



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***WHY THERE SHOULD BE MORE TURFGRASS***

***Facts from The Lawn Institute ([www.thelawninstitute.org](http://www.thelawninstitute.org))***

**Grass can decrease surface temperatures.**

- Grass is 45% carbon by weight and as it grows it takes in carbon dioxide and traps carbon in blades and roots while releasing oxygen.
- The respiration of turfgrass decreases surface temperatures. On hot days hard surfaces such as artificial turf may be more than 30 degrees warmer than turfgrass covered areas.
- Having turfgrass around buildings decreases the air temperature which results in less cooling requirements for the building, decreased electrical bills and reduced use of fossil fuels.

**Grass traps water and sediment before it can reach storm sewers or surface water.**

- All man-made erosion control materials compare themselves to turfgrass sod with none so far performing as well. Runoff from a sodded area will take 28 to 46 times longer when compared to the five most popular man-made erosion control materials.
- Sediment losses from sodded areas will be 8 to 15 times less than for tested man-made erosion control materials and 10 times less than for a straw covered area.
- A dense lawn is 6 times more effective than a wheat field and 4 times better than a hayfield at absorbing rainfall.

**Grass decomposes organic pollutants.**

- Hydrocarbons and organic waste are broken down by turfgrass and the organisms that live in a turfgrass based ecosystem.

(MORE)

### Grass increases our enjoyment of the outdoors.

- Grass can absorb sound potentially reducing noise pollution up to 30%.
- Light is readily absorbed by turfgrass leading to less glare and higher visibility.

### Most professional football players would rather play on natural grass.

- According to a 2006 NFL Players Association Survey:
  - 72.7% of players surveyed would rather play on natural grass.
  - 67.1% of players surveyed thought that playing on artificial turf would shorten their career.
  - The most repeated comment on the survey: “Make all fields natural grass to reduce injuries.”

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