



UNIVERSAL

TEXTILE TECHNOLOGIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVANTAGES OF SYNTHETIC TURF *Featuring BioCel™ and EnviroCel™ Backing Technology*

WATER CONSERVATION

According to the EPA, over one-third of residential water is used for lawn irrigation nationwide, totaling over 4 billion gallons of water a day. Additional data supplied to the Synthetic Turf Council, the Southern Nevada Water Authority estimates that every square foot of natural grass replaced saves an additional 55 gallons of water per year. As the average lawn is 1,800 square feet, so the average home with synthetic turf saves 99,000 gallons of water each year.

REDUCES PESTICIDES/ FERTILIZERS

The National Academy of Sciences estimates that homeowners utilize 10 times the amount of fertilizer and pesticides per acre of lawn and landscape than do farmers, and the EPA estimates that only 2 percent of pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides) actually reach the target pest; the remainder will volatilize in the air, or drift to unintended targets, or seep into groundwater, or wash into surface water.

REDUCES TOXIC EMISSIONS

The EPA states that 17 million gallons of fuel, mostly gasoline, are spilled each year while refueling lawn equipment. This amounts to more than all of the oil spilled by the Exxon Valdez in the Gulf of Alaska. Additionally, the EPA has shown that lawn mowers are a significant source of pollution and as a result can impair lung function, inhibit plant growth, and is a key ingredient of smog. A gas-powered push mower emits as much hourly pollution as 11 cars, and a riding mower emits as much as 34 cars. Pollutants can and often do end up in waterways, damaging ecosystems and water quality, according to the EPA. When it rains, or as snow melts, the resulting water (known as "storm runoff") carries excess litter, soil, fertilizer and other particulates to the nearest storm sewer, which then runs into nearby waterways.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY COMPONENTS

BioCel and EnviroCel turf backings contain polymers produced from natural oil polyols, a rapidly renewable resource. To utilize renewable resources as much as possible, we started by replacing a large percentage of petroleum-based polymers with bio-based polyols derived from domestically grown crops. This helps the environment, and reduces our dependence on foreign oil by decreasing the use of imported petroleum-based products.

RECOVERED & RECYCLED CONTENT

BioCel and EnviroCel turf backing systems contain recovered material recycled from electrical utility power plants. Certain turf products also offer a secondary backing that contains a high percentage of recycled content, made from recycled plastic drink bottles.

LEED QUALIFIED

Architects and designers can utilize synthetic turf backed with BioCel™ and EnviroCel™ Polyurethane cushion on commercial, industrial, and residential projects. Falling under the categories of Water Efficient Landscaping, Recycled Content and Innovation in Design, it can obtain up to 18 points toward LEED certification.

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