

# **Heron Glen Golf Course Recognized for Environmental Excellence**

Hunterdon County's Heron Glen Golf Course is the first and only Eastern U.S. KemperSports managed property to reach the highest environmental designation of a certified 'Green to a Tee' Level III facility. With 125 golf courses under KemperSports direction, Heron Glen is one of only three to reach this level of accreditation.

"We are thrilled to offer the one of the finest public golf courses in the state to our residents," said Hunterdon County Freeholder John W. King. "The fact that the golf course grounds have achieved a high level of environmental stewardship is very much in line with the mission to maintain and improve the quality of life in Hunterdon County."

Heron Glen Golf Course, a treasured Hunterdon County asset since opening in 2002, was developed as a community amenity by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hunterdon County.

The golf course, transformed from the famed Kuster Farm, is cut through the rolling hills of Hunterdon County and is surrounded by mature trees, the course provides magnificent vistas of the surrounding area. The spectacular par-72, 7,065-yard, 18-hole course features multiple tees that can be enjoyed by golfers of every skill level.

The programs "Level III" certification process, coordinated by Jason Pierce, Golf Course Superintendent, required a more challenging level of commitment including becoming a "Waste Wise Partner", "Groundwater Guardian Site" and a renewed Audubon Certified Sanctuary. Environmental projects included a "sustainability garden" to support the restaurant, Energy audit, recyclables program, programs that protect and preserve pollinators and Monarch Butterflies and expansions of existing practices like habitat restoration, "Non-Point Source pollution" mitigation, stream bank restoration and stabilization, water quality/conservation and IPM practices.

"Hunterdon County and Heron Glen are very proud of our accomplishments," said golf course superintendent Jason Pierce. "We look forward to continuing our efforts as leaders in environmental stewardship."

Heron Glen is managed by Northbrook, Ill.-based KemperSports and incorporates the company's award-winning Green to a Tee practices for environmental stewardship