Dandelions on the Fairway: Westview Golf Course's Quiet Statement on Sustainability

Golfers at **Westview Golf Club** in Aurora, Ontario, may have noticed an unexpected guest on the fairways this season: **dandelions**. Bright, yellow, and sometimes controversial, these flowers are blooming in full view — and that's no accident.

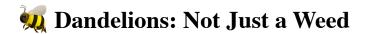


Why Dandelions Are Being Left Alone

Westview Golf Club is proudly certified by the **Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary Program**, a designation that recognizes golf courses committed to environmental best practices. This includes reducing chemical herbicides and encouraging native plant growth — like dandelions.

By letting these blooms flourish, Westview supports:

- **Pollinators** like bees and butterflies
- Naturalized habitats that promote biodiversity
- Reduced chemical use on the grounds



There's a lot more to dandelions than meets the eye:

- **First food for pollinators**: Dandelions are often the earliest bloom in spring, providing nectar and pollen when other plants aren't available.
- Soil support: Their deep roots help aerate compacted soil and cycle nutrients.
- **Human benefits**: Dandelions are rich in vitamins and antioxidants. They're edible and commonly used in teas, salads, and natural remedies.

Changing the Way We See the Course

Traditionally, golf courses have aimed for "perfect" greens — immaculate, uniform, and weed-free. But times are changing.

At Westview, a few dandelions are more than just tolerable — they're **intentional**. They're a sign that the course is cared for in a way that respects nature.







So next time you're at Westview and see a dandelion near your tee, don't pull it — appreciate it.

It's not just a weed.

It's a wildflower.

It's a pollinator's pit stop.

It's a symbol of balance between sport and sustainability

