



NON FUNCTIONAL TURFGRASS DISCUSSION

May 15, 2025

Nepenthe Grounds Committee

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City of Sacramento

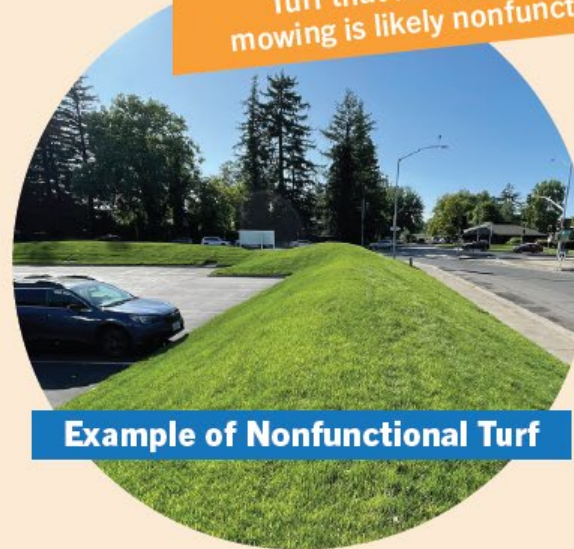


What is functional and nonfunctional turf?



Example of Functional Turf

Functional Turf: Grass located in a recreational, civic, or community space that is regularly used for recreational or civic purposes. **Examples:** sports fields, school recreation areas, playgrounds, municipal parks, event centers, golf courses, and cemeteries.



Example of Nonfunctional Turf

Nonfunctional Turf: Grass that is not used for recreation, civic, or community event purposes that is only ornamental or decorative. **Examples:** turf enclosed by fencing or other barriers that restrict human access, and turf located within a street right-of-way and in parking lots.

GENERAL RULE:

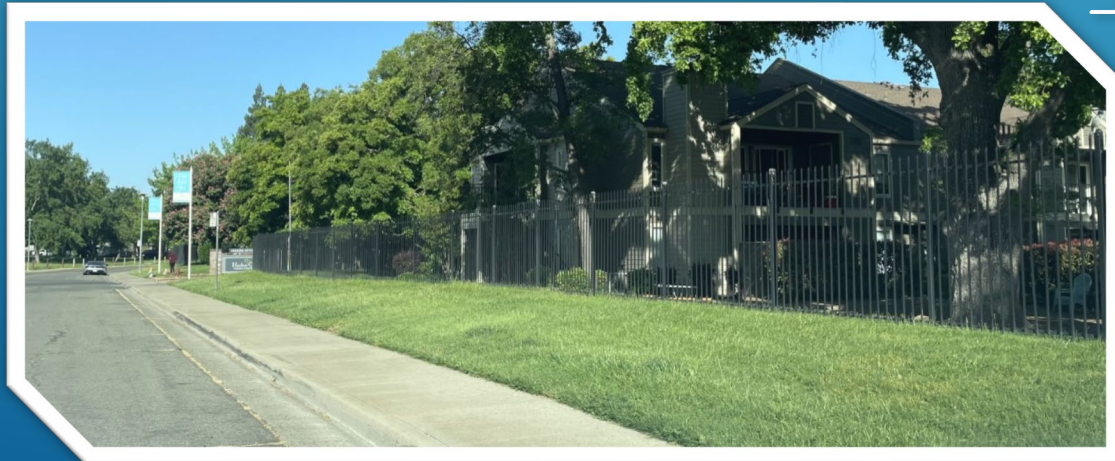
Turf that is only accessed for mowing is likely nonfunctional turf.

WHAT IF I HAVE TREES PLANTED IN MY NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF?

Exemption allows for the continued irrigation of trees located in nonfunctional turf with potable water to the extent necessary to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non turf plantings.



Examples of Sacramento Non-Functional Turf



TIMELINE FOR NON FUNCTIONAL TURF

Property Type	Compliance Date
State and local government, local and regional public agencies and public water systems	January 1, 2027
Institutional, commercial, and industrial properties (not described above)	January 1, 2028
HOA common areas, common interest developments, and community service organizations, or similar entities	January 1, 2029
Property owners with 5,000+ square feet of irrigated common area that is a homeowners' association, common interest development, or community service organization or similar entity shall certify to the State Water Resources Control Board	June 30, 2031 & every 3 yrs



MULTI-FAMILY AND BUSINESS REBATES

- Up to **\$50,000** at \$1.50 per square foot for landscape retrofit project, including grass conversion and irrigation upgrade with smart controllers
- **Labor costs** for licensed landscaping contractor (C-27) may be reimbursed up to 20% of total project's reimbursable amount

GRASS CONVERSION REBATE

- Maximum rebate of \$3,000 per single family property
- Up to \$1.50 per square foot of grass converted
- 2,000 square foot **maximum**-single family
- Front, back and side yards are eligible
- Rebate up to \$200 also available for front yard **landscape design assistance**-single family-18 LDAs on list
- Can hand water or install drip



City of Sacramento Outdoor Rebates



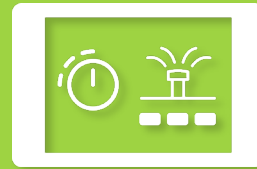
Grass Conversion

Up to \$3,000
Calculated at \$1.50
per square foot
Can include labor



Irrigation Upgrades

Up to \$400
Can include labor



Smart Irrigation Controllers

Up to \$400
Can include labor



Rain Barrels

Up to \$150
\$0.75 for each gallon
of storage capacity



**Laundry-to-
Landscape**
Up to \$100 for
materials

IRRIGATION UPGRADE REBATE

1

Converting sprinkler systems to drip irrigation

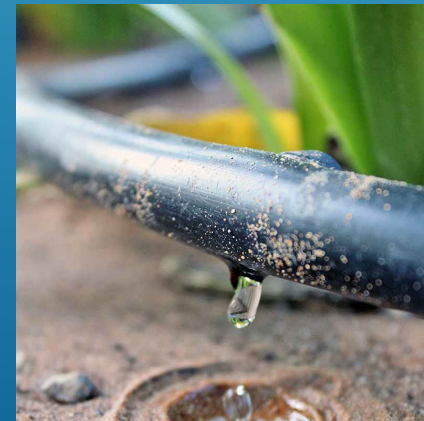
- Water delivered slowly to roots either from above the soil surface or buried below
- Minimal evaporation and runoff



2

Converting standard pop-up sprinklers to rotating nozzles

- More uniformly delivers water at a low application rate
- Significantly reduces runoff



Questions?

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Call:

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