

# 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.