



Cantigny Golf Set to Open Woodside Course after Major Renovation

Changes to signature second hole enhance playability and the environment

WHEATON, IL, May 14, 2012 — For avid Cantigny golfers, the long wait is almost over! Cantigny Golf today announced that its Woodside course will open for play on May 25, just in time for Memorial Day weekend.

The Woodside nine was closed last October to accommodate the total reconstruction of Woodside No. 2, a 555-yard par 5 and one of Cantigny Golf's signature holes. Reconstruction was prompted by a serious erosion problem along the banks of the stream running the length of the hole. The streambed and shoreline have now been stabilized and planted with grasses and native wetland species to hold the soil in place.

But the project was much bigger than solving the erosion issue, which by itself was a major undertaking. Cantigny also wanted to improve the sightlines and playability of the hole named "Double Jeopardy." Now, thanks to a completely recontoured fairway, golfers can see the hole from tee to green and "trouble areas" are clearly visible. Previously, golfers had a "blind" second shot.

"We made a good hole even better," said Mike Nass, Cantigny Golf executive director. "It was a hard decision to take Woodside out of play for so long but we think our customers will agree that the improvements were worth the wait. For fairness and playability, this is a huge step forward."

In addition to the improved visibility, golfers will encounter a repositioned stream that enhances shot options, as well as a new fairway bunker and greenside bunker. The all-new pump house just south of the green will have a built-in shelter for the comfort and safety of golfers during inclement weather.

Golf Course Superintendent Scott Witte stresses the environmental benefits of the Woodside project as well. Erosion particulate rates on Woodside No. 2 have been significantly reduced, which in turn will improve the quality of water entering Cantigny's downstream ponds and eventually leaving the property. Natural wetland areas were expanded, too.

"This project, in multiple ways, was consistent with Cantigny Golf's status as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary," Witte said. "Water quality has long been a top priority for us, and so is providing wildlife habitat. The birds and animals might like the new Woodside No. 2 just as much as the golfers!"

Thanks to the uncommonly mild winter and spring, the Woodside No. 2 project progressed faster than expected. The general contractor was V3 Construction of

Woodridge, IL. Design work was handled by Jacobson Golf Course Design, based in Libertyville, IL.

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About Cantigny Golf

Cantigny Golf, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundations, opened for play in 1989. That year, *Golf Digest* magazine named it the “Best New Public Course in America.” Designed by golf course architect Roger Packard, the 27-hole Cantigny layout has hosted the Illinois State Amateur three times and also the 2007 U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship. The 300-acre Cantigny Golf complex, a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, includes the Woodside, Lakeside and Hillside nines, the year-round Cantigny Golf Academy, the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links and a full-service clubhouse with dining and banquet facilities. For more information, please visit CantignyGolf.com.

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