



First Green

*Environmental Education
Using Links As Labs*



First Green Expansion News

USGA Funding Continues to Expand First Green Outreach

First Green continues to leverage its 2014 USGA/Chevron [STEM grant](#) to expand programs across the country.

CourseCo Superintendents Experience FG Field Trip in N. Calif.



First Green flew into San Francisco on December 13 to present a workshop for Northern California CourseCo superintendents at Crystal Springs Golf Club in Burlingame. The superintendents were the “students” and got to do hands-on activities on water quality, soils and measuring the surface area of irregularly shaped objects (a golf green).

A big thank you goes to Scott Carrier, VP of Agronomy, at CourseCo for sponsoring the workshop and to activity leaders Jeff Jensen,

Regional Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), and Steve Kealy, First Green Board member and superintendent at Glendale Country Club.

The superintendents are now reaching out to their local schools.

Golf Course Superintendent Associations Reach Out to First Green

As word spreads about First Green, we are getting invitations to present our program to groups of superintendents.

Utah - First Green went to Utah to present to 95 superintendents at their winter

workshop in Provo.

Southern Calif. - Karen Armstead and Steve Kealy presented to the Hi-Lo Desert superintendents in La Quinta, California.

We are also discussing launches in Western Canada, the Chicago area, Arizona and Idaho.

Time to Schedule Field Trips

If you are a teacher already matched with a golf course, don't let time get away from you. Please contact your local golf course superintendent to schedule your spring field trips. Teachers and golf course superintendents - please let us know when you've scheduled your field trips so we can add them to our [calendar](#) and send a special package with handouts for the students – including colorful bookmarks.

In addition, by letting First Green know of your plans ahead of time, we can get a jump on drafting a press release about the field trip, so your local community will know which class and teacher visited which course.

If you can't find the contact information previously provided to you, [let us know](#) and we'll put you back in touch with your golf course or your teacher.

[Contact us](#) with your field trip date(s).

Student Project Wins Regional Science Award



Maxwell Lorenze, a 10-grader at O'Dea High School in Seattle, Wash., recently won the Jr. Stockholm Regional Award for extraordinary work in a water-related research project. The award gave him a nomination to go to the state science fair as well. Maxwell built a water filter that is less expensive and works as well as water filters being sold commercially.

His mentors were Sean McDonough, Broadmoor Golf Club golf course superintendent, and Rick Michel, assistant golf course superintendent.

What is First Green?

First Green is an innovative environmental education outreach program using golf courses as environmental learning labs. Golf course superintendents and/or local golf course representatives host students on field trips where they test water quality, collect soil samples, identify plants, design plantings, assist in stream bed restoration and are

involved in the ecology and environmental aspects of the golf course. The students are also introduced to many other aspects of golf.

Sign Up for our Newsletter

If you received this newsletter from a friend or colleague, please consider [signing up](#) to receive your own copy. It's easy!

New to First Green?

You are welcome to observe a field trip. If you are a teacher, you may want to observe a field trip and then schedule your own field trip. Look at our [calendar](#) for upcoming field trips in your area. Or, [contact us](#) if you don't see one in your area or if you'd like to speak with a teacher who has been on a First Green field trip.

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Please "Like" Us

For quick updates on our activities, please visit our Facebook page and "like" us – <http://facebook.com/thefirstgreen>. You can also follow us on Twitter – <http://twitter.com/thefirstgreen>.

Regards,

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