

NATURAL TURFGRASS BENEFITS

According to scientists worldwide, our climate is changing rapidly and this has major consequences for flora and fauna – and for human health in particular. Air pollution is everywhere. People are understandably more concerned about the loss of one hectare of rain forest than one hectare of grass. Although both are very important, it is an interesting fact that the annual oxygen production and carbon dioxide fixation from one hectare of grass exceeds that of one hectare of forest!

Across Queensland we have been warned that the unusual weather conditions currently prevailing will not change in the next few years and in fact the various natural events such as rain and drought will become heavier and harder. Fortunately in Queensland we are accustomed to unusual rain events and drought most areas be it on the coast or inland are aware of the benefits of natural turfgrass. Natural turfgrass has the scientifically proven ability to withstand both heavy rain events, drought and provide excellent groundcover in all conditions due to its root growth, this includes salt tolerant varieties.

The **“Environmental Benefits of Natural Turfgrass”** are numerous and often misunderstood, overlooked, or taken for granted. The following list of environmental, social and economic benefits provides a list that the correct use and management of natural turfgrass provides.

Environmental Benefits

- Restores soil quality
- Captures and suppresses dust
- Recharges and filters groundwater supply
- Reduces storm water runoff
- Controls soil erosion
- Cools the air
- Produces oxygen
- Filters air and reduces pollution
- Retains and sequesters carbon
- Assists decomposition of pollutants

Economic Benefits

- Provides a low cost ground cover
- Serves as a fire barrier
- Improves visibility providing safety and deters crime
- Increases property values up to 20%
- Reduces home cooling costs
- Boosts human productivity

Community & Human Health Benefits

- Enhances community pride and social harmony
- Offers a natural playing surface for recreation
- Provides a safe surface and reduces injuries
- Promotes outdoor activity and exercise
- Improves physical and mental health
- Relieves stress
- Lowers allergy related problems
- Dissipates heat and cools the environment
- Reduces glare
- Diminishes noise pollution
- Minimizes nuisance pests
- Compliments overall landscaping
- Preserves natural wildlife habitat



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