



# SYNTHETIC TURF STANDARDS PUBLIC WORKSHOP

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Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Tallahassee, FL | Aug. 5, 2025



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## MEETING AGENDA

### Meeting Agenda

- Welcome.
- New Statute 125.572 Florida Statutes (F.S.)
  - Defining synthetic turf.
  - Anticipated timeline.
  - Minimum standards requirements.
  - Draft rule.
- Public comment.
  - Instruction for submitting written comments.
  - Oral comments period.
- Adjourn.



Please scan the QR code or visit the Division of Water Restoration Assistance's [Rules and Rulemaking](#) webpage to learn more.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

**Per 125.572(2) F.S.,**

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) shall:

- “...adopt minimum standards for the installation of synthetic turf on **single-family residential properties 1 acre or less** in size.”
- The standards being considered by DEP are intended to be applicable to residential landscapes utilizing synthetic turf as a replacement for natural turfgrass and is not intended to address areas such as small pet relief spots or similar.





# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## DEFINITION OF SYNTHETIC TURF

**Synthetic Turf** is defined in 125.572(1) F.S. as  
“a manufactured product that resembles natural grass and is used as a  
surface for landscaping and recreational areas.”



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

**Per 125.572(3) F.S.,**

Upon adoption of the rule, local governments may not:

- Adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution, order, rule or policy that prohibits or is enforced to prohibit, a property owner from installing synthetic turf that complies with DEP standards.
- Adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution, order, rule or policy that regulates synthetic turf which is inconsistent with the DEP standards.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

**Per 125.572(2) F.S.,**

The standards must take into account:

- Material type.
- Color.
- Permeability.
- Stormwater management.
- Potable water conservation.
- Water quality.
- Proximity to trees and other vegetation.
- Any other factors impacting environmental conditions of adjacent properties.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## MATERIAL TYPE

### Material Type:

- Must be lead-free.
- Must be disposable under normal conditions at any Florida landfill.
- Must not use rubber for infill.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## COLOR AND PERMEABILITY

### **Color:**

- No local government may prohibit green.

### **Permeability:**

- Must be installed over a subgrade prepared for positive drainage and evenly graded porous material at least 3 inches thick.
- Must be affixed to permeable backing with a pervious subgrade equal or exceeding natural turf permeability.





# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND POTABLE WATER CONSERVATION

### **Stormwater Management:**

- Drainage system must be installed underneath in such a way as to prevent excessive runoff or pooling.

### **Potable Water Conservation:**

- Cannot be installed with an in-ground irrigation system in non-active areas.
- If in-ground system is already installed, irrigation heads shall be removed and pipe capped.
- Nothing in this rule shall constitute an authorization for the consumptive use of water for artificial turf.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## WATER QUALITY AND PROXIMITY TO TREES AND OTHER VEGETATION

### **Water Quality:**

- Must meet setback requirements from natural or man-made waterbodies.

### **Proximity to Trees and Other Vegetation:**

- Cannot compromise the health of nearby trees and vegetation.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## ANY OTHER FACTORS IMPACTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS OF ADJACENT PROPERTIES

### **Any Other Factors Impacting Environmental Conditions of Adjacent Properties:**

- Must be installed according to manufacturer's specifications.
- Must be anchored at all edges and seams to ensure that turf will withstand the effects of wind.



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Speakers will be given three minutes to make their comments.**

**3:00**



# SYNTHETIC TURF RULEMAKING

## NEXT STEPS

### Next Steps:

- Written public comments will be accepted through Aug. 19, 2025.

**Email written comments to:  
[DWRA.Rulemaking@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:DWRA.Rulemaking@FloridaDEP.gov)**

- DEP will review all comments for the draft rule.
- DEP will publish a Notice of Proposed Rule.



# THANK YOU



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**Contact Information:**

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