

# Definitions of Functional and Non-Functional Turf



Under the Executive Order N-7-22, to prevent the unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, **the use of potable water is prohibited for the irrigation of non-functional turf at commercial, industrial, and institutional sites (CII)**. Non-functional turf cannot be watered with potable water unless watering occurs directly under the canopy of a tree or shrub.



Example of functional turf.



Example of non-functional turf.

## Functional turf is defined as turf grass that is:

- Needed to serve a human function, including, use for recreational purposes, civic or community events.
- On the property of a single-family home.
- On the property of a park used for sport, gathering, or recreation.
- On a golf course used directly for sport (driving ranges, chipping, and putting greens, tee boxes, greens, fairways and rough).
- On a school field used for sport, gathering, or recreation.
- On a sports field.
- Needed for pet relief at veterinarian offices, boarding facilities and animal shelters.
- Within cemeteries used for visitation and gathering.
- A species of turf that has a plant factor  $\leq 0.3$  per the California Code of Regulations Section 491 Title 23.
- Watered directly beneath tree canopies and shrubs.

Non-functional turf is irrigated lawn grass area not meeting the definition of functional turf.

## Non-functional turf includes, but is not limited to:

- Streetscape turf:
  - » Along private or public streets, including turf that is owned and maintained by the city/municipality (e.g., mow strips on either side of street).
  - » Along streetscape sidewalks (narrow spaces of turf that line the sidewalk).
  - » Along driveways and parking lots.
  - » Within community, and business streetscape frontage areas.
  - » Within medians and roundabouts.
- Turf that is solely ornamental.
- Other turf that is not functional turf, as defined on the left.











Example of CII non-functional lawn.

**CII properties include, but are not limited to:**

-  Homeowner association owned properties, common areas of mobile home parks, and apartment, condominium, and townhome complexes.
-  Manufacturing plants and facilities
-  Industrial and commercial construction sites
-  Retail and shopping malls
-  Hospitals
-  Religious institutions
-  Government facilities (including parks but not sports fields).

-  Restaurants
-  Grocery stores
-  Educational institutions
-  Sporting arenas
-  Office buildings
-  Other properties that provide commercial, industrial, and institutional services.

**Questions?**





Please contact us via email at **[WaterWise@valleywater.org](mailto:WaterWise@valleywater.org)** or by calling **408-630-2000**.

**CONTACT US**

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at **[access.valleywater.org](https://access.valleywater.org)**.



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