

OTHER COMMUNITIES

Community	Provision	Comments
Garden Grove, CA	Permitted with regulations	12.6" annual precipitation
La Palma, CA	Permitted with regulations	12.0" annual precipitation
Santa Ana, CA	Permitted with regulations	13.9" annual precipitation
Fullerton, CA	Permitted with regulations	12.0" annual precipitation
Orange, CA	Permitted with regulations	12.0 "annual precipitation
Laguna Hills, CA	Permitted in residential with regulations	12.0" annual precipitation
Stanton, CA	Permitted in Residential Zones with regulations	12.0" annual precipitation
Englewood, CO	Permits but may not be counted toward 'live' landscaping requirements. 70% of required landscaping must be live material.	15.0" annual precipitation
Punta Gorda, FL	Permitted as Special Exception	56.49 "annual precipitation
El Paso, TX	Permitted with Alternative Compliance	8.8" annual precipitation
Austin, TX	Not permitted	31.9 "annual precipitation
Omaha, NE	Not permitted.	30.08" annual precipitation
Madison, WI	Not permitted	31.0" annual precipitation
Olathe, KS	Not permitted	40.1" annual precipitation
Greeley, Fort Collins CO	Not permitted	14.2" & 15.8" annual precipitation
Windsor, CO	Not permitted	15.0" annual precipitation
Cerritos, CA	Specifically prohibits	15.0" annual precipitation

Garden Grove, CA:

"The Amendment will promote the public interest, health, safety, and welfare, as well as continue the City's General Plan vision for the continued effort for water conservation and decrease in water run-off by allowing the percolation of water into the ground."

Chapter 9.12: Multi-Family and Chapter 9.16: Commercial, Office Professional, Industrial and Open Space: "Artificial turf may be used as an alternative ground cover, subject to the standards in Section 9.12.40.090.L.:

Section 9.12.40.090L states that artificial plants, with the exception of artificial turf, are prohibited. Artificial turf shall be allowed within the front and rear yards in the R-2 and R-3 Multiple-Family Residential zones, subject to the following standards:

- 1) Artificial turf shall have a minimum 8-year 'no fade' warranty.
- 2) Artificial turf shall be installed by a licensed professional and shall be installed pursuant to manufacture's requirements.
- 3) Artificial turf shall be installed and maintained to effectively simulate the appearance of a well-maintained lawn. The turf shall be maintained in a green fadeless condition and shall be maintained free of weeds, debris, tears, holes, and impressions.
- 4) The use of indoor or outdoor plastic or nylon carpeting as a replacement of artificial turf or natural turf shall be prohibited. Artificial shrubs, flowers, trees, and vines in-lieu of living plant material shall be prohibited.
- 5) Areas of living plan material (i.e., flower beds, tree wells, etc) within the front yard, side, rear , and common areas shall be included within the overall landscape design when installing artificial turf. Living plant material shall include shrubs, vines, trees, and flowering ground covers.
- 6) Artificial turf shall be separated from flowerbeds by a concrete mow strip, bender board, or other barrier acceptable to the City in order to prevent intrusion of living plant material into the artificial turf.
- 7) Three sets of detailed landscape and irrigation plans shall be submitted to the Planning Division for review and approval prior to installation of the artificial turf in order to confirm compliance with City Code and any valid land use entitlement for the property.

La Palma, CA:

Ordinance 2009-04 **"WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of La Palma recognizes the importance of water conservation within the State of California, and that methods exist which can lead to significant water saving opportunities for the residents and homeowners of the City of La Palma..."

Added a section to their Code [Section 17-6(x)] to prohibit artificial turf constituting unsightly appearance by reason of it being or having any of the following conditions or characteristics: Faded, Damaged, Improperly installed, Separated or visible seams, Damaged edges, Uneven and/or 'wavy appearance due to sunken or raised soil beneath, Lacking of a property barrier separating live landscaping, Stained, Comprising noncompliant infill materials, Use of noncompliant nylon fibers, or displaying a permanent image.

Standards:

- 1) All artificial turf visible from public rights-of-way or in a parkway shall be maintained in a manner so as to mimic the appearance of a maintained, green, thriving lawn free of fading, visible seams, dents, ruts, trash, debris, damaged areas, stains, and/or exhibiting a worn out unnatural appearance.

- 2) Artificial turf shall have polyethylene monofilament fiber with a minimum grass zone pile height of 1.5 inches.
- 3) A minimum face weight of 42 ounces per square yard of unfilled artificial turf.
- 4) Nylon, polypropylene, and similar fibers can be permitted in the thatch zone provided that the thatch zone is a minimum .25 inches lower than the grass zone pile height.
- 5) Artificial turf installations requiring infill materials shall use infill of the silica sand variety. Rubber infill made from old tires is not acceptable for use as infill for artificial turf.
- 6) All electric, water, gas, and irrigation lines and conduits shall be run outside the perimeter of an artificial turf installation with the exception of those that provide direct service to the residence.
- 7) An appropriate solid barrier device is required to separate artificial turf from soil and live vegetation.
- 8) Artificial turf shall be lead free.
- 9) Artificial turf shall be trimmed to fit against all regular and irregular edges to resemble a natural look.
- 10) Artificial turf shall be designed to allow water to percolate through the synthetic grass at a minimum drain rate of 30 inches per hour to an adequate drainage system installed underneath the artificial turf to prevent run-off, pooling, and flooding.
- 11) All artificial turf shall have a warranty that protects against color fading and a decrease in pile height. A minimum 4 year warranty is required for a 'do it yourself' homeowner's installation; and a minimum 8 year warranty is required for an installation certified by the manufacturer.
- 12) Installation shall be done at minimum to the manufacturer's specifications, and include the following: removal of all sod or existing groundcover, a synthetic porous filter fabric shall be installed, compacted and porous decomposed crushed granite and/or road base material (minimum 3 inches), all edges and seams of the artificial turf are to be anchored with nails and glue, all seams shall be nailed and glued, not sewn, and artificial turf shall be visually level with the grain pointing in a single direction.
- 13) Artificial turf shall be maintained by the property owner in an effective manner which includes cleaning, raking, debris removal, repairing of depressions and ruts to maintain a level visual surface, elimination of any odors, flat or matted areas, weeds, evasive roots, looseness at edges, seams; and the replacement of the artificial turf when maintenance or repair is unable to simulate a natural thriving, green, grass appearance.
- 14) Any damaged or worn-out artificial turf areas shall be removed and appropriately replaced by the property owner. Repaired artificial turf areas shall be done so with like for like materials from the same manufacturer and done so in a manner that results in a repair that blends in with the existing artificial turf.
- 15) A permit shall be required for the installation of artificial turf in the single family residential zone.

- 16) Applications for artificial turf permits shall include a sample of the artificial turf material, a sample of the infill material (if applicable); warranty information; installation details; material specifications; photographs of the site; and one copy of a landscape plan.

Santa Ana.

New Water Efficient Landscape Standards which included the option to incorporate synthetic turf as a landscape design feature.

STANDARDS:

- 1) Landscape plan must be submitted to Planning for review and approval.
- 2) Synthetic turf may be installed anywhere live landscaping is required, except with the front yard parkways. In a required front yard, synthetic turf shall be limited to a maximum coverage of 50% of the yard area. Remainder must consist of live plant material or hardscape in accordance with landscape provisions.
- 3) Installation of synthetic turf shall be performed by a contractor with a valid contractor's license. The contractor shall also have all permits and licenses necessary to conduct business in the City.
- 4) They synthetic turf shall have a minimum blade length of 1.24 inches. Nylon based grass blades are not permitted.
- 5) All existing sprinkler systems no longer in use must either be capped or removed. All existing landscaping must be removed where the synthetic turf will be located and a minimum of 3 inches of soil excavated.
- 6) The turf area shall be leveled, with a crushed stone sub base (such as decomposed granite) added to establish a foundation and facilitate drainage for the turf. The stone sub base shall be a minimum of 3 inches in depth and shall be compacted to ensure proper drainage.
- 7) A permeable geotextile (weed barrier) must be provided to prohibit the growth of weeds.
- 8) Synthetic turf shall be securely fastened to the ground. Seams shall be glued and stapled to minimize tears. The turf should be placed in patterns that emulate real grass.
- 9) An infill consisting of sand and rubber must be poured into the synthetic turf to keep the blades erect and to provide a natural feel and look.
- 10) The synthetic turf must be maintained at all times.

STANTON, CA

(Code Language)

Artificial Turf. The use of artificial turf shall be permitted in all zones as follows:

a. Single Family Residential, Buffer Zone, Public Institutional, Solid Waste Transfer Districts, and Planned Developments. Artificial turf may be used in-lieu of natural turf in all planting areas.

b. Medium and Multi-family Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Zones. Artificial turf may be used in-lieu of natural turf where turf is permitted as indicated in Section 20.30.030(A)(4).

c. Submission of Application. An application for the installation of artificial turf, consisting of a detailed site plan, shall be submitted to the planning division in triplicate for approval prior to issuance of permits and installation. Required details to be on the site plan shall be determined by the community development director.

STANDARDS

- 1) Materials. Artificial turf shall be of a type known as cut pile infill and shall be manufactured from polypropylene, polyethylene, or a blend of polypropylene and polyethylene fibers attached to a polypropylene or polyurethane backing, or the city may consider an alternative product if it is of equal or greater quality of product. Regulations pertaining to the materials may be amended by the community development director as manufacturing processes are updated.
- 2) Artificial turf shall have a minimum eight-year, no-fade warranty as issued by the manufacturer.
- 3) Artificial turf shall be maintained in a green fadeless condition and shall be maintained free of stains, weeds, debris, tears, holes, and impressions. Artificial turf shall be replaced once it is unable to be maintained as required.
- 4) General Appearance. Artificial turf shall be installed and maintained to effectively simulate the appearance of a well-maintained lawn. The planning division shall maintain and make available for public inspection a sample of various artificial turf products that meet this minimum standard of appearance.
- 5) Artificial turf surfaces shall be cleaned on a monthly basis, or as directed by the manufacturer with a sanitizing agent determined acceptable by the manufacturer.
- 6) Prohibited Uses. The use of indoor plastic or nylon carpeting as a replacement for artificial or natural turf shall be strictly prohibited. Artificial shrubs, flowers, trees, and vines in-lieu of living plant materials shall be strictly prohibited.
- 7) All artificial turf shall be installed over a minimum of two-inch compacted and porous road base or comparable material and shall be anchored at all edges and seams.
- 8) Seams. For products utilizing a polyurethane mesh with the blades stitched to the backing, the seams shall be glued and sewn. For products utilizing a non-woven polypropylene backing, the seams may be either glued or sewn. Regulations pertaining to the proper securing mechanism of the artificial turf may be amended by the community development director as the manufacturing processes are updated.

- 9) Infill medium, if required by the manufacturer to provide ballast, shall consist of ground rubber, clean washed sand, ground rubber and clean washed sand, rubber coated sand, or other mixtures as approved by the community development director. The infill medium shall be brushed into the fibers to ensure that the fibers remain in an upright position to provide ballast that will hold turf in place and provide a cushioning effect. The community development director may require or approve an alternative infill medium based on the comprehensive results of environmental studies, or as manufacturing processes are updated.
- 10) The installation of artificial turf on slopes greater than six and six tenths percent shall require the approval of the city engineer and shall meet the requirements of the public works department.
- 11) Installation shall be performed by a certified licensed professional through the Association of Artificial and Synthetic Grass Installers and shall be installed pursuant to the manufacturer's specifications.
- 12) Artificial turf shall be separated from live planting beds by a concrete mow strip, bender board, or other barrier approved by the community development director in order to prevent intrusion of living plant material into the artificial turf.
- 13) Areas of living plant material (i.e., flowerbeds, tree wells, etc.) shall be included within the overall landscape design when installing artificial turf within the single-family residential land uses. A minimum of ten percent of the total landscape area shall consist of live plant material. Living plant materials shall include a mixture of shrubs, vines, trees, and ground cover.
- 14) The community development director may require, for areas considered as high traffic, the utilization of artificial turf with spines in the blades, or spirochetes in addition to the infill in order to ensure that the look of natural turf is maintained.
- 15) Artificial turf areas shall be graded to adequately drain water run-off into a live planting area to the satisfaction of the public works department.
- 16) Artificial turf must consist of cut pile infill fibers a minimum height of one and one-quarters inch and a proper drainage system allowing a minimum of one quarter inch of water penetration per square foot shall be installed underneath the turf to prevent excessive run-off or pooling. All water run-off from the artificial turf areas must provide for site soil drainage to the satisfaction of the public works department.
- 17) The community development director may also add additional requirements in regards to the type of infill, the grade of artificial turf product depending on the location the product would be installed, and the amount of live planting areas in order to ensure sufficient drainage for run-off.

FULLERTON, CA15.56.140 Synthetic turf

Use of artificial plants and surfaces painted to appear as plant material are prohibited in landscape area except as provided in this section.

The use of synthetic turf on areas with slope percentage greater than 5% shall not be permitted.

STANDARDS:

- 1) Synthetic turf shall simulate the appearance of live turf.
- 2) Be of a type known as cut pile infill with pile fibers a minimum height of 1.75 inches.
- 3) Be manufactured from polyethylene.
- 4) Be affixed to a permeable backing
- 5) Minimum 8 year 'no fade' warranty.
- 6) Must be installed by a licensed professional pursuant to manufactures requirements
- 7) Be installed over a subgrade prepared to provide positive drainage and an evenly graded mass of compacted, porous crushed rock aggregate material
- 8) Be anchored at all edges and seams
- 9) The use of water to clean artificial turf is discouraged.
- 10) Submittal shall include a landscape plan, dimensioned cross section of proposed materials and installation details, including subgrade, drainage, base or leveling layer, and infill
- 11) Edge material and detail for treatment of seams

Laguna Hills

Similar requirements to others with this addition:

- 1) Artificial turf shall be maintained to prohibit any obnoxious odors caused by the accumulation of animal waste.

ENGLEWOOD, CO

Non-living landscape materials, such as mulch, rocks, artificial turf, may be used to meet up to 30% of the landscape requirement.

STANDARDS:

- 1) May not be installed on slopes greater than 6.6%
- 2) Non permitted within the public right-of-way
- 3) No artificial trees, shrubs, turf, or plants shall be used to fulfill the living material requirements of the Code.

El Paso TX

The Code recognizes the need to conserve water and the City has a water conservation plan. Synthetic turf is listed in the landscaping which may be used for alternative compliance.

Alternative compliance is determined on a point system and allows up to a 20% reduction in required landscaping. Artificial turf is listed in the alternative compliance point table as "Artificial turf with a permeable base used in parkways and narrow areas 33' or less in any dimension, including all areas of the parkway."

CERRITOS, CA

The City of Cerritos specifically prohibits the use of synthetic turf.

Santa Cruz, CA

Synthetic turf is permitted, but does not qualify for water conservation rebate.