Eliminate Watering of Non-Functional Turf

Commercial, Industrial, Municipal and Institutional

On Oct. 14, 2023, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation co-sponsored by Metropolitan to prohibit the use of potable water to irrigate grass that is not used for recreation or other purposes – also known as non-functional turf – on commercial, industrial, municipal and institutional properties.

What is Non-Functional Turf?

Non-functional turf is grass that is not regularly used for recreational purposes or for civic or community events.

Timeline

Non-residential properties, including homeowners associations, parks, and schools, must comply with the statewide ban beginning January 2027. Cemeteries and multifamily housing are exempt.

What Not to Water

- Highway/street medians and parkways
- Turf surrounding schools or office buildings
- Turf on sloped areas not suitable for recreational use
- Turf in parking lots or HOA common areas







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What are the Exceptions?

- Residential properties and apartment buildings
- Properties that irrigate with recycled water, such as golf courses
- Sports fields and cemeteries
- Trees and non-turf plants



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