



# AB 1572 PROHIBITION OF IRRIGATION OF NONFUNCTIONAL TURF



## Summary

AB 1572 - LEGISLATION SIGNED ON OCTOBER 13, 2023, WILL PROHIBIT THE USE OF POTABLE (DRINKING) WATER FOR IRRIGATION OF NONFUNCTIONAL TURF ON COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, INSTITUTIONAL (CII) PROPERTIES AND HOA COMMON AREAS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

## DEFINITIONS



**NONFUNCTIONAL TURF** – any common area turf that is decorative and has no other functions. Examples include HOA common areas, streets right-of-way, parking lots, medians, and areas outside of businesses that are not used for recreation.



**FUNCTIONAL TURF** – common area turf located in a recreational use area or community gathering space. Examples are sports fields, picnic areas and cemeteries. Turf areas located on single family residential properties.



**COMMON AREA** – area that is not assigned for exclusive use of the occupants of an individual dwelling unit within the property.



**RECREATIONAL USE AREA** – area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for recreation, including sports fields, golf courses, playgrounds, picnic grounds or pet exercise areas.



Example of functional turf.

### This restriction **DOES** apply to the following:

- Properties owned by local governments
- Commercial, industrial and institutional (CII) properties
- Homeowner associations (HOAs) and common interest developments common areas

### This restriction **DOES NOT** apply to the following:

- Nonfunctional turf areas that are irrigated with recycled water.
- Does not apply to turf used for recreation. This means that where recycled water is not available, drinking water still can be used on school fields, sports fields and areas regularly used for civic or community events.
- Single-family residential properties including those located in HOA's. Residential customers can still water their yards.
- Multifamily residential properties and cemeteries.
- Exceptions made for tree health.





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Example of functional turf.

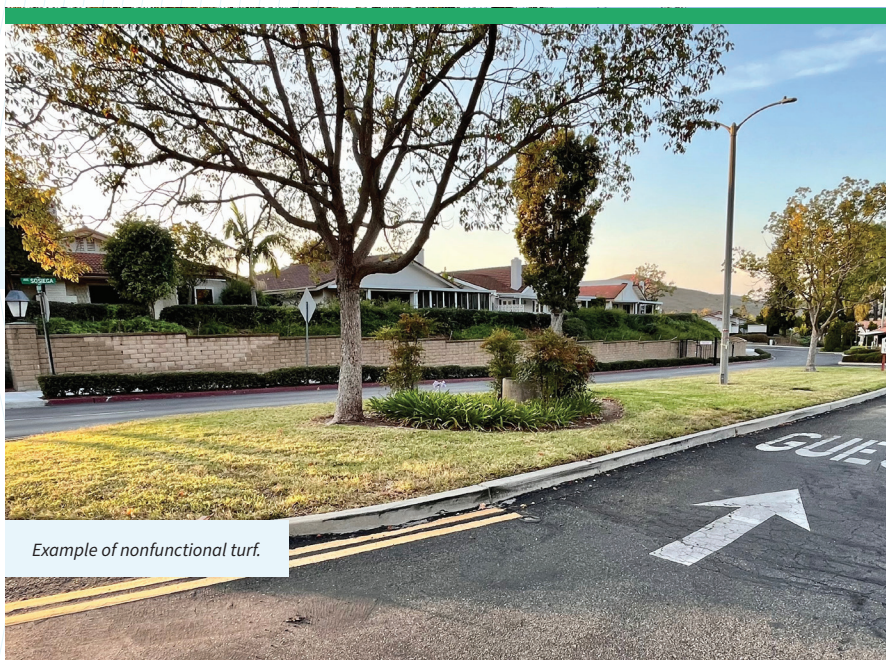
## Compliance

ETWD is required to and will develop the District's nonfunctional turf regulations by January 1, 2027. The District will inform customers who will be impacted by the regulation before the compliance timeline.

CII properties with > 5,000 square feet of irrigated turf will be required to self-certify to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) every three years beginning June 30, 2030.

HOA properties with > 5,000 square feet of irrigated turf will be required to self-certify to the SWRCB every three years beginning June 30, 3031.

**The SWRCB is currently in the process of converting the AB 1572 legislation into enforceable regulations. The regulations are expected to be completed prior to the first enforceable compliance timeline (January 1, 2027). ETWD will update customers impacted by the regulations before they go into effect.**



Example of nonfunctional turf.

## COMPLIANCE TIMELINE



**January 1, 2027**

Public properties owned by local governments



**January 1, 2028**

Commercial, industrial and institutional (CII) properties



**January 1, 2029**

Homeowner association common areas



**January 1, 2031**

Properties owned by local governments in Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) or when state funding for turf replacement is available

## Questions about AB 1572

Please call Water Use Efficiency Analyst Vu Chu at (949) 837-7050, ext. 253 or Public Affairs Manager Sherri Seitz at (949) 837-7050, ext. 239.



Updated 11/15/24