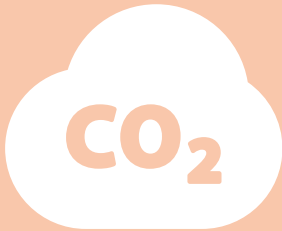


ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF NATURAL TURFGRASS

SportsTurf
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Experts on the Field, Partners in the Game.

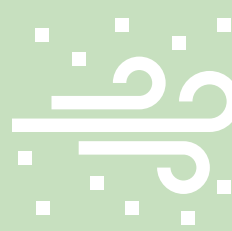


Trap and Store Carbon

Over the course of a year a 2,500 sq. ft. lawn will absorb enough carbon dioxide to produce oxygen for a family of four, and a soccer field can offset the carbon produced by a car driving 3000 miles.

Dust and Pollen

Turfgrass leaf tissue and its fibrous root systems are very effective at trapping much of the 12,000,000 tons of dust that is released into the atmosphere each year in the United States.



Contaminants

Turf systems are efficient at holding onto nutrients, such as phosphorus, and household and industrial pollutants. Turfgrasses filter soil and remove chemicals before they enter surface or groundwater.



Temperature Modification

Natural grass athletic surfaces can be up to 30 percent cooler than asphalt on a hot summer day. The overall environmental cooling effect of turfgrass can be seen by comparing natural turfgrass surfaces to home AC units. The front lawns of 8 average houses have the same cooling effect on the atmosphere as twenty-four 3-4-ton air conditioning units.



Erosion Control

The average soccer field can absorb 50,000 gallons of water prior to runoff occurring. Turfgrass systems are used to stabilize soil, slow water flow, and filter out sediments in the water prior to the water entering storm drains or natural bodies of water.

