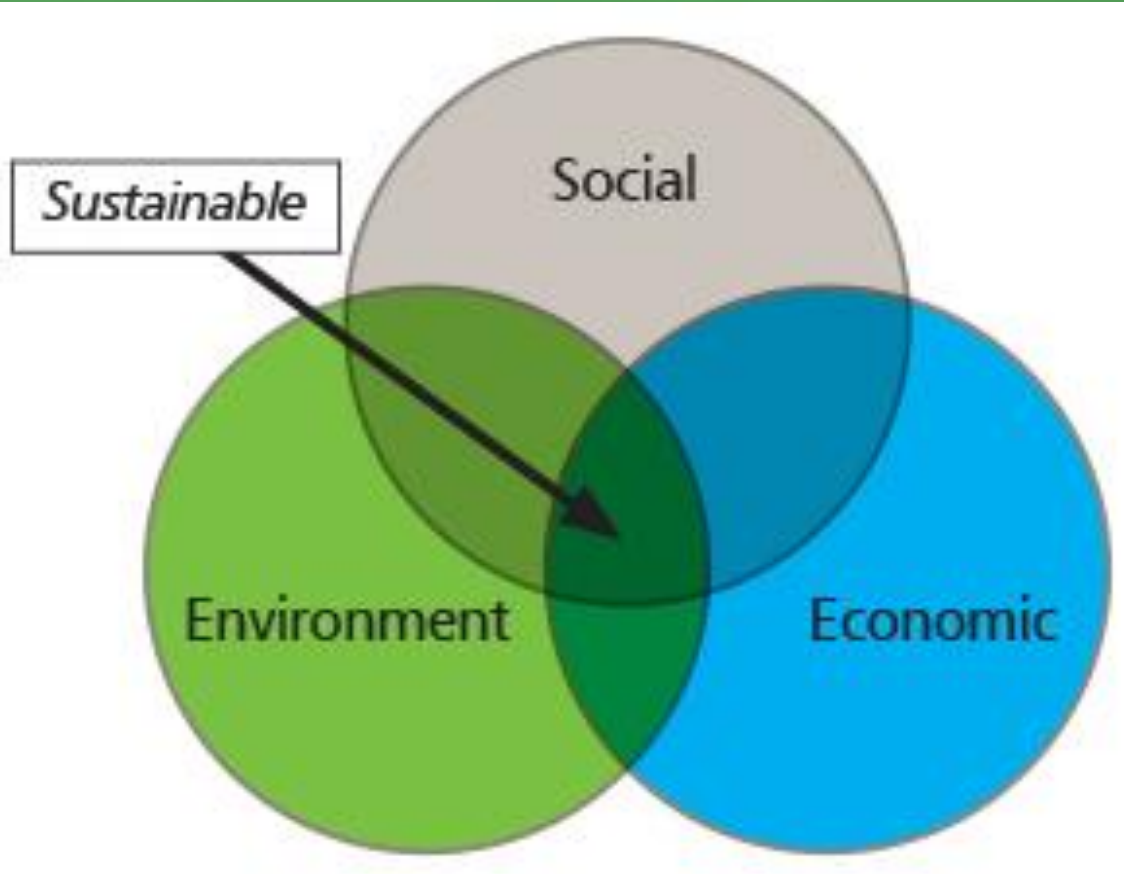
When choosing a venue to play, to what extent do sustainability credentials of a golf club influence your decision?

- 37 (2%) It's the deciding factor
- 614 (35%) It's a bonus but not essential
- 543 (31%) It doesn't really matter, but I like to see things when there
- 484 (28%) It's irrelevant
- 53 (3%) Don't know



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So where do we go from here?



“Golf has a unique relationship with the natural environment and a responsibility to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy the game played by millions around the world” – The R and A



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The best will in the world...

