

# CITIZEN-TIMES.com

## Tiger Woods to plot new course in WNC

By [Mark Barrett](#)

mbarrett@citizen-times.com

August 15, 2007 12:15 am

TRAVELERS REST, S.C. — Tiger Woods will design his first U.S. golf course for The Cliffs at High Carolina, adding cachet to plans for the 3,000-acre exclusive community in Swannanoa and Fairview.

Woods and Jim Anthony, president of The Cliffs Communities, made the announcement at the company's The Cliffs Valley community Tuesday, with the world's top golfer promising a personal touch.

"I'm pretty detail-oriented, and I want to do things right," Woods said. "I'll be up here as often as it takes to make things right."

Woods said he will own a home or property in the development and that he plans a walking course with a "minimalist" design.

Anthony says he hopes work on the course will begin next spring and take about two years, but the schedule is subject to change.

The development straddling a high ridge could include as many as 1,500 homes, with Woods' name expected to give sales a boost.

"It's huge," said Andy DeLong, a broker at Re/Max Advantage Realty in Asheville. "You may see a lot of the lots sell very quickly."

The development would have access by a parkway up from Interstate 40 in Swannanoa and a \$4 million tunnel through a ridge.

Woods, fresh off a win in the PGA Championship last weekend, is one of the most recognizable figures in sports worldwide with wins in 13 major championships. He was reportedly paid \$25 million to design a golf course in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The Cliffs Communities has developed seven large, upscale residential communities in Upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina. The company recently started work on its eighth, High Carolina.

Lots in The Cliffs at Walnut Cove, located in Avery's Creek in southern Buncombe County, start at \$300,000 and home prices start around \$700,000 and reach into the millions.

Bringing more attention

Woods' participation in High Carolina should bring still more attention to the Asheville area.

"He's probably one of the biggest brands in the world right now. It's nothing but positive," said Terry Horner, co-owner of real estate brokerage Preferred Properties of Asheville. "The press and the spillover and (getting) the name Asheville out there ... we'll all be impacted by that."

Woods announced last November he was entering the golf course design business and said Tuesday he will design only one or two courses at a time.

Anthony's plans to incorporate wellness in his communities and his company attracted him to the project, Woods said.

The course site, he said, "is an amazing piece of property. ... Once you get out there, you won't hear any other traffic. You'll hear no roads, you'll hear nothing else but the birds in the trees and a few streams."

Woods said some earth moving will have to be done to make the course walkable. But, he said, some of his favorite courses are ones where designers "just basically left the ground and put a golf course on top of it."

Preliminary plans The Cliffs has submitted to Buncombe County government showed a golf course in a high valley near the end of Spring Mountain Road in Fairview. The property on Rocky Fork ranges from about 3,600 to more than 4,200 feet in elevation.

A parkway to access the development is already under construction. It will run southeast from Exit 59 on I-40 in Swannanoa. A secondary access is planned on Old Fort Road in Fairview.

Staff writer Andrew Pearson contributed to this report.

---

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).  
Copyright 2007 Asheville Citizen-Times. All rights reserved.