

NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF: TURN IT OFF, CAP IT, OR CONVERT IT.

Smart Practice Guide



Non-Functional Turf (NFT) is mowed grass that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes.

Learn more and also view our Spanish guide at bit.ly/SCVDroughtReadyCII

BAN ON WATERING NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF

Persistent and severe drought prompted the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to issue a statewide ban on the watering of non-functional turf with potable water (SWRCB Resolution No. 2022-0018; <https://bit.ly/SWRCBconservationFAQs>).

BAN APPLIES TO ...

Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) customers including the common areas of Homeowners Associations as well as Common Interest Developments.

BAN DOES NOT APPLY TO...

Residential properties, school fields, sports fields, and areas regularly used for civic or community events.

TURN IT OFF, CAP IT, OR CONVERT IT.

Here are a few ways to help you make the most of your landscape assets, along with some smart practice guidance, while observing the NFT watering ban.

TYPES OF NON-FUNCTIONAL TURF

Isolated Turf (no trees or shrubs)



Mixed Landscape (turf and trees)



Mixed Landscape (with isolated turf)



1

TURN IT OFF.

Turn off irrigation to NFT areas **immediately**. These are "isolated irrigation" turf areas – meaning irrigation systems watering only the non-functional turf areas and not irrigating existing trees, shrubs, or perennials.

2

CAP IT.

For mixed landscape in one irrigation zone, cap the non-functional turf sprinklers, while maintaining irrigation of the trees, shrubs and perennials. This could include an area of isolated turf that is in the same zone, but separate from trees, shrubs and perennials.

SMART PRACTICE GUIDANCE:

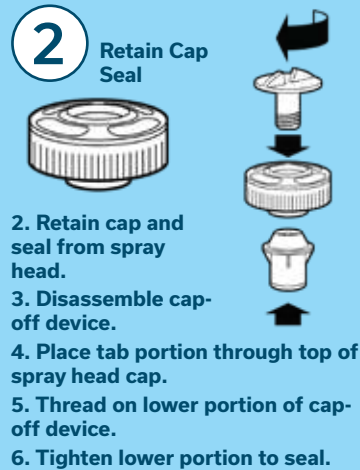
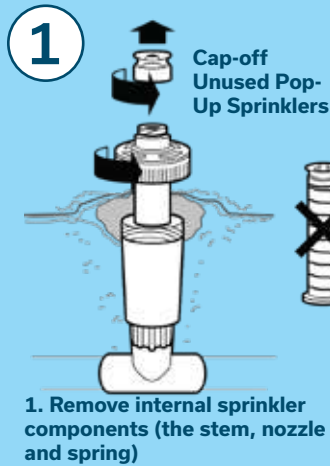
How to Cap Pop-Up Spray Heads

For irrigation zones that use pop-up spray heads, a universal cap can be installed in 2-3 minutes per spray body without having to dig, replace equipment, or completely remove. Below is a "Cap It" example, although your specific situation may vary. Contact your landscape professional to determine if capping it is the right solution for your non-functional turf areas.



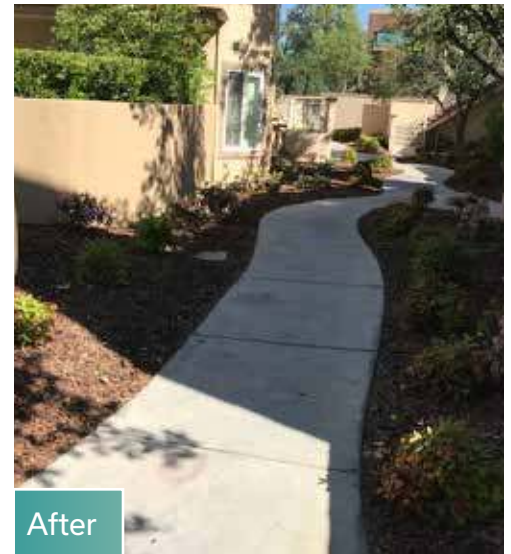
How to Cap a Sprinkler Head in Under 1 Minute (for Pop-up Sprinkler Body Caps)

CAP-OFF INSTALLATION



3 CONVERT IT.

Most, if not all, areas designated as non-functional turf should be permanently converted to drought-tolerant, native, or low water-using "SCV Friendly Plants", and other sustainable landscape features. Irrigation systems should also be upgraded to include drip and/or high-efficiency nozzles, pressure regulation and a smart controller.



Convert it! Turf Conversion & High-Efficiency Irrigation Rebates & Resources

SCV Water has several rebates and programs to help upgrade your irrigation system and convert turf to more sustainable landscapes. Visit conserve.yourSCVwater.com to get started.

TURF CONVERSION



TURF REPLACEMENT REBATE
\$3 per SF



DRIP IRRIGATION REBATE
\$0.75 per SF



OPTIONAL BONUS INCENTIVE FOR NATIVE PLANTS
Additional \$0.25 per SF

Increase the value of your rebate with additional incentives such as water retention features, rain barrels, sheet mulching and bee-and owl-friendly habitats. For more info, visit bit.ly/SCVRebatePrograms

HIGH-EFFICIENCY IRRIGATION INCENTIVES



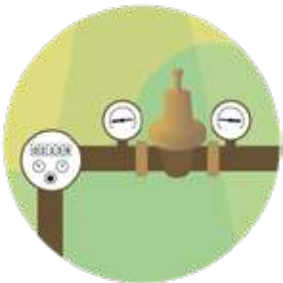
SMART CONTROLLER
\$25 per active station (valve) up to cost of device



DRIP CONVERSION
\$0.75/sf



HE NOZZLES
100% of purchase price



MASTER PRESSURE REGULATION
75% of purchase price (limit 1/meter)



PRESSURE REGULATING VALVES
75% of purchase price



PRESSURE REGULATING BODIES W/ CHECK VALVES
Up to \$10 each

Landscape Contractor Support

SCV Water has developed NFT support material for landscape contractors to assist their customers. For more information, please email conservation@scvwa.org, Subject: NFT - Contractor Support

Lawn Replacement Benefits Over the Long-Term

Financial Savings

- Less water use = lower water bills (40-60% avg savings for converted area)
- Potential meter size/fee reduction
- Potential to increase property values

Landscape Resiliency

- Your water-efficient landscape will help you withstand future droughts and mandatory water shortage measures

FREE Surveys and Check-Ups to Help You Get Started

Landscape Irrigation Survey

Report provided with water efficiency recommendations and potential rebates.

Facility Check-Up

Includes indoor water use evaluation, HE aerators, pre-rinse spray valves, report on findings and information on incentives to switch to high-efficiency toilets and urinals

Leak Detection Survey

To schedule, email us at conservation@scvwa.org. Subject: CII & Landscape Efficiency Support