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# Turfgrass Benefits Checklist

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## *Soil & Water Resources*

- Turf protects groundwater quality and improves recharge
- Turf reduces surface water runoff and protects surface water quality
- Turf reduces soil erosion and stabilizes polluting dust
- The turf-soil ecosystem entraps and biodegrades polluting organic chemicals
- Turf accelerates restoration of disturbed soils
- Turf provides flood control

## *Functional Benefits*

- Turf saves energy in urban areas. Turf dissipates heat, reducing energy required to cool nearby homes and commercial buildings
- Turf abates noise and reduces glare
- Mowed turf decreases disease-carrying pests (mosquitoes, ticks) and snakes in the landscape
- Mowed turf produces few, if any, flowers and allergy-linked pollens
- Well-managed turf can reduce the fire hazard of homes and buildings near canyons, brush and wooded areas
- Well-managed turf and landscaping increase property values

## *Recreational Benefits*

- Turf provides high-quality cushioning against impact injuries in amateur and professional sports
- Turf is a low-cost, durable, smooth surface for play and relaxation during outdoor leisure activities

## *Aesthetics & Health Benefits*

- Well-managed turf and natural scenery have positive therapeutic effects, as measured by heart rate and blood pressure
- Green turf enhances landscape attractiveness