

BJGCF Statement on Environmental Impact

January 2018

The Bobby Jones Golf Course Foundation (BJGCF) is making significant changes to the property that will improve its impact on the environment:

1. 2.5 acres of impervious surface (current tennis courts and parking lot) will be removed from the flood plain and will be replaced with grass and landscaping.
2. Subject to permitting approval, the stream banks along several sections of Tanyard Creek will be stabilized and replanted.
3. Detention areas will be created that will reduce peak flows, encourage infiltration and improve water quality during rainfall events.
4. Based on current modeling the flood storage capacity of the flood plain portion of the course will increase by more than 3,000 cubic yards of water.
5. A new 5 million gallon irrigation pond will be built to avoid tapping into the City water supply for long-term irrigation needs.
6. The new golf course will use 40% less water than the old course by planting Tif Tuf bermuda grass fairways, a new strain that's more drought resistant than those found on golf courses today.
7. The Department of Watershed Management (DWM) is seeking a grant to restore and stabilize parts of the banks of Peachtree Creek. The Foundation is working with DWM and the Atlanta Memorial Park Conservancy (AMPC) in support of that grant.
8. We're partnering with the PATH Foundation and AMPC to complete the trails around the course, which will encourage walking and biking. The entire trail system, including the Beltline trail and new sidewalks in the park west of Northside Dr. will comprise more than 5 miles of uninterrupted trails once everything is finished. We're also working with PATH, AMPC and GDOT to allow the PATH to go under the new bridge on Northside Drive, avoiding the dangerous intersection at Woodward Way/Sagamore.
9. The new golf course will be maintained at a much higher level than before, improving the aesthetics of the entire property for both golfers and the surrounding neighborhoods.

TREES

During the construction of the new golf course, parking deck, and tennis courts a number of trees on the property will be removed. BJGCF is sensitive to the importance of trees to the environment and to the public, is taking steps to minimize any adverse impacts, and believes that this project will significantly improve the overall environmental conditions at the property.

Before construction began, BJGCF engaged Arboguard to do an audit of all the trees on the property greater than 12 inches in diameter. Arboguard identified 1,182 trees on the property, of which only 143 (12%) are in Good condition—the rest are Fair, Poor or Dead. In all more than 40% of the trees are Poor or Dead, including many of the Water Oaks located in the lower part of the course. Many of the trees on the property are dead or have poor root structure and are hazardous in high winds. While BJGCF has an obligation to our donors and the community to build the best golf experience possible, it is also committed to preserving every healthy tree it can without adversely impacting the golf course.

As part of our landscaping plan for the new parking deck and maintenance facility, we will plant more than 100 new, healthy trees. We will also plant a number of new trees as part of the landscaping for Golf House, the clubhouse to be built in phase two of construction. Our future plans will include other landscaping projects throughout the property, including the relocated cell tower.

Arboguard's report and a preliminary landscaping plan are included below.