



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Akridge Save the Bay Classic Nets \$150,000 for Chesapeake Bay Foundation Third Annual Golf Tournament on Sustainable Course Draws Record Participation, Despite Drizzle

(Queenstown, MD) Washington real estate investment and development firm Akridge and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) staged their third successful Akridge Save the Bay Classic yesterday, achieving the largest turnout since the event's inception. Although rain has dampened the golf tournament in each of its three years, spirits and contributions were high – the 2010 event raised 50 percent more money for CBF than last year's. Held at The Brick Companies' Queenstown Harbor course, a sustainable facility on the Chester River in Maryland, the tournament welcomed 173 golfers with fleece jackets and caps that helped them weather the unseasonably cool, rainy day.

"An environmentally sustainable course like this one strives to avoid artificial irrigation, so we need rain," quipped John E. "Chip" Akridge, III, Chairman of Akridge. "And we are proud to be out here – in the rain again – to support the great work of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and also to raise awareness and increase dialogue about what each and every one of us can do to protect our natural resources and regional treasures like the Bay. We applaud the Foundation and our fellow Save the Bay Classic sponsors who share these goals."

The event was buoyed by the positive settlement last week of CBF's lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and by news that a just-released University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science study shows incremental improvement in the Chesapeake Bay's water quality. The historic settlement between the Foundation and EPA requires of the federal agency specific actions performed on a specific timeline to ensure pollution is reduced sufficiently to remove the Bay from the federal "dirty waters" list.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation President William C. Baker addressed the golfers at a post-tournament reception saying, "Based on these positive developments and the great success of today's event, I think I can promise that if all of you continue to come out here for this tournament for each of the next 10 years, we'll substantially achieve our goal of getting the Bay back to good health!"

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About Akridge

Akridge is a comprehensive real estate services company that provides acquisition, development, construction management, asset management, property management, leasing and consulting services. The industry's foremost benchmarking firm, CEL & Associates, has ranked Akridge the number one real estate firm in the country for Client satisfaction, among firms of similar size, ten times since 1999. Akridge has been honored with the National Capital Business Ethics Award, awarded by the Society of Financial Service Professionals, and has also been recognized as the 'Best Place to Work' in Greater Washington by the *Washington Business Journal*. For more information, please visit www.akridge.com.

About The Chesapeake Bay Foundation

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) educates students and adults, and fights for strong, effective, and consistent laws, regulations, and enforcement to restore and protect the Bay's water quality, plants, and animals. CBF also works cooperatively with government, business, and citizens in partnerships to protect and restore the Bay. Since its founding in 1967, CBF has achieved significant milestones to arrest the Bay system's decline and to begin to restore its health. From the landmark EPA study of the Chesapeake Bay in the 1970s to the first interstate Chesapeake Bay Agreement in 1983 to Maryland's historic sewage treatment bond bill in the 2004 and Virginia's comparable legislative commitment in 2005, CBF has been saving the Bay. Learn more about CBF's programs at cbf.org.

About Queenstown Harbor

Developed by The Brick Companies, Queenstown Harbor golf facility features 36 holes of championship golf on two unique layouts – The River and The Lakes – in a spectacular Chesapeake Bay waterfront location. In 2008, Queenstown Harbor achieved designation as a “Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary” by Audubon International. To achieve this certification, The Brick Companies implemented environmental practices that include maintaining wide buffers of no-mow zones around ponds and streams, capturing rainwater for irrigation, restricting golfers from entering sensitive areas, using fertilizer manufactured from chicken manure and participating in a ride-sharing program for employees. Equipment is cleaned at a central “wash down station” where water is captured and recycled, and beverages are served in corn-based biodegradable cups. For more information, please visit mdgolf.com.

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